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Dear Readers,

In this months newsletter:

A new appointment to Neutrog's new Biological Advisory Board Touring Neutrog with members of the Rowland Flat Agricultural Bureau Cucumber crops in Sydney thriving with POPUL8 POPUL8 trials commence with Metro Organics in South Africa Advanced Biological Liquids under a microscope

If you are interested in more information about Neutrog, please let us know at <u>marketing@neutrog.com.au</u> to make sure you receive both our monthly newsletters.

The one you're reading now is commercially focused, while we also put together a newsletter dedicated to growing plants at home. Each month we collate seasonal advice from experts, product profiles and garden features with a full insight into Neutrog.

Kind Regards, The Neutrog Team



A New Appointment to Neutrog's Biological Advisory Board

Associate Professor Renato Morona has over 40 years of research experience (PhD (Adel) 1982) in studying bacterial surfaces.

His work has principally been on bacterial pathogens and their virulence factors, including cell surface proteins and polysaccharides. He has used bacterial genetics, recombinant DNA technology, and protein analysis to discover new genes and their functions in key biological processes used by bacteria to cause disease.

A research fellow at the Max Planck Institute for Biology (Germany), Renato then returned to the University of Adelaide in 1985 were he initially conducted vaccine research with Enterovax Ltd. He then worked as a research fellow, became an independent researcher, and obtained an academic appointment in 2003. Renato was engaged in research and teaching at the University of Adelaide until his retirement in 2021, where he currently has an Honorary appointment.

During that time with the University of Adelaide, Renato held a variety of appointments (Head of the Discipline of Microbiology and Immunology, Associate Dean Research (Faculty of Science), Head of the University of Adelaide Institutional Biosafety Committee, Member of NHMRC grant review panels, Expert Witness on several patent cases). He has graduated over twenty PhD students and was course co-ordinator for Infection and Immunity A (level III undergraduate) and Honours in Molecular and Cellular Biology. His research was funded by multiple NHMRC grants (including two Program Grants) and ARC grants (over \$20M in career funding) and he has published 140 primary research articles and reviews.

Renato's recent work has focused on proteins and mechanisms of complex polysaccharide biosynthesis, and he published eight research articles in 2022. Renato is well known in Australia for his contributions to bacteriology, and in 2022 he received a Distinguished Service Award from the Australian Society for Microbiology.



About Neutrog's Biological Advisory Board

Neutrog's Biological Advisory Board has been developed to provide Neutrog's R&D Management team with access to a vast array of world-wide experience in biological research, soils and plants and in product development. It has been designed so that the individual Biological Advisory Board Members not only pass on their experience but are also provided the opportunity of challenging and shaping the thinking of Neutrog's R&D Team.

Once established, the four-five Member Board will only rarely meet as a collective — rather, each of its individual Members will meet with Neutrog's R&D Management Team on a quarterly basis.

Factory Tour with Rowland Flat Agricultural Bureau



The world of biological fertilisers is a fascinating one, and it always puts a smile on our faces to be able to share that world with those who are interested to learn. Last month we had the pleasure of hosting members of the Ag Bureau for a tour of our factory and laboratory.

The Agricultural Bureau of South Australia has been operating since 1888 to support rural communities in developing strong ag-industry networks. It comprises of 50 membership branches to represent the interests of more than 1100 South Australian rural farmers across South Australia. The Rowland Flat Ag Bureau form a part of this network, and meet regularly to exchange ideasm discuss farming practices and tackle common challenges together.

Last month the members joined us at Neutrog for a bus tour around the factory and newly upgraded production facilities, followed by a presentation with Dr Uwe Stroeher in the laboratory to understand the science behind the work we undertake at Neutrog to develop products that support the long term health of plants and soil.

If you are part of a group that are interested in touring Neutrog, please get in touch at <u>info@neutrog.com.au</u>



Cucumber Crops in Sydney Thriving with POPUL8



POPUL8 has been used successfully in trials in a variety horticultural and agricultural settings and has been embraced by across Australia, including cucumber growers in Sydney.

Neutrog's Commercial Customer Relationship Manager, Julie, and Ace Ohlsson Senior Agronomist, Nicholas Srour, recently visited growers in Sydney where they had been applying POPUL8 to their cucumber crops.

Growers have reported stronger and healthier growth in their vines which have been producing glossy fruit that are uniform in size. There has also been an improvements in the plants' tolerance to stress.

POPUL8 has been applied with a soluble fertiliser mix which has been dispersed via drip irrigation systems.





Application Rates

Use 5 litres per hectare of POPUL8. Dilute POPUL8 at a rate of 1:100, however the higher the dilution the better. Spray or apply this during a time of low UV or prior to a rain event if possible. (UV and extreme hot and dry conditions will kill many of the microbes). Water in after application if possible (not required when applying via fertigation).

POPUL8 is available in 5L, 20L and 1000L. For more information about POPUL8, contact your local Elders distributor or Neutrog representative.



POPUL8 Trials Commence with Metro Organics in South Africa







Established by Graham Clack, Metro Organics is an urban farm based in the Cape Town suburb of Noordhoek. They provide a wide selection of vegetables across the South Peninsula of Cape Town to restaurants and bespoke grocers, while also selling in their own stores in Noordhoek and Diep River.

On their two hectare property they grow varieties of lettuce, cabbage, broccoli, tomato, pepper, onions, potato, chilli and spinach to name a few.

Little fertiliser is used over the property, as Graham turns green waste into compost which is then mixed with cow manure (kraal) and pelletised chicken manure on top of the substrate before planting. The soil is very sandy and requires organic material to bulk it up.

Graham uses his own bore holes for water supply which tap into the Cape Aquifer and, despite being less than 1km from the sea, the water is of excellent quality.

Charles Bertram, Neutrog South Africa Director, says, "We are currently trialling POPUL8 (known as WATERM8 in South Africa) on Metro Organics lettuce crops where one area has pelletised chicken manure applied and the second with compost, and both have received applications of POPUL8. So far, the first plot has shown some very promising results, with the plants already showing a higher survival rate compared to the control."

The lettuce cycle lasts 3-4 weeks, and soon we will have the final results to share with you.



