

LAST CHANCE ON PASTURE SEED!

We have limited quantities of the following pasture seed available, with all oats and many other varieties sold out.

We still have some supply left of -

- ATOMIC RYEGRASS
- FANTASTIC RYEGRASS
- BALANSA PARADANA
- CLOVER - GOLD STRIKE
- TRIKKALA CLOVER - GOLD STRIKE
- BPS PASTURE MIX (A blend of three different Ryegrasses and three different Clovers)



If you still need seed, get in quick before it is all sold out.

DON'T CONFUSE THE ORDER



A couple go for a meal at a Chinese restaurant and order the "Chicken Surprise". The waiter brings the meal, served in a lidded cast iron pot. Just as the wife is about to serve herself, the lid of the pot rises slightly and she briefly sees two beady little eyes looking around before the lid slams back down.

"Good grief, did you see that?" she asks her husband. He hadn't, so she asks him to look in the pot. He reaches for it and again the lid rises, and he sees two little eyes looking around before it slams down..

Rather perturbed, he calls the waiter over, explains what is happening, and demands an explanation.

"Please sir," says the waiter, "what you order?" The husband replies, "Chicken Surprise." "Ah! So sorry," says the waiter, "I bring you Peeking Duck."

DONNYBROOK FARM SERVICE



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BACTERIA AND MICROBES THE WAY FORWARD IN AGRICULTURE



There is community scepticism relating to the use of sprays and fertiliser and a perception that “organic and natural” agriculture is a better way of producing food. Whether this is true or false, the perception is there and food producers have had to embrace change. Manufacturers of product for agriculture have also sensed the community mood along with government legislation to develop a range of more environmentally friendly products.

For many decades farming has relied upon NPK fertiliser as the main source of nutrients with little consideration given to soil microbes. With better science and more discussion about carbon capture and storage, planting of trees and a greater understanding of soil biology, the farming community is learning to work with what nature has to offer.

The reality is producing organically is more expensive and with yields consistently lower than conventional farming. However with a mix of NPK, humas products, fulvates, sea weed and mulching manure crops, production is maintained and increased, with a positive benefit to the soil and environment. A mix of conventional farming methods and working more with what nature has to offer is slowly becoming mainstream. Working with the soil microbes is the next step of working with nature. Europe is leading the way in the production of products that provide soil enhancing bacteria and microbes.

After many years of research, German company Bayer released a soil bacteria product Serenade Prime providing a *Bacillus subtilis* beneficial bacteria as soil drench. The mode of action of this bacteria is to colonise on the root system of an actively growing plant and enhance its ability to access the nutrients in the soil. The plant develops a larger root system due to the presence of the bacteria. This year, the same bacteria has been released as a spray option (Serenade Opti) and is registered in grape vines and tomatoes against specific bacterial diseases. The label for Serenade Opti when used as directed, has no withholding period for marketing the crop.

A Spanish company, the Kimatec Group, are releasing new products which are mycorrhiza in a gel and liquid prebiotic biostimulant for soil. Trial work from this company shows very positive results across many crops. For the inquisitive amongst the reading audience the web site for this company is: www.kimatecgroup.com There are many products coming onto the market, all with claims of enhanced performance. Trial and error will have to be played out for producers to determine what works for them and their land. The challenge is to absorb and analyse what is being offered to determine the magic from the “muck”. One fact that is for certain, big changes are coming and filtering the information is the next challenge.



Donnybrook Farm Service now carry **KLEENHEAT KWIK GAS**

A quick and convenient way to swap your bottles over without having to wait for them to be filled.

