

Guano Australia

Takes To The Air To Hit Drought Head On Big Time!



During a recent overland and air trip in June 2005 through the heart of Victoria and NSW, Agricultural Consultant to Guano Australia, Mr. Richard Jackson, witnessed first hand the severity of the drought and its effect on the Australian Agricultural Industry. It was made distinctly apparent the drought has brought the industry to a stand still with rice, vines and citrus farms drastically affected with many regional companies facing staff cut backs. Whilst the drought has affected many farms and their crops it was reassuring to have reported that those

Scott, an enthusiastic young farmer working at sustainable farming on his cereal and legume crops, including mung beans and chickpeas, spoke highly of the benefits of using Guano Gold on his crops and how the use of the Guano Blend had produced a very pleasing crop of mung beans (.9 tones

per hectre yield) earlier this year. The paddock where Scott applied the Guano Blend to his crops tested to higher soil nitrogen levels in comparison to his other paddocks resulting in soil conditions highly favourable to better cereal crops next season. Increasingly the roots showed advanced levels of mycorrhizae fungus together with a large amount of nodules associ-

ated with nitrogen fixation; elements which will encourage quality, higher yielding crops.

After an extremely productive visit with Scott, Richard flew on to the Cobcroft family property 'Paraweena' in the Blackville area. The property comprises of 22,000 acres cattle and 6500-7000 acres dedicated to various types of cropping. The manager for the cropping, Joe Flemming along with John Hosking, Quirindi based agronomist, met with Richard to discuss the use of Guano Gold in sowing fertilizer for his winter crops or later on for summer cropping.

John explained that the local soils are very high in CEC and quickly lock up soil phosphorus. Joe supported John in his assessment of the soil conditions pointing out the difficult soil conditions he is required to work with: badly cracking black sticky when wet soil. Joe grew mung beans under these conditions at a rate of 45 tones from 50 hectares using triphos + 2% zinc or MAP. Naturally Joe, who also is a keen young farmer wishing to promote sustainable farming, wants to overcome these difficult soil conditions and improve the crop quality and output. Joe expressed a keen interest in trying out some Guano Blends and will be approaching Elders at Gunnedah to assist him in purchasing the necessary Guano Blend for his use at 'Paraweena'.

During his discussions with John Hosking, Richard was informed that another farmer in the region and agronomist in her own rights Carolyn Ditchfield had trialed Guano in crops of mung beans at 25kg per hectre and also some higher rates, producing the same yield results. Carolyn has been instrumental in recommending Guano Gold to other farmers and will be conducting trial work on cotton later on this year.

After his meeting with Joe and John it was back on the plane homeward bound. Over the four days spent on the road, and in the air, it proved to be informative as to the actual conditions farmers in this region are forced to work with, due to the shocking drought. The effects of the drought are very apparent.

The role Guano Australia can play in assisting farmers in this region to overcome some of the effects the drought has had on the soil is high on our agenda and we are working closely with farmers in the region in so far as resolving some of the problems highlighted in this article.

Thanks to the likes of:

Richard Jackson
Independent Agronomist,
Bruce Hockings
Distributor,
John Hosking
Independent Agronomist,
Scott Chalmers
Cereal & Legumes Farmer
Caroline Ditchfield
Independent Agronomist,

Guano Gold is being highly promoted and utilized in this NSW region and making an obvious difference...NOW in light of serious drought conditions. Imagine the results once the drought breaks!

"Since this trip was made in June 2005 many areas across Australia have reported excellent falls of rain. As a result of this rainfall some of Guano Australia's cotton & broadacre clients have confirmed large orders due to new farmer demands. Thank you for supporting our excellent products."



Joe Fleming with Richard and John testing soil compaction



Richard Jackson & Bruce Hocking calculating custom blends.

farms utilizing Guano Gold and Guano Gold customized Blends report outstanding results with their crops.

Driving from Gippsland, Victoria through to Parkes, NSW Richard met with MIA staff in Griffith. Staff here were very open to promoting Guano Gold and expressed the need for further staff training on Guano Gold-Kwik Start and Guano Blend products. Training will specifically target the horticultural/viticultural marketing sectors.

At Parkes Richard abandoned his trusty 4 wheeled steed at the local air strip and swapped over to a small light plane. 'Air Bush Charter', run and owned by Robert Leonard, took to the air and flew our trusty Agronomist on to Gunnedah where Richard met with Elders staff.

Due to the very dry conditions staff reported a distinct drop in sales right across the board but were hoping to increase their sales when the weather broke Richard then went on to Tamba Springs to meet with Bruce Hockings of 'Tamba Industrial' whose emphasis on clean and green agriculture has resulted in some remarkable developments on farms in the local region. One farmer in particular, Scott Chalmers of 'Mount View', Bundella NSW was high on the agenda to meet.