

NATIONAL

biological farming

CONFERENCE



2016

EXHIBIT



welcome



Beeco

National Biological Farming
Conference and Expo 2016:
PAY DIRT
28-30 October, 2016
Convention Centre, Cairns, Tropical North Queensland

Biological farming encompasses a range of farming systems that enhance the life-giving capacity of the soil.

Medium and large-scale farming enterprises around the country are increasingly benefiting from regenerative production systems. Farmers are trialling, perfecting and adopting practices such as cover cropping, composting and biological control of pests and disease to improve resilience to changes in the weather, to increase water holding and disease suppression capacity, build soil carbon, reduce input costs and improve product quality.



The National Biological Farming Conference and Expo 2016 will bring delegates together to share knowledge and information, to learn from leading international and local researchers and practitioners and to demonstrate broad-scale application of sustainable farm practices through:

- An expo of sustainable farming products and services
- A national, multi-industry forum for knowledge and information sharing and exchange
- Internationally and nationally-respected specialists and farmers helping delegates learn and apply new skills
- The empowerment and further development of an already broad network of farmers and service providers engaged in established and emerging biological farming systems

Contact details:

PHONE: Fiona George, Regional Landcare Facilitator 0488 702 203

EMAIL: info@nationalbiologicalfarmingconference.org.au

WEBSITE: www.nationalbiologicalfarmingconference.org.au

invitation



OPEN
YOUR
EYES

THE NATIONAL BIOLOGICAL FARMING CONFERENCE AND EXPO 2016 COVERS FOUR DAYS:

- Pre-conference tours (additional cost)
- A two-day program of internationally acclaimed keynote speakers and stimulating, diverse concurrent sessions with farmers and other agricultural professionals
- A two-day Biological Farming Expo with up to 40 exhibitors
- Post-conference workshops (additional cost)

THE CONFERENCE IS EXPECTED TO ATTRACT AROUND 500 DELEGATES:

- Farmers (croppers, dairy and livestock farmers, horticulturists, orchardists, viticulturists)
- Graziers
- Agronomic advisors
- Producers and wholesalers of biological farming products
- Rural supply outlets
- Agricultural researchers
- Educators
- Students
- Other land managers
- Agricultural policy makers



PAY DIRT

The 2016 theme Pay Dirt focusses attention on enhancing soil biodiversity for improved productivity and profit and long term environmental and farm sustainability.

We know that farmers learn best from their peers, especially when backed by scientific research and in-paddock evidence. The conference program provides a forum for a diverse range of producers, researchers and agronomists to share experiences and knowledge (from both overseas and within Australia) and discover opportunities for broader application of biological farming practices.



venue

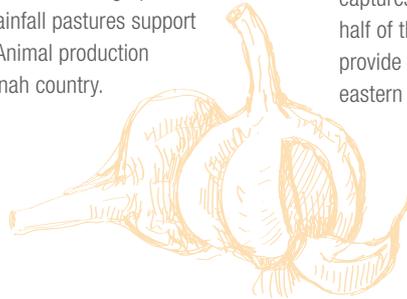


DESTINATION CAIRNS AND THE CAIRNS CONVENTION CENTRE

Cairns sits in the northern tropics at the gateway to two World Heritage Areas: The Great Barrier Reef and the Wet Tropics Rainforest. It marries the sophistication of an international airport, world class hotels, restaurants and attractions with a relaxed, small-town atmosphere. The airport is ten minutes' drive from the CBD, major hotels and the Convention Centre.

Tourism and agriculture drive Cairns' regional economy. The Wet Tropics region is world-renowned for its ecological diversity from the high rainforest-clad mountains to the clear, fast-flowing rivers that drain to the humid lowlands and mangroves to the Great Barrier Reef.

Sugar cane and bananas dominate the rural landscape but the tropical lowlands also produce a diverse range of exotic tropical fruits such as papaya, rambutan, durian, mangosteen and spices like pepper and vanilla. The tropical Tablelands offer coffee, tea, potatoes, onions, garlic, corn, blueberries, grapes, macadamias, peanuts and native fruits. High rainfall pastures support tropical dairying and egg and pork industries. Animal production includes grass-fed beef in both wet and savannah country.



Cafes, restaurants and pubs make the most of this bounty, incorporating fresh, local and organic produce into their menus.

Accommodation options in Cairns range from backpackers to five-star hotels.

The Cairns Convention Centre is a world-class conference venue, voted World's Best Congress Centre by AIPC in 2014. It is Australia's first environmentally designed major public building and has won many awards for its energy and resource conservation features. For example, its double layer pleated plate roof captures the seasonal tropical downpours directly into storage tanks, providing half of the centre's grounds and garden watering needs. Solar hot water heaters provide up to 35% of the centre's hot water needs. Shading devices on the eastern side reduce the need for air conditioning.

Cairns Convention Centre is a proud member of Taste Paradise, the regional food network that supports the connection between food producers and consumers. Where possible, the convention centre sources the food for its delicious menus from the local area.

promotion

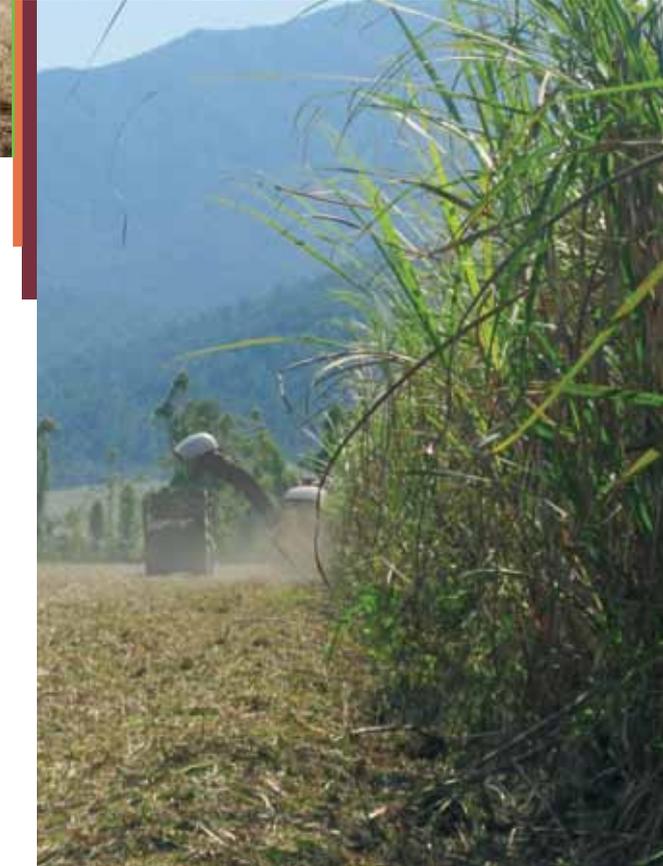
The increase in locally based “soil care” farming groups is testament to the growing interest in biological farming systems. Wet Tropics Soilcare is privileged to work in partnership with SoilCare Inc (NSW) and Terrain Natural Resource Management (Wet Tropics) to convene the National Biological Farming Conference and Expo 2016 in Cairns.

Our combined extensive agricultural networks across Australia will ensure that your logo and name will be prominently displayed in all promotional materials and in the conference program. Promotion of the conference and expo will be initially through e-news and social media to:

- Farmer, grazier and grower groups and their newsletters
- Productivity services
- Landcare networks
- Regional Landcare Facilitators in all states and regions
- The national natural resource management sector
- The conference website and e-newsletters

The conference itself will feature on radio and TV (eg, ABC Rural and Landline) and in selected print media.

Through professional design and signage at the conference venue, sponsors and exhibitors will receive the coverage they deserve for the effort to attend, with adequate space for all to move around comfortably and stop and talk. Maximum networking opportunities are ensured through serving all catering within the exhibition space.



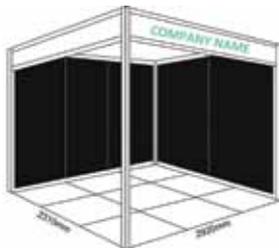


exhibit



Forty exhibitors are invited to provide conference attendees with detailed information about products, services and equipment relevant to sustainable agriculture practices.

You can expect to reach our 500 delegates: farmers, agronomists, researchers, consultants, policy makers. All meal breaks will be held in and adjacent to the expo hall ensuring maximum opportunity for networking with delegates.



Standard booth site
\$1,000 (+ GST)

YOUR BOOTH INCLUSIONS (custom builds are also possible by contacting the expo contractor)

BOOTH SIZE AND CONSTRUCTION	3.0m wide x 2.4m deep x 2.2m in aluminium Framelock. One back and two side walls unless you have a double booth. Corner booths have two walls. Wooden panel walls covered in black Velcro-receptive fabric with an aluminium frame.
FASCIA SIGN – the name board on your booth	Panel is 320mm deep and is white with blue print. One company name on the fascia sign! Company names longer than 28 characters will incur a small fee of \$2.40 for each additional character. The font for each sign is standard but may be printed in ALL CAPS or Upper and Lower Case. For changes (eg, to include your company logo), please contact the exhibition contractor www.nqexhibitions.com.au
LIGHTING	Two 60-watt spotlights installed on front fascia unless otherwise requested.
POWER	One 10-amp single power point installed on rear wall unless otherwise requested.
FLOOR COVERING	The floor of the Cairns Convention Centre is carpeted in the exhibition space.

Additional benefits:

- Company listing in conference program and on the conference website, with logo
- Promotion through social media and conference publicity
- One full delegate registration. Extra delegate registrations at early bird rate \$225 (+ GST). From August 8th, late fee applies \$350 (+GST).
- All conference catering – no food can be brought into the convention centre
- Discount on inserts into the conference satchel - 60 cents per A4 sheet (supplied by exhibitor by advised deadline)
- Option to hire display furniture and other equipment and to customise your booth through NQ Exhibitions at 10% discounted rates www.nqexhibitions.com.au.



important notes



Expo opening hours are:

Friday 28th October 5.00pm–8.00pm
 Saturday 29th October 8:00am–8.00pm
 Sunday 30th October 8:00am–5.00pm

Bump In: Friday 28th October 2:00-5:00pm
 Exhibitors must be prepared to open to delegates by 5pm

Bump Out: Sunday 30th October 5:00pm
 at close of the conference – NO EARLY BREAKDOWNS

Hi-vis clothing must be worn at all times during bump in and out in the following areas:

- Inside the exhibition halls
- On the centre's loading docks

Unloading and loading for the expo (Halls C/D) is via the loading dock in Sheridan St. The entrance is 5m wide x 4.2m high. If any part of your booth/display is higher than 3m, please contact events@cairnsconvention.com.au to organise proper placement.

Unload your vehicle quickly and park off-site prior to booth set up. Park at the centre's car park (\$5 per entry fee) accessed from Sheridan Street, or in the surrounding streets.

Deliveries can be made during business hours (Mon-Fri 9:00am-5:00pm). Couriers are to call the administration number 07 4042 4200 before delivering as the loading dock is not permanently attended.

By arrangement the convention centre can store your materials free of charge for up to two weeks before the event and only 72 hours after event closing. You will receive a freight forwarding form and labels on confirmation of your booth booking.

Machinery Exhibitors

Machinery exhibitors will be accommodated within the expo hall as far as possible. YOU MUST ADVISE THE OVERALL WEIGHT OF EACH PIECE OF MACHINERY and the measurements between ground contact points.

- No cleaning of vehicles on-site e.g. polishing or tyre shining
- Fuel tanks are to be locked and sealed with a fuel cap
- Fuel should not exceed one third of the tank
- Drip trays must be used with all vehicle displays
- The centre's security staff must be provided with a spare set of keys for each vehicle

contracting to exhibit



For your display you will need to provide:

- Promotional signage for your exhibition area (must be kept within your booth footprint)
- Adequate brochures, flyers, handouts for approx. 500 delegates
- Business cards
- Product/services display

All electrical equipment must be tested and tagged, and will be examined before expo opening. You may hire electrical equipment with NQ Exhibitions www.nqexhibitions.com.au.

We will also ask for:

- Certificate of currency for public liability insurance (min. \$20,000,000)
- Organisation logo
- Organisation name for the header board on your exhibitor booth – limit 28 characters
- Organisation description – up to 100 words – for the conference website and program
- Company/business contact details, website address and social media sites

Exhibition Contractor

NQ Exhibitions is the expo contractor. Once your site is paid and allocated, you will receive an exhibitor login. Through the exhibitor portal, you will be able to book::

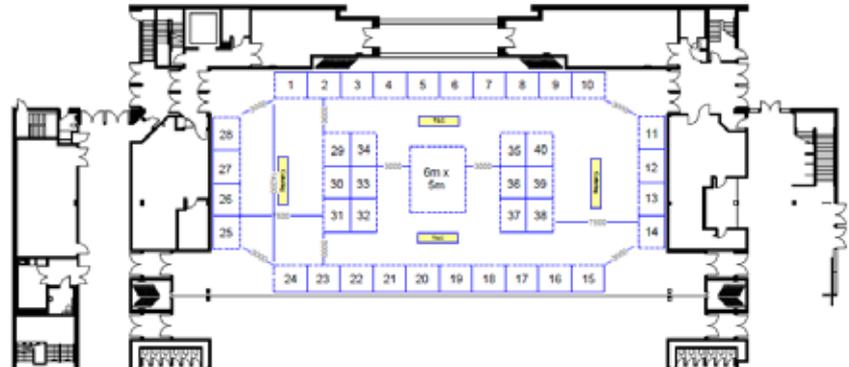
- Fascia signage
- Stand modifications
- Wall-mounted shelving and display systems
- Furniture and audio-visual
- Power and lighting
- Custom signage

To make sure of your preference, book and pay early. Email exhibit@nationalbiologicalfarmingconference.org.au or phone Mike Hogan on 0412 287 980.

Accommodation

Our website www.nationalbiologicalfarmingconference.org.au will help you find accommodation. Cairns' tourist season extends to the end of October, we advise you to book early to get your choice.

PLEASE NOTE: ONE ORGANISATION PER BOOTH





summary of terms and conditions



Exhibitors must:

- Set-up Friday 28th October after 2:00pm ready for expo to commence at 5:00pm
- Commit to remaining at the expo until 8:00pm, Friday 28th and Saturday 29th and until 5:00pm, Sunday 30th October when you may begin break down. All sites must be completely cleared, including all rubbish, by 6.30pm.
- Wear hi-vis clothing at all times during bump in and out
- Unload and load for the expo via the loading dock in Sheridan St
- Nominate their person to receive a complimentary full two-day conference registration pass
- Submit all booth staff names in advance – booth staff must display supplied conference delegate badges at all times
- Advise the conference organisers of company name for sign, plus any additional requirements (power etc)
- Set up, maintain and clear the site in a safe and healthy condition during expo opening hours
- Be responsible for cleaning their individual display booths
- Promote their goods and services within the footprint of their allocated expo booth
- Only provide handouts and token giveaways at their table/booth but may not distribute these items in any other space, including the registration area
- Respect neighbouring booths when using any video or musical/voice sounds or odorous substances
- Not assign or sublet any part of the space without prior written consent of the conference organisers
- Not smoke or use e-cigarettes, in the Cairns Convention Centre
- Provide a certificate of currency for public liability insurance to at least \$20,000,000.
- Adhere to all relevant occupational health and safety (OHS) legislation and regulations at all times. The exhibitor retains all risk associated with any goods/equipment used or items displayed or sold at the event
- Only use tagged and tested electrical equipment and conform with all legal requirements
- Comply with the convention centre rules regarding vehicles on site

Finally...

Exhibitors occupy the allocated site at their own risk and indemnify the organisers against any claims or losses which may be suffered by the organiser as a result of damage to property or person upon or in relation to the exhibitor's site. The exhibitor shall be liable for any damage caused to the property by reason of the exhibitor's occupation of the space.

The conference organiser has sole discretion in the allocation and placement of exhibitor sites. The conference organiser does not endorse any exhibitors or the machinery/products the exhibitors choose to display or sell at the trade show.

To discuss specific site requirements, please contact Mike Hogan phone 0412 287980
email exhibit@nationablogicalfarmingconference.org.au





international guests

speakers

International keynote speakers will be joined by Australian experts in the field of biological farming systems along with recognised farmers and producers who are forging an innovative path.



GABE BROWN
North Dakota
USA

Gabe Brown is a pioneer of the current soil health movement that focuses on regenerating our resources. Their diversified 5,000-acre/2,000ha farm and ranch near Bismarck, North Dakota, USA focuses on farming and ranching in nature's image with holistic integration of their grazing and no-till cropping system. A diversity of cash crops and multi-species cover crops, and all-natural, grass-fed beef, poultry and sheep has regenerated the natural resources on the ranch without the use of synthetic fertilizers, pesticides or fungicides.

"[Our] strategies have allowed the health of the natural resources to benefit. This results in increased production, profit and a higher quality of life for us... sustainability for not only ours but future generations as well."
Gabe Brown www.brownsranch.us



**OPEN
YOUR
EYES**



BOB SHAFFER
SoilCulture Consulting
Hawaii/California

Bob Shaffer is a horticulturist, agronomist and viticulturist who has been consulting and training farmers in sustainable, science based farming systems in sub-tropical and temperate environments for 35 years. He is broadly experienced in the development and management of cover crop systems for farms, orchards and vineyards, from a whole-farm perspective including soil biology, soil physics and how the cover crop interrelates with food production and quality. He is a firm advocate for "growing your organic matter."

He has worked with crops as diverse as taro, coffee, ginger, avocados, macadamias, pineapples, herbs, tea, vegetables, mangoes, nursery crops, spices and more. Bob also specializes in compost development and use.

invited from australia farmers



JAMIE JURGENS
Vegetable grower,
Queensland

Jamie is the fifth generation of his family tending crops on about 150ha, producing tomatoes, chillis and capsicums, as well as sugar cane.

The Jurgens have gone to lengths to incorporate biological farming practices into their operation and learn about soils and their properties, motivated through the need to lower input costs and to be a good member of the community. Jurgens Produce is an active participant in the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority's Reef Guardian program.

Jamie says, 'Don't be afraid to believe in something natural.'

<http://jurgensproduce.com.au>



ANIKA MOLESWORTH
Young Farmer of the Year 2015
New South Wales

Anika was Young Farmer of the Year 2015 and is a global campaigner for equity for farmers in Australia and developing countries and a passionate advocate for Climate Change action.

"Gen Y is an exciting generation — we have entrepreneurial flair, innovative spirit, and a desire to better the lives of those around us and across the globe. We have the capabilities and energy to revolutionize the face of food and fibre production to ensure a thriving sustainable future."



ROB WATSON
Biodynamic Dairy and Bio Eggs
Queensland

Rob is managing director of Mungalli Creek Biodynamic Dairy, a boutique producer of organic/biodynamic and gourmet dairy products, one of just a few A grade certified biodynamic dairy farms in Australia. Rob says "working with nature is the key to producing top quality milk, cheeses and yoghurt". Robert, who represents generations of dairy farming, said no chemicals, pesticides or fertilisers are used in his operations, with natural and homeopathic remedies used for herd health.



JOHN ATTARD
Cane farmer
Queensland

John and Michael Attard grow sugar cane near Mackay and have been seeing great results from a biological whole-systems approach to production, which includes the application of bio-fertilisers made on the farm. They have created a range of different inputs, and modified equipment to apply them. Combined with retaining crop residues and monitoring mineral levels closely, they are showing promising yield results with lower inputs. John says soil water holding capacity of the soil has increased, saving more than \$1500 in pumping costs.





invited from australia farmers



**OPEN
YOUR
EYES**



ST. JOHN KENT
grain farmer
Queensland

St. John has been growing grain on the Jimbour Plains near Dalby on the northern Darling Downs for 37 years. He is a leader in the local Landcare movement and a driving force with the Jimbour Plains Growers Group. This farming group is purported to be the oldest continuous farming group in the country and is renowned for its leading role in adopting zero till and 3-metre controlled traffic in the grain and cotton industry.



GERALDINE MCGUIRE
Rainforest fruits
Queensland

Rainforest Bounty farms on the Atherton Tablelands grow the native rainforest fruits of the neighbouring Wet Tropics World Heritage area. Using sustainable organic farming methods, they simultaneously restore the landscape for rare indigenous wildlife including the endangered southern cassowary. The fruits are made into premium condiments in traditional artisanal recipes and sold through top delis and to restaurants including Noma in Sydney. Geraldine also runs a cooking school on the banks of the upper Johnstone River.



KALLESKE WINES
Wine makers
South Australia

In the Barossa Valley, the Kalleske family have been farming and growing grapes since 1853 near the village of Greenock. After six generations of growing grapes, winemaker and seventh generation family member, Troy Kalleske, together with his brother Tony, established the Kalleske winery and made the first 'Kalleske' wine. The Kalleske family are active practitioners of sustainable farming. They are caretakers of the land and not only want to maintain the environment but improve it for future generations.



MICHAEL RUSSO
Banana farmer
Queensland

Michael Russo farms with his father, Angelo, south of Innisfail. He is part of the new generation of farmers who is looking at a more biological approach to large-scale banana production. His trials with developing an on-farm composting system with banana waste and their own cattle and brewing their own fertilisers are showing more resilience to stress in his plants, better water use, fewer under-sized fruit and better soil health generally. He is now poised to implement the system over his whole farm.



meet them on tour farmers



SIMON GODFREY
Organic vegetables
Kairi

Simon is the third generation to farm here on the rich volcanic Atherton Tablelands plateau. The Godfreys value producing and eating nutritious, healthy food and took the step to organic conversion four years ago. Their mixed enterprise favours rotational organic agriculture with grazing, grains, potatoes/sweet potatoes and legumes. They have a ready market for their organic sweet potatoes “down south” and grain to local organic and biodynamic dairy enterprises.



MATT ALLEN AND FIONA GEORGE
Vanilla growers
Mirriwinni

Broken Nose Vanilla is a family enterprise where Fiona and Matt grow, process and add value to vanilla pods to create a range of gourmet products. Their philosophy of sustainability extends to using no pesticides or chemical fertilisers on the property and paying particular attention to soil health. They have received numerous agricultural and food achievement awards and were named in Australia's Top 30 Producers of 2015 by goodfood.com.au.



BEN POGGIOLI
Potato, peanut and maize grower
Tolga

Ben at Poggioli Farming has been working to perfect strip and zonal tillage in his 220ha rotational crop system using GPS and variable rate technology. He aims to reduce compaction and broad-scale cultivation, instead looking to “vertical” cultivation, which reduces costs in the wear and tear on machinery and also improve soil moisture retention. This translates to less stress on the crop at critical growth phases and improvements in soil health. Ben plans to extend strip tillage throughout his cropping system.



PETER AND ALISON SALLERAS
Exotic tropical fruits
East Feluga

Fruit Forest Farm transports you to an exotic oasis, flourishing with a bounty of exotic fruits, plants and rich cultural history. Alison and Pete have made a name for themselves in meeting impossible challenges. They have built up their exotic tropical fruit farm to withstand category 5 cyclones and established an extensive farm of tropical/ultratropical fruits, specialising in high quality, niche markets. Pete has increased his knowledge of soil health in recent years, particularly in managing the natural nitrogen cycle to influence flowering and leaf development.



researchers and advisors



**REDUCE
REUSE
RECYCLE**



DR VIC GALEA
Associate Professor in Plant Pathology
University of Queensland

Vic Galea has more than 30 years' national and international experience in lecturing and research, specialising in beneficial fungi and diseases of vegetables, fruit, field crops and native plants. His team has developed Australia's first 'home-grown' commercial bioherbicide, utilising native fungi, that promises to be a sustainable and long-term solution for invasive woody weeds such as Parkinsonia, Prickly Acacia, Mimosa and Athel Pine, marketed under BioHerbicides Australia. Vic says: "Sustainable and environmentally effective solutions in nature will enhance agricultural productivity."



DR BRAJESH SINGH
Professor in Soil Microbial Biology
University of Western Sydney

Brajesh Singh is providing key information about the link between soil health and ecosystem functions, including farm productivity, nutrient cycling, soil fertility and greenhouse gas emissions.

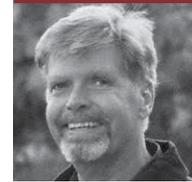
He has led or co-led a number of national and international initiatives including the establishment of the Global Centre for Land-Based Innovation. He serves on steering committees of two EU initiatives, currently serves on the editorial boards of six international journals, including as a senior editor, and holds honorary positions in the UK and China.



DR NANCY SCHELLHORN
Team Leader - Pest Suppressive
Landscape, CSIRO
Brisbane

Nancy Schellhorn uses ecological concepts to address pest management problems at multiple spatial scales in agricultural and urban landscapes. She and her collaborators have developed and advanced the concept of Pest Suppressive Landscapes, which is a way of measuring, designing and managing agricultural landscapes for productivity and biodiversity.

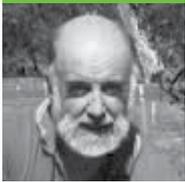
Nancy has worked on a projects in the USA and Australia; for example, at CSIRO Narrabri, NSW on parasitoids of *Helicoverpa* spp on cotton. Dr Schellhorn joined CSIRO in Brisbane in 2005 where she is a Principal Research Scientist and leads the Spatial Ecology Team in Brisbane.



MARCUS BULSTRODE
Queensland Department of
Agriculture and Fisheries,
South Johnstone

Marcus focusses on improving on-farm weed control by encouraging natural regeneration of riparian zones in the Wet Tropics where the region is deeply incised with many rivers and creeks amongst farm land. He aims to provide conditions on farms conducive to natural reestablishment of ecosystem function leading to greater resilience to disturbance and less need for herbicide use – "a win-win situation for land managers and biodiversity conservation." Marcus has also pioneered the use of drones in weed detection and management.

researchers and advisors



DR BERNARD DOUBE
Dung Beetle Solutions Australia
South Australia

Bernard Doube has extensive research experience with dung beetles in South Africa and Australia. He is also an international expert on ticks, dung-breeding flies, earthworms and the biological basis of soil health and offers workshops on soil health as well as soil macrofauna.

<http://www.dungbeetlesolutions.com.au>

Bernard has co-edited the books Soil biota: management in sustainable farming systems and Biological indicators of soil health and has been on the editorial boards of two international soil science journals. His recent book Dung down under has sold over 2000 copies.



GRAEME HAND
Groundcover management and
pasture cropping educator
Victoria

Graeme Hand is a Holistic Management Certified Educator. He manages a beef property and has worked in rural marketing, and as a meat eating quality assessor (MSA), training graders, abattoirs, butchers and chefs.

Graeme was taught by Alan Savory and has learnt much about how to use grazing to regenerate grasslands to full function, through observing and through his own experience on his farm and other people's farms. He is the CEO of STIPA Native Grass Association.



RICHARD LLEWELLYN
BioResources
Samford, Queensland

Richard has been developing biological control agents and biological control mass rearing systems for horticultural use for 30 years. Richard is well known for his work with a tiny wasp known commercially as 'MacTrix' which is now a mainstream input in the macadamia industry to control macadamia nutborer.

Richard is currently developing a mass rearing system and conducting field trials with Anastatus wasps, an egg parasitoid of fruitspotting bug.
<http://www.bioresources.com.au>



DR DEAN METCALF
Plant Pathologist, BioControl Australia
Tasmania

Dean is a plant pathologist with over twenty-five years' experience in crop disease management. Dean founded BioControl Australia Pty Ltd in 2002 to research, develop and commercialise biological control agents. He has successfully treated crop disease in numerous industries, including: cherries, raspberries, stonefruit, grapes, onions and macadamias. He is currently working on biocontrol of Macadamia Husk Spot.
www.biocontrol.net.au

N A T I O N A L
biological farming
C O N F E R E N C E

PAY DIRT

28-30 October, 2016

Convention Centre, Cairns, Tropical North Queensland

Biological farming encompasses a range of farming systems
that enhance the life-giving capacity of the soil.



Thanks to Mungalli Creek Biodynamic Dairy for use of images on pages 5, 7 & 10, and to Fruit Forest Farm for their produce images on pages 2,5,7 & 9.

Logo & Sponsorship Brochure designed by Evolve Brand Design. For a free quote please go to www.evolvebranddesign.com

For more information please contact Fiona George, Regional Landcare Facilitator:

PHONE: 0488 702 203 • EMAIL: info@nationalbiologicalfarmingconference.org.au • WEBSITE: www.nationalbiologicalfarmingconference.org.au