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End of Financial Year Business Bonus Program

We invite all clients to participate in our EOFY BUSINESS BONUS PROGRAM.

Simply deposit a minimum of \$10k to your FJs account prior to 30th June 2024. EOFY Business Bonus dollars will be credited at equivalent to 5% per annum to your FJs trading account.

This is calculated monthly using the closing remaining credit value from the pre-June deposit in your FJ's trading account making it very easy to track.

Call us now!

Electrocoup Services should be completed prior to the start of your pruning program.



Please drop your secateurs into our Nuri store and ensure continued prorated warranty.



Each year delivers a new range of challenges, 2024 looks to be no different so far. Although the average break in the central regions of SA only occurs in the second week of May, it feels well

and truly time it started raining!

Australian regulatory authorities continually review registrations and label content across the entire range of agchem products used in our production systems. This ensures safety to users, to food consumers and also protects our environment.

Now more than ever, there is peak interest in food production from a growing urban population, also correlated to peak ignorance in how it is produced and the farming methods used!

In order to manage the pressure of both production and the anti-movement, industry investment has shifted away from just synthetic products to include biological and organic pesticides as well.

Primary producers around the world need to grow as much food over the next fifty years as we have since

the beginning of humanity.

Crop protection chemistry remains vital in supporting modern food production. Without pesticides the world would lose up to fifty per cent of crucial food crops, devastating global food supply.

These new specifically targeted products will require a heightened level of management in timing and application to maximise their effectiveness in the field. Our Farmer Johns agronomy team are quite familiar with many of them, including Corteva's Utrisha N, a new nutrient efficiency Bio stimulant mentioned in this Landlink. They can also help you determine how these new technologies can "fit" into your production program.

Our mix of staff, some with over 40 years of industry experience, continue to foster **Relationships**, increase **Knowledge**, build on **Integrity** and provide **Consistency** in product supply, advice and service!

Greg Schubert

Quote of the Month

"The most important single ingredient in the formula for success is knowing how to get along with people"

- Theodore Roosevelt

Broadacre

Feed crops, beans, peas, lentils, and some canola are being sown into dry soils across our region now. The less-than-ideal conditions will have an impact on efficacy of any pre-emergent herbicide applied. This in turn will ramp up pressure on the post-emergent grass spray program in legume and canola crops. Dry starts, such as our current season, provide a very good example of the value that GM canola offers in a winter cropping program.

Dry sowing presents many challenges and requires some consideration about what the risks are, particularly fertiliser toxicity, under these conditions. It is common practice to drill fertiliser with the seed as part of the cropping program, is generally a safe practice. However, the practice of dry sowing increases the risk of a salt effect from fertiliser being in direct contact with planted seed.

Rates and fertiliser placement may need to be adjusted to provide adequate separation and crop safety. The most sensitive crop to fertiliser toxicity is canola. Some consideration should be given to spreading the planting fertiliser prior to sowing dry particularly when using wide row spacings.

Pre-emergent herbicides are stable in a dry soil if they are incorporated successfully as no microbial action is breaking down the active constituent. Prior to applying a pre-em to dry soils, consideration needs to be given to what mode of action a particular herbicide has, either shoot or root uptake, and what moisture is required for the product to work. The biggest concern is in the situation that we have heavy rainfall over the season break, how soluble is the product that has been applied and what is the potential for crop damage if the product leaches into the root zone of the sown crop. Allcont page 2/

Seasonal reminders

- Order livestock ear tags well before marking to avoid any supply and delivery hiccups.
- Get your mitt around a new SFX Heiniger handpiece this shearing season and go harder for longer!
- We have a full range of hand pruning tools and accessories in stock including cable ties and wire.

- Century batteries in stock, don't get caught out in the cold – the first start is the best start!!
- Make sure you honour allocated booking slots for fertiliser pick-ups!
- Return all Chep pallets, 1000ltr shuttles and 110ltr Enviro's ASAP.
- Keep a pouch or two of FloPak Plus on hand for those emergencies over the calving and lambing season.

- Take the opportunity to install additional rainwater storage with a new Polymaster tank or two.
- Rats and mice will take bait more readily while feed reserves are low. Keep up the bait supply around the house and farm yard.
- We always have a range of dog and cat food in stock – Felix Cat 12 x 85gm pouches for \$13/pack.

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from page 1... things considered, it's about risk management giving consideration to weed pressure, seed placement, soil type and organic matter. Please discuss these matters with our agro's and prepare for late changes to programs based on these conversations.

Incidentally, GM technology allows robust post emergent weed control equal to that achieved with a pre sowing knockdown. This benefit is also one of the reasons that the technology has been adopted so heavily in our region.

Fertiliser deliveries have been managed reasonably well over the last few weeks despite a few unforeseen hurdles with shipping and packaging delays. An enormous amount of time and effort takes place in arranging carriers and pick up bookings. We thank all clients for co-operating with us over this time. Urea prices at a global level have come off significantly and this is being reflected in the local market for top dress. While seasonal conditions in South Australia aren't favourable, the demand from the Eastern states is strong. All these factors would indicate that it is time to have lock some urea orders for early post emergent top dress applications.

Snail populations continue to increase in all areas and will be an ongoing challenge. Correct baiting strategies vary depending on the type of snails and slugs present, whether the crop is in dryland or under irrigation and if it is for grain production or pasture. Our agro's continue to attend critical upskilling workshops to ensure that they offer appropriate advice for your situation. These pests will only become active with wet weather, meaning bait spread prior to any rain event will largely be wasted.

As with the old "oils ain't oils" adage, "baits ain't baits" either! There is a wide choice of baits on the market now - baits with an extended life, organic certification and some with additional insecticides included in the formulation to take care of an additional range of pests. Check in with one of our agronomy team to determine the most appropriate option for your situation.

Reflex herbicide has been used very effectively as a pre-emergent option for a range of resistant weeds. Reflex does require some specific management practices in terms of crop safety and plant back periods. In order to ensure that all users understand these requirements, Syngenta have an accreditation process in place requiring users to complete a basic online module prior to purchase and use. Once completed Syngenta will issue a Reflex Reference Number (RRN). This number needs to be supplied to our store sales team prior to any Reflex purchase. Please jump onto the Syngenta website to complete the simple accreditation process before the heat of the season! As mentioned earlier in this Landlink, **regulatory authorities constantly review product registrations and uses**. There are a couple notable changes in products that we have regularly used in crops across our region.

Chlorpyrifos (Lorsban, Strike Out, Pynrex Super etc) is likely to be de-registered sometime over the next couple months. It has been a popular and effective insecticide for many years in most cropping segments. We expect that all product on farm will need to be used before June 2025.

Another change has been made with the common herbicide Bromoxynil. Bromoxynil has been up-scheduled from an S6 to a S7 poison. Bromoxynil is used for broadleaf weed control in many crops including cereals and pasture. The up-scheduling will only take place in Feb 25 but clients should be aware as purchases will require a Chemcert users license going forward.

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Pasture

Pastures have suffered somewhat after a relatively dry spring and the current dry conditions persisting. Many paddocks have been eaten out harder than they typically would be as graziers manage stock with limited feed reserves. When the break does take place newly germinated pastures will be slower to establish as soil temperatures drop, increasing their susceptibility to both insect pests and weed competition. Be on the front foot and regularly inspect your pastures beyond emergence for insect damage and treat them early to minimise the impact on production. Likewise, take early action on weed competition to limit their impact on pastures.

FJs have a large range of pasture seed in stock for all rainfall zones. In addition, we can arrange specific single seed varieties or custom blends tailored for your production goals and grazing requirements. Any clients fortunate to have irrigated pastures and lucerne crops should consider early applications of foliar nutrition, fertigation or via one of the granular products specific to the purpose. Have a conversation with one of our agro's to sort a pasture nutrition program. Leaf testing in pastures is also an accurate method of determining if any specific elements should be included in a nutrition blend, give us a call to follow up any plant testing jobs!

Viticulture

Despite the tough growing season, vineyard canopies have been very slow to go into dormancy due in large parts to the mild weather we have been enjoying over recent weeks.

Pruning has started across many vineyards but generally cold and miserable weather is far more character building!

Weed control should be a focus for all vignerons early in the autumn. Typically, weeds become well established in vineyards and orchards before they are targeted with a herbicide. Larger plants, (past tillering) require much higher rates of herbicide for effective control. We have seen a large increase in herbicide resistant weeds across our horticulture businesses, especially resistant ryegrass.

Implementing a robust early season weed management plan, utilising a range of herbicide groups and adding appropriate "spikes" to the tank mix will assist in getting on top of problem weeds before they become a major issue later in the season.

Please contact our agro's for more specific information on enhancing your knock down herbicide to be more effective up front as well as including early season residual products into your weed management plan for longer term control over the winter months.

Soil testing should be undertaken whilst vineyards are dormant. Test results can then be used to ensure that any composts and other soil ameliorants applied can have appropriate nutrients added for a one pass top dress prior to the spring growing season.

Please contact any of the FJs team to order these inputs or our agro's for assistance with soil testing and subsequent analysis recommendations.

Winter also provides an ideal slot to have **moisture management technology installed in the vineyard**. Managing irrigation applications at a higher level provides an opportunity to improve both grape volume and fruit quality. Installations over the winter time also allow the collection of data as the profile accumulates stored moisture in the recharge phase.

The Federal Government have grant money available (covering up to 50% of the investment) for use in primary production businesses aimed at improving water resources in primary production.

Unfortunately, some structural **damage will have occurred to trellises** in most vineyards over the growing season and as a result of machine harvesting in more recent months. Most trellis posts sizes are available without too much lead time, it will be pertinent to order your supplies in advance to ensure availability when you need the job completed. Likewise, wire and steel posts are in stock in our yards.

Waratah have a promotion running from the beginning of May until the end of June 24, trellis material purchases from their range to the value of \$850000 will **qualify for a bonus Baby Q Weber and roasting pack worth \$550 RRP**. Purchases must be made in one transaction. Check in with our store sales teams to get your supplies sorted!

Contact one of our viti agronomy team for all other matters relevant to autumn and winter vineyard management.

Citrus & Orchard

Harvest is on the go across our **citrus orchards**. Some M7 Navals have been are picked while Valencia's are continuing to size up with early signs of colour break. Fruit quality looks to be an improvement over the previous season, improving harvest prospects for the local industry.

Some early Mandarin's have been harvested with most blocks in the final stages of sizing and colouring.

Last year's **stone fruit yields and fruit quality were severely compromised** as a result of fungal disease pressures subsequent to the significant rainfall toward the end of November and early December.

It will be important to take a proactive approach to early **disease management beginning during the winter months** to ensure any carry over disease issues are negated. Please contact one of our agro's to discuss your season long fungicide program before pruning begins.

Mid row management is also an important consideration in orchards to assist in improving soil health and to manage pests and weeds. Composts and mulch can be added to boost soil organic levels and to improve soil moisture characteristics. Due to the dry spring last season limited volumes of both oats and barley varieties suitable for midrow cover crops are available. Please contact us to determine the best use of your resources and to reserve your seed and fertiliser requirements.

Early planning for the 24/25 nutrition program should also be on the radar. We envisage a number of ongoing challenges with product supply. We therefore need an understanding of your NPK and micro nutrient program in order to formulate these liquids at our Ramco site. Please prioritise contacting Shaun or Duff at our Ramco store to discuss this in more detail.

Mete Gunhan, our orchard, citrus and viti agronomist, is available for to assist with all orchard related pest and disease issues either via a phone conversation or for on farm block inspections.



GRILL AWAY YOUR WINTER CHILL

CHECK OUT WARATAH'S EOFY PROMOTION BELOW!

1ST MAY - 30TH JUNE 2024

140 YEARS WARATAH FIRST - BECAUSE IT LASTS.

The banner features a collection of Waratah products including a blue Weber grill, various herbicide bottles (Stockmate, Stocklock, Longlife Netting), and other agricultural supplies. The background is dark blue with orange accents.

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Animal Health & General Merchandise

Lambs have started to hit the ground over the last couple weeks. Containment feeding became popular a number of years ago as a result of the run of dry seasons we experienced at the time. Satisfying the ewes feed requirements over the next few weeks will be a challenge for many graziers who don't have the capacity to manage lambing ewes in containment compounds. As well as boosting poor quality paddock and hay reserves, loose licks from both **TRAC and Performance Feeds will provide a reliable source of bypass protein and the necessary trace elements** that lactating mothers require. Anecdotal evidence from a number of our clients using these products have determined that lambs will reach marketable weights earlier with both ewes and growing lambs remaining in better condition over the journey.

FJs also have a range of **stock feeders available** for supplementing grain feeding in a more controlled manner. Call our stores for the various options and for pricing and delivery. Vaccinations administered both before and after lambing are also a very important component of successfully getting lambs to market. All stock should be vaccinated annually with a booster shot and then ensure that every lamb receives their initial vaccination at marking followed by a booster approximately 6 weeks later, generally at weaning. The Zoetis vaccines includes the well known Glanvac range as well as their more recently released GlanEry, plus B12 and Eryvac products to manage Erysipelas arthritis and supplement Vitamin B12 in a form that remains in the animal for an extended "pay out" period.

Call any of the FJs stores to sort your vaccine and lamb marking supplies including rings and ear tags.

Orphans are an unfortunate circumstance of livestock production. **We stock a range of milk replacers** for all species including Maxcare suitable for calves, lambs, foals and kids as well as a range of teats, bottles and associated feeders. Always ensure that a fresh supply of water is always available and have adlib crumbles and pellet supplements to assist in developing a robust digestive system in orphans. The enclosure should also be protected from the weather and have clean and dry bedding.

Bunnybait is an effective bait for rabbits, especially now whilst the weather remains dry and little natural feed is available. Optimum results will be achieved if Bunnybait is offered on three occasions at 3 to 5 day intervals. Bait at a sufficient rate to enable all rabbits in an area to eat several grams of bait each during every application, ideally about 20% of the bait offered will remain in the morning after the rabbits feed. Use of a ploughed furrow (2.5 cm deep using a hoe) will help bring rabbits onto the bait trail. Oat bait is less attractive to dogs and cats and so is considered safe to these pets.

BARASTOC
Buy a bag of Golden Yolk 20kg to
Win a Poultry Feeder*
*See in store for details
we put the chicken before the egg

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