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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 before the 30th June 2023.

1 – We will reward you for your participation with annualised 4.2% EOFY Business Bonus dollars credited to your trading account.

2 – Calculated monthly using the closing remaining credit value from the pre-June deposit in your FJ's trading account.

3 – Credited monthly so you can easily track it on your existing Farmer Johns account.

Call us now to register your interest.



Our perfect autumn weather, cool nights and very mild days, has certainly tested the resilience of any remaining summer crops! This has certainly been the case for our viti clients over the closing

weeks of April! Conversely, the broadacre cropping segment is still looking forward to a decent soak to consolidate the current “soft” opening rains that have only provided limited moisture since the beginning of autumn.

In previous seasons, fertiliser sales have typically been done over several months beginning in December. However, this year a significant chunk of that business has taken place in the few weeks since Easter. I thank all those clients who have completed fertiliser purchases with us over the last few weeks and for the co-operation in working with tight delivery windows and booking schedules.

One of the blokes that was in our son's wedding party was killed in a workplace accident a few weeks ago in Central Qld. Hogg worked for the local shire.

A current investigation by the coroner will no doubt determine the circumstances surrounding this tragic event. The outcome of that won't make too much difference for the difficulty that his wife, two young daughters, family, mates and community have had to deal with at the time and over these subsequent weeks.

Accidents will always happen no matter how well we plan and implement procedures.

Approximately 85 deaths occur from farm-based accidents in Australia each year and between 200 and 600 injuries for every 1000 farms require hospital treatment.

We have just completed a busy vintage and are about to ramp up the winter sowing program.

A combination of long working days, less sleep, heightened stress levels and machinery operation all increase risks in the farm workplace. Please take care of yourselves, your family members and any employees working for you during the busy weeks ahead!

Greg Schubert

Quote of the Month

“I think we consider too much the good luck of the early bird and not enough the bad luck of the early worm”

- Franklin D Roosevelt

Broadacre

This season early weed control should be a priority given the likelihood of a significant weed seedbank as a result of last season's long and wet spring. There were large populations of troublesome weeds present in crops at harvest. Many of these populations (including large stands of ryegrass) were able to finish and set seed.

Excessive stubble and trash loads are an issue that some of our customers are currently facing as a result of increased biomass production and late germinating ryegrass/brome grass from last year's growing season. Stubble and trash loads over 50% can significantly decrease pre-emergent herbicide efficacy. Pre-emergent herbicides need to be incorporated into the soil profile to effectively control germinating weeds. Trifluralin will bind tightly to organic residue and is unlikely to wash off sufficiently with rainfall to offer satisfactory weed control. Other products used prior to seeding will suffer similar reductions in efficacy if residual trash loads prevent the herbicide from reaching the soil surface. Most croppers will be disappointed with a seriously compromised result!

While we are yet to see a genuine break to the season, there has been enough rain to promote a good germination of weeds which provides growers the opportunity to utilise a double knock herbicide option. This will be a big bonus for ryegrass and brome grass control given the situation we have already mentioned above – the massive seed bank present in the paddock! Robust rates of both the initial glyphosate application and then the desiccant herbicide should be the order of the daycont page 2

Seasonal reminders

- New Electrocoup secateurs in stock as well as a full range of parts and accredited service staff for repairs.
- Eartags should be ordered well before lamb marking to allow for any unforeseen delivery delays.
- Use TRAC and Performance Feeds products for all livestock.

- Keep in front of the vermin around the house and farm sheds with Storm, Tomcat and Bromakil bait.
- Get a new pair of work boots before winter to keep your socks clean and dry heading into winter – Red Back Rossi and Blunnies boots in stock.
- Order rainwater tanks before the winter sets in for earnest. 2 – 4 week lead times apply to new orders.

- Order tree guards to keep the rabbits and hares off the native revegetation planting projects.
- Dog and cat food always in stock.

**Barossa Pruning & AgTech Expo:
Wed 14 June 2023**

The pruning expo is in the Barossa this year on 14 June 2023. Keep an eye out for registration. FJs sponsoring a prize - be in it to win it!

from page 1... to effect the best reduction in populations as possible. There are a few locations in some of our lower rainfall regions that are struggling for moisture which may in turn present additional challenges with herbicide selections at the moment.

Many clients used Terrador for the first time last season. Strong, early demand this year has certainly confirmed that Terrador performed very well for those first time users! Clients across all regions including the Murraylands were impressed with the rapid brown out of broadleaf weeds and the true activity on grass weeds at higher rates subsequent to spray applications containing Terrador. With no residual activity, and

short plant-backs for key crops in our region Terrador might be the perfect tank mix partner for use this seeding. Please give any of the FJ's agro's a call to discuss weed control options in more detail relevant to your situation including the benefits that Terrador might offer!

Legume inoculant – repeated research over many years has certainly proven that using peat based inoculants at twice the recommended rate will provide much higher numbers of nitrogen nodules in legumes as well as increased early vigour and subsequent yields. This activity will ultimately display improved soil conditions and can improve any following crop quite significantly. Sowing with a granular inoculant is also an option especially if conditions are on the drier side at seeding.

Keep an eye out for any signs of Mandalotus weevil or "Rubble Bugs" in the Murraylands and Mallee following seeding. Mandalotus weevil are found primarily on 'rubbly' or lighter calcareous soils. Their populations are generally resident within paddocks and may recur in the same areas across seasons but can be transported into clean paddocks on machinery. They feed more actively at night, typically sheltering in the top 1-2cm of soil at the base of plant stems during the day. They are more surface-active for several days following rainfall. Detection and control can be difficult. The first sign of infestation is generally when freshly emerged rows of crop "disappear" overnight. Quick and concise action is needed. Give your FJs agro a call if you notice suspicious activity, they can assist with identification in areas of concern and recommend appropriate action.

Do not use haloxyfop (Verdict) on canola from the 2023/24 season for export. The European Union has indicated it will reduce the current Maximum Residue Limit for haloxyfop on canola from 0.2mg/kg to 0.005mg/kg. Applying haloxyfop to canola according to current Australian label directions would create residues above this new EU MRL. While no specific timeframe can be provided, the Australian industry expects this change to be announced in 2023. It would therefore be prudent to manage any canola crops going forward without the use of haloxyfop as if delivered, EU market access will be jeopardised for all Australian canola exports. This applies to canola received in the 2023/24 season and going forward.

This decision is only for the use of haloxyfop on canola and applies to both GM and non-GM canola for export.

Please speak with your usual FJ agro to determine alternative herbicide strategies if the exclusion of haloxyfop will be an issue for you and for all other matters mentioned in this segment of our Landlink.

Pasture

Increasing the stocking capacity of dryland paddocks makes good sense, especially after a bumper medic and clover season such as last year when graziers experienced the value of higher feed availability. Any paddocks that have been out of pasture for some time might need a tidy up to reduce the weed bank. Forage cereals are an ideal choice as more herbicide options can be used over them to clean grasses and typical broadleaf weed competition and can still produce high yields with an open-ended option for hay production. A custom blend consisting of three or four legume varieties and a small amount of Italian ryegrass, forage cereals, lucerne and brassica makes an ideal multi species pasture for all livestock. Greenland brassica which produced a mountain of feed last year assisted by a wet spring, has fired up with autumn rainfall to continue providing feed. This continues to be a big win for graziers who want green feed over spring and also need a window to control barley grass.

Our pasture agronomy team see a lot of pasture and have hands on experience with a number of trial blocks across our market area. You can use them as a resource to assist in getting your under-utilised paddocks humming this season. Give them a call sooner rather than later!

The **addition of humates**, especially on any ground that has been flooded or water logged, along with a dose of gypsum has the potential to make a good pasture into a feast for your livestock.

The benefits of increased growth rates, more milk, increased wool cuts and higher turn off weights are hard to measure but your bottom line will tell a tale in the washup!

Look out for pests such as RWA, RLEM, lucerne flea, cutworm and armyworm, all active with the green bridge "motel" over summer.



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Viticulture

Soil Tests should be completed now that the season has come to a close, albeit very slowly! A particularly wet spring and heavy crop loads will have drawn down a high level of soil stored nutrients. Soil tests provide an accurate assessment of the remaining nutrient reserves. They may assist in determining the cause of poor growth or yield and fruit quality penalties.

Tests will also ensure that any post-harvest fertigation efforts and investment in additional soil amendments are made to improve nutrient status in preparation for next season.

Time is of the essence, winter rainfall will be valuable in moving those products into the root zone. (or sodium out of the root zone).

Barossa soils typically tend to have very low organic matter levels. Routine efforts such as cover crops have

been used to counter this situation. Compost is also good resource to improve organic matter and other nutrient levels in all production systems. Those producers using commercially available products have certainly experienced the subsequent benefits.

Please give our team a call to sort soil tests and to discuss your vineyards nutritional requirements.

Herbicide programs should also be in the spotlight at this time of year. Most weed populations performed exceptionally well during the latter months of 2022 spurred on by the ideal growing conditions! Although a fair effort in weed control was maintained well into spring, the weeds probably won the battle as grapevine canopies hid many populations from view. As a result, we have a healthy seed bank available to cause further grief in the months ahead if early action is not undertaken now.

Good early rainfall has prompted a solid germination of weeds at the moment. Given the high incidence of resistant weeds across viti and horticulture businesses it would be prudent to take care of these seedling populations before they develop further.

Robust herbicide rates with the addition of a “spike” appropriate for the weed species should be applied. A follow up “double knock” desiccant herbicide can be applied a week or so later to ensure a complete kill of any resistant weeds takes place.

We recommend you take the opportunity to review your weed control program with anyone of our agro’s. They can also offer more specific advice for your individual situation.

Pruning has begun in many vineyards. We have moved from selling picking snips and accessories to Electrocoup secateurs all within a week! Please drop your Electrocoup tools into our store for servicing if you haven’t already done so.

We have new units in stock as well as a full range of spares on hand to avoid any down time over the course of the season.

Eutypa continues to bubble along in the background in many vineyards. **Greenseal** from Omnia should be applied to large pruning cuts to reduce the incidence and spread of this insidious disease. Please call our agro’s to talk through the best management options to control Eutypa in your vines. Stock up on Greenseal and other Omnia products before the 30th of June 2023 for your chance to win a Monarto Zoo experience.

Posts and Trellis material will no doubt need some level of maintenance prior to next season. Product availability has improved in more recent months but it would be prudent to advise us some ballpark volumes for both posts and wire. Obviously, there is a wide choice of post options available for use in vineyard trellis with timber still the most popular. There are a few changes taking place in this space with some alternatives to creosote being offered. Although limited field data is available to determine the longevity of these products compared to creosote, we believe the environmental impact is certainly more favourable than CCA treated products.

Give any of our stores a call to check these options out and to sort any EOFY trellis material orders in time for June deliveries.

Citrus and Orchard

Uragan (Bromacil 800g/l) has been used to provide **long term weed control in citrus crops** for the control of certain annual broadleaf and grass weeds. Uragan will provide good residual control as well as offering an alternate active to glyphosate to assist in the resistant weed battle.

Higher rates can also be used around the farm yard and along fence lines to clean up vermin habitat and resistant weed populations as well as fire hazard reduction heading into the summer season. Robust rates can provide up to 7 months residual effect.

Remove all mummified fruit and any diseased prunings to minimise carrying any infections over to next year’s fruit crop. This will also assist in managing the risk of fruit fly infestation in those regions currently under threat.

The opportunity to **apply post-harvest nutrient prior** to fruit trees moving into dormancy is fast disappearing. Act now to assist the trees’ ability to over winter, promote bud fruitfulness and prepare the orchard for a productive start to next season. We can assist with nutrition programs for all fruit varieties and tailored liquid blends for individual orchards.

Dormant application of copper following leaf drop is essential to set up next season yield.

Call our agro’s to review your fungicide and nutrition programs.



Storm® Secure Wax Block
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Animal Health & General Merchandise

Keep an eye on young sheep and hoggets going into their first winter as **they are more susceptible to worm burdens**. Pregnant ewes and recently lambed ewes naturally put all their energy into the mothering cycle through milk production. The draw down of energy used over this time will in turn lower the ewe's immunity to other infections and increase parasite susceptibility. Black Scour worm populations typically peak between June to August in our region. To assist in managing potential outbreaks, sheep should be rotated onto clean pastures. Eggs may only last a few weeks prior to the larvae stage of their lifecycle. Under favorable environmental conditions larvae can survive on pasture from two to six months.

Worm egg counts undertaken over this period will also provide an accurate snapshot of the level of any infestation. Dung samples should be collected early in the week so that transport to the laboratory isn't interrupted by a weekend.

Obviously, the results can then be analysed to make a meaningful decision on any drench product or other action required to negate the impact of any internal parasites present.

Give any of the FJs team a call to discuss your livestock drenching program or to arrange a time to assist with faecal sampling on your farm.

MSD Animal Health is pleased to announce the recent registration of FLEXOLT Oral Lice Treatment for Sheep with any Length of Wool, an exciting new product which is set to revolutionise Australian sheep farming. This breakthrough innovation is Australia's first registered oral lice treatment for sheep and lambs and will stand out in a class of its own. Providing effective lice control in any length of wool, FLEXOLT will provide Australian sheep farmers with unrivalled flexibility. While this innovative new product is registered, it is not yet available in the Australian market. In the interim, limited options including Extinosad Pour-On & Vanquish can still be used to suppress lice populations in long wool. Both products have export slaughter interval and wool harvest collection periods that need to be adhered to. Always ensure that any applications made to the flock will provide sufficient timing prior to sale or shearing.

Our store staff can assist with application rates and discuss the best option for your situation.

Cattle lice numbers will peak over winter causing cattle to rub. Heavy infestations may also cause some loss of weight gains simply due to their interruption to grazing patterns. Stock will also appear as unrepresentable. These infections can be eliminated with pour on drench applications, timed to coincide at the beginning of autumn, late in winter and at weaning. Application windows can be adjusted to take place when cattle are in the yards to avoid separate mustering.

Multimin Injection should be administered to the cow herd prior to joining. Multimin Injection for cattle is a rapidly and well-absorbed injectable source of copper, selenium, zinc, and manganese. When used strategically during periods of high demand, Multimin has been shown to improve fertility, increase immunity and vaccine response, and optimise growth and development.

Injections can also be made simultaneously to the back line lice treatments discussed above. Multimin should be administered prior to the pour on.

Rodents are on the move! Since the weather conditions have cooled over the last few weeks vermin have started to look for dry and warmer habitats – in your sheds, the house ceiling, under car and truck bonnets and anywhere else that annoys the daylighters out of us! Maintain the supply of bait while this activity persists. Rats like to gnaw and so are attracted to the waxed baits while mice prefer to dine on treated grains. Ideally these products be made available in bait stations that exclude pets and off target native species from consuming them. Rotating between the various

actives will also maintain bait efficacy. We have a large range of baits in stock including Storm, Bromakil and Tomcat wax blocks, Bromakil grain bait and Racumin wax sachets and bait stations for rats and mice.

Current cold weather is also a timely reminder to **prepare for the cold wet winter ahead!** Treat yourself to new gumboots and water proof gear to stay warm and dry during the winter.

End of Financial Year is only a month away! There is still time to capitalise on the 100% tax write off for purchases made before the end of June. Sharman and Bromar feeders, sheep yards, livestock loading ramps, 12kva generator, fire fighters, pressure cleaners, gun safes all in stock.

We can source sheep handlers and drafters, crushes, marking cradles, weigh scales, data collectors and EID tag readers for the up-and-coming ear tag roll out.

Call us for all EOFY quotes and availability.

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