

YLAD LIVING SOILS

CAPABILITY STATEMENT

Why YLAD Living Soils?



Soil health specialists

Passionate to create a sustainable future for farmers, the environment and communities

Extensively researched Biological Farming Methods have proven the benefits of working with nature to improve soil health for greater pasture productivity, crop yields and animal productivity

Prepared
July 2021

YLAD Living Soils

Putting life back into the land



Contents

| | |
|-------------------------|--|
| Welcome to YLAD Living | |
| Soils..... | |
| ...2 | |
| Company | |
| Information..... | |
|3 | |
| Full Legal | |
| Name..... | |
|3 | |
| Trading | |
| Name..... | |
|3 | |
| Entity | |
| Status..... | |
|3 | |
| ABN..... | |
|3 | |
| ACN..... | |
|3 | |
| Sales | |
| Office..... | |
|3 | |
| Production | |
| Site..... | |
|3 | |
| Point of | |
| Contact..... | |
|3 | |
| Years of | |
| Operation..... | |
|3 | |
| Website..... | |
|3 | |
| Services, Resources and | |
| Products..... | |
|4 | |

| | |
|--|----|
| Key Staff..... | 6 |
| Accreditation, Sponsorship and Awards..... | 8 |
| Healthy and Safety..... | 9 |
| Case Studies..... | 11 |
| Our Projects..... | 15 |
| Contact Information..... | 19 |

Welcome to YLAD Living Soils

YLAD Living Soils™ is an Australian owned family company formed to supply biological, organic and Humus Compost fertility products and services to the agricultural and garden industry.

Established in 2002 by Bill and Rhonda Daly, YLAD Living Soils™ have gained the reputation as **leaders in agronomic advice** for natural farming systems including environmental educational programs to famers making the transition from conventional to biological agriculture with confidence.

YLAD Living Soils™ manufacturing base and head office are in Young NSW and they distribute biological fertilisers, Humus Compost™, Inoculum products throughout Australia and Aeromaster Composting Equipment throughout Australia and New Zealand.

Bill and Rhonda began questioning the direction of conventional farming on their very successfully owned and operated mixed broadacre farm at Young NSW. They believed that the ever-increasing amounts of artificial fertilisers, chemicals, pesticides together with current land management practices were leading to a decline in soil fertility and associated problems with animal and human health.

Bill and Rhonda have a life time association with agriculture and can steer farmers in the **right direction to success**, through their own proven record.

The challenges farmers face is more complex, wide range and pressing than ever before. Conventional agriculture has merely applied superficial bandaid solutions that don't resolve the deep seated nature of the problems at hand. YLAD Living Soils™ have **developed a system** that has changed the way we think and address these problems and strategies to resolve them.

YLAD Living Soils™ leads the field in natural soil fertility systems, equipping farmers with an in-depth understanding of the power of a mineralised living soil for healthy food production and environment. They provide **world class environmental educational programs** to allow farmers to work with nature and not against her.

In 2006 YLAD Living Soils™ pioneered **Humus Compost™ Technology** in Australia allowing farmers to produce their own on-farm fertilisers. Humus Compost™ and Soil Technology® focuses on building resilient soils and eco-systems in the face of soil degradation, climate variability and resource depletion. By building humus in the soil and balancing minerals leads to the improvement in soil structure, allowing growers to **restore the microbial activity** driving productivity and profitability, reducing the need for herbicide, pesticide and insecticide applications.

Company Information

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| Full Legal Name | Daly Pty Limited as Trustee for Daly Family Trust |
| Trading Name | YLAD Living Soils |

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| Entity Status | Daly Family Trust |
| ABN | 7831 6574 829 |
| ACN | 120 567 428 |
| Head Office | admin@yladlivingsoils.com.au 186 Milgadara Road Young NSW 2594 P O Box 1182 Young NSW 2594 (02) 6382 2165 |
| Manufacturing | Moppity Road Young NSW 2594 |
| Point of Contact | Rhonda Daly – Managing Director Office: (02) 6382 2165 Email: rhonda.daly@yladlivingsoils.com.au |
| Years of Operation | Eighteen (18) |
| Website | www.yladlivingsoils.com.au www.yladlivingcompost.com.au |

Services, Resources and Products

Professional Services

Our services include:

Full agronomy service. Advice on soil, cropping, pasture management and animal health
Soil and Leaf Testing. Analysis, recommendations and management advice
Education Workshops, Seminars and Field Days and Paddock Yaks

Consultation to Local Councils and Overseas Companies on Waste Management Strategies

On farm visits – paddock and crop inspection

Co-ordination of transport and freight

Resources

Vehicles and Machinery

YLAD Living Soils owns and manages its vehicles and machinery. Machinery is operated by fully qualified staff and risk assessments are carried out regularly.

Additional Services and Resources

YLAD Living Soils has formed long-standing strategic alliances with various companies that allow us to provide additional services and resources to a wide range of clients.

These include:

Soil Health and Quality Management Services

Leaf Quality Management Services

Training and Workshops

Seminars

Products

YLAD Living Soils supply a large range of products which include:

Biological Fertilisers – Dry and Liquid. Soil Amendment Products, Crop Fertility, Liquid Fertilisers, Animal Health Products, Microbial Inoculums, Bio-management

YLAD Humus Compost® and **YLAD Humus Extract**

Signature Products – Lime Plus™, Germinate™, Germinate Plus™, Legume Plus™,

Y Lick™, YLAD Pasture Boost™

Composting Equipment Sales and Distribution

A full list of products available can be supplied on request

Key Staff

Rhonda Daly: Managing Director and Co-Founder

Rhonda is passionate about restoring soils to a balanced, healthy, biological alive system that will produce healthy plants, animals and people. As the founder of YLAD Living Soils, Rhonda is on a crusade to bring improved soil and human health solutions to the global environmental stage as well as helping others make the paradigm shift to more natural, sustainable farming systems.

Rhonda is respected for her vast agronomic knowledge of soil, plant, root interactions and has assisted farmers worldwide in returning their soil to a breathing living ecosystem. A certified Humus Compost Consultant Rhonda has set up more than 50 Humus Composting Operations throughout Australia and New Zealand.

Providing educational opportunities to empower farmers to return to a more sustainable method of farming, reducing their chemical usage while increasing production and profitability is what inspires Rhonda, knowing that she is contributing to the overall health of food production, the environment and society.

Heavily in demand as a speaker and educator, Rhonda appears at many agricultural field days and farmer meetings every year. Rhonda has spoken to a diverse range of audiences from Spain to New Zealand and all over Australia including Tasmania.

Bill Daly: Director and Co-Founder

Bill, a fourth generation farmer, began questioning the direction of conventional agriculture on his mixed-farm 'Milgadara' over 26 years ago. He observed that the ever-increasing amounts of synthetic fertilisers, chemicals and pesticides together with current land management practices were leading to a decline in soil fertility, yields and associated problems with animal and human health. This led Bill to look for a system that would restore the balance in the soil leading to healthy plants with less disease, weeds and pests.

Bill's role in YLAD Living Soils is involved with working with customers to give expert agronomic advice as well as being a Humus Compost Consultant with the philosophy of using local waste to produce local fertiliser for local food production. Bill also builds and commissions the Aeromaster Compost Turners in Australia and New Zealand and oversees the production of customers first windrow building.

Using 'Milgadara' as a model farm and benchmark for biological/humus farming has allowed them to illustrate the benefits of a more natural system. Bill is constantly working towards improving the health and well-being of the agricultural system and the people who work in it.

Julie Anderson: Finance and Administration

James Emery: Humus Compost Production and Compost Turner Operator

Accreditation, Sponsorship and Awards

YLAD Living Soils' commitments to quality and safety for accreditation





YLAD Living Soils is a member of the following:

AORA (Australian Organic Recycling Association)

Soil Science Australia



YLAD Living Soils have won the following Industry Leadership Awards:

- **Compost Community Education Award** that was sponsored by the Department of Environment and Climate Change NSW
- 'Close the Loop' Award for the most **Progressive Recycling of Organics in Agriculture** 2007-2008 sponsored the Organic Federation of Australia
- **Education Award** sponsored by the Department of Environment and Climate Change NSW
- 'Close the Loop' Award for the most **Progressive Recycling of Organics in Agriculture** 2007-2008 sponsored the Organic Federation of Australia
- 2012 Certificate of Recognition in the **Recycled Organics Industry**
- 2012 Carbon Cocky Award for **Outstanding Leadership**
- Worldwide Who's Who have named Rhonda Daly as the 2013 **Professional of the Year** representing Sustainable Agriculture
- 2013 - Highly Commended for **Outstanding Achievement** at the Women Out West Awards in Dubbo
- 2014 - Finalist in the **Sustainability & Innovation Category** for the Young & District Business Awards
- 2015 – **Winner National Carbon Cocky's Award** for excellence in understanding and implementing techniques to improve soil carbon
- 2015 – Winner of the **Outstanding Achievement** for **Soil Carbon Sequestration**

Health and Safety

YLAD Living Soils has developed a comprehensive Occupational Health and Safety management system to assist in improving safety standards within our workplace, and in an effort to minimise the potential for accidents and injuries.

Under OH&S Legislation, we the principal, have an obligation to ensure that risk of accident or injury within the workplace is assessed, documented and controlled to as low as reasonably practical. We must also ensure that you have the necessary information & awareness required to allow you to perform your work safely.

Every task we undertake and every interaction we engage in is assessed in terms of safety to people, the environment and equipment. YLAD Living Soils adheres to its obligations within the Workplace Health and Safety Act and Environmental Protection Act.

YLAD Living Soils is dedicated to maintaining a safe work environment and seeks to protect its employees from unsafe conditions. Prior to employment, all staff undertakes an in-house induction.



OH&S & Compliance Assessment
YLAD Living Compost

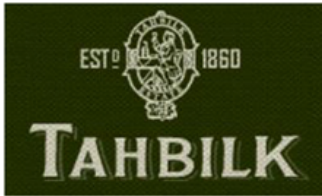
YLAD Living Compost is importing a range of agricultural equipment from a manufacturer in the United States of America; the equipment being specifically designed for the large-scale production of humified compost and related products.

It is the intention of YLAD Living Compost to use this equipment in their own production operations and also to act as importers and suppliers of the equipment to other producers in Australia. CPS Safety has been engaged to review the imported equipment in terms of compliance with relevant OH&S Legislation and Australian Standards, and to provide assistance with the identification of potential hazards.

- **Aeromaster PT-120, PT-130, PT-170, PT-190 Compost Windrow Turners**
- **Aeromaster TE-250 and TE-500 Compost Tea Extractor**

These items are manufactured by Midwest Bio-Systems Inc. Tampico, Illinois, USA.







Client Case Studies

Client: Olivier Sofo
Living Earth Farm

Location: Balaclava, NSW

Date: 13 November 2018 at 10:01:02 pm AEDT

Subject: Re: Testimonial YLAD Humus Compost

Hi Rhonda,

I have to say that we have had much better health this season and our vegetables are coping so much better with the wind and heat then before.... remineralisation is the key, I am convinced!

Thanks for thinking about us!



Olivier Sofo – Cana Communities, Orchard Hill, NSW . Started using CMB July 2018

1/11/2018

I was out at Cana Farms today doing a day planning with the team. WOW, the results on the new production area with the YLAD amendment is exceptional!!! truly..... .Such a dramatic shift.

All the plants are looking strong, well expressed and healthy. The previous area which was not amended has had serious pest pressure in comparison to the amended ground, very exciting.



Cana Farms at Orchard Hills NSW - CMB July 2018

Client: Good Hope Blooms

November, 2018

Location: Good Hope, NSW

We are cut flower growers and have been using YLAD Humus Compost in our commercial garden for a few years now.

Our flowers are grown in the open field so are completely at the mercy of the weather and bugs; this year the drought has been particularly challenging.

We've been amazed by the quality of the flowers we get using YLAD Humus Compost, particularly in this year of record drought and we always receive compliments about the quality and exceptional vase life of our flowers.

In this, the driest year we've experienced, our plants are growing an abundance of healthy flowers.

YLAD Humus Compost has given health and balance to our soil, resulting in increased quality of our blooms and a reduction in pest damage.



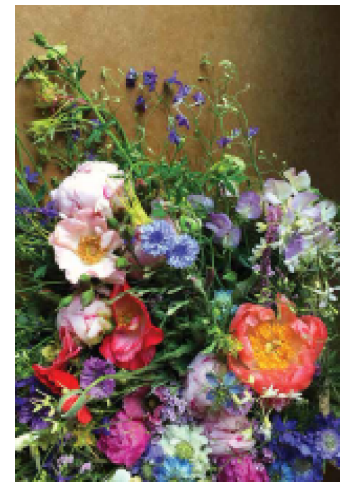
Peonies, 6 Nov 2018

Brenda



Close Up Peonies

with



Mega Bunch, 6 Nov 2018

Client: Mark and Kerstin Heinzl
Organic Broadacre Grazing

Location: Eugowra NSW

My wife and I have been farming organically for more than 20 years on the family farm, "Kia-Ora" at Eugowra. The variability in granite soil types were far too challenging for cropping enterprises which lead us to pursue in grazing enterprises. In recent years we have adopted Holistic Management practises to build perennial pasture base and soil fertility. We have seen a lot of positive changes but we need to drive the system on a quicker level of plant succession and increase biomass to build soil carbon levels.

In April 2016 we applied prescriptions of YLAD Compost Mineral Blends to 7, some of the least productive paddocks on our home block which all tested with numerous deficiencies despite the fact that soil pH and most ratios were favourable.

We are pretty happy with the way these paddocks performed with a quick start to the season break and stood out with best winter growth and deeper green colour to neighbouring untreated paddocks. It certainly did promote clover vigour. I am very impressed how well the compost spread from a belt spreader and to be able to apply it in the dryer months before the Autumn break and knowing it's in a safe spot with the ground cover is a real advantage.

Kennedy's Paddock



Client: J W Manchester & Co – Kingsvale Supreme Sheep Stud

Broadacre Cropping and Grazing

Location: Kingsvale NSW

John & Tony Manchester of Kingsvale, via Young were new to YLAD Living Soils in July 2012. When told by their agronomist to spread 100kg of Urea/ha on canola and wheat they were surprised and came to our Young office to see what alternatives were available.

A trial was undertaken comparing 100kg Urea –v– YLAD prescription foliar. Both paddocks were sown with wedgetail wheat using 80kg MAP. The control paddock had 70kg Urea spread prior to grazing but the YLAD paddock did not have any Urea spread. Both paddocks were grazed for the same number of days.

YLAD Living Soils advised John to take a leaf test to determine what nutrients the crop was lacking. The sample showed high N and low P, zinc, copper and boron.

The control was spread with 100kg Urea and the YLAD paddock received a \$30/ha foliar fertiliser containing Compost tea, 10 kg solubilised Urea, trace minerals and humic acid.

2012 Harvest results:

The control paddock yielded 5 tonnes/ha. The paddock also had more weed burden. Control—5 tonnes/ha—\$1372.50/ha less \$110.50 ha Urea = \$1262/ha The YLAD paddock was much cleaner and yielded 6 tonnes/ha. YLAD Foliar—6 tonnes/ha— \$1614/ha less \$30 foliar = \$1584/ha. A profit of \$10,000 was made using the YLAD foliar over Urea.

John and Tony were so pleased with these results they have now adopted the following program: Lime Plus™ prior to sowing, Germinate Plus™ granular at sowing and YLAD prescription foliar for top dressing.

2015 Pasture Demonstration



Client: Ric Walmsley
Aeromaster Compost Turner Owner, Broadacre Farmer

Location: Mortlake VIC

I have been working on biological farming for over 12 years. Our property is 1200Ha at Mortlake in Southwest Victoria. The soil type is mainly clay loam with some clay. I have done a number of training courses during this time including a 2 week university course at Southern Cross University at Lismore in NSW, online discussion courses, 3 grower programmes, and microscope course plus attended a number of seminars and 1 or 2 day courses.

Over this 12 year period I have applied compost, compost teas, compost extracts supported by fish, kelp, molasses and trace minerals to a trial irrigation area which comprised of four, approximately 5ha paddocks. When the teas and extracts were applied, I would monitor the sprays to make sure the biology was not been damaged at every stage of application by using my microscope. After doing all this work over a period of 6 years I found that I was not getting the results that I was expecting. I had a compaction layer down approx.100 mls which I monitored using a penetrometer and this hadn't changed. We also had a thistle problem which remained.

In 2008 I received a load of Humus Compost from YLAD Living Soils. This was the turning point for my biological program. I applied it to two paddocks at different rates. One was applied at 1 tonne/ha, while the second paddock was applied at 3 tonnes/ha. In both paddocks I found that the compaction layer has cleared and the thistles have disappeared.



I have now purchased an Aeromaster PT-120 Compost Windrow Turner and started making my own compost. So far I have made 200 tonnes of compost but at this stage I have not spread it because it has been too wet.



I very much appreciate the support that Rhonda and Bill Daly, plus the YLAD team have given me over the last few years, but especially over the past 8 months while I have been making compost.

Whenever I have had a problem I have been able to contact Bill or Rhonda to resolve it. I believe, that as farmers, we are very fortunate to have people in our industry with the dedication of both Rhonda and Bill.



**Client: Dymocks Pty Limited
Macadamia and Avocado Producers**

Location: YARRAHAPINNI NSW

John Robertson Testimonial – Arapala Macadamias

I manage 70,000 macadamia trees located on mid-north coast of New South Wales for Dymocks, and have been dealing with YLAD Living Soils for over 7 years using their Humus Compost Mineral Blends as per the soil tests that we do throughout the year.

Throughout the Dymock's Farm the soil was a silty - sandy loam consistency and the pH was acidic with a pH of 5.3 (meaning the Base Saturation was very imbalanced). Using the Humus Compost Mineral Blend I have found throughout the macadamia plantations that the pH has increased to a stable 6.3 and composition of the soil dramatically changed to a healthy dark brown loam with increased organic matter throughout the plantation.



In the past we had always had a problem with erosion, due to poor soil structure and high rainfall. I found that the soil structure improved considerably as the soil was now able to retain more water. I visually saw that the erosion we had around the farm was declining due to the Humus Compost Mineral Blend that was being applied.

As the soil structure improved the nutrient uptake into the macadamia trees dramatically increased and I was surprised that the macadamia trees were fighting diseases and pests.

Not long ago there was an outbreak of Husk Spot throughout the entire industry, and my trees were relatively untouched by this disease.

The Macadamia trees were strong and healthy because of the Humus Compost Mineral Blends as well as decreasing my pesticide and fungicide bill. I was spraying less and using less man hours to combat pest and disease.

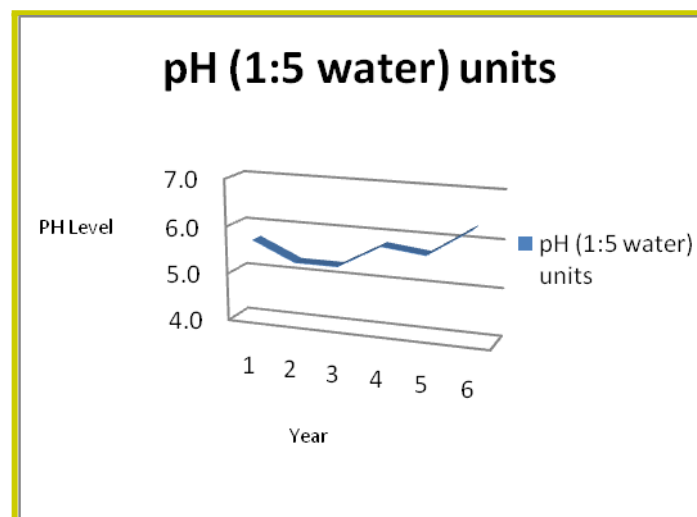
The Humus Compost Mineral Blends are truly fantastic and the results speak for themselves. YLAD Living Soils are a joy to deal with and the customer service I receive is incredible. I would recommend the Humus Compost Mineral Blends to people who want to improve their soils health and increase productivity.

The graphs illustrate results gathered over a 6 year period after spreading the YLAD Humus Compost Mineral Blend.

The cation balance improvements (Base Saturation Percentages) are reflected in the pH rising from pH 5.3 to pH 6.3

Client: Kevin and Sharlene Oxenbridge
Broadacre Cropping and Grazing

Location: Kamarah NSW



In July 2013 YLAD Living Soils had a phone call from a new customer near Kamarah who wanted to use an alternate crop 'top up' fertiliser rather than just nitrogen.

It is the policy of YLAD Living Soils to fully understand the goals and challenges of farmers so they can provide specific advice and products to ensure ecological and economic results.

Kevin and Sharlene Oxenbridge were looking for a way to continue farming but at the same time introduce more sustainable practices. Kevin had noticed that their crops and pastures were less responsive to chemical fertiliser inputs, and that they needed increasing chemical applications to control pests, diseases and weeds.

As the old saying goes, 'when the pupil is ready the teacher appears', along came YLAD Living Soils supplying world class environmental educational programs to farmers such as Kevin and Sharlene.

Upon review of the Oxenbridges' soil tests it showed soil imbalances causing the soil to be compacted and cloddy, reducing root development, microbial activity and nutrient recycling. After 12 years' experience of successfully balancing soils Rhonda Daly of YLAD Living Soils suggested that a Humus Compost™ Mineral Blend be applied.

YLAD Humus Compost™ has the ability to depleted agricultural soils to 'new ground' supplying humus protein, beneficial micro-minerals held in a non-leachable form.



Client: **Dessava Pty Limited**
 Broadacre Mixed Farming

Michael Edwards, Manager

Location: **Boorowa NSW**

Despite adding huge amounts of minerals to our soil over a 20 year period, the soil test results still showed major soil imbalances and were not responding as they should with the huge amount of money spent.

Rhonda Daly recognised that the soils lacked humus and microbial activity and many of the applied minerals were locked up and unavailable.

We went with YLAD Living Soils advice and applied a spread application of a YLAD Humus Compost™ Mineral Blend to introduce humus and microbes into the soils. For sowing our oats, wheat and pastures we changed to a more environmentally friendly carbon based granular fertiliser to encourage greater root development.

It is our second year of the program and we are very pleased with the results so far in productivity and quality and are looking forward to seeing further results of the flow on effect of humus and microbes.

YLAD Living Soils' products are a key to us getting soils in the right condition with one year worth of soil test results showing big differences.



Argentinean and Chilean Agricultural Restoration Projects

Doug Tompkins, world environmentalist and farmer visited **Bill and Rhonda Daly at YLAD Living Soils** in 2013 when he visited Australia looking at innovative sustainable ideas that he can incorporate on his two farms in Argentinean and two farms in Chile. These Agricultural Restoration projects are all organically run and serve as a model for other farms to emulate. Doug bought with him **Francisco Calabi**, a Chilean who has worked with Doug for ten years and **Reis** another Chilean who has just joined in assisting Doug on his diverse organic farms.

Doug has also purchased **2 million acres in Argentina for conservation purposes** and said that protecting additional conservation land is an ecological imperative. The land is then donated back to the Argentinean Government for **conservation parks**.

Since leaving the business world where Doug **owned Espirit clothing** and then **Northface Outdoor Apparel** he has devoted all his energy to reverse the **global extinction crisis** currently underway due to **human activity degrading and appropriating natural habitats**.

Doug said that he sees the necessity, the urgency and the **ecological imperative to restore and repair damaged farms to healthy production**. He advocated for **local over global, small and low tech over** what he called high or mega technology, **organic models over machine models**, low entropy over high.

Rhonda Daly co-founder and owner of YLAD Living Soils said that it was an amazing experience to showcase how YLAD Living Soils contributes to the regeneration of soils using YLAD Humus Compost® and biological agriculture to someone of Doug's standing.

Doug's comment about his visit to YLAD Living Soils was that it was in the **No 1 category as far as visits he has made anywhere** and he thought it would be hard to find a more interesting day on the remainder of this trip.

Photo – Doug Tompkins 2nd from right



Our Projects

Client: Reveg Services – Errol Smyth

Project location: Kings Highway Bungendore NSW

Project: Soil Amelioration and Revegetation of Batters

In 2011 I contacted Rhonda Daly from YLAD Living Soils as our Company ReVeg Services had won the contract to remediate and revegetate the **road sides** following the upgrade to the Kings Highway Bungendore.

Due to the stark, harsh conditions of the roadsides Rhonda Daly encouraged me to take soil tests of the area so she could best prescribe a Humus Compost Mineral Blend to ensure the success of the project.

The soil tests that came back were testament to the stark landscape that needed 'beautification'.

The soil recommendations that Rhonda proposed were not in the brief I had received from the Contractors however Rhonda was adamant that for anything to grow it needed a YLAD Humus Compost Mineral Blend applied prior to seeding the area.



In

October 2001 Rhonda, Bill and I met with the Contractor to discuss the additional fertility requirement. It was a very successful meeting and I was given the green light to proceed.

We received the ninety six tonne Humus Compost Mineral Blend in October 2011 and proceeded to spread and revegetate the embankments.



The results have been exceptional and the contractors are very satisfied with the results.

"This has been an extremely successful outcome for my business and benefits my reputation. I am very very happy with the recommendations, support and professionalism of YLAD Living Soils". Errol Smyth





Geo

Client: Geolink Environmental Management and Design
David Howley - Senior Environmental Engineer

Contractor for FKG Group
Paul Barea - Senior Project Engineer

Project location: HW10 Pacific Highway Upgrade- Woolgoolga to Ballina NSW

Area: 12 hectares

Overview:

The client required interpretation of sub and top soil tests, biological fertility recommendations and quotations for soil remediation with the intention of a revegetation regime to prepare the batters, loosen to provide a link for topsoil to bind to batter subsoils and provide a habitat for plant growth. The batters will then have native seeds sprayed onto them along with the humus extract *et al* (Secondary Amelioration Enhancement) in quick succession.

The Outcome:

YLAD Living Soils quoted on three cuttings of the Pacific Highway being Tyndale, Greenhills and Causley recommending the use of YLAD Humus Compost® with added minerals to balance the sub soil and top soil. We were successful at obtaining the job and work is currently proceeding.



Tyndale South Cutting



Greenhill Goldings

Cutting



**Causley's
Cutting**

Aeromaster Composting Equipment Turner Clients

These clients have been selected to demonstrate how Aeromaster Composting Equipment can create high quality Humus Compost to increase efficiency, reduce cycle time and increase profitability by applying the **beneficial solutions** from YLAD Living Soils to your operation.

The higher the quality of the Humus Compost produced, the greater the benefit to the soil and the greater the increase in crop quality and yield – far greater than the results that can be achieved with industry compost.



Neil Larson, Tahbilk Winery – Tabilk via Nagambie VIC

As part of Tahbilk's ongoing sustainability program Tahbilk winery and vineyard staff started a working group in 2010 to investigate the making of compost from the winery grape marc (grape skins and stalks). The grape marc which was then regarded as an unusable waste product and was deposited in heaps on the winery property, generating methane as it decomposed anaerobically. The working group calculated that there would be significant savings in greenhouse gas emissions if the grape marc could be composted aerobically, and that the resulting compost would be a valuable soil additive for the vineyards.

Tahbilk won the RAS President's Medal in 2013 for Sustainability



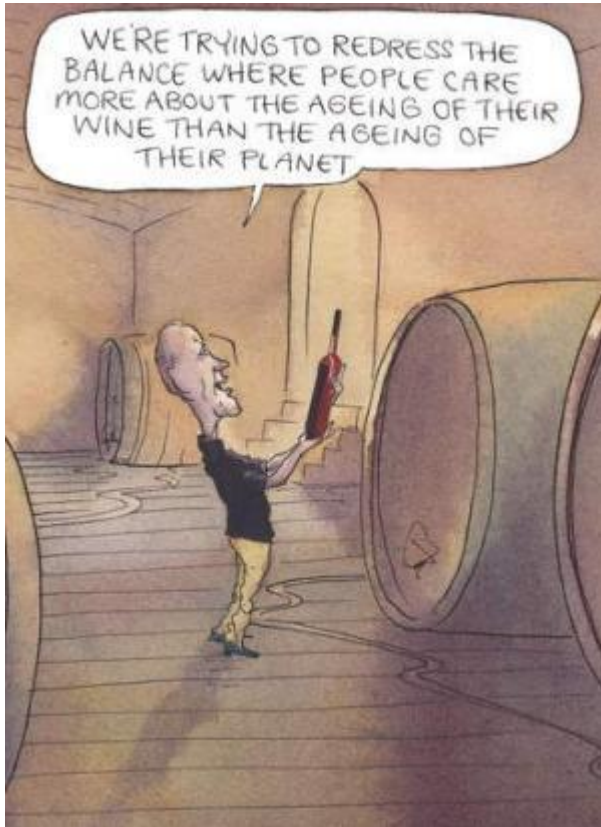
Tahbilk management approved their proposal, and two staff members subsequently attended a day compost production course at YLAD Living Soils in September, and were impressed by the Aeromaster equipment, the value of the training, and the ongoing support of YLAD Living Soils. An order for an Aeromaster PT-120 was placed in December 2010, and the machine was delivered and in use after the grape harvest in May 2011.

The Tahbilk team have just finished their fourth year of compost production and are awaiting the results of lab analysis on the windrows before spreading it undervine, clearing the compost pad in preparation for the next harvest in 2015. Even though we've used a low tech, low input approach, we're very happy with the compost we've produced.

If you are planning to start compost production then we would recommend that you look closely at the Aeromaster equipment and the training and support provided by YLAD Living Soils.

We have found the PT-120 to be an excellent machine, and the support of the YLAD staff has been friendly and helpful. - Neil Larson—Production Manger & Winemaker Tahbilk Estate

Excerpts from the Newcastle Herald and the SMH Good Food feature



The primary motivation of these wineries seems to be concern for the environment, and sustainability. Cullen of Margaret River was the first Aussie to claim carbon neutrality, in 2006. In June this year, southern Victorian winery Tahbilk declared it hoped to be the first Australian winery to be "naturally carbon-neutral". Before we look at what this means precisely, let's hear the rest of the story.

Tahbilk had no sooner issued its statement (on June 12) than it was announced as the 2013 winner of the President's Medal, awarded by the Royal Agricultural Society of NSW for the best agricultural producer - an award based not only on the quality of its wines but on its use of "sustainable practices that are crucial for the future of Australian agriculture". Obviously there was a connection: the RAS judges had cottoned on to the revolution that's been happening at 153-year-old Tahbilk, which is Victoria's oldest family-owned winery.

Tahbilk also revealed that its efforts on carbon neutrality had been pivotal in winning a significant

tender to supply a shipment of wine to Sweden. Alister Purbrick, Tahbilk's chief executive and head winemaker, said wine quality as well as "Carbon Balanced" status had won it the contract.

It's been no secret in recent years that, in a crowded wine market, many wine trade buyers such as retailers and importers use criteria such as organic or biodynamic certification and other "green" initiatives to help them decide whose wine to buy.

To win the President's Medal, Tahbilk not only had to excel in the Sydney Royal Wine Show, it had to compete in a finals judging against food producers from other sections of the RAS shows - seafood, meat, dairy, even an ice-cream maker. Judging was conducted by a panel including ABC broadcaster and foodie Simon Marnie and the chief economist for the Department of Trade and Investment, Scott Davenport.

RAS president Glenn Dudley said of the President's Medal: "It is the only produce competition in Australia that takes a whole-of-company approach so, to be in the running, entrants must have savvy business plans in place covering everything from finances and marketing, to environmental and social responsibility."

As of calendar year 2012, Tahbilk is officially a carbon-zero wine producer. This means it balances all carbon emissions associated with its wine production against carbon offsets. These are made up of carbon sequestration in the form of a long-term planting program for trees and native vegetation, with the purchase of carbon credits making up the difference.

Tahbilk plans to be naturally carbon-neutral within five years. This means it will achieve a zero balance purely from its revegetation program, and cuts to its emissions, without having to buy carbon credits, which now cost \$25,000 a year.

Alister's daughter Hayley Purbrick, a fifth-generation family member who has a degree in agricultural science, manages the Tahbilk Wine Club and looks after the environmental strategies.

"Our family has been at Tahbilk for five generations, and if we don't look after it properly it may not be here for future generations," she says. "We're in a unique situation that we have the land to plant. Most wineries don't have a lot of land. The property is 2000 hectares overall, most of it used for other farming activities. We have earmarked 180 hectares yet to be planted. I'm told that one hectare of planting can sequester five tonnes of carbon."

Tahbilk's commitment to becoming carbon-balanced started in 1995 with the revegetation of more than 100 hectares of native plants on the estate, and the restoration of eight kilometres of wetlands

along the Goulburn River. Tahbilk has had the most comprehensive analysis possible of its carbon emissions, conducted by Carbon Balance Consulting. This included a four-year assessment and two audits.

"Tahbilk achieved a net zero balance of carbon emissions through on-site reductions and sequestering 31 per cent of their footprint through revegetation," CBC consultant Steve Andrew says. "The remainder was offset by purchasing carbon credits from accredited projects that have further improved Australia's biodiversity."

Perhaps the most surprising revelation of the research work is that Tahbilk is directly responsible for only 10 per cent of its overall carbon footprint. More than a third of it is tied up in the making of bottles: 37 per cent of the carbon emissions come from the embedded energy used in bottle-making. A further 23 per cent comes from "third-party indirect emissions" in the supply chain.

While Tahbilk is not motivated by the commercial benefits of its sustainability program, the Purbricks are thrilled about the big Swedish order.

"It was the wines themselves first and foremost, but they were also looking for wines that satisfied the ISO standard for carbon accounting. We are well above the ISO," Hayley says. "This was an initial order. It was reasonably large and we're hoping it will lead to repeat orders."

Hayley is disappointed at the carbon emissions policies of both major political parties in the lead-up to the federal election. She believes carbon, like water, is a finite resources that must be valued.

"Setting the carbon price too low means people will be able to buy carbon credits on the open market, and won't have an incentive to lower their emissions."

Alister sums up the Purbrick family's position: "It is very satisfying today to know our revegetation program withdraws 980 tonnes of carbon from the atmosphere annually; a figure we intend to triple over the next five years, increasing the natural biodiversity of the landscape."



Client: Snowy Monaro Regional Council - Cooma NSW

With the first 12 months of operation gone, Council has been able to divert around 696 tonnes of food and garden waste to the "Coompost Farm" for processing.

In addition to this, Council has collected an additional 92 tonnes of dry recyclables and landfilled 462 tonnes **less** of residual waste based from the same period for 2014. This is the equivalent of around 58 full truck loads of waste!

Snowy Monaro Regional Council Waste Department endeavours to always produce a high quality Compost. **Humus Compost** is produced by microbial decomposition of plant and animal feedstock.

The process is a 10 week aerobic controlled cycle that is consistently repeatable with predictability. This aerobic process creates an optimal environment for aerobic microbes to flourish.

High quality humus compost helps build a microbial environment in which beneficial microbes thrive and multiply. The value of humus compost comes from its ability to restore or enhance biological activity in the soil leading to a healthier soil and therefore healthier plant growth.



Compost (Coompost) manufacturing in full swing



Client: Kielli Holdings - Ric Walmsley, Mortlake VIC

The use of compost as a fertiliser in agriculture is of course not new. In recent

years, many farmers have started replacing some or all of their soluble fertilizer applications with more natural, biological products.

There are many reasons why compost works! It can be cheaper, it's made from renewable resources, is more sustainable and can produce more grass and healthier soils.

The compost process combines materials, such as manures, green waste, straw etc that are broken down by naturally occurring microbes, to form a material that is then available for plants to use as a nutrient source.

Using compost rather than conventional/soluble fertilizers is all about improving the plant rhizosphere. Plants mobilize the nutrients they require through symbiosis with bacteria and fungus in the soil. Compost application can enhance the health of the rhizosphere in a more lasting and effective way than with soluble fertilizers, that offer temporary, readily available nutrients.

Because of the form that the nutrient component is in with compost, we regard its application as more of a capital expense rather than an annual expense. Soluble fertilizers need to be put on every year, but with biological applications, it is not the end of the world if you reduce the kg per hectare or even miss a year, because you have a "bank" of accumulated nutrients from prior years.



I have now purchased an Aeromaster PT-120 Compost Windrow Turner and started making my own compost.

So far I have made 200 tonnes of compost but at this stage I have not spread it because it has been too wet.

I very much appreciate the support that Rhonda and Bill Daly, plus the YLAD team have given me over the

last few years, but especially over the past 8 months while I have been making compost.

Whenever I have had a problem I have been able to contact Bill or Rhonda to resolve it. I believe, that as farmers, we are very fortunate to have people in our industry with the dedication of both Rhonda and Bill.

**Client: Ed and James Fagan
Mulyan Farms, Cowra**



THE NSW Farmer of the Year runs an operation that is, by most farming standards, dizzyingly diverse in its range of enterprises and the technologies brought together to make those enterprises work.

There are three broad divisions to Mulyan Farms, the 1602 hectare Cowra operation that Farmer of the Year winner Ed Fagan runs with his brother, James.

Mulyan Farms's income comes from livestock: 3000 sheep in a prime lamb operation, and 30-50 trading cattle. Broadacre cropping of wheat, canola, maize, popcorn and oats. The remainder comes from horticulture, a form of farming the family has been practicing for decades

(Fagans have been on the farm since 1886).

Soil tests are conducted on an annual basis. Fertiliser blends and soil amendments/amelioration are applied according to the results of those tests. In addition to this, blocks that are to be utilized for

vegetable production have been receiving an application of a humus compost mineral blend at approximately 5t/ha.



We have recently purchased our own compost turner and intend to begin compost production at Mulyan early in the new year.



**Client: Westrex Services
New Farm, QLD**

Westrex Services own two Aeromaster PT-130 Compost Turners and one TE-500 Compost Extraction Units

WestRex Services provides the best practice for the recovery and reuse of both treated and untreated effluent.

Westrex utilises a combination of composting, chemical and biological treatment, settlement ponds and irrigation systems for the beneficial reuse of this resource.

Once treated and subjected to Quality Assurances steps, the water is re-used to irrigate our own pastures.

The team at WestRex Services have over 60 years combined experience in the waste industry. WestRex Services delivers best practice in beneficial reuse for waste effluent, liquid waste and drilling mud.

WestRex Services Integrated Waste Processing and Resource Recovery Facility holds the necessary licences to provide our customers with an environmentally sound, quality assured, safe disposal option.

ERA 53 - Composting and Soil Conditioner Manufacturing

Composting of liquid wastes, some solid waste and dewatered drilling muds with organic substrates, to create restricted use compost suitable in agricultural applications and mine rehabilitation.



**Client: Bluey and Kirsten Stoldt – The Sweet Life
Dumpty Doo NT**

Slashing the input bills with compost

Each year literally 1000s of tonnes of mangoes, melons, pumpkins and more, are deemed not suitable for market and are simply dumped across Northern Australia.



But that's no longer the case for a grower in the Kimberley's Ord Irrigation Area.

Over the past three years Bluey Stoldt has developed a large-scale compost system that converts left over produce into a product, which goes back into his property and has slashed his fertiliser bill by around 60 per cent.



The compost, which takes up over 1.5 hectares of the farm, has become a full-time job and requires specialised equipment.

Bluey says the compost has improved his soil quality, improved the quality and shelf-life of his produce, slashed his input costs and made farming "more fun".

Our Products

Biological Fertilisers and Signature Product Range - This is the largest selling category and consists of dry mineral fertilisers, crop fertility range, liquid fertiliser range, microbial inoculums and an animal health range. All these products have an emphasis on mineral and microbial soil balance growing healthier crops and pastures. Also, YLAD Living Soils has been a long term distributor of Nutri-Tech Solutions' products for Australian customers.

YLAD Humus Compost[®] and YLAD Humus Extract are YLAD Living Soils premium organic soil enhancing amendment, creating resilient microbially balanced living soils. YLAD Humus Compost[®] is produced on the YLAD Living Soils Compost site on Moppity Road Young.

Importation and Sale of Composting Equipment: In the past 10 years this category was the second biggest selling product group and consists of individual pieces of valuable machinery that are sourced from a reputable USA based supplier and YLAD Living Soils on sells to customers all around Australia and New Zealand.

Underpinning the success of these operations is firstly the consultation undertaken by the company to identify the available local feedstocks and secondly the advice on the specific Aeromaster Compost Windrow Turner to suit the operation.

This process, based on YLAD Living Soils intellectual property enables the company to clearly identify the client's need, regardless of whether the client is a farmer or a local council and to make recommendations on the size of the equipment.

Professional Services - Education and Consulting - YLAD Living Soils are committed to educating farmers, communities and in particular school children on the benefits of regenerating soil health. This is done by the facilitation of Composting & Soil Fertility Workshops, Seminars, Field Days, Conferences and supplying Marketing 'How to' material. This education enables a smooth and profitable transition into Biological Farming.

Registered Trade Marks for YLAD Living Soils Products

YLAD Living Soils®

Putting Life Back into the Land®

YLAD Humus Compost®

Humus Technology®

Gourmet Compost®

Paddock Yak®

Our Seminars, Workshops and Field Days

2011-2020

| | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Conferences: | Carbon Conference Dubbo |
| | National Biological Farming Conference |
| National Field Days: | Australian National Field Days (ANFA) - Orange |
| | Conservation and Agriculture Field Days (CANFA) – Parkes |
| | Mudgee Field Day, Wangaratta Field Day |
| | Agquip – Gunnedah |
| | Biodiversity Fair – Braidwood |
| | Henty Field Days |
| | Merino Field Day –Galong |
| | University of New England (UNE) Careers Fair – Armidale |
| | Home & Garden Show – Bowral |
| YLAD Seminars: | Farming for the Future - Young |

'Milgadara' Soils for Life - Young

Breadalbane Landcare

Future Gen Farming Seminar & Field Day - Young

YLAD Workshops: Farming for the Future of the Planet - Young

Power of Humus Compost - Coonamble

Power of Humus Compost - Perth

PCMS

Crookwell Landcare

North East Catchment Day

Compost Use and Benefits - Hamilton Victoria

Humus Soil Fertility Workshop - Young 2 Day

Aeromaster Masterclass – Young

13th Annual Field Day, Boots in the Paddock – Young

Profitable Composting Made Simple

Humus Compost Production and Humus Soil Fertility

Contact Information

Young Office

Phone: 02 6382 2165

1300 811 681

Fax: 02 6382 5439

Address: 186 Milgadara Road Young NSW 2594

Email: info@yladlivingsoils.com.au

Website: www.yladlivingsoils.com.au

www.yladlivingcompost.com.au

Compost Production Site

Phone: 02 6382 2165

Address: 'Milgadara' 186 Milgadara Road Young NSW 2594



YLAD Living Soils

Putting life back into the land

