

Soil biology - unlocking the secrets

Free forum in Biloela and Rockhampton - a QLD first!

Experts will share the latest cutting edge science and how we can use soil biology in CQ farming and grazing systems to our advantage - for better profit and long-term sustainability.

Date: Monday 13 October 2014

Full day session: Evening session:

Location: Biloela Location: Rockhampton

Time: 9am - 3:30pm Time: 7pm - 9pm

Cost : Free, meals provided

Secure your place:
RSVP by Friday 10 October to:

Healthy Soils Inc.
Mick Alexander | P: 0438 395 255

Regional Landcare Facilitator
kate.wilson@fba.org.au | P: 4999 2842

Be quick - limited numbers

Overview

How can you improve profits whilst maintaining healthy soils?

Dr. Pauline Mele and two of Australia's top agricultural soil microbiologists will visit Central Queensland to provide some answers to this question and unlock the secrets to healthy and productive soil.

Healthy Soils Inc. with the support of the Regional Landcare Facilitator, and Grazing Best Prac will be conducting workshops in Biloela and Rockhampton. The outcomes from the past twelve years of research under the Grains Research and Development Corporation (GRDC) Soil Biology initiative II research into how soil biology impacts on soil health for the grains industry will be revealed. This will be combined with other research from around the country. An ideal forum for farmers and graziers to learn from experts and to ask senior scientists questions about management options that build healthy soils and increase production. There will be opportunities to ask questions about any soil related issues you are facing today.

Who should attend?

Anyone directly linked to primary production including: farmers, graziers, consultants and extension staff.

Discussion areas

- Is managing soil biology going to help me improve production and profit?
- How can soil biology help me?
- What changes can I make in my farming system?
- How does biology impact my grazing?
- How relevant is soil biology to me?
- How can I monitor soil biology?
- What are the key issues in your district? (Weeds, disease, nematodes etc)
- What science is proven and what is not proven?
- What areas would you like to learn more about?

The research

It's estimated that GRDC invested \$20 million in the "Soil Biology Initiative II" program, which highlighted the important roles of soil microbes in improving plant performance, fixing nitrogen, sourcing phosphorous, disease suppression and cycling other nutrients.

Key note speaker - Dr Pauline Mele

Dr Mele, a soil microbial ecologist and the Australian Coordinator of the Soil Biology Initiative, leads a team of scientists who have been working for the past five years to unlock the secrets of our soils and the most appropriate management systems.



Australian Government



Healthy Soils Inc.

