

‘ Then we can start testing soils and working out how best to improve them ’



MEASURING MICROBES: Dr Sandrina Makiela, of Central Queensland University at Rockhampton, is working on bringing a new soil microbe testing laboratory to the region. Picture: DANIEL BURDON rw010212dmicro1

# Building from the ground up

By DANIEL BURDON

GRAZIERS in Central Queensland who want a better picture of microbial activity in their soils may soon be able to obtain one without the hassle and delays of sending samples interstate.

A new trial recently began at Central Queensland University at Rockhampton, jointly funded by the university and Central Queensland grazing consultants Grazing BestPrac (GBP).

CQU microbiology lecturer Dr Sandrine Makiela said the project was initially looking for landholders to nominate to have microbes in their soils tested, in a bid to create the first set of baseline data of microbial activity in soils in Central Queensland.

She said the project aimed to find out what the right amount – and types – of microbes were needed to build and maintain a healthy, productive soil to support healthy pastures.

Dr Makiela said the samples

collected would need to be from a variety of CQ soil types and from a highly productive paddock and from a run-down paddock, in order to compare the two.

The trial will need between 60 and 80 soil samples from all over the region, GBP grazing consultant Mick Alexander said.

He said he had spoken to Dr Makiela more than two years ago about how to measure soil microbes in CQ to establish a picture of what grazing management systems were best for the soil and pastures in the long run.

Mr Alexander said pasture run-down had long been a concern in Central Queensland but there was still no scientific method to quantify what effects microbial activity had on soils and pastures.

Dr Makiela said that while many farmers and graziers had spoken of the link between microbes and noticed improvements in pastures resulting from changes to management practices,

the tests should eventually show what worked and what did not.

“First, we need to get the data and compare it all and find out what levels we have now and what effects those microbes have on soil health,” she said.

“Then we can start testing soils and working out how best to improve them. I recently did training at a testing laboratory in South Australia and they had reported anecdotally that Central Queensland soils were run-down – but why and how we should fix it is unknown.

“Of course, increasing the nutrient cycle and improving microbial activity helps to return organic matter to the soil, which will help both the pasture and the carbon levels.

“But we need the data first.”

■ For further information or to become involved in this Queensland-first project, call Cathe at Grazing BestPrac on 4938 3919.

Heavy Duty Batteries

560 CCA  
15 Plate  
PRESIDENT  
N70ZZ  
90 Amps  
N70ZZH  
\$99  
BOSCH 630CCA

BOSCH  
303 x 173 x 225mm  
N70ZZ

2 Year/1 Year Warranty  
Maintenance Free  
75D31R  
\$99

Workshop Fan

750mm  
Pedestal Mount  
3 Blade Oscillating  
240V Heavy Duty Motor  
TRADE CLIP  
1015  
\$149  
3 Speed

750mm 3 Blade  
280 Watt (not illustrated)  
Wall Mounted  
750mm  
TRADE CLIP  
3 Blade  
52315  
\$139

E-VAC Fluid Evacuation Kit

Maximum Air Pressure 900KPA/130PSI  
Maximum Air Consumption 180 Litre/Minute (10CFM) @ 100PSI  
Maximum Suction Flow Rate 70890  
6 Litres/Minute  
1/4" BSP  
7 Litres Container Capacity  
\$249

Water Pumps

4 STROKE ENGINES  
\$675

DON'T MISS OUT ON this weeks specials

In Hex Impact Socket Sets

9 Piece 1/2" Drive  
Metric: 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, 12, 14 & 17mm  
SP20370  
\$109  
AF: 3/16, 7/32, 1/4, 5/16, 3/8, 7/16, 1/2, 9/16 & 5/8"  
SP20375  
\$109

Air Compressors

\* 489 Litres/Minute Pump Displacement  
\* 5.5HP Honda \* Recoil Start  
\* Auto Idler \* Forklift Base  
\* FuSheng Triple Head Pump  
\* 120 Litre Tank  
140kg  
\$2175  
240 Volt Big Tank Unit  
\* 16.5CFM Pump Displacement  
\* 3.2HP Motor  
\* 15 Amp Plug \* Forklift Base  
\* 3 Cylinder FuSheng Pump  
\* 120 Litre Tank  
128kg

Silver Tarpaulins

Heavy Duty - UV Stabilised  
Double Sewn Edges Cross Weave  
6' x 8' 8' x 10' 12' x 18' 16' x 24'  
\$9025 \$9028 \$9031 \$9036  
\$8 \$14 \$18 \$55  
20' x 24' \$9039 \$75 24' x 30' \$9042 \$95 20' x 24' \$9045 \$125

Pressure Cleaners

5.5HP Honda 10" Pneumatic Tyres  
2000PSI  
11 Litre/Minute  
BAR2055-H 43kg \$1975  
5HP Honda 8.5 Litre/Minute  
7.5m Hose 2500PSI  
900mm Lance BAR2550B-H \$1135 (not illustrated) 36kg  
High Pressure Nozzles  
BAR4013-H 13HP Honda 15 Litre/Minute (not illustrated) 79kg  
4000PSI

Trailers

7 x 4  
2100 x 1200mm Tray  
Deep Sides  
\* 85 x 44mm Galvanised Drawbar  
\* 35 x 35mm Galvanised Chassis  
\* 39mm Round Solid Axle  
\* 3 Leaf 45 x 6mm Slipper Springs  
\* Cobination Rear Lamps \* 20mm Tie Rails  
\* 50mm Adjustable Coupling  
\* 14" Secondhand Rims & Tyres  
\* Anti-Rattle Tailgate Latches  
Structural Capacity 750kg  
Gross Mass 750kg  
S3L7GD \$1475  
Galvanised  
Structural Capacity 1500kg  
Gross Mass 750kg  
\$1725 8 x 5  
TRAILERS THE FUTURE IN BOX TRAILERS (not illustrated)

Water Pumps

Part Number Genuine Honda  
Motor MH020 4HP MH030 5.5HP  
Inlet/Outlet 2"(50mm) 3"(75mm)  
Maximum Capacity Lit/Hr 34,800 60,000  
Suction Head 8m (max) 8m (max)  
Total Head (Max) 32m 32m  
Fuel Tank 2.8L 2.7L  
Weight TOOLTEC 23kg 27kg  
Price HONDA \$675 \$775 Recoil Start

Tap & Die Sets

40 Piece Unc-Metric-Unf  
53260 \$85  
40 Piece Unc-SAE-Unf  
(not illustrated) 53262 \$85

Ratchet Jack Stand Set

8000kg (Pair)  
Minimum Height 475mm  
Maximum Height 720mm  
29kg  
1162 \$179  
TRADE CLIP  
14 Piece  
3 x Arbor & 1 Adaptor  
10 Holesaws 22, 29, 35, 44, 51, 64, 76, 92, 104 & 121mm  
HRD-3015 \$169  
15 Holesaws: 19, 22, 29, 35, 38, 44, 51, 57, 64, 76, 83, 92, 95, 105 & 114mm  
M3, HSS Cutting Edge  
7010-9599 \$375

SPECIALIST MANUFACTURERS of mechanical handling and processing equipment

- Bucket elevators and accessories
- Drag conveyors
- Turnheads, diverter valves and slide gates
- Aspirators and screeners
- Grain aeration equipment

Downfields Engineering  
Enterprise Street, Toowoomba  
Peter Henderson  
T (07) 46 344 622 M 0418 294 724  
E pjh@kotzur.com.au

first national REAL ESTATE Childers LOOK AT THIS



93-95 Drummond Street, Apple Tree Creek

Mortgagee exercising Power of Sale

\* Modern 4 bedroom Hardiplank home \* Approx. 2023m2 block fully fenced \* Colorbond Garage \* Air conditioned living area & master bedroom \* Wood burning stove in living area \* All this within 6km of Childers. Inspections by Appointment

Auction 11am, 18th February 2012  
Royal Hotel, Childers

86 Churchill St Childers (Opp. Post Office)  
childersfn.com.au 4126 2777

Gladstone Road, ROCKHAMPTON  
(07) 4930 8000  
amt@amanstoyshop.com  
Open 7 Days  
8.00am - 5.00pm  
Closing times vary on weekends.



Prices outlined in this advertisement are available between Friday 3rd Feb 2012 to Sunday 12th Feb 2012. Stock of all products are available at the time of compilation. Some products may not be available because of supplier delays. Trade & VIP Customers  
E&OE. 12.05R

A MAN'S TOYSHOP

ABN 45 684 102 769

www.amanstoyshop.com