

The NutriSoil Story

began after a farm chemical accident in the mid-80s and has led to an all-natural fertiliser industry being established.



Graham Maddock, farmer & developer of NutriSoil LS.

"A tractor spray unit, carrying a potent insecticide, burst a vital high pressure line and I was almost completely soaked, this subsequently led to long term health problems. Doctors warned me a repeat episode could lead to a serious relapse," he said. At this time, Graham and his brother were running dairy and beef on their property near Yackandandah.

During the months of illness Graham had time to think about the possible risks of overuse or misuse of everyday farm chemicals, the effects on the environment and the food chain.

He had heard of the benefits of using worm castings (vermicast) as a natural fertiliser and decided to trial it on an experimental crop of Chinese Water Chestnuts. The remainder was spread on test strips of pasture with very positive results.

The noticeable good quality and extra growth encouraged Graham to continue to spread 250kg/ha of castings over the property annually. However, the limitation was cost of transport.



Tell me more...

In the mid-90s Graham decided to invest their next year's fertiliser deposit on setting up his own Vermiculture (worm system) to produce vermicast.

Prior to this Graham had spent 10 years as a rural rep for a liquid fertiliser company distributing natural fertilisers and stock mineral additives. This led him to introduce to the manure/straw base, seaweed and fish emulsion which gave a good source of trace elements and minerals.

The worm feed 'recipe' soon grew to a 'prescription mix' and now also includes soft rock phosphate, calcium lime, crushed mineral blend, humic acid and other natural ingredients.

"Healthy soils don't need the addition of many chemical inputs that modern agriculture suggests," he said.

The next step was to set up the windrows to take the liquid extract from the worms and so NutriSoil LS (liquid spray) biological concentrate was born.

The liquid is collected in tanks and recycled to keep the windrows moist, which also lifts the nutrient and micro-organism level.

Samples are then sent for laboratory analysis. Available nutrient levels using the 'prescription mix' were comparatively much higher than basic worm juice.



Worms and microbes in the system convert the high quality ingredients into a plant-available form; a high level of naturally occurring microbes are leached into the NutriSoil end-product. Both nutrient & biology are naturally balanced.

This is the SECRET!



"Due to the carefully selected nutrient blends used and micro-organisms, it is a fertiliser in its own right and has been the only form of fertiliser used on our property for many years now," Graham said.

"Now rather than 250kg/ha application with vermicast, only 5L/ha of NutriSoil concentrate is required, making it much more convenient and very economical to use.

The plant available nutrient is absorbed instantly into the leaf of the plant including microbes. Also what falls onto the ground can be utilised in the soil and taken up by the roots of the plant and improving the soil health.

They now had an all-natural system with no artificial components and had no need for further fertilisers or insecticides on the property.

Continuous soil testing over 10 years since this transformation has shown there's no turning back to the traditional fertiliser methods with steady increases in available nutrient levels particularly NPK.

Overall balance was achieved by only using Nutrisoil and pH levels went from 4.2 to 5.8 in the first few years.

