

ECOGANIC

WHAT WE DO.

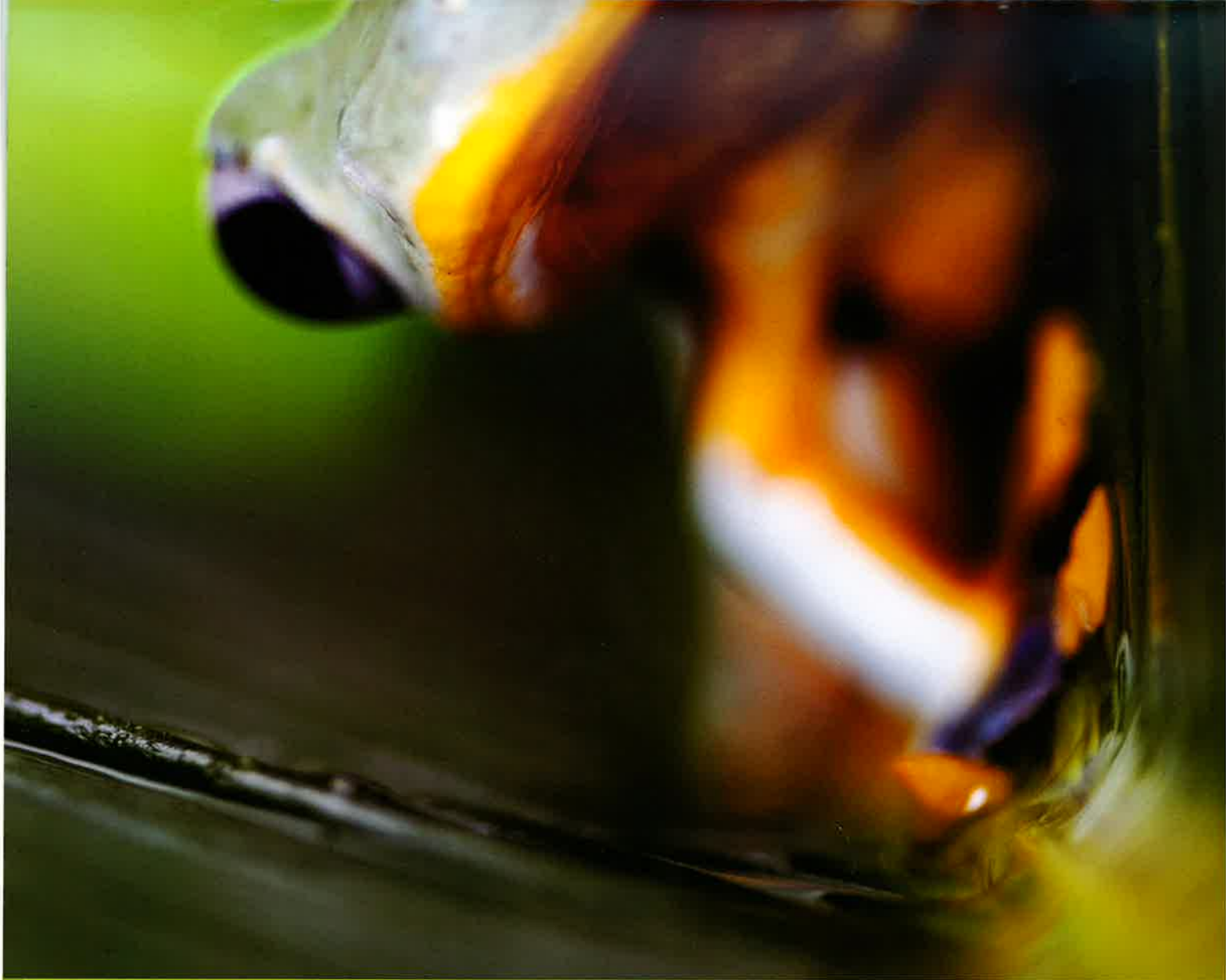
Farming with Nature

Intro

WHY ECOGANIC®?

Just as our families have homes that we live in, so does the incredible variety of wildlife that live in nature. We call this environmental biodiversity. The environment is their home and it provides shelter, food and water for all living things including us. When we are talking about the environment we are really talking about planet earth which include all living things from the smallest of micro-organisms, plants, insects, fish, birds, reptiles to the largest of all animals.

Everything within our environment depends on each other for survival and is closely linked with each other. This is nature's amazing web of life and is one of the principal philosophies of ecoganics. Disrupting the environment with its living inhabitants can impact on our own long term survival more than most people realise.





04 Philosophy

06 Process

08 Products

10 Service

12 Vision

Together we can change the world

We as human beings, produce millions of tonnes of waste every day. Much of this waste goes into the environment affecting its inhabitants in a negative way the same as if we dumped this waste inside our own homes. If we let this waste accumulate eventually we would not be able to live in our homes. Environmental pollution affects the survival of all wildlife in much the same way, including mankind. If not much, we can make little efforts to help planet earth. A person being eco-friendly, not only helps his surrounding to be less harmful, but also helps his fellow human beings and the animals around him. Earth is the only planet where human beings can exist. We need to be eco-friendly to save our world and environment, as well as making it a better place to live in, for all living things. This is what ecoganics stands for. Very simply ecoganics is protecting the environment by "earth-friendly farming".



Philosophy

Caring for those around us

Ecoganics is a certification program for agriculture and horticulture that combines sustainable production practices with environmental management systems. Essentially, ecoganics is "farming with nature™" to protect the environment, our natural capital and biodiversity. Ecoganics uses integrated monitoring systems to time production input application.

By using a scientific approach to farming and having an understanding of the crops growth cycles and climatic conditions, our monitoring programs allow us to time our production inputs only when they are needed. This allows us to greatly reduce our environmental footprint and farm sustainably to protect the environment.

Ecoganics only uses sustainable production practices. Our farming systems are developed with the aim of having no impact on the environment. Ecoganics uses integrated crop management practices such as natural composting, recycling, use of ground covers, integrated pest

and disease management, soil, plant, and animal health programs, which are applied using integrated monitoring programs that time production input application. We call the combination of sustainable production systems and our environmental management systems, integrated ecological farming. Very simply, farming with nature is good for the environment and its good for us!



Integrated ecological farming

- Increases wildlife biodiversity through habitat management and environmental engineering and protection of natural waterways through natural resource environmental management projects.
- Reduces soil sediment runoff under rainfall events through the use of ground covers, recycling and mulching.
- Reduces production input applications through the use of integrated crop monitoring systems
- Does not use chemicals and pesticide that can impact on the environment and food safety
- Practices sustainable management of natural capital (water, nutrient banks, soil health, native flora and fauna)
- Can be applied to all agriculture industries



PROCESS

Growing a better world

Our aims are to work closely with all food and fibre industries to develop eco-friendly sustainable farming solutions that protect the environment as well as the consumer in the market place. All farming and production industries certified as ecoganic, are required to be 3rd party certified to hold environmental management systems. Not only do our members need to hold certified environmental management systems, they also need to be certified to environmentally friendly, sustainable farming practices and food safety standards before they can achieve ecoganic certification. Once certified as “ecoganic”, our members receive ongoing training and technical support to help them transition from conventional production practices to an integrated ecological farming systems. Our science team at Hortactix™ (www.hortactix.com) are dedicated to developing integrated sustainable farming systems, which are based on current industry best practice, but modified to complement our environmental management systems. These systems are constantly changing and evolving. As new technology is developed our systems are updated but only if these practices complement our environmental protection and food safety programs.





Membership benefits

There are many benefits to becoming ecoganic certified. Every ecoganic member is 3rd party certified as doing their part to protect the environment and its wildlife by farming sustainably. All products developed comply with food safety standards. This is a great outcome for the environment and its wildlife as well as the consumer seeking healthy food and products for their families. Our marketing program is developed to ISO 14024 green labelling standards which are internationally recognised in the market place as environmentally friendly with a focus on consumer product safety.

Some of the other benefits include;

- Achieving positive environmental outcomes.
- Environment and biodiversity protection.
- Sustainable earth-friendly farming systems.
- Healthy produce for the consumer.
- Industry and environment best practice.
- Verified 3rd party certification programs.
- Lower business cost of production.
- Premium market price.
- International marketing and access programs.
- Ongoing technical and marketing support.



Products

Taste the difference

Grown nature's way you can really taste the difference. Ecoganics is for all food and fibre agriculture industries, and includes, industry grower co-ops as well as product processors and restaurants can become certified to ecoganics. Are you ready to do something for yourself, the community and environment? To distinguish authentic ecoganic products our members use a combination of ecoganic certified marks and our trademarked coloured wax can be applied to inedible peel or packaging.



**ISO
14001**
**QUALITY
ASSURANCE**



Caring for the environment

Ecoganic certified farming is not the same as conventionally grown agriculture products where synthetic fertilizers and chemicals dominate for maximum production. In fact the goal of ecoganics is to reduce production inputs by using natural products and monitoring systems to time and limit applications. Production inputs can only be used if they have no environmental and biodiversity impact. All production inputs must complement our environmental management programs or cannot be used.

Ecoganics is also not the same as certified organic. Ecoganics goes a step further to include a certified evidence based environmental management program. Ecoganics is a non-certified organic based production system that is certified to industry best practice for environment, wildlife and biodiversity protection. An ecoganic certified production system has the highest level of agricultural sustainability, environment, wildlife and biodiversity conservation as well as food safety requirements. Unlike most other farming practices, ecoganic farming is certified to two evidence based quality management systems to prove environment protection and sustainable farming to protect the consumer from false claims in the market place.

Service

The ecoganic global family

Ecoganics is a farmer certification program developed by farmers for farmers. Ecoganics provides a strong support base to help farmers transition into environmental management systems (EMS) and clean green sustainable farming practices. Membership also provides excellent marketing opportunities through our integrated certification program.

Environmental management systems

Ecoganic membership includes helping you to set up your environmental management system to ISO14001 certification. This is the 1st step in achieving ecoganic production system certification. Our job is to help you through all steps to successfully achieve ISO14001 certification for your business.



Sustainable farming systems

At the same time your environmental management system is being developed, we will be working on setting up your ecoganic production system. This will include the data or record keeping system required to keep and maintain your accreditation for ISO14001 and ecoganic certification. Our sustainable production systems are designed to complement our EMS program and are certified to QMS protocol "Ecoganic". Unlike many other certification systems there is a very strong technical and marketing support system available for ecoganic members.

Eco-marketing

Once certified as ecoganic, our members have access to our marketing program to help you with market access. Some of these services include;

- Product promotional material
- Product labelling
- Website access
- Ecoganic certification branding
- Custom box/carton design for your product
- Access to our marketing team for assistance





Vision

When you care enough....

We have a vision at ecoganics. We want you to join us in growing a better world. One that is clean of pollution, one that protects the environment and its natural biodiversity. Our planet is a beautiful place with enough resources to sustain all living things. Unfortunately, if we continue to pollute our environment at the current rate, many species of wildlife will soon become extinct.

If we all do our part to help protect the environment and its inhabitants, nature will be around for many years for our children to enjoy. A wise man once said, "We don't inherit our lands from our ancestors. We borrow it from our children". Ecoganics is for when you care enough. Come and join us in making our world a better place.



Let's talk ECOGANICS

228 Boogan Rd,
Innisfail, QLD,
Australia, 4860.

Ph. +61 7 40642452
Mob. 0417771291
Mob. 0401321336
Mob. 0407477505

E-mail. ecoganics@gmail.com
info@eco-banana.com.au

Web. www.ecoganic.com

