



The Coonawarra Region

Coonawarra

... a small strip of land in the south east corner of South Australia, renowned for its unique terra rossa soil and unmistakable ability to produce wines that are a pure expression of our natural environment.

After nearly a million years in the making, Coonawarra's terra rossa soil is extraordinary and extremely valuable; a permeable light clay over a limestone base, that allows water to drain freely, providing ample air, and the opportunity for vine roots to explore and thrive.

In partnership with wine growers throughout Coonawarra, Van Schaik's Bio Gro is committed to the concept of sustainable viticulture and ensuring the regions world-renowned soil and natural resources are safeguarded for future generations.

Vision

We will grow brand equity and business value, and continue to be at the forefront of the industry with regards to innovation, sustainability and quality.

Mission

By using environmentally sustainable practices, we will continue to produce and deliver world class growing and environmental solutions.

Our Story

Bio Gro was originated over four decades ago, by Hans Van Schaik and his wife Marjan Van Schaik, as a small earth moving business operating within the heartland of Australia's Radiata Pine Plantations, Mount Gambier, South Australia.

Hans had a particular interest in soil management, and noticed that bark and organic materials that were by-products of the local forestry industry were being burnt or destined for landfill, and believed that those organic residues could and should be value-added.

Against popular opinion at the time, Hans went about testing and trialling products derived from these residues, and soon after expanded the company's operating portfolio to include the development and manufacture of various forms of growing substrates, soil conditioners and mulching mediums.

Today, Bio Gro is still a privately held, family owned company, and is widely regarded as a leading player in the Australian horticulture, organic recycling and waste management industries.



Core Business

Resource Recovery

We work in partnership with Councils and Companies all throughout Australia to achieve optimal recovery of organic material.

Contract Packaging

We currently manufacture in excess of 4.5 million bags per annum, for a number of Australia's leading lawn and garden care brands.

Product Development

We specialise in processing and converting a diverse range of organic material into quality and organically approved growing substrates, soil conditioners, mulching mediums and biological growth stimulants, tailored for a wide range of horticultural, agricultural and viticultural applications.

Horticulture Consultancy

We offer a full range of technical support services to the Australian Nursery Production and Wholesale Industry.

Viticultural Products

Bio Gro specialise in the development and manufacture of a wide range of tried and tested and highly reliable organic soil conditioners, mulching mediums and biological stimulants engineered to improve the productivity and sustainability of agricultural and viticultural production systems.

We know that our customers' success heavily depends on the reliability of our products. Which is why, just like them, we place the highest possible demands on our products in terms of quality, performance and consistency.



Viticulture Mulch

Bio Gro Viticulture Mulch is a weed free, organic mulch derived from a blend of sustainably sourced radiata pine bark, wood fibre and seagrass (*Posidonia australis*).

Alive with beneficial microorganisms and cellulose fibre, Bio Gro Viticulture Mulch has been engineered to produce healthy, sustainable vineyard conditions for vine growth and quality wine production.

Features

- ✓ Bio Gro Viticulture Mulch reduces irrigation requirements
- ✓ Bio Gro Viticulture Mulch improves drought resistance of vines
- ✓ Bio Gro Viticulture Mulch maintains soil moisture levels
- ✓ Bio Gro Viticulture Mulch improves soil structure and decreases erosion
- ✓ Bio Gro Viticulture Mulch stimulates vine growth
- ✓ Bio Gro Viticulture Mulch supplies essential macro and micro nutrients
- ✓ Bio Gro Viticulture Mulch reduces weeds
- ✓ Bio Gro Viticulture Mulch improves water retention, infiltration and drainage



Benefits of composted mulch application.

Reduced risk of crop failure

- ✓ Application of composted mulch can reduce soil temperature by up to 20C, which increases soil moisture levels, and reduces plant stress.
 - ✓ Mulching also reduces evaporation from the soil surface and increases water conservation and resistance to drought, particularly in non-irrigated areas.
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Reduced farm management costs

- ✓ Composted mulches can reduce weed growth by at least 60% and decrease the need for herbicides, thereby reducing production costs.
 - ✓ Composted mulches reduce evaporation from the soil surface, resulting in more efficient water use. This could reduce the irrigation water requirement of grapevines by 10% or more (depending upon environmental conditions, irrigation systems and farm management practices).
 - ✓ Composted mulches slowly release essential macro and micronutrients for plant growth. This can reduce the use of mineral fertilisers by at least 30% and makes mineral fertiliser programs more effective.
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Increased revenue

- ✓ Composted mulches have the potential to increase grape yield up to 35%, depending on grape variety, environmental conditions and farm management practices.
 - ✓ Composted mulches can also potentially improve grape fruit quality.
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Increased farm capital value

- ✓ Mulching reduces soil erosion. This can prevent land degradation and improve soil health and land productivity.
- ✓ Composted mulches add organic matter to the soil. This improves soil aggregation and soil structure, reduces surface sealing, increases water infiltration and water holding capacity of the soil.

Making the most of your mulch.

In order to make the most of your Bio Gro Viticulture Mulch, it is important that you monitor your soil moisture and adjust your irrigation schedules accordingly.

Mulch can delay the need for irrigation at the start of the season, as well as decrease the level of irrigation needed overall. Good irrigation management will enable you to make the most of these benefits.

Monitoring of soil and petiole nutrient status will also assist in getting the best value from Bio Gro Viticulture Mulch, enabling adjustment of fertiliser programs as required.

Biological Stimulants

Bio Gro has mastered and developed a range of liquid biological stimulants formulated from natural deposits of Australian Humic Peat and Seagrass resources.

These biological stimulants can be used to achieve different results, based on their specific properties:

Bio Gro Terrasol Humate™

- ✓ Bio Gro Terrasol Humate is a liquid soil conditioner that improves soil structure and soil microbe activity by acting as a carbon food source.
- ✓ Terrasol Humate increases water holding capacity and helps in solubilising the locked up nutrients in the soil.

Bio Gro Terrasol Green™

- ✓ Bio Gro Terrasol Green enhances the retention and uptake of essential nutrients and can help in reducing the application of fertilisers by up to 25%.
- ✓ Terrasol Green enhances the availability of insecticides and herbicides, by acting as a surfactant.

Bio Gro Terrasol Blue™

- ✓ Bio Gro Terrasol Blue reduces the salt toxicity caused by excessive salts, and increases the nitrogen uptake in plants by reducing the levels of sodium chloride salinity.

Bio Gro Sea-Stim™

- ✓ Sea-Stim works at hormonal level to increase resistance to frost and diseases in vineyards.
- ✓ Sea-Stim helps to promote a healthy root system and rapid establishment of new vines.



For more information,
please visit our website at
www.biogro.com.au

Or alternatively, give us a call on
1800 BIO GRO (247 476)