



INDUSTRY PROGRAMS



Australian and New Zealand Biosolids Partnership E-News

The Australian and New Zealand Biosolids Partnership (ANZBP) supporting sustainable management of biosolids in Australia and New Zealand

Dear ANZBP member,

Welcome to the seventh edition of the newsletter of the Australian and New Zealand Biosolids Partnership. The approaching close of the year presents the ideal opportunity to provide you with an update on the progress and activities of the ANZBP over the past few months.

Update on Key Projects

Community Attitudinal Survey

The Community Attitudinal Survey Report has been published and is currently being sent out to subscribers in hard copy. This report analyses the outcomes of a community survey process, which identified general community attitudes towards biosolids/biosolids use. Some of the findings confirm the Industry's understanding of community attitudes, whereas many findings challenge what was previously believed. This report will play a strong role in informing the Communications Plan for the ANZBP.

Here are just a few of the findings:

- One third of all survey respondents had heard of the term biosolids, but of those, many could not define it, misunderstood the definition or focused on end use.
- A large majority of respondents (71%) were positive toward the use of biosolids for agriculture, domestic gardening and landscaping.
- Respondents in rural areas are more likely to purchase foodstuffs grown on land where biosolids had been applied than respondents from urban areas.

Literature Compendium

The ANZBP Biosolids Literature Compendium is now available online for subscribers. The Literature Compendium documents progress in biosolids management practices and research developments in Australia and New Zealand from the past 5 years, as well as planned research. The Compendium consists of a discussion paper which reviews the literature, and a searchable database which categorises the publications. The Compendium will be a valuable asset for researchers with technical matters to address, as well as a tool for policy and communications officers.

Biosolids Production and End Use Statistics

This project was undertaken to develop an accurate and comprehensive data-set of Biosolids Production and End Use for Australia and New Zealand. The data provided by WWTPs has been summarised in a report which is now available on the ANZBP Subscribers' website. Please note that the information has been aggregated to produce an overview of production on a national level and does not identify individual WWTP's. Thank you to all members who assisted this process by contributing data in a timely manner.

Please visit the [Subscribers section of the ANZBP website](#) for access to the increasing range of ANZBP research reports.

Project Manager's Update

2010 has been a very productive year for the ANZBP. Many projects which had been initiated in late 2009 were carried through to completion throughout the year and are available for use on the website. Outputs of the various projects will be instrumental in informing future ANZBP activities by guiding research topics, identifying key areas of weakness and targeting particular fields of opportunity. Thank you to all those researchers and consultants for their dedicated work undertaken on behalf of the ANZBP during 2010.

To gain a better idea of the progress of the ANZBP over the past 6 months, please visit the [Subscribers Website](#), navigate to 'Business Plan' on the menu bar and view the **ANZBP Review of Achievements - December 2010**.

Perth Roadshow - October 2010

In late October an ANZBP Roadshow was held for the first time in Perth. Hosted by the Water Corporation, the event was attended by almost 40 people and was a huge success. Attendees came from many backgrounds including researchers, utilities, regulators, composters and farmers, which made for some great discussion during and after the event. Thank you to the following guest speakers for their participation: Ian Toleman (Water Corporation), Yolanta Gruchlik (Curtin Water Quality Research Centre), Deborah Pritchard (Curtin University), Karen Campisano (Melbourne Water), Paul Darvodelsky (PSD Pty Ltd) and Mike McLaughlin (CSIRO).

The ANZBP Advisory Board was pleased with the success of the 2009-10 Roadshows and has agreed that these events will be fixtures on the ANZBP calendar in 2011. Presentations from the roadshow can be found on the public area of the [ANZBP website](#), and you are welcome to share these with your colleagues, and others in the sector.

Engagement with Regulatory Bodies

The ANZBP Advisory Board met after the Roadshow in Perth and discussed a number of matters relating to the value of Regulator engagement. To acknowledge the current support from a number of Regulators and in recognition of the importance of engagement, particularly the role of providing a communications forum to explore regulatory consistency, the Board resolved to

establish a new annual fee rate for Regulators which is at the minimum level of ANZBP fees (\$1000.00).

Invoicing Arrangements

A number of organisations have requested that ANZBP assist internal financial operations by sending out subscription invoices at the beginning of the financial year, rather than mid-year as has been standard practice for the large majority of members in the past. In order to move towards this, subscription fee invoices for the current financial year will be sent out in January 2011 with invoices for 2011-12 then delivered in June 2011. Please remember to ensure that your fees are included in your future budgets!

Please feel free to contact **AWA** should you have any questions regarding the above, or any other queries regarding the ANZBP.

And lastly, a warm welcome to our newest member, Carbon Mate Pty Ltd.

Industry News

Melbourne Water Issues Call for Expressions of Interest for Biosolids Research

The **Melbourne Water Corporation**, has issued a call for expressions of interest for research projects that will address the beneficial uses of biosolids. The call is open to suitably qualified and experienced research organizations or industry/research group partnerships who can propose and implement a credible research project focused on technologies to enhance the potential for beneficial use of biosolids by: energy, nutrient and/or metals extraction, decontamination, stabilization, or other conversion of biosolids (chemicals, fuels, etc.). **Expression of interest** submissions will be received up to 1:00 pm Australian EDT on Wednesday, February 2, 2011.

Events

National Biosolids Partnership Webcast – Charting the Future of Biosolids Management:

The NBP is holding a webcast on January 26, 2011 from 2:00-3:30 pm EST (US) to discuss the findings from a recent facilitated forum that discussed current and future issues, drivers and trends associated with Biosolids Management. Trends and drivers that will be discussed include: public policy and regulations, technology, operation and management, outreach and training and research needs.

The ANZBP will obtain a copy of this webcast and will be happy to provide to subscribers upon request by **email**.

IWA-WEF has announced the **IWA-WEF Nutrient Recovery and Management 2011 Conference** which will be held in Miami, Florida, USA from January 9 - 12, 2011.

Topic areas to be discussed at the conference include:

- Research in Nutrient Removal and Recovery
- Operations of Nutrient Removal and Recovery Plant
- Design of Nutrient Removal and Recovery Plants
- Watershed and River Basin Nutrient Management

More information can be found on the **website**.

The **9th IWA Specialist Conference on Waste Stabilisation Ponds** will be held in Adelaide from 1-3 August 2011.

This conference will focus on techniques for the delivery of the maximum volumes of clean, environmentally safe, treated waste water for amenity and agricultural purposes, using minimal energy inputs and having low maintenance requirements. It is envisaged that presentations would fit specific topics under the following headings:

- Performance of WSP
- Biology
- WSP applications for smaller communities
- WSP and sustainability issues - carbon, energy reduction - bio energy production
- Public health microbiology
- WSP case studies
- WSPs and their integration with other treatment technologies

More information can be found on the **website**.

As specialists working in biosolids management, you are invited to share information on biosolids developments within your locality, as well as resources and activities that may be valuable to other ANZBP subscribers. These contributions, plus your comments on this E-news or the ANZBP website (www.biosolids.com.au) can be forwarded to the ANZBP Project Team - admin@biosolids.com.au

Wishing you a happy and safe festive season!

From the ANZBP Team

The email has been sent on behalf of the Australian and New Zealand Biosolids Partnership by:

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