

Blends Well, Applies Easily!

Elders Mackay, in north Queensland, has been retailing Guano now for near on four years. The bulk of the fertiliser business in Mackay is tied up with the growing of Sugar Cane, with a small emerging horticultural industry playing a secondary consumer role.

The Guano is sold as straight fertiliser, as a source of Phosphorus with added benefit of supplying silica and calcium to the plant cane crop. Further NKS Blends are added to the crop at fill-in stage. Some of our clients have requested blends be made, including Guano and Sulphate of Ammonia, or Guano and Potash blends. We have found these blends to be of a sound consistency, and are easy to store and apply. In non-replicated trials across some of the central growing areas, Guano has performed equally as well as synthetic derived blends, and as a sole fertiliser, Guano presents as an environmentally safe organic alternative. With the push to reduce phosphorus run-off to the reef, Guano is indeed worthy of strong consideration, because it has REEFSAFE status.



Blends manufactured on a Guano base have been used exclusively in major horticultural operations in the Bowen, Burdekin and Herbert areas. Crops such as Capsicum, Tomatoes, Cucurbits and Bananas have all performed extremely well on these blends. In broadacre areas to the west of Mackay, Guano based blends have been well accepted as a banded application. Some of these areas have a VAM problem and growers have shown a willingness to use the Guano product in these situations.

Coastal pastures in the area require a regular top-up with Phosphorus, and Guano has been able to fill this void well, as it has the added benefit of supplying calcium to the highly weathered acidic coastal soils.



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