

Soil Health Symposium

Digging into Soil Secrets



NQ DRY TROPICS

Understand the linkages between healthy soils and healthy profit.

9am - 5pm on Thursday 21 May 2015
PCYC, Macmillan Street Ayr

Are you a farmer or grazier who wants to know more about soil biology?

NQ Dry Tropics invites you to a Soil Health Symposium to hear about the latest science around soil health and how it affects you as a producer. Take the opportunity to access researchers who are working directly with landholders to determine how you can boost your soil biology to improve productivity and reduce costs.

- **Hear how you can reduce costs and improve productivity through healthy soils.**
- **Adjust grazing management strategies to improve soil health.**
- **Identify the impacts of cropping management on soil microbial populations.**
- **Learn about biological suppression of plant diseases.**
- **Soil carbon - What is it? Why do I need it? How can I increase it?**
- **Soil sampling and monitoring for soil health.**

Presenters



Dr Nikki Seymour is a Senior Soil Microbiologist with 27 years' experience researching key issues relating to soil biological interactions with crop nutrition, and crop disease in the northern grain-growing region of Australia. Based at the Leslie Research Facility in Toowoomba with the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries, she has a particular interest in using beneficial microorganisms to improve broad-acre crop production, and has worked in both sugarcane and grazing.



Dr Sandrine Makiela is a Lecturer in Microbiology at Central Queensland University. Her current research is in soil microbial health, looking at quantifying soil microbes and determining how populations are influenced by management practices. She also has experience in water, air, and soil quality testing, and has expertise in microbiology, plant and soil health, grassland ecology and natural antimicrobials.



Dr Ash Martin focuses on bringing scientific, research-based information in a clear way that helps landholders to make practical decisions that improve soil health and productivity. As the Managing Director of Microbiology Laboratories Australia, he is dedicated to empowering farmers, agronomists, natural resource managers, fertiliser manufacturers and researchers to make better, more informed decisions about managing soil, compost, plants, water and fertilisers.



Mick Alexander is dedicated to educating the broader community of the benefits that farmers and graziers add to the health of the planet. His skills include soil analysis (minerals and microbes), grazing management, dung beetles and carbon farming and he has delivered training to more than 4,000 landholders from Qld and NSW over the past five years. Mick combines the academic with practical application to achieve the most beneficial solutions on his family grazing enterprise.

REGISTER NOW

on **07 4724 3544** or email **diana.odonnell@nqdrytropics.com.au**
Smoko and lunch will be provided, catering will not be guaranteed without registration.