

**BIOLOGICAL FARMING** ADVERTISING FEATURE

# Working wonders on soil efficiency

LUKE Bowman, of Break It Down Composting, believes using compost on his farm near Barraba has worked wonders for his soil.

Soil tests have confirmed that the compost, Petrik inoculums and compost tea extracts made by Mr Bowman, have had a positive impact on soil health on the paddocks at 'Springfield'.

"The soil is getting softer and darker as a result of increased humus production," Mr Bowman said.

"The soil tests show an increase in most nutrients over the eight years since I started doing this.

"Organic matter has increased, giving the soil a far greater capacity to hold water.

"The composts have improved the plants nutrient density, increasing weight gain in the cattle.

"They are definitely looking more healthy, which has

been a great result from the soils at Springfield.

"Increased nutrient density has also resulted in less disease and insect pressure on the crops and pastures," he said.

Mr Bowman produces the compost from his Break It Down Composting site on Springfield.

He sources the ingredients locally and inoculates them with C Star produced by Petrik.

"I find using the Top Tex compost covers most beneficial when producing this high quality compost, sometimes halving the amount of water used," Mr Bowman said.

"Our Composting and Humus Management workshop is in September with Angela Luebke and Urs Hildebrandt teaching their renowned compost knowledge."

Visit: [breakitdown.com.au](http://breakitdown.com.au).



There was a good turnout for the Convertte on farm biological farming field day at Barellan, NSW.

## Coming faster than the electric car

BIOLOGICAL farming is growing worldwide and its broader implementation is unstoppable, that's the view of Convertte managing director, John Ridley.

However, now it has reached tipping points ranging from climate risk, to waste minimisation, to

consumer demand for safe chemical free food.

"With biological farming, an important contribution can be made to all these issues on local and global scales," Mr Ridley said.

"It is no longer acceptable to throw out agricultural chemicals that are only half

utilised.

"Only an era of cheap fossil fuels has made this wastage appear acceptable.

"We need a balanced approach to farming, one more in tune with the environment.

"Farmers are keen to learn more about biological

approaches to farming that have less impact on the environment and invest in soil health and fertility.


"Those who have adopted biological farming know they are investing in the long term stewardship of the land."

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