

Unlisted Companies

Solutions for Coal Seam Gas Water

Environmentally conscious agriculture feed company Fodder King has devised a system for using treated waste water from coal seam gas operations to produce high yielding fodder crops.

Waste water from municipal, mining, industrial and other energy project sources can also be used.

The company says that its patented technology for high yield fodder can benefit both local communities and the nation, and that it is already helping several coal seam gas companies to design and implement solutions to their waste water which meet regulatory requirements and are also low risk, sustainable and will save time, money and delays in getting gas to market.

Coal seam gas companies need government approval to dispose of their waste water, and are encouraged to adopt sustainable solutions to minimize impact on health and other industries such as agriculture. Local community acceptance is also an issue, says Fodder King.

Fodder King is commercializing know-how, technologies and management systems to enable irrigated lucerne to be used as a broad acre crop rotation tool as well as generate profits.

Broadacre irrigated lucerne crops can be rotated with almost any other irrigated crop, such as cotton, corn, cereals and coarse grains, it says. It enables large plantations to be harvested profitably for hay production where previously grazing was the principal use.

This results in long term sustainability

improvements with nitrogen fixed at rates up to 300 kg per hectare per year in the soil, and the water table lowered by lucerne's long taproot of up to 15 metres, reducing salt inundation.

Soil structure is improved from aeration, loosening and mulch production, and water penetration is improved while erosion is minimized by the root mass holding the soil together. Fodder King says its system has been identified by the Murray Darling Basin Commission as a tool to rehabilitate salt affected irrigation areas.

The system also enables low chemical demand for pest and weed control compared to most other crops, such as cotton, as it is a component of integrated pest management as a natural alternative to intensive cotton crop spraying.

Lucerne can also be used as garden mulch as it is an odourless, natural and mineral rich fertilizer.

Other benefits of irrigated lucerne are in intensive animal production, which can reduce grazing pressure on marginal or degraded land, as a substitute for cereal grains which can free up cereals for human consumption, and as a cost effective natural source of plant protein that is a safe alternative to risky animal protein.

Fodder King says environmental authorities recommend lucerne be used by country towns as a management tool to improve the health of rivers. It is suitable absorbing excess nutrients in sewage effluent, helping



reduce the impact of blue green algae.

In pellet form, it is an absorbent for industrial liquid waste and kitty litter. It can also be used for mine site rehabilitation.

Fodder Kings says its know-how, technologies and systems reduce harvest waste by up to 15 per cent, energy consumption by up to 20 per cent, and nutrient degradation by up to 30 per cent.

Fodder King currently produces legume, cereal and pasture hays in different bale sizes. Further processing produces cubes, super-compressed bales, chaff, meal, mats and pellets. Fodder King contracts other companies to further process its hay to specification, but in the future expects to undertake these value adding activities itself.

Fodder King is currently funding raising under a prospectus.