

Gardening Articles for week ending 20th DECEMBER 2014
Written by Wally Richards.

AN INTERESTING YEAR

The year is quickly drawing to a close with Christmas closer than ever, making it a very busy festive time for many people. Without further ado I would like to wish all my readers a Very Happy Festive Season and a better gardening year for the New Year.

This will be my last weekly article till just after the New Year so you can have a rest without me bending your ear.

Saying that I will be available on the 0800 466464 number if you have any gardening problems or things of interest to share. Alternatively you can email me on wallyjr@gardenews.co.nz

It has been an interesting year for gardening, milder than normal winter, poor spring and not a great start to summer. Likely in the New Year we will get some better growing conditions.

During the year I think the highlights were reports from gardeners who placed Neem Tree Granules under their citrus trees to clean up insect problems in the trees. So simple and easy to do without all that spraying. (No harm on the environment other than the pests)

Then there was the event of Cosio Industries who brought into New Zealand the products, Crop Cover and Quarantine Cloth to simply protect plants from insect pests. They are in my Highly Recommend list.

Karbyon was another new product introduced to help remove black sooty mould off plants.

The only comment I have received is that on thick layers of sooty mould more than one application maybe needed.

During the year a number of dangerous chemicals used in the home garden market were either removed or are in the process of being removed. These include Basamid and Shield, others are likely to follow as EPA work through the lists. Hopefully Confidor will be removed sooner than later so our honey bees and bumble bees have a better chance of survival.

I wrote earlier in the year about using my Secret Strawberry Food in conjunction with Mycorrcin to obtain some super big strawberries with good flavor.

Several gardeners have reported excellent result from using the two products and getting a good number of extra big strawberries.

The poor spring weather this season has meant that many plants have not preformed as expected.

The article I wrote two weeks ago about strange weather and hail stones with 25 times the allowed limit of aluminium in drinking water.

(The concentration of aluminium in Ray's hail sample was 2.5 grams/m³, which is equivalent to 2.5 milligrams/liter!

The Guideline Value for aluminium in the Drinking Water Standards New Zealand 2005 (DWSNZ) (Revised 2008) is < 0.1 g/m³, which Ray's hail sample exceeds by 25 times.)

That is a very high level of aluminium which obviously gets into our drinking water.

The article has resulted in a number of people contacting me about their concerns and evidence that not all is as it should be. (Others have had rain water tested and found abnormally high levels)

This has caused me to do a little research on the matter and some interesting coincidences have resulted.

Those that are on the Internet can, with a few key words into Google, discover the same or more than what I have seen. Here is some of what I saw.

Aluminum at high levels is toxic to you and all living things. Aluminum is the most common metal in our planets crust.

For our health: If you have any of these symptoms, do not assume it is because of aluminum toxicity. These symptoms may be caused by other, less serious health conditions. If you experience any one of them, see your physician, especially if you have kidney disease or are on dialysis .

Confusion, Muscle weakness, Bone pain, Seizures, Speech problems, Slow growth in children. Complications may include: Lung problems, Nervous system problems causing difficulty with voluntary and involuntary actions, Bone diseases, Brain diseases and disorders, Anemia

and Impaired iron absorption. Alzheimer's is connected to aluminium poisoning and interestingly fluoride in water creates a far greater problem.

"In January 1987, experiments performed at the Medical Research Endocrinology Dept., Newcastle upon Tyne, England, and the Physics Dept of the Univ. of Ruhana, Sri Lanka, showed that fluoridated water at 1 ppm, when used in cooking in aluminum cookware, concentrated the aluminum up to 600 ppm, whereas water without fluoride did not. (Science news 131:73)

If there is aluminum in the atmosphere at levels not normal, because it has been put there, and that aluminium gets into our fluoridated water supply we have a major health problem in the making.

Last week the New Zealand government announced that they are asking for public submissions on a pending application to exempt fluoride (HFA and SSF) from the New Zealand Medicine's Act, with a closing date of 9th January 2015. <http://www.medsafe.govt.nz/consultations/medicine-regulations-fluoride-in-drinking-water.asp> (In case you want to submit).

This would allow drinking water to be fluoridated without any right of appeal.

This also applies to our gardens as plants are greatly affected by aluminum toxicity as it inhibits root growth and thus the plants growth is slowed or stopped.

(I have had recent reports of this happening in pasture and food crops)

Combine that with low levels of direct sunlight caused by either clouds or haze preventing the sun's rays from directly reaching plants. This causes a darker leaf colour than normal and stretching of plants making greater distance between leaves. This is not normal and I would like to know what is going on.

Plants ideally require 6 or more hours of direct sunlight at this time of the year each day.

Maybe questions should be asked and if there are chemicals being used in the atmosphere to reduce the effects of global warming and what is that doing to our health and food chain?

Here is the clincher that is really strange, Our friendly 'lets control the Worlds Food Supply' Monsanto has developed seeds that are Aluminum Resistant!

Reason given is that they will help farmers in poor countries grow crops. This is very doubtful as how can poor farmers afford expensive GMO seeds?

If pasture and food growing land become toxic because of aluminium poisoning then aluminum resistant seeds would be worth their weight in gold.

I think next year is going to be very interesting and its worth your time to do a little research to try and find out what is happening and for what reason?

Have a happy Christmas and New Year, drive carefully and stay healthy.

Wally Richards