



What's happening in the world of Aquaponics.

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The Backyard Aquaponics Magazine first edition is available online as a free download.

The Backyard Aquaponics Magazine



The Second edition of the Backyard Aquaponics Magazine has recently been released.

The BYAP magazine received fantastic reviews when the first edition was released late in 2007 early 2008. The first edition was made available as a free download as an encouragement for people to delve further into the wonderful world of aquaponics. This new magazine runs many regular features that

will be seen in coming editions. You can see feature aquaponic systems from around the world and read about how the system was constructed and how it works directly from the people who built their systems.

Special recipes using aquaponic produce, like in this issue where we have a recipe for smoking your own fish, making bruschetta as well as green tomato chutney.

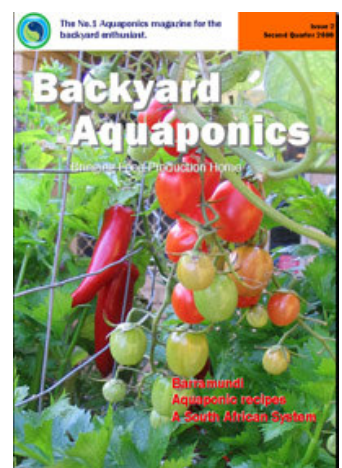
The second edition contains information about Barra-mundi, and we road test the easy to use three dimensional software available as a free download, Google Sketch-up.

The magazine is released quarterly with subscriptions and single issues available for download from the BYAP website. Initially the magazine is only available in an electronic format but it's expected to be available in a

printed format within the next couple of issues.

In the next edition you can expect a new question and answer section, some more feature aquaponic systems, detailed information on another fish species well suited to aquaponics and stacks more information relating to all things Aquaponics.

The third edition will be available in the third quarter 2008.



Online Discussion Forum Hits New Highs

As aquaponics expands at an ever increasing rate, the BYAP forum is continuing to grow at a rapid rate. There were some technical difficulties a couple of months ago and the forum was down for a short while. A couple of days later the forum was back up and running with a

fresh installation of the latest software. This meant that the forum doesn't have quite as many bells and whistles as it used to have, but it's a lot more stable and simple to use and most members are very happy with the changes.

If you haven't been for a look

around the forum you're really missing out. It's the largest repository for aquaponics information available anywhere in the world today. And more importantly, it's a friendly, happy, thriving community of like minded individuals from around the world, so drop by sometime.

The first aquaponics retail outlet in the world is now open in Western Australia.

The BYAP Shop and Display Centre

Late in 2007 we launched the Backyard Aquaponics shop and display centre in Jandakot Western Australia. Presently we have 9 different aquaponic systems set up, ranging from a tropical aquarium, right through to a couple of large 4 bed flood and drain systems. The systems have a number of different fish species, ornamental tropicals, goldfish, silver



perch, trout, barramundi and yabbies, throughout different times of the year.

Plans are in place for expanding with more display systems, with further combinations and possibilities to suit different locations, including a solar powered system that we are currently designing.

At the display centre we also have also recently set up an information booth where we continuously play a range of aquaponics DVDs, so you



can come down to the shop and watch the information presented on the range of world renowned DVD's that we will be changing each week. Of course we also have an extensive range of equipment for aquaponics, from fish feed to pipe fittings.

The shop is currently open 6 days a week, from 9-5 Monday to Friday, then Saturday morning from 9-12. You can find us on the corner of Jandakot Rd and Berrigan drive in Jandakot, there's a map on our website if you'd like to see exactly where we are. Hope to see you there soon.



New Fish tank design

We have been working on a new fish tank design for some time now and the work will soon be coming to fruition. Our intention was to design and manufacture the ultimate fish tank for aquaponics. Careful thought and planning has been put into designing an efficient 'small footprint' tank that will transport easily and have effective solids removals. The first prototypes will be

completed towards the end of July this year and we ex-

pect the tank to be in full production by the end of



August, we'll keep you up to date with the progress of the tank and let you know when it's available.



The BYAP Team

The Backyard Aquaponics team has been expanding and adapting to support the growing needs of the aquaponic community.

For the past couple of years we have had the moderators and administrators of the online discussion forum, Steve, Paul, Jaymie, and Stuart who perform the often thankless task of day to day operations that keep the forum up and running. Few people realize the work that goes on behind the scenes in keeping the forum running smoothly.

Then there's the shop and display centre team consisting of Joel, who many of you may already know. He's the founder of BYAP and a key instigator in kick-

ing off the recent flurry of interest in aquaponics.

Faye has been with the BYAP team for some time now, she has been lecturing in horticulture for many years now and was Gardening Australia's Gardener of the Year in 2007.

Carl came onboard in early

2008, with a Bsc in aquaculture, and experience working around the world in the aquaculture industry he's a valuable addition to the team.

Last but by no means least is Jade our school based trainee. Jade has a great love of aquatic environments and she's learning about aquaponics very quickly and enthusiastically. We also have a few others who are part of our installation team including Peter and Julian. Peter and Julian (the Hippy) have been involved with a number of system installs over the past twelve months.



System installations

One of our latest installations was on the fourth floor of a building in the heart of Fremantle.

Over the past year we have installed over a dozen different systems for people. Ranging from small one bed systems through huge six bed food production systems.

a day. It's fantastic to see bare earth turned into a productive operating system within the space of a single day.

We've squeezed systems

we installed two single bed systems on the fourth story roof balcony of a house in the heart of Fremantle. This was a very interesting installation as all the equipment needed to go up in a very small elevator.



We now have system installations down to a fine art and our installation team can install a 6 bed system within

into some fairly tight spaces down the sides of houses, as well as performing installations in big open spaces. Recently





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History of Backyard Aquaponics

Backyard Aquaponics was originally founded by Joel Malcolm many years ago. Joel has been experimenting with aquaponics since early 2000 when he first read about it through researching organic growing methods on the internet. Since that time he's made it his mission to demystify aquaponics for people and to help provide information and facilitate discussion and experimentation in aquaponics. When he first started, information was very scarce so he set about producing the *Backyard Aquaponics Package*, the first book available in the world about aquaponics. Since then *Backyard Aquaponics* has been branching out and expanding at an incredible rate. This has been a totally self funded venture, all money coming into the company has been reinvested into providing further information and developing further products to aid people in learning about and setting up aquaponic systems, and to date there's been no drawing of any wages or profits. It's been a real labour of love, from all involved, and it seems like the hard work is beginning to pay off (metaphorically speaking).

Joel's systems and information have featured in many articles in varied magazines, there's been television coverage on Gardening Australia on numerous occasions. Feyes system featured on the *Garden Gurus* and well as *Gardening Australia* and even the local tv weather was beamed live from within her aquaponics system. Another television segment was filmed at the shop this month and it will be going to air on a gardening show in a couple of months. BYAP systems are spreading across Australia and suppliers are beginning to provide equipment in many states. Other Aquaponics suppliers are popping up around Australia and the world, and at least three more books have been written about aquaponics in the last year or two.

The time is right for aquaponics, food is becoming scarce and expensive, water is becoming scarce and current food production methods are extremely inefficient. People are becoming concerned about food security and what their families are consuming. Aquaponics offers people the opportunity to take back control of their food, to grow their own fish and vegetables in their own backyard, it's a revolution by the people, for the people.

The Time is Right for Aquaponics

Every time we open a newspaper or turn on the tv we are faced with headlines such as "Fish stocks diminishing, Drought drives prices up and Water restrictions eminent. Sustainable practices are embedded in school students by teaching them how to care for chickens and grow plants, feed worms, mulch garden beds and harvest vegetables all using minimal water. Schools are educating their students about environmental issues. Lessons like this can be fun while practical covering many areas such as science, biology, horticulture, animal care, nature, maths, health and well being. My concern is that food costs are increasing

whilst choice and quality are diminishing. Growing the outdoor vegetable garden is prohibitive now due to water restrictions and Aquaponics can be an ideal replacement using this closed loop system as well as providing an additional protein source to backyards and

reducing the water use. Its principles are holistic and combine to reduce food miles and ensure optimum production from a small space, all the while we can be examples of how to make the world a better place, one ripple at a time.

