



## What's happening in the world of Aquaponics.

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*Backyard Aquaponics is now trialling two nodes of a commercial aquaponics system.*

### New Commercial System at BYAP

Work has been underway for many months designing and building a commercial production system at the Backyard Aquaponics display centre.

The system consists of two "nodes", each with a 5000L fish tank, associated solids removals and digesters and 16 raft grow trough. The systems are now well into producing their crops, stocked with about 350 trout in each system. They will be producing 4 rafts of vegetables or herbs per week from each system, that's about 300 plants per system per week.

The current fish crop in the system is trout, the trout are an exceptional fish for this time of year in a climate such as we have in Perth and they are putting on weight very quickly as feeding rates increase.

[www.backyardaquaponics.com](http://www.backyardaquaponics.com)



## Backyard Aquaponics at Garden Week

*Garden week was very busy with lots of people interested in aquaponics.*



**G**arden week in Perth was a great success this year, the weather was beautiful, the setting absolutely gorgeous amongst the grassy treed surroundings. We set up a large exhibit this year taking a 10m x 10m site, we had lots of room to set up our displays.

We had a standard one bed courtyard system set up with 25 trout in the tank, and the trout performed so well over the 6 days of the show. They ate constantly, whenever we threw in pellets they snapped them up drawing lots of excited noises from the people crowded around.

Without a doubt the Biopod filled with Black soldier fly larvae drew the greatest interest. People loved the idea of producing your own fish feed.

The show was a great success and we are looking forward to next years show.

We released our new mini systems at the garden show and the bright colours were a big hit. The small systems come in 42 different colours with a fish tank and growbed all in one. We will cover these new systems in greater detail in the next newsletter.



Another favourite attraction at the show was our tank with a viewing window. The system consists of a 1000L tank with large viewing window and foam raft filled with red lettuce floating on the surface. The kids were amazed by the large Silver Perch and Barramundi swimming around in the tank.



## Landline Shows Interest in Aquaponics

Landline came to film a segment about aquaponics at the Jandakot display centre over the Anzac day long weekend. For those that don't know, Landline is an Australian television show on the ABC about rural and farming interests.



Interestingly the camera man was the same guy that filmed the Gardening Australia segment at my house three

years ago, and the soundman worked at Faye's house a couple of years ago when she was presented with the Gardener of the Year award.



Filming was very quick and efficient, over and done with in about 2-3 hours. They expect the segment will go to air later in the year sometime, we'll keep you up to date with the screening dates when they become available.

[www.abc.net.au/landline/](http://www.abc.net.au/landline/)

*Landline will be airing a segment on aquaponics later in the year.*



## Dowerin Field Day

After the success we had at Gardening Australia Expo late last year, and then Garden Week this year, Backyard Aquaponics will be heading off to Dowerin Field day later in the year. We see this as an ideal opportunity for people in remote rural areas to learn about aquaponics and the benefits of being able to produce your own fresh fish and vegetables in remote areas.

Dowerin is about 160kms north east of Perth in Western Australia in the heart of the Western Australian farming area. The field day itself first began in 1965 as a means to raise money to irrigate the local sports field and tennis court, drawing in 2000 visitors and 20 exhibitors. Now the show covers many hectares of exhibition

and display areas with over 600 exhibitors and over 40 thousand visitors to the show each year, it's the largest show in W.A.



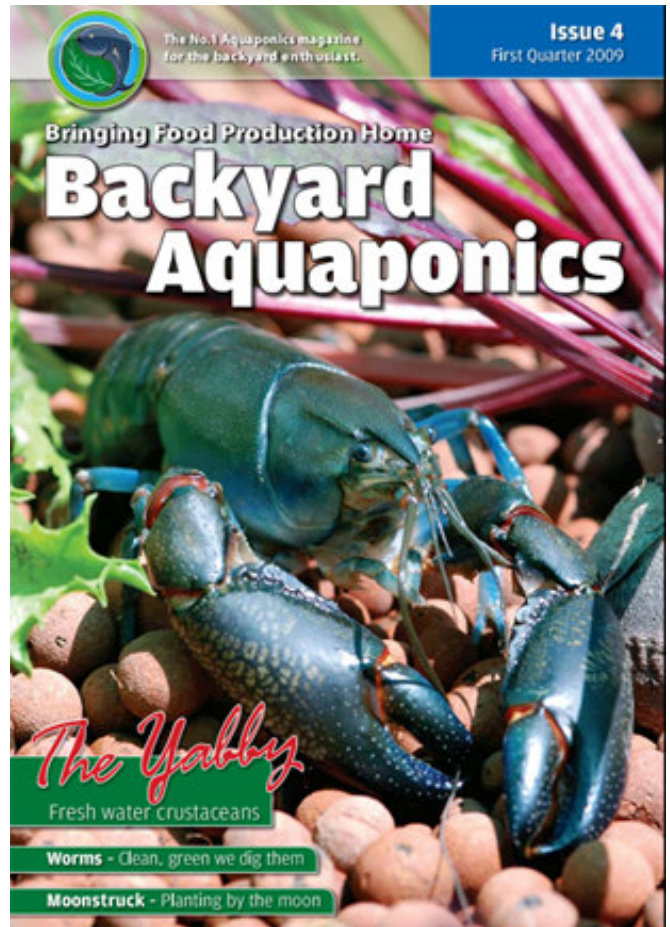
## New Website for the BYAP Magazine

The fourth edition of the Backyard Aquaponics e-magazine is now available.

Packed with articles and information on a wide range of subjects, this issue includes an in depth article on Yabbies and information about planting by the moon cycles, how to start your own worm farm and how worms survive within the growbed of a system.

We have a closer look at 3 different aquaponic systems built by people in different areas of the world. We have a system in the U.S., one in Wales, another in Australia, and we follow the building of a system in the Philippines by Travis Hughey.

John Burgess gives us the second part of his article on fish. This article covers fish senses, how fish feel, taste, smell, see, and their special sixth sense. This is one article not to be missed.



*Edition four is now released and we've launched a new website for the magazine.*



The Backyard Aquaponics electronic magazine now has it's own brand new website.

[www.byapmagazine.com](http://www.byapmagazine.com)

Having it's own website will allow us to keep people more up to date with specific information about the magazine, as the normal Backyard Aquaponics website is starting to become a bit cluttered with so much information.

The new website will have sample articles from current and past editions of the magazine as well as information about up and coming articles in the next edition. Visit the new website now to find out about what fish species we will be covering in the fifth edition, and which celebrity give us an account of his aquaponic experiences.

[www.byapmagazine.com](http://www.byapmagazine.com)



## BYAP News

The Backyard Aquaponics Forum is still steaming ahead. We now have over two and a half thousand members and expanding all the time. For those people who aren't members of the online discussion forum it's highly recommended that you join up, especially those who are more of your DIY people.

There are many members on the forum who have experience in many fields, it's an ideal place for those who are new to aquaponics or those with specific questions.

Please drop by some time and scan through some of the members threads, see what systems people are building around the world. [www.backyardaquaponics.com/forum](http://www.backyardaquaponics.com/forum)



The solar system has continued to perform well over the past few months, plants have grown well, the yabbies continue to increase in size in the under-bed yabby tanks and the Tilapia and Barramundi in the fish tank are going to have to come out soon as the weather cools down. With winter coming

on, this will be the final test of the system and whether it can still run sufficiently on the one solar panel through the darker shorter days of winter. We will stock the system with some trout soon for the winter period but we will probably keep the stocking at a fairly low level with probably only 20-30 fish.

## BYAP on Youtube

*There are a range of aquaponic videos on Youtube.*

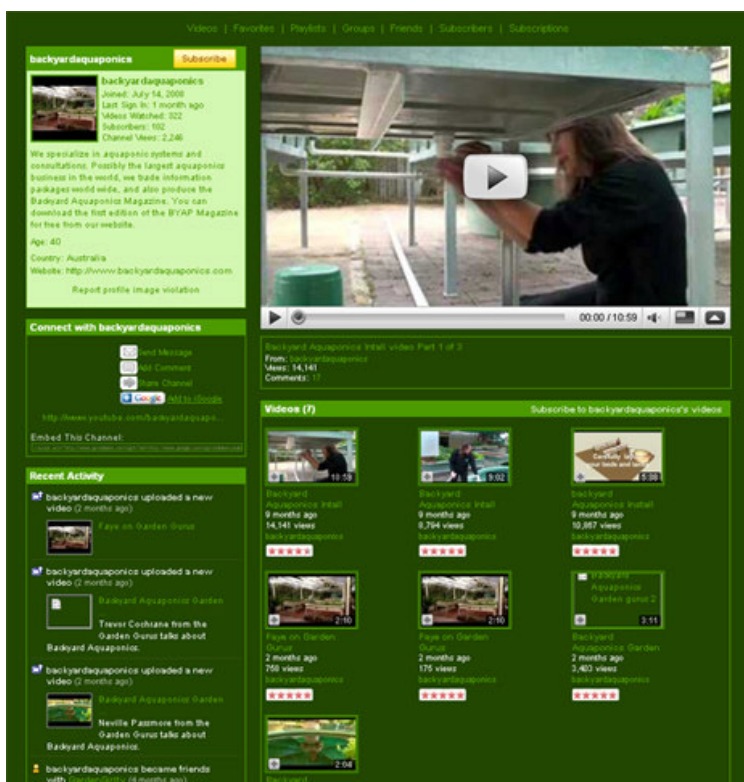
Over the past 9-10 months we have been uploading a number of videos to Youtube for people to view. Youtube is an extremely useful way to get information out to people, allowing them to share with friends.

The Garden Gurus gave us permission to add their segments to our Youtube page and we have included our system installation video.

The system installation video has been broken into three parts for ease of viewing, this allows people to see how easily our Backyard Aquaponic system go together as well as giving DIYers a chance to see some interesting features of the systems, including aspects like the venturi for added aeration.

Over the coming months we will be adding a number of new videos to Youtube,

Including film of our new commercial system and some other TV segments.



## BYAP Magazine News



The No.1 Aquaponics magazine  
for the backyard enthusiast.

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*In the Kitchen*  
Easy recipes

**Channel Catfish** - *Oncorhynchus mykiss*

**Soldier Flies** - growing your own fish food

The fifth edition of the magazine is almost ready for release. This new edition heralds a new era for the Backyard Aquaponics Magazine, from now on we will be releasing the magazine in a printed format as well as an electronic format .

The printed glossy editions will be available as a yearly subscription, and will soon be available from selected stores.

For further information, keep an eye on the magazine website:

[www.byapmagazine.com](http://www.byapmagazine.com)



Come down and see us at the Backyard Aquaponics Display Centre. You can see aquaponic systems of all shapes and sizes producing beautiful fish and vegetables. Come and speak with the experts about how aquaponics can best suit your lifestyle.

The shop is easy to find, about 12 km south of the CBD, just off the freeway on the corner of Berrigan Drive and Jandakot Road. We hope to see you soon.

