SOIL FOODWEB Institute

Soil Rehab Specialists Since 1986

Advanced Small Microscope Course (5 Day)

Time 9.00am – 4.30pm - Monday through Friday, or on prearranged days.

Location SFI Laboratory, 80 Faulkner Road, Wyrallah, NSW.

Cost $2,200.00 + GST, this includes the microscope manual.

Registration

To register for the class, fill out the registration form attached and send with payment to SFI. Payment can be made by cheque, credit card or direct deposit.

Program

These classes are for the people wanting or needing further instruction on what they see using their microscope for checking their compost teas and extracts, compost, soils and soil additives. Please bring your own microscope along with you to use during the class. If you do not have a microscope, there will be one made available to share and/or purchase.

- **We will go through Kohler illumination** and get everyone to be able to maximise the amount of light their microscope can focus on the sample.
- **Shadowing techniques.** This is critical. The microscopes we have a SFI use DIC, which is a shadowing technique, and allows you to clearly see things that have the same refractive index as water. Phase contrast methods fail because of that little problem. So, with your inexpensive compound scopes, we will help you do what you can to mimic the kind of clarity we get with SFI scopes.
- **We will look at examples** of the many different organisms you will be seeing in compost teas and extracts, compost and soils.
- **We will do compost and soil preparations** as well, so you can see changes in the beneficial organisms with the addition of biological foods/inputs.
- **We will see** different kinds of bacteria, fungi, protozoa, and nematodes. You cannot ID the cells you see to the species level. Often not even to genus. You can however, get an idea of how much the KINDS of bacteria or fungi or protozoa, etc. are changing in the tea, extracts, compost and soil.

Soil Foodweb Institute
80 Faulkner Road
Wyrallah NSW 2480 Australia

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E: contact@soilfoodweb.com.au
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- **We will go through the qualitative method** for determining tea with adequate or even outstanding organism biomass, or determining "bad" tea or compost lacking in the proper set, or kinds, of organisms. We will go through some ideas for "fixing" bad tea or compost.
- **We will go through the qualitative method** for setting a baseline for soil and compost to determine what sets of organisms are low or missing. We will add the appropriate foods/inputs to the soil or compost to increase the biomass of these organisms. Then using qualitative method to assess if our goal was achieved.

(We suggest you send in a soil or compost sample for the Soil Foodweb Starter Pack which gives you quantitative assessment to set your baseline to for active and total bacteria, active and total fungi, protozoa, VAM and nematodes. Please send in at least 10 days prior to the class date to assure your data will be ready to use)

The qualitative assay that we teach was developed by Dr. Elaine Ingham to assess the quality of compost teas. This assay does not give you biomass numbers but by using the two together makes the qualitative assay a powerful management tool.

- **We will go through the qualitative method** to determine the quality of the compost you are considering purchasing or have made is. Once the compost's quality is determined what steps can be taken to further enhance its quality to meet the needs of your soil.

- **12 months back up support via phone and email**
- **-We will go through questions and answers**

You need a microscope with 4X, 10/20X and 40X objective lenses and 10X eyepieces.

If you do not have your own microscope we will be able to supply one for you to use/share during the microscope Course. If you intend buying a microscope, we will be able to assist you to purchase one from our suppliers.

Please contact Chris Ellery E: chris@soilfoodweb.com.au or telephone 02 6622 5150 as soon as possible so that we can expedite this process.

We will provide morning and afternoon tea during the course, however please bring your lunch.

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Soil Rehab Specialists Since 1986

Intermediate Small Microscope Course (3 Day)

Time 9.00am – 4.30pm - Monday through Wednesday, or on prearranged days.

Location SFI Laboratory, 80 Faulkner Road, Wyrallah, NSW.

Cost $1,500.00 + GST, this includes the microscope manual.

Registration

To register for the class, fill out the registration form attached and send with payment to SFI. Payment can be made by cheque, credit card or direct deposit.

Program

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