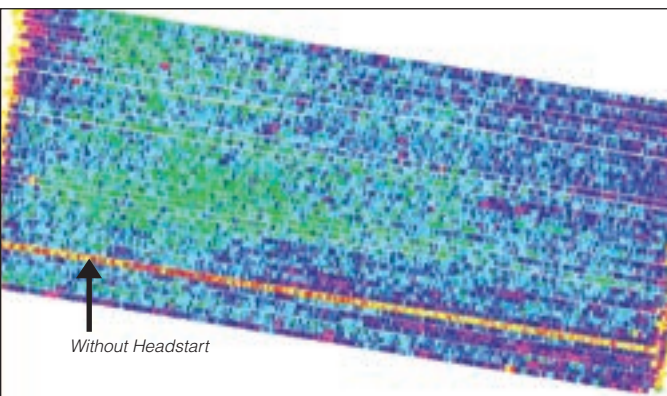


# Yield mapping demonstrates Petrik Advantage on Liverpool Plains

The increased use of GPS yield mapping is resulting in adoption of Petrik products over larger areas of cropping in the Liverpool Plains. This technology has demonstrated significant results that may have otherwise been overlooked. Interest in the product *Headstart*® dramatically increased in 2008 when the results of an omission trial at "Wombalong" in Quirindi were measured. The yield map below is an irrigated Sorghum crop which averaged over 12 t/ha.

It was planted on sheet composted cow manure and with *Headstart*® applied through liquid injection. The yellow strip is a row where *Headstart*® was removed which dropped the yield by 3.5t/ha.

As a follow on from this Merrivale Partnership at Tambar Springs planted the entire 2008 Sorghum crop with the product. This crop went on to win the 2008 Premier Shield. Other Omission trial results in 2008 showed up to an 875kg/ha yield increase in sorghum. While water injection is now quite common with summer crop planters the results were sufficient to encourage growers to set up winter planters with water injection specifically to apply the Petrik products.



GPS Yield Mapping



**Petrik supporting biological farming since 1947**

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Image courtesy of *The Land* newspaper

## COMPANY HISTORY

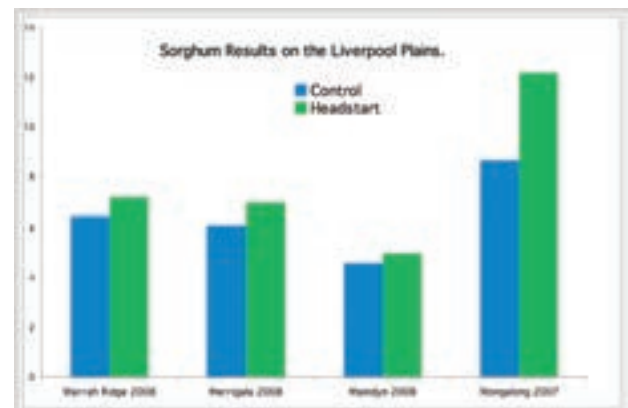
Petrik is a biological farming company based in Woodlands near Sacramento in California. The company began in 1947 and has a system approach to agriculture. The system addresses both the chemical and biological limitations to optimum productivity.

The unique soil and tissue reporting system provides advice for amendment of soil chemical restrictions to provide the best environment for both the plant roots and the soil biology. The water injection systems work well with this by allowing tailored trace element to be applied to specific blocks.

Enhancing the soils biology has demonstrated dramatic improvements in nitrogen efficiency and phosphorus availability over a wide range of crops. While improved soil structure and root depth improves access to all nutrients in the soil, site specific corrections are recommended based upon analysis. Enhancement of the plant microbe interaction is a focus of the company. The products are used internationally across a wide range of agriculture from wheat in Egypt to potatoes in Idaho. The company has been established in Australia since the late 1980s and is widely used within the Banana Industry in North Queensland.

## PRODUCT RANGE

Outside of the soil and tissue report system the product range includes stable beneficial biology and plant stimulants. The biggest selling broad acre product at this point is *Headstart*® which is a mixture



of microbially produced plant stimulants which assists with germination and encourages root development.

The soil biology range includes Evergreen, Digester and BXD which are microbe cultures. These cultures increase nitrogen efficiency, release phosphorus and stimulates humus production. This improves soil structure while producing the intermediate products fulvic and humic acid.

The biology does operate best with fresh organic matter and while significant results have been achieved without amending this the most dramatic yield improvements have been in situations where manures or cover crops have been available.

The use of the biology has significantly reduced nitrogen and phosphorus use across a range of crops while improving yields. The stability of the biology is a key advantage in terms of logistics and storability.

Petrik have developed a seed dressing version of *Headstart* for use in planters without water injection. This is in use in the USA and will be available in Australia for the 2010 winter crop planting.