

POLITICAL COMMENT

A productive and fair future for all

Catherine Moore

How much do you really know about Greens and Greens' policies? Most people would probably agree with what the Greens stand for, if only they knew the facts. Other parties and some media like to portray the Greens as extreme ratbags, but despite what they say, we can have both jobs AND the healthy ecological systems essential for our very existence. It isn't one or the other. There are potentially thousands of jobs in renewables, environmental custodianship and the provision of properly funded health, housing, education and transport services.

It's vital to have Greens in Parliament, to keep accountable whichever of the old parties is in government and to advocate policies that care for people and protect our environment. We are campaigning for a new direction for Australia so that we all have a sustainable, productive and fair future. We want to re-elect NSW Senator Mehreen Faruqi and build our vote in Eden-Monaro, where our candidate is Pat McGinlay. greens.org.au/nsw/person/pat-mcginlay

Our election campaign focuses on the need for urgent action on climate change. We recently released Renew Australia 2030, our plan to phase out coal, deliver 100% renewable energy and build a world-leading renewable energy export industry.

See greens.org.au/campaigns/renew-australia-2030.

Governments must make principled decisions not influenced by their donors. No wonder the LNP and ALP are so wedded to coal when over the last four years they received five million dollars from the fossil fuel industry!

Read more about campaigns and our fully costed policies at <https://greens.org.au/campaigns>

The Greens are also working to ensure no-one in our country is homeless. We led the call for an overhaul of taxation arrangements contributing to unaffordable housing and are committed to investing in public and social housing, and improving protection for renters.

We need more voices in Parliament to:

- protect our natural forests from destructive logging and find alternative jobs for those in the industry
- end offshore detention of asylum seekers and close the Manus and Nauru camps
- provide world-class free education from early childhood through to university and TAFE
- clean up politics so our democracy works for everyone, not just for those who can afford a seat at the table.

Remember — no matter what a how-to-vote recommends, the voter makes the final decision. Unlike in NSW elections, where voting is optional preferential, in federal elections on the House of Representatives (small) ballot paper you must number all the squares or your vote won't be counted.

Voting 1 Green then directing preferences to the candidates of your choice sends a powerful message about what is important to you. If the Greens candidate isn't elected, your vote will be re-directed to your next preferred candidate.

See local and national campaigns, and interesting articles at www.facebook.com/GreensEdenMonaro/

For a clean energy future,
a fair Australia and strong
laws to protect nature

VOTE

1

Pat McGinlay
Greens candidate
for Eden-Monaro



and Vote 1 Mehreen Faruqi in the Senate

<https://greens.org.au/nsw/person/pat-mcginlay>

Authorised by Andrew Blake, 1/275 Broadway, Glebe NSW 2037

THE
GREENS

EAT AND BE MERRY

Autumn so far has been very mild but this does not mean that the cold weather and frosty mornings this region is renowned for are not far away. Frosts and low temperatures can have a detrimental effect on plant growth and development, and cold soil temperature have a significant impact on seed germination. At this time of year, and as we move into winter, it is much better to plant out seedlings rather than use seeds.

While many vegetables, particularly members of the Brassica family can cope with the light frosts we are currently experiencing, it is beneficial to provide them with some support.

Seaweed products (Seasol) can be used to increase plant resistance to frost. Foliar applications take about a week to be effective and can also be helpful when plants are damaged by a frost, as these fertilisers stimulate healthy new growth. Regular (weekly) applications of a seaweed liquid fertiliser during our cold months can be a beneficial routine.

While the use of seaweed foliar sprays can provide some support for plants during light frosts, to maintain healthy strong plants that keep growing though our extremely cold climate and harsh frost season, frost protection fabrics are essential.

The first thing to remember is that we are not aiming to grow things out of season, but we are aiming to provide support and a level of protection to our winter crops. This support and protection includes;

- Ensuring the heads of both cauliflower and broccoli do not get frost damaged
- Lettuce, rocket and spinach greens do not become tough
- Asian greens do not prematurely bolt
- Soil temps for root crops, (carrots, beetroots) do not become too cold
- And to maintain an overall environment where growth can continue.

So what fabrics are suitable?

Plastic can provide very good protection but does not necessarily create a healthy growing environment, as it does not allow for good air circulation or water penetration. In our low rainfall location preventing water penetration is not recommended. Agricultural fabrics overcome both air circulation and water penetration issues. There are a number of fabrics that can be used to provide adequate frost protection.

If you are covering a small number of plants and prepared to cover at night and remove during the day, then there

are a large number of fabrics that can be used. Old sheets, feed sacks, hessian, shade cloth, the list is endless. Plant pots are suitable to just cover the heads of broccoli and cauliflower for example. However, if you have a large kitchen garden, market garden, rely on your produce garden as your main source of food, or just generally have

many things to do in a day beyond protecting your garden, then you may want to use fabrics that can remain in place.

At Wynlen House we use agricultural fabrics with a metal cloche frame to provide crop protection. The material we mostly use is a knitted permeable plastic polymer (polypropylene) called insulnet, (available from the Braidwood Rural) the use of which we pioneered in this region. Thermal Fleece (Weed Gunnel) is another product and these permeable textiles allow water to pass through and the plants and soil can breathe.

Agricultural fabrics limit light frosts but do not provide complete protection particular from hard frosts. More importantly, they ameliorate the overall impact of very low temperatures, enabling plant growth and development to continue, maintaining soil temperatures and air temperatures up to 3° warmer than unprotected garden sections.

The use of row covers or even very simple low cost plant protection strategies enables all year vegetable production in the low temperature extremes of our cool climate region. To learn more, consider enrolling in our All Season Cool/Cold Climate Vegetable Growing workshop in July.

Happy gardening,
Bronwyn Richards

WYNLEN'S
GARDEN IN

WINTER '19

Wynlen House Urban Micro Farm

Winter on-farm workshops in Braidwood

All Season Cool Climate Organic Vegetable Growing:

14th July, 9.30am to 3pm: — Learn to grow vegetables all year round in cold/cool climates gaining the practical knowledge and skills needed to grow delicious, nutrition packed vegetables all year round.

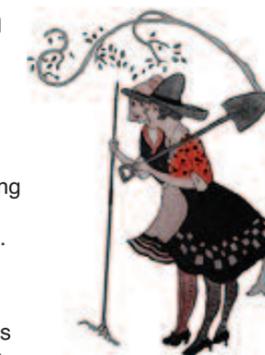
Keeping Healthy Backyard Chickens: Managing common health problems:

21st July, 9.30 to 1.15pm: — For anyone who keeps chickens or other poultry this short course helps you become more confident in dealing with their health issues by learning to recognise and deal with common illness and injury. Developed with independent advice from a practicing veterinarian.

Health & Welfare for Small Farm Animals:

4th August, 9.30 – 3.30pm — Focuses on how to care for, feed and manage small farm animals organically so that they provide you with top quality produce. Designed to introduce you to basic animal husbandry practices such as humane handling, welfare, housing, nutrition and feeding.

For more information call 4842 1128 or visit <https://www.wynlenhouse.com/learn-at-wynlen-house.html>



Wynlen House

Online short Courses:
(enrol anytime)

Poultry Nutrition:

- Make your own layer ration
- Make your own waterfowl ration
- Make your own turkey ration