## (R-12) PHOSPHORUS AND MUCK REDUCTIONTHE DYNAMIC DUO FOR WATER MANAGEMENT V1



#### **Aquatic Vegetation Control, Inc.**

**Environmental Management** 

Riviera Beach, FL Port Saint Lucie, FL Pembroke Pines, FL Florida City, FL Charleston, SC Jesup, GA Gainesville, GA

Elroy Timmer Senior Scientist

# A New Look at an Old Problem Using Bio-Zyme

# The Supporting Data for Bio-Zyme usage in Water:

- Reduces nitrogen.
- Reduces nitrogen in muck.
- Reduces phosphorus.
- Reduces phosphorus in the muck.
- Reduces the amount of muck.
- Reduces the need of copper in lake management.

# The Suggested Benefits for Bio-Zyme:

- Will reduce the amount of harmful bacteria by outcompeting them for nutrients.
- Will reduce the amount of nutrients from septic systems and human activity entering the estuaries.
- Likely to impede the development of the Red Tide which feeds on nutrients.
- Improve fish production because nutrients are funneled into the food chain. Bacteria are eaten by protozoa and protozoa are eaten by fish.

## STA (Storm Treatment Area) Review Constructed Wetland to Reduce Phosphorous

- STA's and wetlands have been used to reduce nutrients for years.
- STA's produce excellent habitat for wildlife.
- STA's can produce additional water storage.
- STA's utilize plants to remove the phosphorous from water.
- STA's provide valuable recreational areas.

# **STA's Negative Values**

- STA's need large additional tracts of land.
- STA's are very expensive to buy, build and maintain.
- STA's take years before they are ready for use.
- STA's <u>accumulate phosphorus</u> in muck.
- STA's <u>accumulate muck</u> from plant deposition.

# Natural Bacteria

- How do STA's compare with the new method using incubated bacteria for nutrient reduction?
- Bacteria have maintained lakes since the beginning of time but have not been able to keep up with high nutrient demands.
- Most bacteria products work but incubated Bio-Zyme bacteria works much better and is way less expensive than any I have tried over the last 40 + years.

# Incubated Bio-Zyme

- Bio-Zyme does not need additional land.
- Bio-Zyme is less expensive than STA's.
- Bio-Zyme works faster than STA's.
- Bio-Zyme reduces nitrogen.
- Bio-Zyme augments the effectiveness and longevity of STA's.
- Bio-Zyme may help control the red tide by reducing nutrients in city waterways.
- Bio-Zyme reduces coliform bacteria by outcompeting it for nutrients.

# Names of Some of the Bacteria and a Partial List of the Tasks They Perform

- Nitrosomonas
  - reduces NH<sub>3</sub> to NO<sub>2</sub>
- Nitrobacter
  - NO<sub>2</sub> to NO<sub>3</sub>
  - both are soil bacteria; both are required for nitrification and both need aerobic conditions
- Aerobacter aerogens
  - aerobic
  - oxidizes carbohydrates C+(H<sub>2</sub>O) (sugars, starches and cellulose) and short organic acid chains to CO<sub>2</sub> and H<sub>2</sub>O
  - when O<sub>2</sub> is limited it ferments carbohydrates which become food for *Pseudomonas* sp.
- Bacillus subtilis
  - degrade polymers such as protein, starch, and pectin, therefore, they are thought to be an important contributor to the carbon and nitrogen cycles. Important in digestion in the gut of animals
- B. licheniformis
  - produces a variety of extracellular enzymes that are associated with the cycling of nutrients in nature.
- B. amyloliquefaciens.
  - oxidizes carbohydrates, organic acids, fats, oils, proteins and starches
  - active in the soil, its enzymes degrade organic material
  - denitrifying bacteria (NO<sub>3</sub> to NO<sub>2</sub> to N<sub>2</sub>)
- Cellulomonas biazotea
  - converts cellulose to soluble carbohydrates which serve for growth of *C. biazotea* and other bacteria
- Pseudomonas denitificans and P. stutzsri
  - reduces level of nitrate nitrogen under anaerobic conditions
  - oxidizes and degrades organic compounds

# **Muck Reduction**

- As the bacteria digest the muck, the bacteria are consumed by microscopic animals like protozoa.
- Protozoa are consumed by small fish.
- Small fish are consumed by large fish, birds etc.
- The muck therefore, ends up in the food chain.

# **Muck and Phosphorus Reduction**

- Muck contains phosphorus, nitrogen, carbon and other undesirable components.
- Muck reduction therefore, is a good measurement of the effectiveness of the beneficial Bio-Zyme bacteria.
- As the phosphorus is digested, the lakes are clearer, and produce a hard bottom suitable for clams, snails and fish reproduction.
- The apparent increase in clams may also help manage water quality.

# South Florida Water Management District Muck Reduction Trial

# AVC performed a muck reduction trial in a Stormwater Treatment Area in 2016.

## **Description of the STA**

- The STA contained large areas of floating tussocks and waist deep mud.
- Some of the tussocks had a lot of vegetation but many of the tussocks were little more than a few inches of mud above the water with sparse vegetation.
- The visible water was about 1 inch deep above the muck.

#### Floating Tussocks

## -Floating Tussocks Before Treatment



Prior to initial application Mud to the surface

## **The Bio-Zyme Program**

- The treatment prescription was to apply 500 gallons of incubated Bio-Zyme (12.5 lbs. + 2.5 gal, Nitrifier) per week.
- A 25 acre plot within the 50 acre trial area was treated. This continued 9 months through March of 2017.
- The total area impacted by the trial appears to encompass over 350 acres.

## March 2017 – After Treatment



March 2017 After Treatment



## Conclusion

- The impacts of the Bio-Zyme Program moved with the flow of the water to the south covering over 6 times the acreage treated.
- The bottom sediments became consolidated and firm compared to mush and soup.
- The water clarity was greatly improved.
- There was no improvement up current from the treatment area

# PGA Country Club Marsh

#### **Organic Sediment Removal**

Each point is an average of 3 plots, 4 measurements per plot cm



Date

## PGA Country Club Pond Organic Sediment Removal

Each point is an average of 3 plots with 4 measurements per plot cm



## **Port Saint Lucie E8**

#### **Organic Sediment Removal**

#### 1.5 cm Per Month

#### Each point is an average of 3 plots with 4 measurements per plot



# Players Club POA Clean Waters, Inc.

Organic Sediment Removal **1.8 cm Per Month** Each lake contains 4- 6 plots with 4 measurements per plot



Ibis Country Club Lake 10 - Organic Sediment Removal
≈ 3000 lb. of N and 900 lb. P per acre removed in the muck in 3 years
Each point is an average of 3 plots, 4 measurements per plot

Nitrogen (N), Phosphorus (P) (lb./acre in.) in muck sample



Ibis Country Club Lake 5 – Organic Sediment Removal Each point is an average of 3 plots, 4 measurements per plot ≈ 800 lb. of N and 300 lb. P removed in 2 years

Nitrogen (N), Phosphorus (P) measured in lb./acre in.

CM



Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences Analytical Services Laborat



Livestock Waste Testing Lab 631 Wallace Building Gainesville, FL 32622 (352) 392-1950 FAX (352) 392-1960

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Livestock Waste Testing Laboratory, Gainesville, FL

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#### Livestock Waste Analysis Grower Report

Clarence Elroy Timmer 482 SW Deer Run Port St Lucie, FL 34953

PHONE: 561-249-4628

Lab # Sample Label Date Collected Date Delivered Date of Report County of Sampl Collected By 9007 IS #1 April 29, 2016 May 4, 2016 May 16, 2016 Palm Beach 0

Sample Type: Dairy waste collected from lagoon. Crop or Use: #N/A Application Equipment:Applied through center pivot Incorporation #N/A Previous Applications #N/A

***Nutrient Conte	nt in Manure as Delive	ered to Laborate	ory		Fertilizer Equi	valent in N	lanure (As Is	5)
Nutrient Constitu	ent Raw Sample	Adjusted For Application Losses of N	Units	N-raw				188
Nitrogen (N):	188	134	lbs/acre-in	N-adj			134	
Phosphorus (P2)	O5) 91	91	Ibs/acre-in					
Potassium (K20	D): 47	47	Ibs/acre-in	P₂O₅		91		
pH as Sampled 6.9 Moisture Content: 78.3%				K₂O	47			
Tota	I Solids: 21.7%			0	50	100	150	200
	Jai Asii 10.0%					Ibs/acre-in		
Number	Sample Id	C	Cu mg/kg	5	Mn mg/l	kg	Zn mg	g/kg
613	I 5-1	4	0.20		10.23		9.5	

### Case Study of Lake Pine Shadow *Clear Waters, Inc.* Outfalls discharging runoff into the Turnbull Basin then Spruce Creek, a Florida Outstanding Waterway.



#### Goal to Improve Water Quality and Reduce the Use of Copper

### Lake Pine Shadow





## After 6 Months with Bio-Zyme

# Copper and Bio-Zyme Cost Before and After the Bio-Zyme Bioincubator in 2014

- June Sept 2011
- June Sept 2012
- June Sept 2013
- June Sept 2014
- June Sept 2015
- June Sept 2016

Copper

- \$ 287.55
- \$ 365.01 \$ 0.00

\$

\$

- \$ **7.74** 
  - 7.74 0.00

0.00

**Bio-Zyme** 

- \$ 180.30
- \$ 78.00
- \$ 383.50
- \$ 162.74
- \$ 170.13
- \$ 29.79

# **PEACOCK LAKE**

- Lake (100 acres) about 18 foot average depth
- Microcystis bloom in December 2016
- Objective: reduce total phosphorus
- Weekly treatments of Bio-Zyme



# Peacock Lake 100 acres No watershed **Total Phosphorus** reduced from 0.05 mg/l - 0 mat 0.015 mg/l - 6 mat <0.005 mg/l - 18 mat

Date	Bio-Zyme Bulk	Laboratory	Total Phosphorous rate mg/l
1/9/17			
1/16/17	5 lbs.		
1/18/17		Pace	→ 0.05
1/23/17	5 lbs.		
1/30/17	5 Hos.		
2/6/17	50 lbs.		
2/21/17		Flowers	0.04U
3/27/17	50 lbs.		
3/30/17		Jupiter Env.	0.024
4/9/17		Jupiter Env.	0.021
5/23/17	10 lbs.		
5/31/17	10 lbs.		
6/8/13	10 lbs.		
6/13/17	10 lbs.		
6/20/17	10 Has.		
6/27/17	19 lbs.		
7/3/17	10 lbs.		
7/3/17		Jupiter Env.	<b>0.015</b>
7/11/18	300 lbs.	Jupiter Env.	<a>&gt; &lt; 0.005</a>

#### Peacock Lake Bio-Incubator

The key to successful treatment is in bacteria, increasing it billions of tir incorporating it into the la

#### 20 feet deep

the is a start - a fait

a star way to a star and the star

## **Peacock Lake**

Intake float

6 feet deep

# Lake Okeechobee

- Lake Okeechobee and lakes north would benefit from Bio-Zyme to reduce excessive phosphorus.
- The reduction of phosphorus in Lake Okeechobee would cost about 30-45 million per year and require about 12, 20,000 gal. bio-incubators. Perhaps it could be started in an area which has the most phosphorus.
- Phosphorus reduction in Lake Okeechobee, will solve many of the problems in the Caloosahatchee and Indian River Lagoon as well as save Lake Okeechobee.
- Microcystis algae seems to be the main concern on both coasts but the real fuel is phosphorus upstream.



- Bio-Zyme is not a chemical.
- Bio-Zyme is not toxic or harmful to algae, plants, fish or animals.
- Bio-Zyme products are formulated with natural, native, probiotic bacteria that reduce nitrogen and phosphorus.
- Bio-Zyme also contains sludge-digesting bacteria.
- Bio-Zyme on large lakes needs to be directed by a <u>TRM Biologist Certified Facilitator.</u>



 Is used by <u>15 large aquatic management companies</u> in Florida and the US.

- Is used in approximately 20,000 lakes and in about 60,000 acres of water
- Is used in the major golf courses in Florida where it reduces nutrients to produce better water quality, changes bottom from muck to sand, decreases sprinkler clogging and much more
- Has so much data and experience behind it that it cannot be said It may not work. It works and is cost effective!

## Contacts

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# A volume of data and 1000's of sites are available for inspection

Aquatic Vegetation Control owns no stock or interest in Bio-Zyme but was instrumental in its development