



Tamar Valley Region

- Agriculture & Horticulture
- Waste management
- Water treatment
- Animal husbandry
- Responsible forest management
- Aquaculture
- Energy production
- Mining & Rehabilitation
- Housing and construction
- Medicine, etc.

The time is right for Tasmanians to invest in a vibrant circular economy where there is no such thing as waste. Produced by burning organic matter in an oxygen-limited environment, biochar is used as a soil amendment and has many other varied and variable characteristics that lend themselves to a myriad of different end uses.

Biochar can be used as a displacement strategy for materials with a large carbon footprint or that are non-renewable or toxic or otherwise too expensive, including one of the fastest growing new markets, replacing prophylactic antibiotics in animal feed.

When: Friday 1st November 2019 - 9.30-4.30

Where: Windsor Community Centre, 1 Windsor Dr, Riverside TAS 7250

Cost: Individual / Farmers \$25 & Business \$75 (includes up to 4 participants)

Registrations & Enquiries : Phone: 03 6323-3310, Greg 0438 642 112

Email: tamarnrm@launceston.tas.gov.au

Advance Payments Karin Strie 03 6394 4395 **Email:** karinstrie@yahoo.com

Lunch and refreshments provided with gluten free, vegetarian and dairy free options available.

Brought to you by Tamar NRM and Biochar industry experts "Because the Time is Right".

Tamar NRM is supported by the three Tamar Councils, Launceston, West Tamar and George Town.

Proceeds to assist the establishment of the Tasmanian Biochar Initiative.

Our Speakers:



Gerald Dunst is the founder and owner of "*Sonnenerde*" a designer soil producing company where 25 different soils based on compost are produced and marketed. Since 2007 he is responsible for the Humus-Project in the *EcoModelRegion Kaindorf* in Austria, where 200 farmers with over 2.000 hectares are involved. In this project the farmers earn money for increasing carbon in soils from a new developed carbon credit system. Since 2012 he operates also a Biochar facility (*PYREG* System) and produces 350 tons of high-quality Biochar per year. Since this time, a lot of different products were developed based on this Biochar such as *Terra Preta*, soil-activator, compost-activator, *FeedChar* and *SlurryChar*. Together with his son DI Dominik Dunst he founded the company "*char-line GmbH*" to market the *FeedChar* products in Austria and around the world.



Dominik has a Master's Degree in Electrical Engineering from the University of Technology Graz, Austria. His Master Thesis was about measuring the efficiency rating over a constant operation mode – which had to be determined first – of high temperature fuel cells (SOEC – producing H₂). Soon after getting to know Biochar first hand when *Sonnenerde* built their own *PYREG* facility, Dominik together with his father Gerald Dunst founded the company, **char-line GmbH**. The main focus is to create and market different Biochar-based products. The first promising product line is so called “**FeedChars**”, these are animal feed supplements to maintain or even increase the health status naturally. Products for the pet market (dogs, cats and horses) and livestock animal husbandry market are available for sale. More product lines with special **DesignerChars** are in the making.



Kathy Dawson–Biochar Network of Western Australia Inc

Poor pasture performance was the trigger for Kathy, at the time a beef producer, to begin her investigation of factors that contribute to soil fertility. Parallel research into soil biota and the potential of biochar to enhance microbial functioning has since been shared within the Warren Catchments Council landcare community. Demonstration trials in avocado and livestock consumption have confirmed biochar's value as an agricultural input and provided the stimulus for the formation of the *Biochar Network of Western Australia*, a learning community of users, producers and researchers. Agricultural use of biochar in Australia is still in its infancy. Although it is useful to capitalise on international research, it is the visibility of the effects of local application that is influential in encouraging the adoption of biochar's use. This is especially true in the agricultural sector of south west Western Australia. A mixture of funded trials and personal application in tree crop and livestock production has stimulated adoption across multiple systems. This presentation will describe how biochar was incorporated into an avocado planting and the resultant effects on plant growth and maturity and fruit production. It will also detail how other producers have adapted the practice in a range of tree crops.



Frank Strie – Terra Preta Developments

Since 1989 Frank is the Director of *Schwabenforest Pty Ltd*, and later *Terra Preta Developments*, and now also in a joint venture the Managing Director of *Charline Australia*.

Frank qualified as Forstwirtschaftsmeister/ Master Forester 1983 in Germany, Training Manager in the forest estate of the historic City of Esslingen, Holistic *ProSilva* style, close to nature forest restoration management.

1987 Frank's family moved to Tasmania, initially employed as a Training Officer for Tasmanian Forest Industries Training Council, the home a rural residential property in Rosevears.

2006–2009 Director of *Responsible Forest Management Australia Limited*, trading as FSC Australia.

Since 2007 Terra Preta Developments (TPD), linking whole lifecycle objectives, up-cycling of “unloved biomass”, capturing excess nutrients often considered waste, with responsible restoration management.

Since 2014 TPD develop and market various models of *KON-TIKI-TAS* deep cone kilns, represent state of the art **PyCCS** technology providers, Combined Biochar & Energy Technologies such as **PYREG** from Germany, and **SynCraft** from Austria.

TPD produce, use and sell **FRANK'S CHAR** branded Biochar & DesignerChar Products.

2019 **Charline AU** – is providing the whole range of top quality **FeedChars for pets, livestock, poultry & fish** in Australia.



Kathleen Draper based in upstate New York in the United States has been deeply involved in many areas of Biochar research, communication and outreach.

She routinely collaborates with Biochar experts from around the world in her role as an **IBI Board member and Chair of IBI's Information Hub**. She is also the **US Director of the Ithaca Institute for Carbon Intelligence**. The Institute is an open source network focusing on beneficial carbon sequestration strategies which simultaneously provide economic development opportunities both in the developed and developing world. She is an **editor and writer for The Biochar Journal**, sponsored by the Ithaca Institute.

You can follow her blog <http://fingerlakesbiochar.com/blog>

Kathleen also works with various universities and individuals on projects that are investigating the use of biochar in cement and other building and packaging products to develop products with embodied carbon which can be made from locally available organic waste. She has written extensively about various topics related to biochar and is a co-author of the books "**Terra Preta: How the World's Most Fertile Soil Can Help Reverse Climate Change and Reduce World Hunger**" and "**Burn: Using Fire to Cool the Earth**"

She has lectured on biochar in several countries and provides consulting services to companies entering the biochar industry. Need help with figuring out how biochar can work for your farm, greenhouse, or business?

Contact: us@ithaca-institut.org

PROGRAM

Presentations from our local and national and international key experts followed by Q & A and facilitated discussion workshops

9.30 am Arrive at Windsor Community Centre

9.45 am Welcome: **Kim Seagram** (Fermentasmania/ Tourism Tasmania/ Vineyards Association of Tasmania/ Black Cow and Stillwater Restaurants/ Harvest Market/ Brand Tasmania Council)

10 am 1st Presentation Gerald Dunst - *Our Carbon Credit System for humus increase in soils-* followed by Q&A

10.45 am Light refreshments

11 am 2nd Presentation Live Stream from Victor NY with Kathleen Draper - *The Biochar displacement Strategy-* followed by Q&A

11.45 am 3rd Presentation Frank Strie - *Why Do It? PyCCS (Pyrogenic Carbon Capture & Sequestration) Biochar co-generation and ProSilva: Responsible Forest Resource Management-* followed by Q&A

12.30 pm Lunch

1.15 pm 4th Presentation Kathy Dawson - *Biochar in avocado cultivation* - followed by Q&A

2.00 pm Final Presentation Dominik Dunst- *FeedChar For Naturally Healthy Animals-* followed by Q&A

2.45 pm Facilitated discussion workshop- *Creating Carbon Cascades* Our island community is uniquely positioned for industries to find synergies with their neighbours, for industries to collaborate on thermal energy regeneration and waste upcycling to create energy hubs and value chains. *Light refreshments will be provided to keep you focussed and energised during your workshop experience.*

4.15 pm - 4.30 pm Event finish

