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Qponics continues to upgrade pilot algae farm in Brisbane



The structural part of the new 65m x 12m raceway pond was completed by 11 December. The image at left shows the outside wall and the centre wall built using 1m (L) x 400mm (W) x 400mm (H) sandstone blocks, each weighing 600kg.

The pond-side surface of the sandstone will be lined using corflute (a plastic material) on the straight sides of the wall to cover the rough gaps between the blocks and marine ply on the curved surfaces. The image shows the marine ply attached to vertically-placed treated wooden sleeper posts on the curved section of the "teardrop" structure required at one end of the pond. The straight parts of the teardrop

have horizontal sleepers attached to the vertical posts. The teardrop is included in the pond design to reduce the raceway width at one end to create efficient flow of water and mixing of the algae in the deeper water after it passes through the aluminium paddlewheel to be installed on the right side of the pond in the image.

Geotextile material with sky-blue coloured food-grade pond liner on top will cover the inside surface of the pond (the corflute and marine ply and the ground surface) and will be lapped over the top of the sandstone walls and the teardrop section. The pond liner cannot be installed until the pond is ready to take water, which will be during February 2019.

These activities are supported by Qponics' \$1 million Cooperative Research Centre Project grant.



Graeme Barnett

Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director