

# Drought doesn't dictate a dirty car

WASHING A CAR without water is inconceivable, mainly because the dust and residue can scratch the paintwork, yet a revolutionary silicone and abrasive-free method of cleaning vehicles first used overseas in 1998 has now been introduced into Queensland.

While it has been used on luxury and antique cars, and lately on newer cars, Blue's Country Magazine provided a 1991 Toyota Seca to test the claims that this waterless cleaning method can improve the appearance of the paintwork while providing ongoing protection.

For residents of the bush and drought-affected areas, the Nowet solution may be the solution to the family transport looking much the worse for wear due to limited amounts of water being available for such luxuries as a car wash.

Claims by other users that the "shine gets deeper and richer every time the product is used" has been proven after the two applications made to the car.

Traded under the registered name of "Nowet," the waterless car wash method removes dirt, grease, bird droppings and oil from cars, caravans, boats and bikes without using water or petroleum distillates.

It can be used with the same outstanding result on any non-porous surface — all types of paintwork, aluminium, glassware, stainless steel, rubber, leather, tyres and tinted windows.

Each droplet from the non-aerosol pressure-pump container sprayed on the surface expands and actually encapsulates and lifts the dirt from the surface. Kaolin Clay and Carnaubia Wax are the basis of the 17-ingredient spray.

Queensland distributor and master franchisee, Andrew Zachar, said he first became aware of the United States product through a friend earlier this year, and approached the Adelaide-based Australian importers to become the Queensland supplier.

He has since appointed Ray Boan as Queensland's first franchisee, whose area will take in Bowen Hills, Herston, Fortitude Valley, New Farm, Newstead, Teneriffe, Exhibition and Mayne.

Mr Zachar said the bio-degradable Nowet is made from all organic ingredients, is environmentally-friendly and has no harmful chemicals, abrasives or silicone. It also reduces marks from previous washes, acts as a sealant and provides UV protection.

Wiping-off in one direction with a cotton towel transfers the dirt from the surface to the towel. There is no necessity to initially wash the car with water.

"Water is a most precious resource," he said, "and water con-



Andrew Zachar and Ray Boan (rear) effectively demonstrate the ability of "Nowet" to clean a car without water.

servation is becoming an increasingly important issue. The arrival of Nowet on the Queensland market coincides with an upsurge in concern about excessive water use.

"A single car wash can send 200 litres or more of suds-impregnated water into the drains. Just one litre of Nowet can clean up to 16 vehicles — and save up to 3,000 litres of water," he added.

Mr Zachar said the product is being extensively tested under Queensland conditions, and is currently being trialled on a major Brisbane car fleet.

Nowet has been approved and is currently being distributed in Brisbane by the BCC Brisbane Water's Watersense Blue Van programme, which encourages the public to be more conscious of water use, emphasise the effect of pollution and show that alternative approaches do exist.

In November, the Adelaide City Council approved a six-month trial of the waterless car wash product. Nowet is also approved by the Water Services Association of Australia.

Mr Zachar said that currently, we are faced with increased water charges and restrictions imposed on the public by the three levels of government.

"The only way to solve these problems is to look to the future and find solutions.

"Nowet is a solution and a big step in the right direction," he said.

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