



Funded by Dairy Australia and your dairy service levy



Improve nutrient management Improve your bottom line

Monitoring dairy farm soil and nutrient levels to maximise fertiliser efficiency and production and reduce nutrient loads in to the environment

SA dairy farmers identified that improved nutrient management is a priority for improved farm sustainability.

Increasing the number of soil tests undertaken each year and incorporating the results into the farm nutrient budget can improve production and save money.

In a recent Dairy SA project, Mt Jagged Dairy Discussion Group undertook comprehensive soil testing to develop of farm nutrient maps, leading to improved nutrient budgeting decisions.

- The farmers and I were surprised how the farm trials highlighted the importance of soil and plant tests, on making effective fertiliser management decisions... We have benefited in that we are now better informed to plan fertiliser decisions for this year. I suggest that any farmer wanting to make best use of their fertiliser dollar would do the same.

– Greg Mitchell, Mt Jagged Dairy Discussion Group coordinator
- We wish we had have been doing this (the intensive soil sampling) ourselves for a long time... This (the soil testing and nutrient budgeting) will help us save some money and grow more grass.

– Rod Walker, Cloverlea
- This soil test information means, that with our agronomists significant guidance we won't make (fertiliser budget) mistakes with the information we now have.

– Perrin Hick, Goonamurra



An example of the phosphorus fertility mapping and phosphorus loss risk mapping from one farm.



Group Coordinator Greg Mitchell



Mt Jagged Dairy Discussion Group member Perrin Hicks

For further information about use of soil samples and nutrient budgeting contact DairySA, Verity Ingham 0428 660 127 or Monique White 0400 972 206.