

Do you know your soils pH levels? Do you know if your soils are acidifying and reducing your profits? Considered applying lime but not sure if it's really worth while?? Well read on:

**FACT 1:** 70% of all farmland soils on KI are acidic – so chances are your farm has acidic soils

**FACT 2:** once  $\text{pH}_{\text{CaCl}}$  drops below 5.0 it WILL reduce your productivity

**FACT 3:** liming will pay for itself with increased productivity.

Assuming there are one or two doubting Thomas's still reading this, let me prove the above FACTS

The map below – based on detailed soil mapping across KI shows in the dark shade all the soils with either acidic top soil and /or sub soil. **FACT 1 proven**



Long term trial work on KI, backed up by work inter and intra state has shown that as soils acidify the portion of acid tolerant weeds increases, growth of sub clover and perennial grasses decreases and crop yields decline. In addition many nutrients eg phosphorus, moly, magnesium and calcium become deficient but some like Aluminium can become toxic. **FACT 2 proven**

Long term trial work on KI has shown an increase in DM production of 700kg/ha /t lime sand applied. What does this really mean??.....

An extra 700kg DM = an extra 2DSE/ha

An extra 2 DSE/ha = about 1.33 extra prime lambs/ha

An extra 1.3 prime lambs (on an average of GM of \$37/hd) = an extra \$50/ha in your pocket every year for at least 8 – 10 years

Now if liming @ 2.5t/ha costs you \$68.50 (assuming \$9/t purchase + \$21/ha spreading + \$10/t freight)

Then by year two you have more than covered your cost of application and the extra \$50/ha you make every year after is profit to you. Albeit it will gradually decline over time **FACT 3 proven.**

For further information contact Lyn Dohle on 8553 4999.