

Soil Fertility Field Day

The results of trials looking at the impact of good soil nutrition on pasture production, stocking rates and profitability will be presented at a field day at Helen Weston's property at Myrtle Mount on Monday 29th November.

The trials are evaluating the economics of investing in fertilizer to correct soil nutritional deficiencies to drive more resilient and more productive pastures. Pasture resilience depends on good soil nutrition. However, the cost of implementing a program to improve soil fertility is a barrier to many producers because of concern that the action may not be profitable.

A project funded by MLA with assistance from Incitec Pivot, has been organized through the Far South Coast Dairy Development Group. In the program, one paddock on each farm is being run under normal farm practice, while another has received capital fertilizer applications to correct soil nutritional deficiencies over a two year period. Stock numbers are adjusted on the improved paddock if the pasture growth and animal performance on the improved paddock are better than on the normal practice paddock. On other sites the impact on silage production is being measured.

After a slow start due to drought and fires the trials are starting to show some impressive results.

The field day will start at 10:30am and finish at 1:00pm. Follow the signs from corner of Moreings Rd and Candelo-Myrtle Mounain Rd.

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