BSM Pasture Nutrition

Management of soil and plant nutrition

What is it? An interactive and practical small-group workshop supported by an online professional development program for agronomists and farm managers, led by leading independent and specialist industry leaders in pasture soil and plant nutrition management. This is best suited for experienced agronomists and farm managers with a pasture productivity focus; graduate agronomists who have completed *BSM Fundamentals inc Enviro* or equivalent

Workshop Topics

*Developing a **strategic approach**:*

- Broader perspectives and approaches in strategic/tactical program development to improve the productivity, profitability and sustainability of grazing enterprises; considered in a local, practical context.
- Considerations of the local soil type / pasture type issues and their management programmes including soil amendments, fertiliser, weed control practises and grazing management approaches.

*Tactics and simplified **decision support tools**:*

- To determine soil amendment and fertiliser programs based on soil and plant testing
- Economic considerations [simplified points to consider]

*An independent perspective on the 4R's of key **soil amendment and fertiliser products:***

- N, P, K, S, and trace elements.
- Considerations for manures, compost alternatives

*Basics of **ruminant nutrition requirements** for productivity & profit:*

- Energy, ME, feed quality, mineral nutrition, blood testing role

***Longer term** considerations:*

- Management of soil health
- Soil carbon and carbon accounting consideration
- Grazing and mixed farming business sustainability

Price: $900 + GST per participant

Inclusions:

- 1-day BSM Action Workshop
- 12-month subscription BSM Online Reference Library (inc specialist Pasture information) + Tips & Tools

Topics & Outcomes

Topic	Objectives	Key Points to be covered
Local soil features, fertiliser application practices, soil fertility and crop nutrition challenges. Extensive and intensive, excluding dairy.	Facilitated group discussion activity: list all topics for further discussion on the whiteboard or butcher's paper for emphasis during the appropriate session later or to be addressed separately before the end of the AW.	What soil types / pasture types Issues Fert history, particularly of recent times Stocking rates Target markets Lambing/calving times
Exploring a soil fertility strategy management strategy.	Prioritising activity • Identifying productivity & profitability improvement opportunities • Whole farm/paddock nutrient budget vs soil test status. Use of nutrient risk matrix. • Discussion	Willingness to act Stock to take advantage – capital required? Something there worth topdressing? Weed presence/ control strategies
Addressing soil constraints • Dispersive soils • Acid soils	Explore variables and strategies for addressing soil constraints. • Identification • Measure • Interpret • Treatment options	Depth of acidity, where is it, 5cm sampling, Jason Condon slides/research • Who's acting, Now or later – potential consequences • Case study o Soil structure/nutrient/ water relationship o LimeMate o SodiCalc
Phosphorus Sulphur Potassium	How big is the issue? Systems impact; Principles/ identifying need Fitting it into my program	Current / critical response levels Key Product 4R's
Nitrogen	Principles/ identifying need Fitting it into my program	Manures, composts, alternatives/value Usefulness on a broader scale?
Other - Mo, Cu, Se, Ni	What Role in soil/plant/animal Why important to know / consider	Need for tissue sampling to assess "blood tests"
Basics of feed quality and impact on productivity.	Explain Intake, ME, Protein Needs of different classes of stock	Digestibility curves Prograze – Temperate vs Tropical species