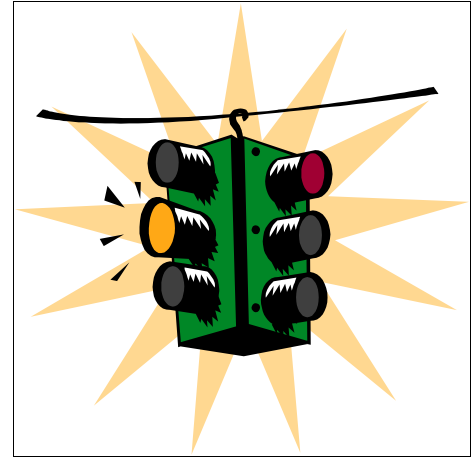


SWEP FACT SHEET #3

Why get a soil test from SWEP?



Often, the difficulty with soil test results is in knowing how to proceed. Many create confusion instead of relieving it. If this has led you to assess the quality of a soil test by the cost of its recommendations, or you just want to be able to get an honest second opinion – then you need a soil test from SWEP.

In this Fact Sheet, we look at how a SWEP soil test increases your choices, lets you stay in control and solve problems rather than just get confused.

There are lots of testing laboratories out there, so why is SWEP so different?

- ✓ Have you ever had a soil test that gave only a fertiliser recommendation and left you wondering what else might be going on apart from N, P & K?
- ✓ Have you noticed your soil test results staying pretty much the same from one time to the next, but the fertiliser needed keeps going up?
- ✓ Have you ever wanted to get a second opinion, but found the soil test you have doesn't work for someone else, or that all the different products just left you more confused?
- ✓ Have you ever been worried by 'Independent' laboratories that seem to work only on overseas research?
- ✓ Have you come to judge the value of a soil test on the costs associated with its recommendations?
- ✓ SWEP Analytical Laboratories was established in 1980, specifically to address these sorts of issues. Here are some of the ways we help you stay in control and get what you need:

Detail

SWEP has been criticised for giving too much detail. Well, our reports certainly are detailed – for three reasons:

1. If you don't measure things, how can you "know" what is going on?
2. Our clients like to know about changes in their soil **before** problems arise.
3. They also don't like knowing some things & having to guess about others.

It is better to have too much detail than not enough!

There are many mysteries in the soil, but things won't disappear by being ignored.

Choice

***SWEP is 100% privately
Australian owned.***

We are not owned or influenced by any fertiliser company – **So we tell it as we see it.** Also, we cannot list all fertilisers on the market and give recommendations for each one. For these reasons, our recommendations are given as *nutrient needed per hectare*. That is kg/ha of Phosphorus, not Superphosphate, and so on.

***You choose how to manage your
property – no one else.***

You can take our recommendation to **any** supplier and ask for a formulation or blend to suit these requirements. So you can easily and directly compare different suppliers and products without having to be an expert. It also means **a SWEP soil test is for Your Benefit** – not the supplier!

Control

Yes, our reports are detailed and our recommendations include Lime, Gypsum, Dolomite, Fertiliser and Trace elements. But do you **do** everything all at once? No.

The key is to Prioritise and Plan.

For best results we suggest that Lime, Gypsum and Dolomite are your first priority, with fertiliser being applied about three months later and unless you have a specific problem, trace elements (that can change with pH and other soil factors), can be left till later if necessary.

Our experience is that soils function most effectively when balanced according to the Mikhail system. However, the choice is yours to apply our recommendations in a way that suits your circumstances.

To do as much as you can with your available resources, you could also try adjusting the soil balance in one or two paddocks at first. As these paddocks improve and give better returns, you will have more resources available to do others. After two years, re-test and see if your trace element requirements have changed and then act accordingly.

Confidence

SWEP tests and recommendations are based on Australian Research.

This has been verified in the field on a wide variety of soils throughout the country over many years. And research is continuing, so you can be confident in getting the best possible information and support needed to reach **your** objectives – **Not someone else's!**

SWEP Soil Tests: Benefits at a Glance

- ☞ SWEP is not owned by a fertiliser company, nor does it work for one.
- ☞ You cannot manage what you cannot measure, so we measure everything you need to make the best possible decisions.
- ☞ Our recommendations are in kilos per hectare of actual nutrient so you can convert them into whatever fertiliser you want.
- ☞ A SWEP soil test is *Yours*. You can take it to any supplier and get a second opinion.
- ☞ SWEP gives you more choice – what to use, where to get it, when to use it and so on. You can set priorities and plan your work without interference from salesmen.
- ☞ SWEP tests and recommendations are based on Australian research that has been verified in the field, on a wide range of soils throughout the country.
- ☞ Our research is ongoing, so our service goes on improving all the time.