

## SWEFACTSHEET#8

### ***Which Soil Test should I get?***



***Few Laboratories can match the service and support provided by SWEF, but this doesn't always make choosing the right test any easier.***

***This Fact Sheet discusses the potential application for SWEF Soil Tests, to ensure you get the greatest possible return from your investment.***

***Soil testing is often called an "Investment" as the returns can be so great. But how can you be sure to get the best return from your investment?***

In order to choose the right soil test, you must first have a clear objective in mind. But first, there are a few basic rules that will apply in all cases.

☞ No soil test can be better than the sample, so be careful how you go about collecting it (see Fact Sheet #2 for more information).

☞ Re-test every 12 or 24 months at the same time of year and from the same area every time. This will give you the best idea about what changes are taking place over time.

☞ Don't chop and change between different labs. It is much better to stick with one laboratory and focus on changes as they develop over time, than search for who has the "right" results.

### **How much Fertiliser do I use?**

If this is all you need to know (and for many people it is) then you may find SWEF services complicated for your needs. We do not recommend or promote specific fertilisers and our analysis aims to achieve more than a short-term growth response.

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### **Fertiliser doesn't seem to work the way it used to**

### **–what can I do now?**

For many people, simply increasing the application rate of the same old fertiliser cannot possibly solve their problems or answer their questions.

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If you are in this situation – wanting to know more, develop alternatives or get a more detailed picture of what is happening in your soil, we would suggest our **Standard Soil Balance Analysis**.

Standard Soil Balance Analysis .

This service provides 26 tests, 12 calculations, 9 optional tests and is far more detailed than most other detailed and reliable soil tests in Australia.

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It also includes recommendations for both Cation Balance corrections and plant nutrients. Cation balance is the key to achieving the best soil structure and friability for maximum productivity. Our nutrient recommendations are just that – nutrients required per hectare – like a Doctor's prescription you can take them to any supplier and so compared different options on an "apples-for-apples" basis.

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## I have highly productive soil – I just want to keep

If your concerns relate to sustainability and protecting the environment on your property, you will probably want more than our standard test can provide.

**Analysis** may be what you need.

This provides analysis for all three functional components of the Mikhail System Structure, Nutrients and Biology. This allows you to treat the Soil as a Living System for optimal sustainability. Each of these components should be in balance individually and the 3 components should be in balance with each other in order to achieve complete soil health.

This service provides all the same results as the Standard Analysis, but with the addition of Total Nitrogen, Total Phosphorus and detailed soil biology testing.

The 9-page report is presented in 3 sections – Exchangeable Cations, Plant Nutrients and Soil Biology – with a separate set of recommendations for each one. It includes 33 tests, 19 calculations and 7 options. It gives the most complete picture of what is going on in the soil that is currently available anywhere in the World.

It is the only analytical service to help you understand

## it that way!

In this case, our **Complete Soil Balance**

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the degree of balance in your soil.

### For both tests:

- ☞ Guaranteed 7-day turnaround
- ☞ Up to 3 Land Uses per sample at no extra cost.
- ☞ FREE Fact Sheets and phone support to answer all your questions.
- ☞ FREE reprint of old results or lost reports.

If you have any questions about SWEPS Soil Tests, or any of our other services please feel free to contact us on (03) 9701 6007, or email: [services@swep.com.au](mailto:services@swep.com.au)