

Trading Hours

Mon - Fri 8.30am - 5.30pm



DIARY DATES

THOMAS FOODS

Jump Start Your Season

Wed, 4th March

Tumby Bay

PUBLIC HOLIDAY Mon, 9th March

LEADA EXPO

Tue, 17th March Cummins

WATER USE WORKSHOPS

Fri, 20th March Wanilla

KIMBA CUP

Sun, 22nd March Port Lincoln







Acid soils workshop – Key learnings

On Tuesday the 25th of February a government funded workshop was held in Cummins. The event was facilitated by members of the Natural Resource Eyre Peninsula group and included a very informative presentation by Brett Masters from PIRSA Rural Solutions.

This free workshop was available to all members of the farming community and also provided some soil pH test kits for the farmers who attended.

Below are a few key learnings from the day;

- Soil acidity occurs when there is an excess of hydrogen ions in the soil solution.
- When looking at a soil test the more accurate pH measurement is the calcium chloride (CaCl²) in comparison to the water test (H₂O). The pH (H₂O) test can be 0.5-0.8 units higher than the pH (CaCl²).
- Acid tolerant weeds such as onion grass, sorrel and silver grass can be an indicator of soil
 acidity. The efficacy of soil applied chemicals can be reduced on acid soils, increasing
 weed pressure and decreasing the competitiveness of the crop.

Impacts of soil acidity

- Soil acidity influences the availability of nutrients. Aluminium, manganese and iron become more soluble in acidic conditions and can reach toxic levels for root growth. Important nutrients such as molybdenum, phosphorus, magnesium and calcium become less available to the plant as acidity increases.
- Microbial activity which is a key factor to soil health decreases in acidic conditions. This
 also means that fertiliser efficacy is reduced due to the decreased mineralisation of nitrogen by the microbes.
- The decreased microbial activity will also limit the breakdown of organic matter.
- Acidity can also reduce the number of nodules produced on the roots of legumes.

Causes of acidity

- Crop production involves the removal of alkaline cations (nutrients) from the soil, this process leaves behind acid hydrogen ions and therefore acidifies the soil.
- Nitrate leaching also leads to acidification, this is due to the strong bond between nitrate and the cations, magnesium and calcium. As nitrate is leached through the soil profile it takes these cations with it, leaving a higher concentration of hydrogen ions behind.
- The major cause of acidification is the application nitrogen fertilisers. The process of converting ammonium (urea) to the plant available form of nitrate leaves behind hydrogen ions in the soil.
- For cropping systems, the pH (CaCl²) of the soil should not fall below 5.5.
- The pH can change throughout the soil profile, for example the top 2cm can often be more alkaline due to the breakdown of stubble. Incremental testing of the profile can be an effective way to see the variation however this process can be time consuming.

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Cummins Rural Traders Pty Ltd T/A Carrs' Seeds 1-7 Phillips Street, Cummins, SA, 5631 Ph: (08) 8676 2016 Fax: (08) 8676 2007





Liming

- It is important to source lime that has a high neutralising value (NV) of at least 80% and a high proportion of material with small particle sizes of below 0.25mm.
- As a general rule for every kilogram of product e.g. SOA or urea, a kilogram of lime is required to counteract the acidification occurring.
- Soils with a high clay content require higher rates of lime in comparison to sandy soils.
- Sandy soils have a low buffering capacity due to the lower cation exchange capacity (CEC) and acidify more quickly than clay soils which have a higher CEC, this is also why they requires higher rates of lime.
- It is not recommended to apply more than 3.5t/ha in a single application.

TUESDAY 17 MARCH 2020

- Lime moves very slowly through the soil so results can take time, incorporation of lime can speed this up, especially if issues of subsurface acidity are present.
- There is no need to lime if the pH is at 5.5 or greater, this is because the soil has to be acidic to neutralise the lime.

Source: Farming acid soil champions 2020, Restoring pH balance on acid prone soils on Eyre Peninsula 2019-2010, February 2020, Rural solutions SA. A project funded by the National Landcare Program and Natural Resources Eyre Peninsula.











Jump Start Your Season - Tumby Bay

Don't miss out! Register now to come and find out how the Thomas Foods 'Livestock Assurance Program' certification process helps you demonstrate real leadership in animal welfare and farm sustainability.

Plus you'll get to hear from our program partners AgriWebb, Shearwell and Leader Products about how they can help you be more productive.

Starting at 4:30pm, nibbles and drinks will be supplied.

Register now to be a part of this industry—leading initiative!

On Wednesday 4 March 2020 at 4:30pm

LOCATION

Tumby Bay Hotel – The Red Roof 1 North Terrace, Tumby Bay, SA 5605 FREE ADMISSION

Register @ https://www.trybooking.com/book/event?eid=599723
For More Info https://thomasfoods.com/tfg-roadshow/





It's that time Again!!

Footy Tipping 2020



First Game Kicks off on Thursday 19th March

Be Apart of Carrs Seeds Footy Tipping if You aren't Already

REGISTER TODAY https://www.footytips.com.au/comps/Carrs Seeds&p=carrs

MARCH SPECIAL

LAMBLI + 10% Glycero

15KG



\$29.50 Inc GST

(SAVE \$2 PER BLOCK)









Water Use on Farms Workshops

Hear about new technologies, products and start a water plan for your property

Topics Include:

- Water security
- Latest in monitoring and moving water
- Farmers stories
- Water infrastructure planning session
- On Farm Emergency Water Rebate Scheme

Registrations are essential. Book online www.naturalresources.com.au/eyrepeninsula

Cost \$50 per business, includes:

- Aerial map of property
- Morning tea and lunch

Registrations close 6 March 2020





ntural Resources

Tuesday 17 March

Ceduna Football Clubrooms

Wednesday 18 March Elliston Golf Club

Thursday 19 March Kimba Golf Club

Friday 20 March Wanilla Hall

For further information contact Mary Crawford 0407 187 878 Holly Whittenbury 0417 404 129



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admin@nrics.com.au

www.carrsseeds.com.au





It's time to start thinking about.....

Pre-Lambing Animal Health Treatments for Ewes approaching Autumn Lambing

Pre-lambing is a critical time point in the annual calendar of a sheep operation. It is important that you implement a comprehensive pre-lambing ewe animal health program, in order to protect your ewes, as well as your lambs, and help get more lambs through to marking. Ewe vaccination pre-lambing is really important in order to ensure ewes have maximum immune protection at the point of lambing, but also to ensure that lambs are given the best kick-start in life, with strong colostral antibody protection passed from ewe to lamb in the first milk (colostrum). Minimising parasite load in ewes pre-lambing is also critical to ensure optimal performance from both ewes and lambs.

Vaccinations for Pre-Lamb:

Glanvac 6SB12 or Glanvac 6B12

- Best Practice Vaccine to provide clostridial disease + cheesy gland protection. Ewe booster benefits ewe, + provides maternal antibody transfer to lamb
- Cheesy Gland is endemic to Australian sheep and has ramifications for production and abattoir trim - costs the Australian sheep industry >\$30M annually
- Cheesy Gland infected sheep have been shown to have 4-7% reduction in clean wool cut in the first year of infection

B12 - very important to stimulate appetite and increase energy production in both the ewe & growing lamb in utero

Vaccinate the ewe to protect the lamb from early infection with Erysipelas Arthritis Breakeven point is less than 1% of lambs with a clinical/visual infection of arthritis (10 in

And don't forget about the GLANVAC-ERYVAC **DUAL VACCINATOR** – enabling both vaccines to be given at the same time! **ALL AVAILABLE IN STORE!**





Vitamin B12 and Selenium in a SINGLE VACCINATION



For more information visit zoetis.com.au



ZOETIS LEADING INNOVATION IN ANIMAL HEALTH FOR OVER 75 YEARS

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