

So why use it?

Is it because you have always used it? or because your friendly fertiliser salesman says it is the BEST product to use in your area!

Whatever the reason it is almost certain that these products will not give you the best value for money in terms of improving grass quality or yield. At the end of the day what matters is how well your stock is performing from eating the grass that you have grown.

If you use straight nitrogen, then you might be concerned that you could run the phosphate and potassium levels down. Well you might, but it depends on your soil reserves.

Most phosphate and potash fertilisers are simply 'locked up' by other elements, and it is often more cost effective to release minerals from your soil than it is to add more.

Nitrogen is very important

But not all nitrogen is the same and you could pay a lot of money for something that is not suited to your soil - it all depends on balances and ratios of various minerals in your soil.

Soil Fertility Audit

Which is why we always carry out a detailed soil analysis (without exception) - checking the 'locked up' levels, ratios and balances of all nutrients, this service is not cheap, but then again nor is using the wrong fertiliser!

So how can it be done at LOWER COST?

We need to:

1. Find out what is going on in your soil and the forage via a detailed soil and forage audit (a lot more than a standard soil test).
2. Look at your current soil fertility programme (what you use, when you use it and how much of it you use) then look at what it is costing you.
3. Look at what you use as supplements (selenium, cobalt, copper etc)
4. What animal health or other problems do you have?
5. Look at what you spend on:
 - a) Fertilisers
 - b) Supplements
6. Discuss the results of the detailed soil, grass and forage analysis with you and agree a soil grass fertiliser budget based on your current expenditure. We will then work out a comprehensive soil – grass fertility programme thereby ensuring you get the maximum benefit from your investment.
7. Monitor and check results from repeated soil and grass analysis.
8. Observe what is happening between the stock and the field - The stock will tell you when the grass is 'better'.