

Sheep Farmers

Is it true that your lamb is now sold to China at half the price that UK pays? What is going on? What is Federated Farmers doing about it?

And what about the sheep leg in farmers PKE?

Maize growers

Most sow an Italian ryegrass after maize. Measure its leaves and stems for liming and fertilising information before sowing the next crop of maize or pasture on that paddock. Send a sample to Hill Laboratories, 1 Clyde St Hamilton 3216 and ask for a 'Ryegrass leaf analysis', 'ryegrass name', as done by Vaughan Jones, and please copy the results to him.'

This costs you no extra.

I emailed the following to a maize grower.

"Your mature maize pulled out easily with one hand. Ours was hard to get out even with a large fork and the deep roots had to be broken. I brought home one of your plants, dried and weighed it. If you sowed 100,000 per hectare, the yield was 14 tonnes of dry matter per hectare. Ours on identical flat consolidated peat was always close to 30 tonnes per hectare, even in dry years. 1986 was one of the driest

"Many growers side-dress with DAP, resulting in fast initial growth, but shallow roots going to the DAP, causing low final yields of about half the 30 tonnes per hectare of silage dry matter that those doing everything right get. See Forage & Grain Crops > Maize/Corn for 20 pages on growing Maize for high profits. It has just been updated.

We and our clients who did all the correct things get close to 30 tonnes per hectare even in drought years. See Forage & Grain Crops > Maize/Corn, where photos show the poor results of side dressing maize with DAP, which we never did, but contractors promote, to get work, and fertiliser companies to sell DAP. What all should do, is chisel plough in enough LimeMagPlus based on soft fine lime with serpentine and pasture analysis deficient elements that they mix in as ordered, then you chisel plough in deeply, depending on the soil. Read Soils > Cultivation.

Then apply about a tonne or so of Gafsa reactive phosphate-based fertiliser mix per hectare with serpentine and deficient elements. It outyields superphosphate fertilisers on an equal cost basis (see Maize), and gives crops with very low levels of heavy metals, which the sulphuric acid made superphosphate, makes available, so get into plants.

I've grown maize on and off since 1950 in South Africa and until 1987 in NZ on our second farm we bought from a bankrupt, and still have clients growing it successfully here getting close to 30 tonnes of silage per hectare.

Couch grew through the 20 crops I saw this year between Hamilton and Patetonga (near Ngatea). I believe that either couch has become resistant to Roundup or it was not sprayed twice. The couch would have increased the total silage dry matter yield above that I measured from one average plant, times 100,000. However, it would have reduced the grain yields. See photos in Maize/Corn in

Roundup was in the grain I got measured so will be in it when fed! So much for all the liars who say Roundup becomes inert once it hits the soil. It is in Australian underground

waters now, hence their banning using it on drains and waterways, and some countries banning Roundup and Glyphosates totally.

Never side-dress with DAP

Many maize growers side dress with DAP, resulting in fast initial growth and shallow roots going to the DAP, then low final yields of less than 30 tonnes per hectare of silage, especially if dry weather comes. Ours and clients who do all the correct things get 30 tonnes per hectare even in dry weather, as it was in 1985 when rain didn't come until 6 May. See Forage Crops > Maize in <http://www.grazinginfo.com> where photos show the poor results of side dressing.

What all should do, is chisel plough in enough LimeMagPlus based on Rorisons soft fine lime and serpentine and deficient elements that they mix in as required, then apply and chisel plough in deeply (Depending on soil, read Soils > Cultivation.) a tonne or so of Gafsa reactive phosphate-based fertiliser per hectare. It outyields superphosphate fertilisers on an equivalent cost basis.

I've grown maize on and off since 1950 in South Africa until 1986 in NZ and still have clients growing it successfully here.

Was the couch right through it, as it was in the of 20 crops I saw this year between here and Patetonga. I believe that either couch has become resistant to Roundup or it was not sprayed twice. It would have increased your dry matter yield above what I measured.

You and your South African farmer friends here and in SA, might like to join the world's biggest and most accurate farming eBook of 220 chapters for only \$50 plus GST, tax deductible, at <http://www.grazinginfo.com> Twenty chapters are on human health which is low in New Zealand.

If growing maize (corn) in the same paddocks each year, and you grow winter ryegrass to sell for grazing, do a ryegrass analysis to help decide the best fertiliser, and especially calcium to apply. The decreasing yield of maize crops over the years show that something is wrong. One is insufficient LimeMagPlus, another if too much DAP side dressed. All should be chisel ploughed in. Discing and mouldboard ploughing are useless for plants that can send roots down a 60 cm, if fertiliser is cultivated that deep.

Dairy farmers

Those of you buying any feed supplements are losing money from doing so when the payout is less than \$8. All extra production reduces the overall payout to all dairy farmers caused by over-supply reducing the auction price.

Farmers, sharemilkers and the country all profit when dairy farmers milk the optimum number cows. Are you??? It costs \$1,500 to feed, keep and milk a cow for a year. This doesn't allow for the loss from lower production from the whole herd being under-fed.

It surprises me that so many new clients have said that they were using the Roks, Humates, Abrons, Responses, Probitases, Seaweeds, etc., right back to Maxicrop, 40 years ago. The analysis of what you are buying, and production from these is lower than from LimeMagPlus and correct Gafsa based fertilisers.

If all farmers tested products against what their pastures needs, they would not apply Maxicrop and other seaweeds, Probitas (expensive serpentine), rokdusts (expensive quarry

dust), humates (expensive cheap weak coal), and similar products for several years, before finding they don't work and pastures are getting worse. Some farmers, usually pressurised by smooth sales talk, do their whole farm, and then when the pastures don't improve, sometimes get told that it takes time and that more is needed. Several pre-subscribers have done their whole farms for three years before seeing the disasters.

An extremely good Waikato farmer with excellent pastures because he had limed every year for 30 years, changed from annual lime to a humate, and weeds took over in less than a year. I wondered if the weed seeds were in the humate. See Weeds for a photo.

Being organic doesn't make products better, more productive, or what your farm needs. Only a pasture analyses and a spade do this. Knowing everything in Soils, Earthworms, Cultivation and Elements (22 of them) that are in GrazingInfo help. See the spreadsheet called "Interactions in soils, pastures & blood" which shows how all elements effect each other.

Never be a guinea pig. Always ask to see results on LOCAL farms before spending a cent on different products. Always compare them with what a pasture analysis shows is most needed, which 99% of the time in New Zealand is calcium, serpentine (a third the cost of other magnesiums), boron and trace elements. Comparative trials I've done on hundreds of farms around the world have shown that agricultural lime, serpentine and boron were the main ones needed. See Elements > Calcium > Japan. North America including Canada is a big area, all of which from Vancouver Island to Florida is low in boron (has half New Zealand's levels which are also low). See Elements > Magnesium and Boron.

Overseer

Those of you who know about, or have checked, or used Overseer, please email or phone me with your comments about its usefulness or otherwise.

I'm trying to get AgResearch and DairyNZ to improve Overseer by including pasture tissue analyses as I suggested for accuracy, when I helped them develop it in the beginning. Some users, scientists and consultants now agree.

I'd like your thoughts and suggestions please.

PayPal

As asked previously, **please don't use PayPal** to pay us. Google for 'PayPal faults' and <http://www.screw-paypal.com> will show the extent of their not paying funds. \$700 from last year, and more from previous years has not been paid to us. I had to phone them last week which took half an hour on toll to USA, to get \$200 that they emailed me and said it was in my account, but was not. It has now come. Over the years, when I've complained they have emailed me that they have millions of clients, so it takes a long time to pay us.

Payments

When transferring funds to us, please include your name.

\$200 has come from SUBSK LONGKERETAKI STREAM FARM. Thank you, but please email us your name that you joined under and email address so we can tick 'Paid' so you can access the spreadsheets. We can't find who it came from. Thanks.

Vaughan Jones

