

16 October 2011

Newsletter 52

A new client last month who was typical, had not applied any or enough lime for ages. Using MAF, LIC and fertiliser company reps, he'd poured on N, P and K, which were already toxically high in the pasture, while the most essential mineral calcium and trace elements were dangerously low.

His cows were suffering, and showing it by acting like nervous wild animals, not domesticated cows.

On the way home I called on an organic client of 13 years. Her cows swarmed around us like long lost friends - what a pleasure.

I stood over some of the long grass like the new client's cows were not eating, because of high nitrates. Note my boot at the bottom left. These cows were grazing whole paddocks evenly, because being organic there was no excessive N. Money had gone into LimeMag and the deficient trace elements.

When spreading a lime mix, leave some areas with none and check your pastures one week after rain falls on a correct lime mix and every week for a month and you'll see greening up and an increase in pasture growth thanks to the calcium, serpentine, cobalt, boron (9% more clover according to MAF trials at Walton) and other deficient elements.

All mixes now done by the GrazingInfo team have OrganiBOR boron slow release chips, and both Fertiliser Nutrient Planner and Lime Nutrient Planner spreadsheets have been updated to include it, so please use new ones. OrganiBor is cheaper than other borons.

For more info on OrganiBor, Google for it and for OrganiBOR + Pasture.



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