



# AgSolutions

A U S T R A L I A



## Common Sense Ideas to Manage Your Soil for Profit

# Why your farm profits are being eroded... ...And what you can do about it!

### In the Past...

Over the years you have successfully offset your production costs with your crop returns. Think about it!

### Things have changed...

\* St\*(ABARE)atistics show that Fertilizer costs have increased by a massive 42% over the last 3 years. Crop and Pasture Chemical costs

**\$** If the cost of your fertilizer and chemicals are increasing at this rate, how can you meet the ever increasing expenses?

### Increase Your Production?

This would be a good start, *But...* can you increase production every year to try to meet the increasing costs?

Increasing your production would usually require an increase in fertilizer...

**Maintaining your present production rate and reducing your costs is the only practical way of restoring your profit margin.**

How can you reduce your fertilizer and chemical costs and still maintain production?.....

It is an accepted fact that plants grown in fertile soil are less susceptible to pest and disease problems and do not require large amounts of artificial fertilizer.

So taking steps to improve your soil fertility can improve your crops and save you money.

### The three aspects of soil fertility...

1. **Nutritional** - the availability of mineral elements
2. **Biological** - the life in the soil (microbe and worm activity)
3. **Structural** - the physical nature of the soil - eg friability

**Soil is the stomach of your plants...**

*If this is so,*

How do you "feed the soil"?  
What do you need to do?

Past practices have too often focused on only one aspect of soil health... Its nutritional status - how much N.P.K. does it contain?

Biological fertility - the living organisms in the soil - has for many years been ignored.

The activity of microbes and worms is vital for soil health, and like the weakest link in a chain, if this one aspect of soil health is ignored, the whole system of soil management is compromised.

As well as other important functions, soil microbes produce their own weight in humus every day.

### The end result...

When soil microbes become depleted, the end result is low levels of soil humus, pH imbalances, reduced nutrient availability and low water holding capacity.

Increased use of fertilizer, fungicides and pesticides becomes necessary to ensure a reasonable crop.

### Changing the cycle...

You would like to improve your soil fertility and reduce costs. Here are 3 common sense tips to help you get started.

#### 1. Feed your soil...

After decades of farming, humus levels and vital mineral elements have been leached from the soil. This has resulted in an ever increasing need to "feed the crop" with water soluble fertilizers.

The solution to these questions is simple - it is vital to replace the total spectrum of mineral elements to your soil. These mineral elements, coupled with a program of mulching and crop rotation is the first step towards restoring your soil fertility.

#### 2. Look after the soil life

Microbial and worm activity is vital to restore your soil to its full health and fertility.

In brief, soil organisms can be depleted by the over use of Nitrogen fertilizers, chemical sprays and high speed tillage.

Soil management practices such as crop rotation, mulching and repeat application of Mineral elements will help to replenish and activate soil organisms.

#### 3. Restore Organic Carbon Levels

In most Australian soils, organic carbon levels are at an all time low.

The good news is that this will automatically change when you stimulate soil organisms by applying Minerals and Mulch to your soil

Soil microbes produce their own weight in humus every day. Increased humus levels improves soil structure, water penetration and moisture holding capacity as well as being a reservoir for plant nutrients.

## FREE Soil Management Advice...

Fertile soil can **INCREASE** your production and **SAVE** you money.

Fax over your soil test or phone us for practical advice on how to restore balance to your soil

**PHONE 1800 81 57 57**

**FAX 07 5482 7219**

Ag Solutions Australia Pty Ltd  
8 Wadell Road, Gympie 4570

# Restoring Mineral Elements

## to your soil...

### Rocks and Agriculture.

Mineral Rock products are used in agriculture in the form of Lime, Gypsum and Dolomite. They have long been recognized as a valuable source of mineral elements - in particular Calcium, Sulphur and Magnesium.

*“Over 100 years ago, Dr Julius Hensel found that in primeval rocks such as granite lie a potentially inexhaustible supply of ALL MINERALS required for the feeding and regeneration of the Soil, Plants, Animals and Man.”*

*Henzel wrote a book describing his discovery of a “New method of creating more perfect fruits and vegetables, rich in all nutritional elements and immune to disease and insect pests, with the result that it produced worm free fruits without the need for spraying”.*

To get these results, rock dust was applied at several tonnes per acre.

### Moving ahead...

Utilizing Dr Henzel’s primary research together with more recent scientific technology, we have developed an ecological and economical solution to restoring the soils natural balance and fertility..... **Natra Min.**

Natra Min is a blend of several types of mineral rock which restores a broad spectrum of nutrients to your soil.. As a result of extensive research Natra Min is specially formulated to ensure that microbial and worm activity in your soil proliferate rapidly to release the mineral elements.

### More Economical for You...

The good news is, instead of using several tonne of mineral rock per acre as was recommended in the past, Natra Min gets results at kilograms per acre, thus making it a practical and economical source of Mineral Elements.

Natra Min supplies both Macro and Micro mineral elements and is free of Cadmium which is often a concern with some commonly used products..

1. Extract from “Introduction to Bread from Stones” by Dr. R. Bernard

# NATRA MIN

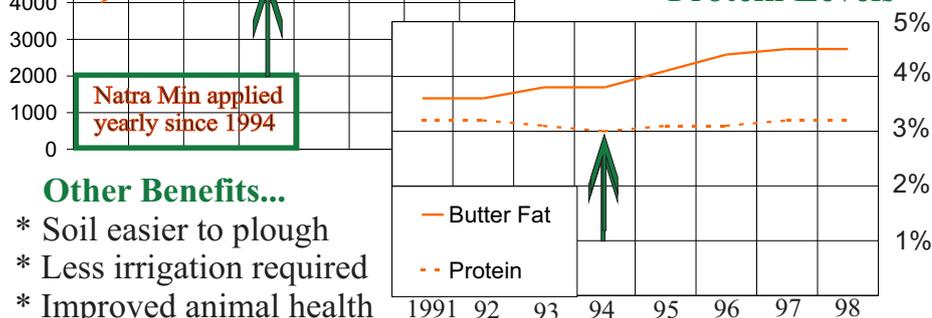
Jeff and Dianne Pratten, Den Dia A.I.S. Stud have been using Natra Min on their dairy property for the last four years.

## The RESULTS speak for themselves...

### Increased Milk Production

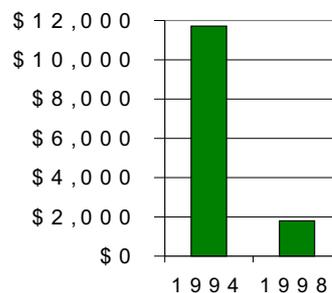


### Higher Butter Fat & Protein Levels



### Lower Fertilizer Costs

(On 40 acres of irrigated pasture)



### Other Benefits...

- \* Soil easier to plough
- \* Less irrigation required
- \* Improved animal health

For supply of Natra Min contact:



Certified by BFA  
for Organic Use

**AgSolutions**  
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### NEXT ISSUE...

Soil Organisms...  
the forgotten workers

We'll look at *why* they are important and *how* to ensure they are working for you.

**MINERALS - the Building Blocks of Fertile Soil**