

Products & Advice for Soil Regeneration & Animal Nutrition



From the Directors...

During Winter and dry conditions, mineral nutrients are lacking from fodder, resulting in increased demand for minerals and trace element by livestock.

With the cold weather fast approaching, it is timely to consider the early provision of mineral supplements for your livestock.

Minerals are essential for the utilization of protein and energy and to benefit from the full nutritional value of any one mineral, adequate quantities of trace minerals must also be available.

AgSolutions Superior Mineral Supplement and Mega Minerals provide the broad spectrum of minerals including trace elements and are also an effective and safe alternative to the use of urea based supplements.

The cost of supplements is a consideration, however it is proven that when stock have access to minerals during tough times, they 'hold in' better and will also respond quicker when the season improves.

Providing supplements to your stock early in the season can also assist to minimize the need to feed additional fodder.

The testimonials from our valued clients in this newsletter are a reflection of the huge number of comments we constantly receive from properties all over Australia.

Feeding Superior Mineral Supplement or Mega Minerals Lick Blocks can provide a win for you... and a win for your livestock. This season when you purchase these supplements, we are also offering you the opportunity to be in the draw to win 1 of 5 Husqvarna Chainsaws!

Simply purchase either Mega Minerals Lick Blocks or Superior Mineral Supplement prior to August 31st 2007, and you automatically have a chance to win a model 340 Husqvarna chainsaw (see enclosed brochure for details).

Husqvarna Chainsaws are exceptionally easy to start, and are characterized by high performance engines and rapid acceleration, making them great for a variety of tasks.

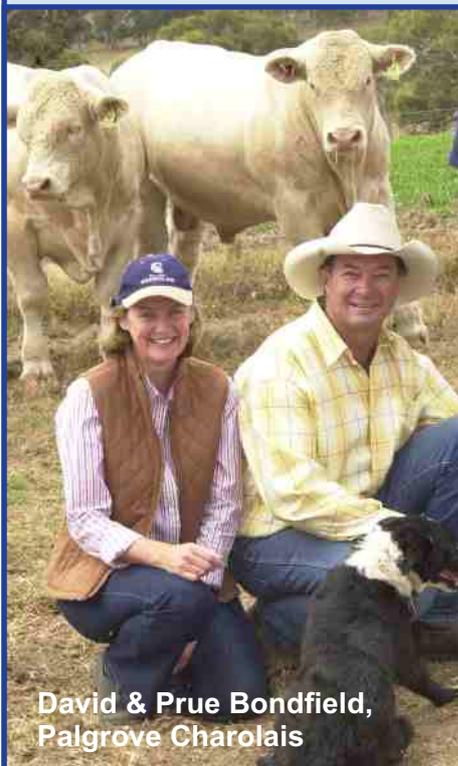
But remember, this promotion must end 31 August, so to place your order, contact your local Rural Store or call **AgSolutions** now on 1800 81 57 57. Good luck!

Trevor & Wendy Zerner

Palgrove Charolais...

Minerals are important in our feeding program

Since 2004, David & Prue Bondfield of Palgrove Charolais have utilized **AgSolutions'** mineral supplements as an important component in running their stud cattle and seed stock operation based at 'Strathgarve' Dalveen. Likewise Dave Smith, manager of Palgrove Charolais, recognizes the importance of minerals and trace elements when feeding and supplementing cattle.



**David & Prue Bondfield,
Palgrove Charolais**

Dave is conscious of the need for a balanced and safe feeding program to ensure cattle are presented at the highest possible standard.

Breeders have access to the Mega Minerals lick blocks while Superior Minerals (dry supplement) is added to feed mixes for the bulls and show cattle.

As Dave Smith affirms, "we like the Superior Minerals as an additive to our feeding program for preparing show and sale cattle.

It is a safe product and most importantly, cattle eat it and there is no wastage of feed.

Superior Minerals was also used in a silage mix for young bulls in early 2005 when feed was short prior to the oats paddocks being ready. Again there was no wastage of feed or need for introductory periods."

AgSolutions fully understands that mineral requirements and intake of supplements may vary depending on the animal, season, soil type, stock water and even in individual paddocks.

'Palgrove' is no different, as Dave Smith explains... "we have the Mega Minerals lick blocks out most of the time with the cows and find that intake varies in some paddocks as well as the season. Cattle on the lighter country at Strathgarve usually have a higher intake which indicates that they obviously need the minerals there."

Similarly, when heifers from their Ben Lomond property were brought home to 'Strathgarve' for an AI program, they really craved the minerals and initially the Mega Minerals blocks left in the paddock were consumed overnight.

continued...

In this Edition...



Poor Conditions... Rich Rewards with Superior (page 2)
Cattle on forest country shine through the drought.

Soil Testing (page 3)

Comprehensive programs to restore soil fertility.

Minerals... essential for animal health (page 4)

Sheep benefit from broad spectrum minerals.

MINERALS... a vital component of feeding program for Palgrove Charolais



(continued from page 1)

Dave Smith concludes... "I like the supplements... they are simple to use and cattle need them. We keep the Superior Minerals in the feed and the Mega Minerals lick blocks are fed at our Palgrove, Strathgarve and Ben Lomond properties."

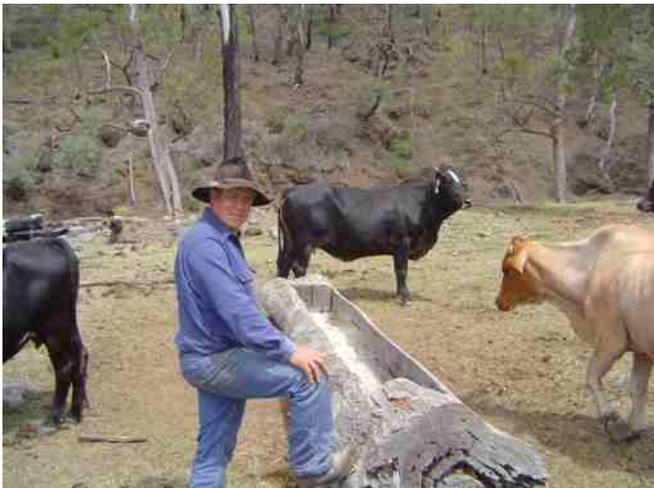
For enquiries regarding Palgrove's Annual Bull Sale to be held on 24th August 2007, contact David Bondfield 07 4685 2390 or Dave Smith 07 4685 2256.

SUPERIOR
MINERAL SUPPLEMENT

MEGA MINERALS
LICK BLOCKS

POOR CONDITIONS...

RICH REWARDS since using Superior as a dry lick



Trevor Hutton's cattle bear a healthy shine... virtually unheard of for livestock on marginal forest country that has endured yet another dry season.

I wouldn't be without Superior...

Trevor Hutton runs 250 breeders and carries 500 head on his property, which runs back into the mountains, south west of Gatton. Historically, Winter has always presented a challenge for Trevor, with the condition of his cattle being a real concern.

Today, however, Winters are easier for the Huttons, due largely to incorporating a broad spectrum of essential minerals and trace elements into the diet of their livestock.

As Trevor affirms, "I wouldn't like to run cattle without Superior Mineral Supplement now. That's how strongly I feel after seeing what it's done for my cattle since I started using it 4-5 years ago."

Hand feeding has not been required...

Since using Superior, the Huttons have not had to resort to hand feeding despite the paddocks currently being almost bare.

Trevor acknowledges that cattle wouldn't be interested in the Superior Minerals if they didn't need it. "Winters are generally hard and when it's dry their supplement intake usually increases, and then when it does rain, they back off."

I have noticed since using the minerals that when the season breaks, my cattle improve in condition a lot quicker."

Cattle are content despite it being so dry...

In 2006, the Huttons recorded an annual rainfall of 21 inches, with the regional average being 36 inches, however the condition of their cattle would seem to be a reflection of much better conditions.

As Trevor says, "since using Superior as a dry lick I don't have any problems with weak cattle whereas once it was a real concern. I'm not kidding, this is marginal forest country and I hated going through winter."

You never see my cattle lay around even with it being so dry. The cattle are content and not hungry, they're bright and chewing their cud. They come down to water and the supplement and then go off and forage. It's interesting to also see the young calves take to the supplement at an early age."

Buyers notice the difference...

"The use of Superior has changed my whole outlook. Despite the dry season my cattle have a real shine. Cattle buyers and visitors alike comment on the condition of my cattle. The fertility of our breeders seems good even though things are so dry. They are healthy and strong even with big calves at foot."

Can't afford not to use it!

Before I used Superior I didn't like people seeing my cattle, now I'm proud of them and the neighbours are asking what my secret to success is!" Cost wise too, the Huttons are ahead. As Trevor concludes, "I couldn't afford not to feed it. I only have to save one beast to cover the cost of supplementing."

For more information on our livestock supplements, call AgSolutions Australia on 1800 81 57 57.

BROAD SPECTRUM MINERALS... Essential for Animal Health & Production

SOIL TESTING: Comprehensive Programs to Restore Fertility

Everyday, **AgSolutions** Australia assists farmers to improve their soil and nutritional programs and our soil testing service has become well regarded as our recommendations provide a comprehensive and holistic approach.

Information is essential for sound recommendations...

At a recent training event with an international speaker, the **AgSolutions** team were congratulated and told that their soil test recommendation was the only one that made sense! While other participants at the seminar were jumping in fast to recommend the use of specific fertilizers, the **AgSolutions** team concentrated on how much additional information they needed to enable them to make a sound recommendation.

Their questions included the history of past inputs and performance of previous crops, soil type and structure, rainfall, irrigation, paddock slope, as well as information relevant to the current crop.

Soil testing is only the first step... it gives us pointers as to where to go. In addition to looking for any nutrients that are lacking in the soil, we also assess the high levels of any elements. It is important to give special consideration to these elements because they can be the restricting factor affecting soil structure and the availability or 'tie up' of other nutrients.

AgSolutions Field Advice...

AgSolutions work on the basis that each property is different... and even the soil type and condition can vary widely within a given property. For this reason, **AgSolutions**' Field Advisors work closely with farmers, assessing their needs in a range of areas on the farm in order to address soil condition across the property.

The critical factor in recommendations provided by **AgSolutions** is that our Field Advisors are trained to assess and recommend products that support all three aspects of soil fertility... Nutritional, Biological and Structural.

Other factors considered in our recommendations are soil aeration, crop rotation including a legume, rotational grazing, and incorporating plants with different root depths that can assist to break up tillage pans and also to bring up minerals from lower levels in the soil.

In addition to soil management strategies, we provide a recommendation that identifies appropriate starter fertilizers and other required inputs as well as the most suitable blend of **Natra Min** to fertilize and condition your soil.

More and more farmers are turning to **AgSolutions** for advice, with many more referring others after enjoying pleasing results.

Balanced approach has achieved results...



After a lifetime in Agriculture, Harold Brown has farmed on many soil types on different properties.

Three years ago his son asked him for assistance on his newly purchased property South of Gympie.

"The soil had been flogged for 30 or 40 years yet we had been optimistic that with the use of fertilizer we would achieve the results we wanted.

Despite the application of fertilizer at the recommended rates, our first couple of crops failed miserably," said Harold. "I was then referred to **AgSolutions** by our neighbour."

After just one application of **Natra Min HI-Phos**, Harold was able to see results in the next crop, and realized that sticking to the program would be beneficial.

Following AgSolutions Advice...

"It's critical that we follow the entire **AgSolutions** program in order to improve our yields and pasture quality. We're growing Silage and Lucerne dominated pastures and our soils are being pushed, hence **Natra Min HI-Phos** has been applied at a higher rate and may be applied twice a year on our intensive pastures. For further improvements we're also incorporating the other soil test recommendations," said Harold.

Natra Min HI-Phos was applied at 500kg per hectare four weeks prior to planting, with **CK55(S)** being applied at plant stage. This crop had excellent germination and the mixed pasture and Lucerne has performed well.

Improved Production...

Silage cut 10 round bales / acre on the first cut and 12 bales on the second and even the harvesting contractor commented on the growth and performance of both the Lucerne and Silage.

"Since following **AgSolutions**' recommendations we've seen an unbelievable improvement in the health and growth of our fodder. When you get these results, the money spent is a good investment... it pays dividends! All we need now is rain!"

*To arrange your next soil test analysis or for advice on regenerative agriculture, simply contact **AgSolutions** on 1800 81 57 57.*

NATRA MIN

Two products in one...

Microbe Stimulant & Mineral Supply

All **Natra Min** blends provide broad spectrum minerals and contain a catalyst to stimulate microbe and worm activity in your soil.

Natra Min	broad spectrum minerals
Natra Min HI-Phos	extra Phosphorus, Calcium & Sulphur
Natra Min K-Phos	extra Potassium, Phosphorus, Calcium, & Sulphur
Natra Min K	extra Potassium & Sulphur
Natra Min Cal-S	extra Calcium & Sulphur
Natra Min Cal-K	extra Calcium, Potassium & Sulphur

Feed Your Soil... and Your Soil will Feed Your Crop

Minerals and Trace Elements: essential for animal health

Recognizing mineral deficiencies...

While the symptoms of gross deficiencies or excesses can be obvious and easily diagnosed by veterinarians or experienced stockmen, the major problem encountered is often with subclinical mineral deficiencies in your animals.

The symptoms may be vague unthriftiness and lowered performance, often seasonal in nature. This is so common and widespread that slightly lowered production or reproduction rates are often considered normal. When dealing with subclinical deficiencies the recommended action is always to look first for the cause... which is often poor pasture quality.

Pasture quality determines animal nutrition...

During Winter and dry conditions, mineral nutrients are lacking from fodder, resulting in peak requirements for supplementation.

Even during good conditions, pasture quality is dependent on the levels of minerals and trace elements in the soil. It is now known that at least eighty-nine mineral nutrients are essential for healthy plant growth, so if soil is nutrient deficient, pasture cannot supply the dietary requirements of animals.

Broad spectrum of minerals and trace elements are essential...

Almost 3% of a cow's body weight is comprised of minerals, and these minerals and trace elements all interact and are dependent on each other to perform specific functions. Reproduction alone is known to be dependent on Phosphorus, Copper, Potassium, Manganese, Iron, Zinc and Magnesium.

Minerals are also essential for the utilization of energy and protein and trace minerals are directly involved in the reactions of animal metabolism. Minerals also interact with the organic components of feed rations to improve nutrient utilization.

To benefit from the full nutritional value of any one mineral, adequate quantities of all other minerals must also be available. These elements cannot be synthesized in the body.

Minerals improve productivity...

Traditionally farmers have only provided access to supplements during winter or drought conditions. Many farmers have now found that the provision of minerals year round has resulted in their animals maintaining better condition during dry periods and overall lower costs for their annual supplemental requirements.

Extensive trials have proven that supplementing during periods of good pasture growth provides the grazer with the opportunity to generate extra profit.

Remember, profit requires maximum producing livestock and maximum production is dependent on daily diets that provide required levels of all necessary nutrients, including minerals and trace minerals.

Superior Mineral Supplement and Mega Minerals lick blocks can provide your stock with broad spectrum minerals and trace elements.

Safe, proven and economical to use!

Benefits for Sheep & Wool

David Sweeney of Walcha, NSW who was first introduced to **AgSolutions** and its animal supplements in 2003, has been using Mega Minerals lick blocks with his Merino flock ever since.



15 micron Hoggetts maintain weight in a paddock of poor tussuck and dried off rats tail fescue, with the use of the Mega Minerals lick blocks.

Year round access to Mega Minerals lick blocks...

"We put the blocks out year round so the sheep have access to the minerals and trace elements exactly when they need them. We're running between 3000-4000 Merinos and find that they don't overuse the Mega Minerals. Intake varies in different paddocks and also increases during dry times."

Improved animal health and wool quality...

"I am extremely happy with how Mega Minerals has maintained the health of our sheep," said David.

According to David, with the inconsistency in seasons, it is difficult to accurately evaluate cost benefits. It is however, extremely easy to assess the improved animal health and condition, which has also been reflected in the quality of their wool.

"Despite the long dry season we've still been able to maintain 90% lambing and I know that the Mega Minerals lick blocks are definitely helping," adds David.

Win a Chainsaw

SUPERIOR
MINERAL SUPPLEMENT



MEGA MINERALS
LICK BLOCKS

The proven, safe & effective supplement for Winter & Drought conditions

5 chainsaws to be won!!!



How to be in the draw...

Purchase 5 bags of Superior Mineral Supplement or Mega Minerals Lick Blocks (5x17kg or 1x75 kg) to qualify for your place in our draw to win a Husqvarna Chainsaw (model 340) valued at \$599! Closes 31.08.07 Drawn 17.09.07

AgSolutions
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CALL NOW for answers to your animal nutrition and soil fertility questions.

Freecall: 1800 81 57 57 Fax 07 5482 7219 email: info@agsolutions.com.au