



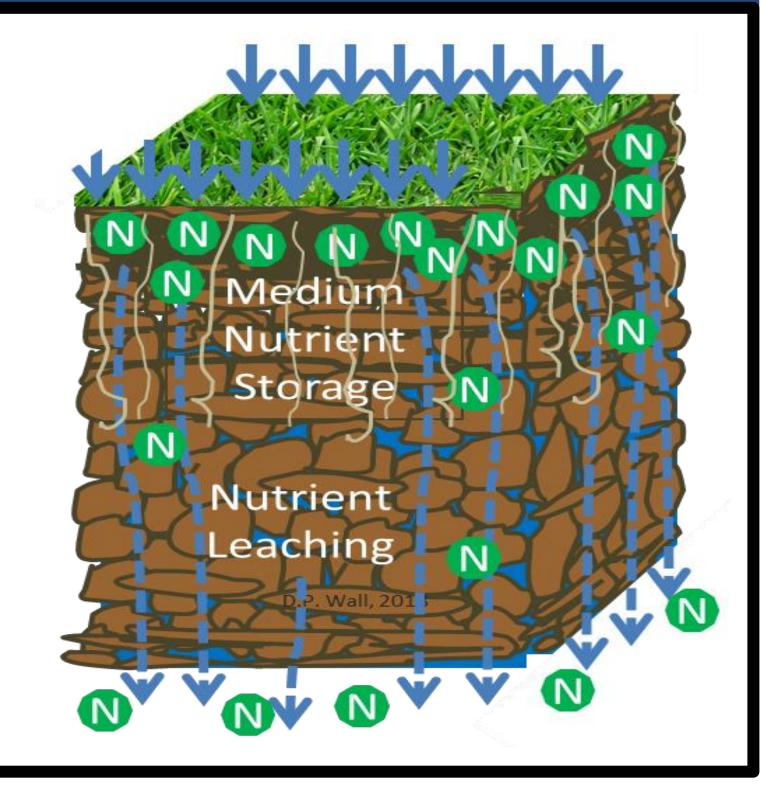
ASSAP - Reducing N loss from farms **Water Quality**





Nitrogen (N) loss from farms

- Most N losses from free draining soils
- N does not bind tightly to soil
- Leaching occurs where more N available than plant needs
- Excess N is *leached* by rain to waters



Advice to minimise N losses to water

- Adhere to the closed periods for N applications
- Apply N when soil temp is > 5.5°C & rising
- Soil moisture deficit saturated / drought impacts uptake
- Match application rates to grass growth rates
- Optimum soil fertility <u>Lime, P, K</u> and <u>Sulphur</u>
- Use clover, protected urea and LESS

Take home messages Establish if land is N risky



EPA PIP Map for Nitrogen: The higher the PIP rank (darker colours) the greater the risk of N loss.

N – 'optimise use'

