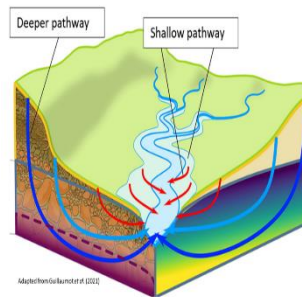


ASSAP – Reducing nutrient loss from farms

Diffuse 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



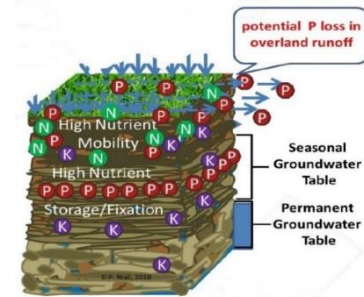
Advice to minimise N losses to water

- 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 – Lime, P, K and Sulphur



Diffuse Phosphorus (P) loss from farms

- Most losses from poorly draining soils
- Heavy rainfall leads to overland flow of water
- P and soil sediment washed off into drains & streams



Advice to minimise P losses to water

- 'Break the Pathway'
- Buffer strips/Riparian margins
- Identify and manage critical source areas (CSAs)
- Check weather forecast
- Fence off streams

