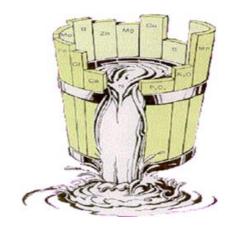




# Protecting N & P Inputs on Farms



Mark Plunkett, Teagasc, Johnstown Castle, Wexford











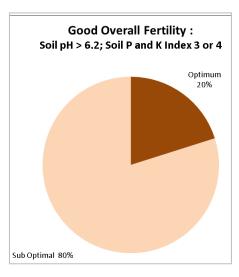
#### **Nutrient Efficiency – Factors**

- Soil Testing
- Soil pH & Liming
- Farm Nutrient Requirements
- Utilising Cattle Slurry
- Selecting Fertiliser Types
- Nutrient Application Programmes



#### 1. Soil Testing - Foundation

- ~ 200,000 soil samples
- Soil fertility (pH, LR, P & K)
- Monitor soil fertility changes
  - Index 1's to Index 4's (take action)
- Response to nutrient applications







# 2. Soil pH & Lime









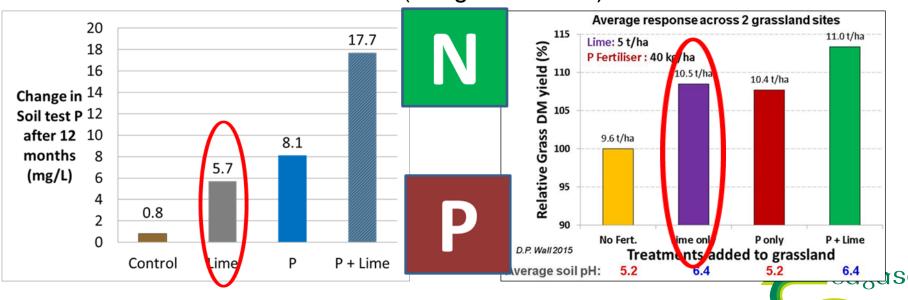
#### **Double Dividend!**

- Increases nutrient availability
  - Soil N release
    - ¬ 70kgN/ha/year (€70/ha)
  - Increases soil P fertility / availability
    - Index 1 to Index 2 (10kg P / €25/ha)

~ 50kg P to move 1mg / L Index 1 to 2 150 kg P /ha Costs -€300/ha

> Lime Costs €25/ha/yr

AGRICULTURE AND FOOD DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY



### 3. Farm Nutrient Requirements

- Completing a farm fertiliser plan
- Lime advice & plan
- N, P, K & S advice Rates & Timings
- Farm soil fertility review
- Soil Fertility Mapping
- Meeting farm CC req.'s







# 4. Efficient Use of Cattle Slurry





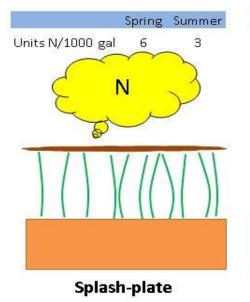
#### **Method of Application & Timing**

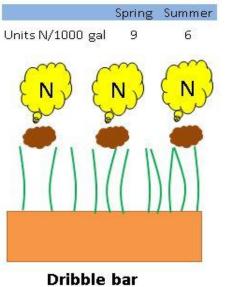


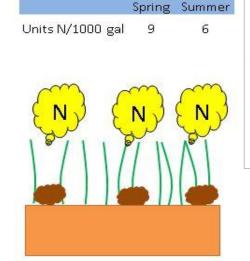












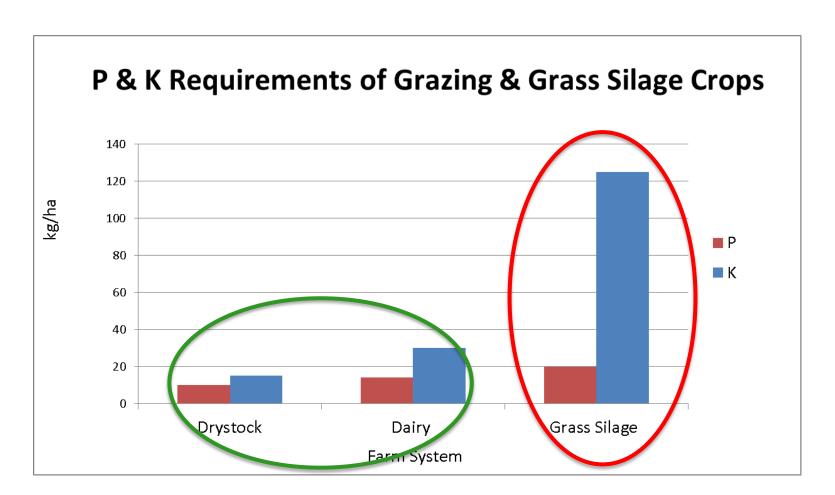


Trailing shoe

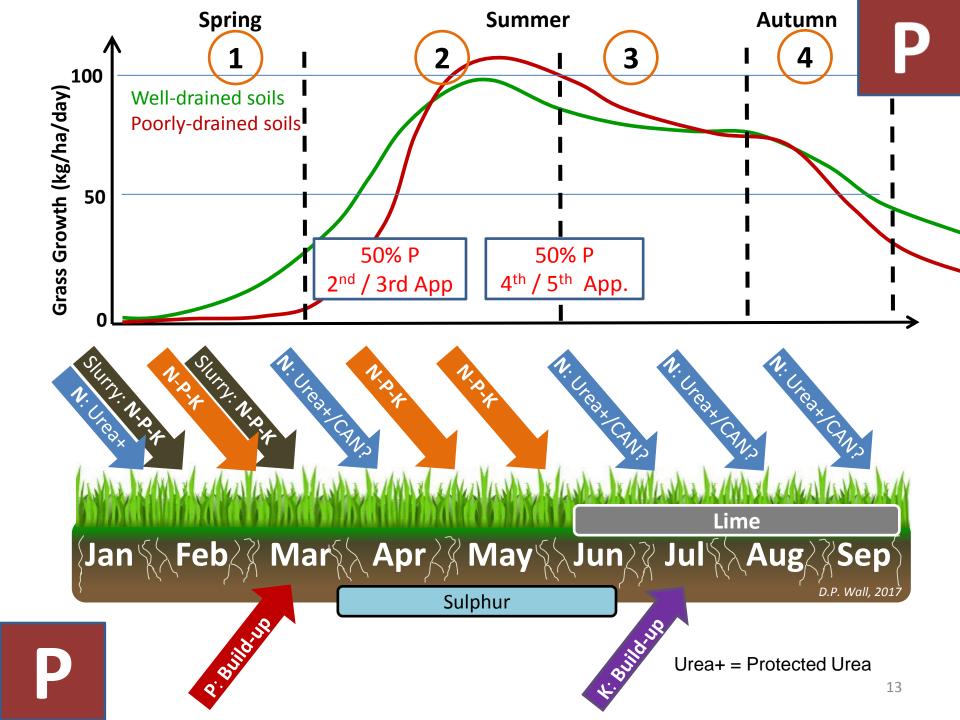
Every  $1m^3 = 1kg N$ 



#### 5. Grass P & K Req. (Index 3)







## Farm Fertiliser.. Types

Protected Urea 46%

**Nitrogen Source** 

- 18-6-12 +S
- **23-10-0 +S**

P & K Sources Grazing

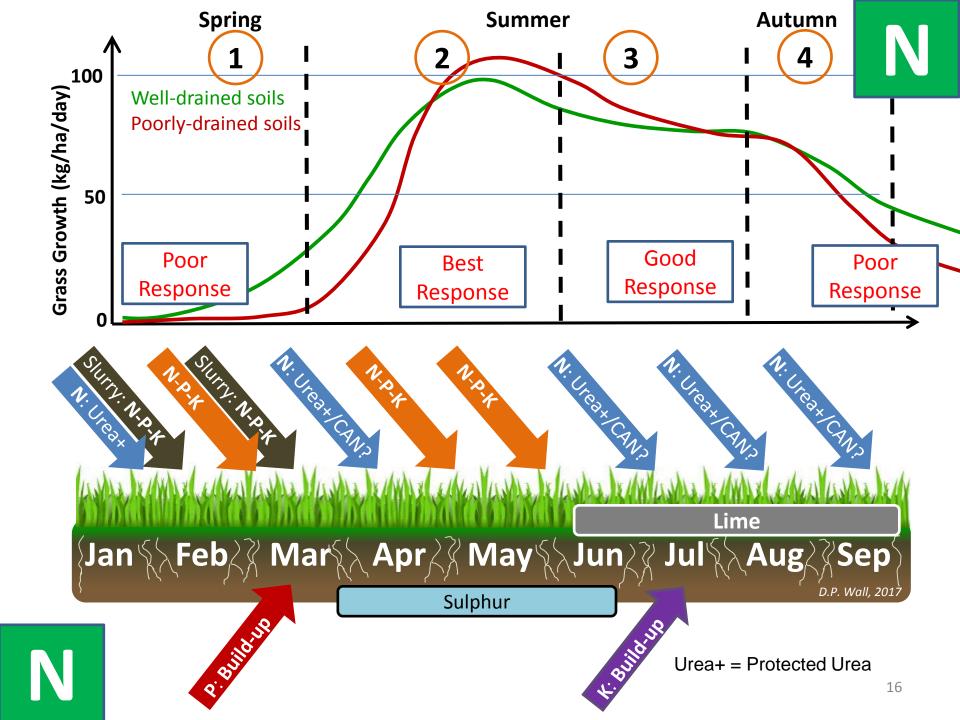


- Cattle Slurry
- **6-5-32**
- Top Up Options
  - 24-2.5-10 +S
  - 27-2.5-5 +S

P & K Sources Silage areas







#### 6. Fertiliser Programme

N, P & K Advice (kg/ha) & fertiliser products (kg/ha) – Free Draining Soil

Farm stocked at **210kg Org N/ha** or 2.5 LU/ha

Soil P Index 2 and K Index 2 Feeding 2.5 t/ha Conc. Feed – P adjustment (- 9kg P/ha)

Ad	vice	Feb	March	April	May	June / July	Sept	
	duct g/ha)	ProUrea 55 kg/ha	18-6-12+S 300 kg/ha	ProUrea 120 kg/ha	18-6-12+S 300kg/ha	ProUrea 60 kg/ha	ProUrea 60 kg/ha	Total kg/ha
N	250	25	54	555	54	28	28	244
P	37		18		18			36
K	65		36		36			72
S	20		9		9			18

**Early P** 

**Mid-Season P** 



#### **In Summary**

- Soil test results & nutrient decisions / planning
- Lime The 1<sup>st</sup> Step Priming / Conditioning soils
- Prepare farm fertiliser plan & Consult regularly
- Recycle <u>all</u> cattle slurry on silage area
- Identify crop nutrient requirements
- Select a suitable fertiliser blends to match the soils
  & crops on your farm













#### For Further Information



#### Soil & Soil Fertility

The health of our soil is a key component to the efficient utilisation of soil nutrients in the production of food in an environmental and sustainable manner.



#### What's New

- 3rd Cut Grass Silage N,P,K,S (PDF)
- Teagasc Soil Fertility Report 2020 (PDF)
- Protected Urea Cost Efficient N May 2020 (PDF)
- Fertiliser Programme Kg Ha Soil P Build Up (PDF)
- · Signpost series protected urea- Webinar presentation (PDF)
- Protected Urea List- May 2020 (PDF)
- Common Nutrient Deficiencies n Spring Cereals No.2 (PDF)
- Common Nutrient Deficiencies in Spring Cereals No.1 (PDF)
- Importance of Sulphur (S) for Grass & Crop Production (PDF)
- Grassland Other Nutrients (PDF)
- Protected Urea Cost Efficient N (PDF)
- · Pig Manure Booklet 2020 (PDF)
- · Organic Manure N P & K Values 2020 (PDF)
- · Fertiliser programme kg ha 2020 April Update (PDF)
- · Protected Urea List April, 2020 (PDF)
- Fertiliser Advice for Grass Establishment (PDF)
- W Cereal Fertiliser Advice Update 2020 (PDF)
- 1st Cut Grass Silage N P K Req's (PDF)
- Technical Bulletin No.5 Potassium (PDF)
- Q & A Protected Urea December 2019 (PDF)
- Early Nitrogen Advice Grassland (PDF)
- · Protected Urea List- December 2019(PDF)
- · Have we turned the corner with national soil fertility? (PDF)
- · Efficient Use of Phosphorus In Agriculture Tech Bulletin (PDF)
- · Major & Micro Nutrient Advice For Productive Agricultural Crop

