National Soil Fertility Trends

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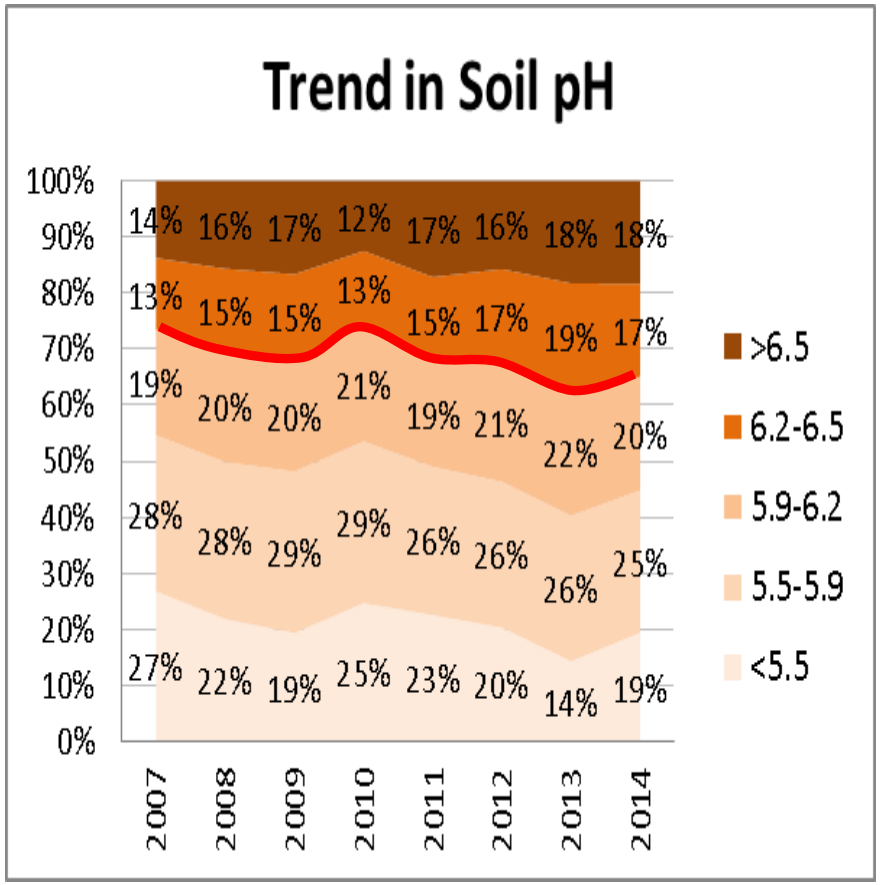
Soil Fertility Information

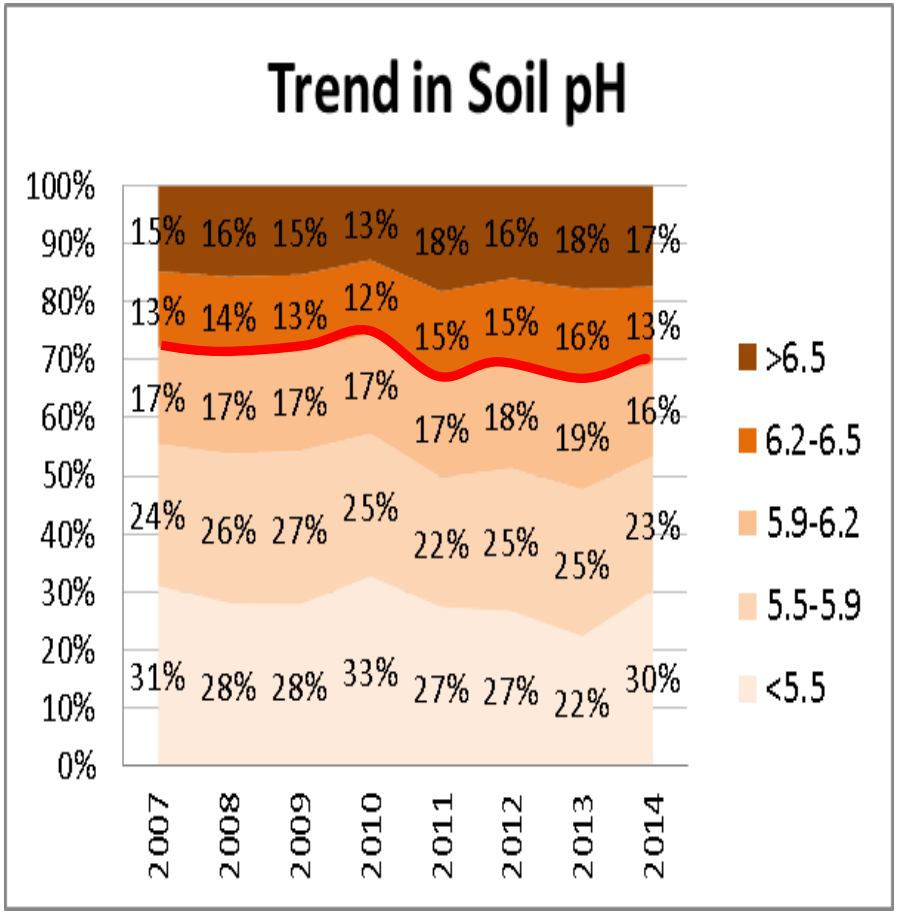
- Professional advisory soil testing service
- ~35,000 soil samples annually
- Trends for major nutrients
- Cost €€
- Farm specific information
- Track farm trends over time
- More efficient fertiliser planning

Soil pH – Dairy Soils 2014



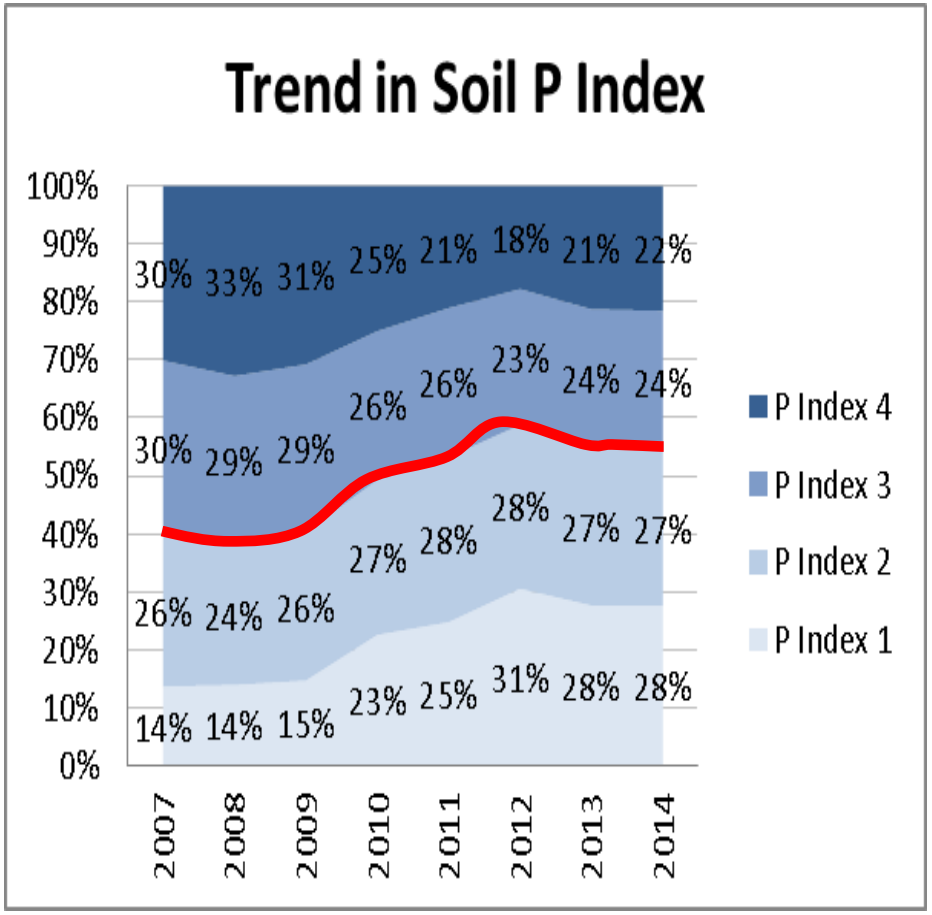
- ~ 16,000 samples
- 64% of soils pH <6.2
- Major Concern!!!
- ***Target Soil pH 6.3***

Soil pH – Drystock Soils 2014



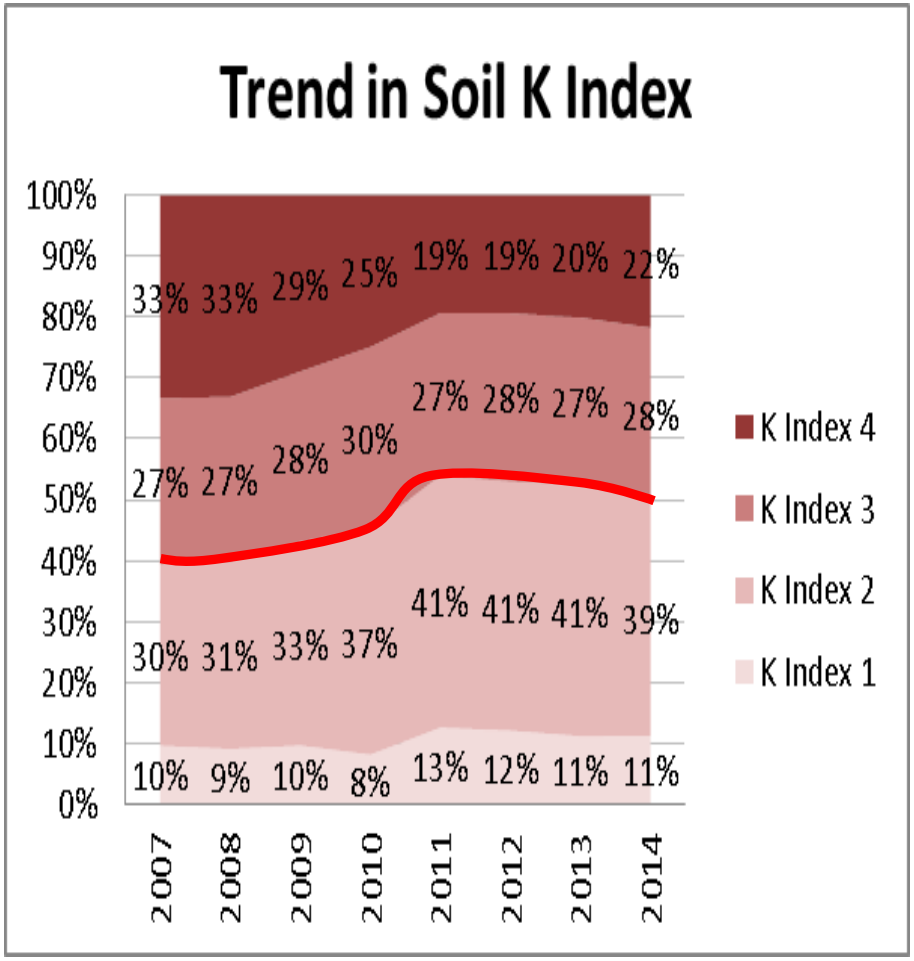
- ~ 17,000 samples
- 69% of soils pH <6.2
- pH Improvement / Benefits / Cost Control
- ***Target Soil pH 6.3***

Soil P – Grassland Soils 2014



- *Stabilised last 2 years*
- 55% of soils Index 1 & 2
- *Approx. 25% Index 3*
- *Downward trend in Index 4*
- ***Target Index 3*** ***(>5.1 mg/l)***

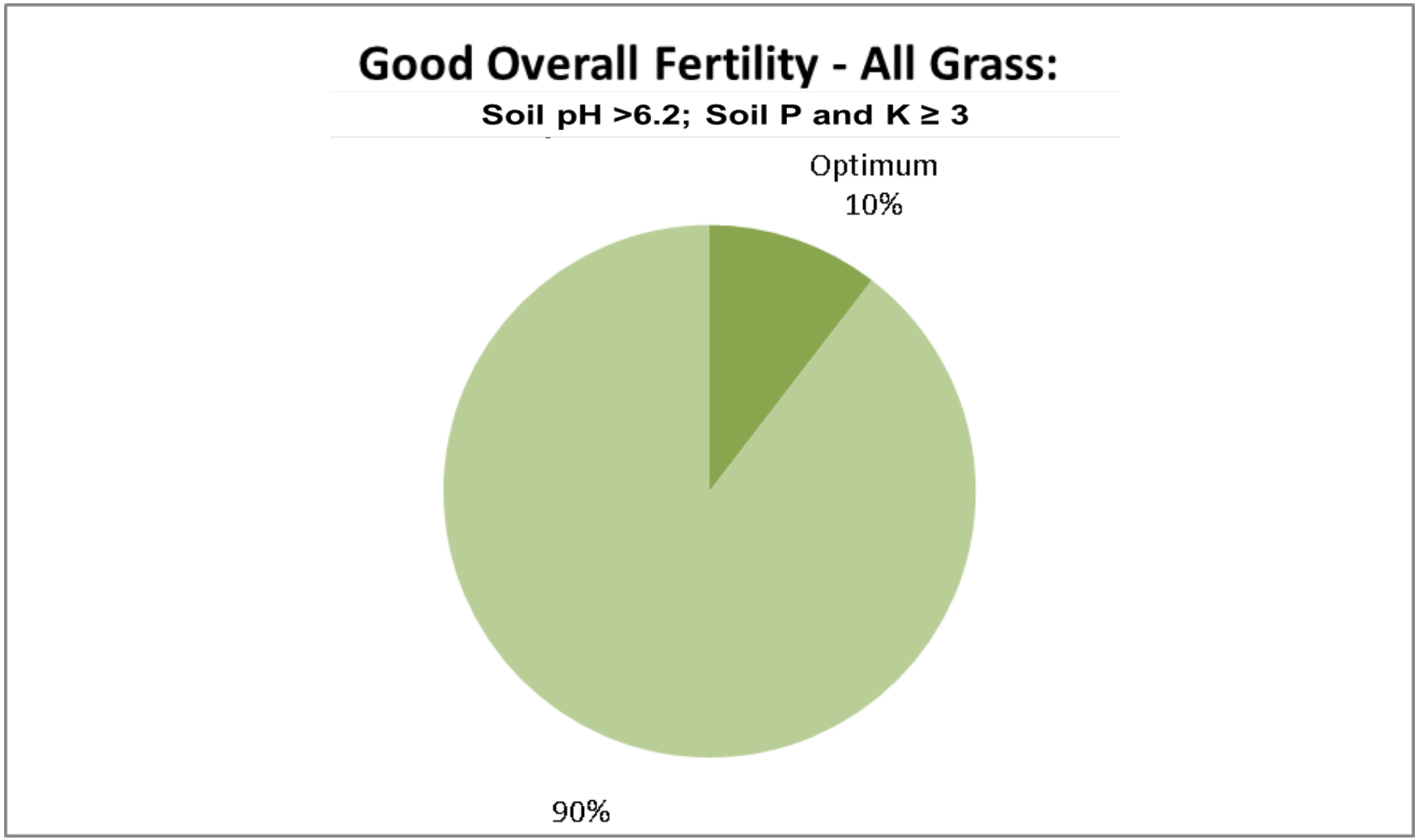
Soil K – Grassland Soils 2014



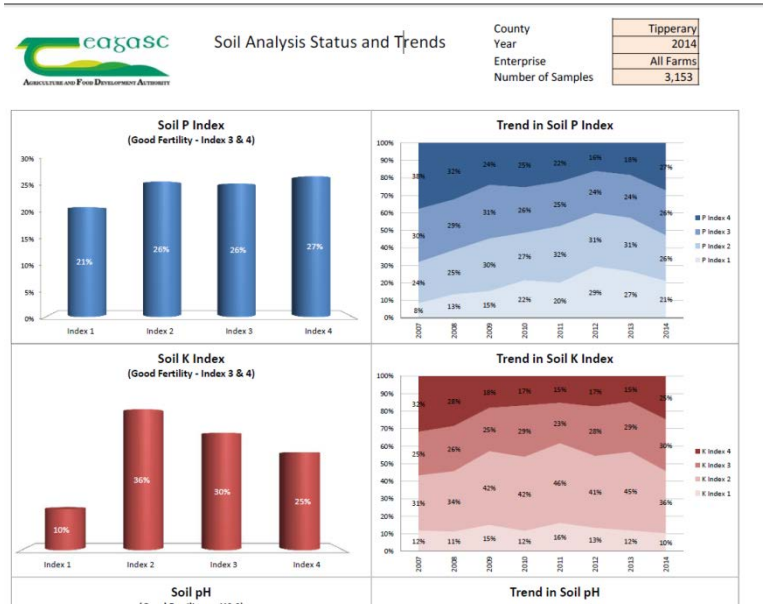
- *Relatively stable over last number of years*
- 50% of soils Index 1 & 2
- *Approx. 28% Index 3*
- *21% of soils Index 4*

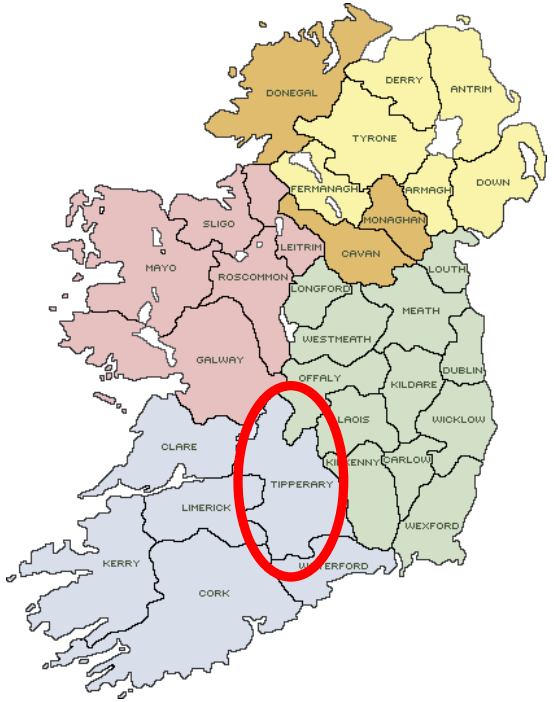
- ***Target Index 3***
  (>150mg/l)

Grassland Soils With Optimum Soil Fertility



Soil Fertility Data - County

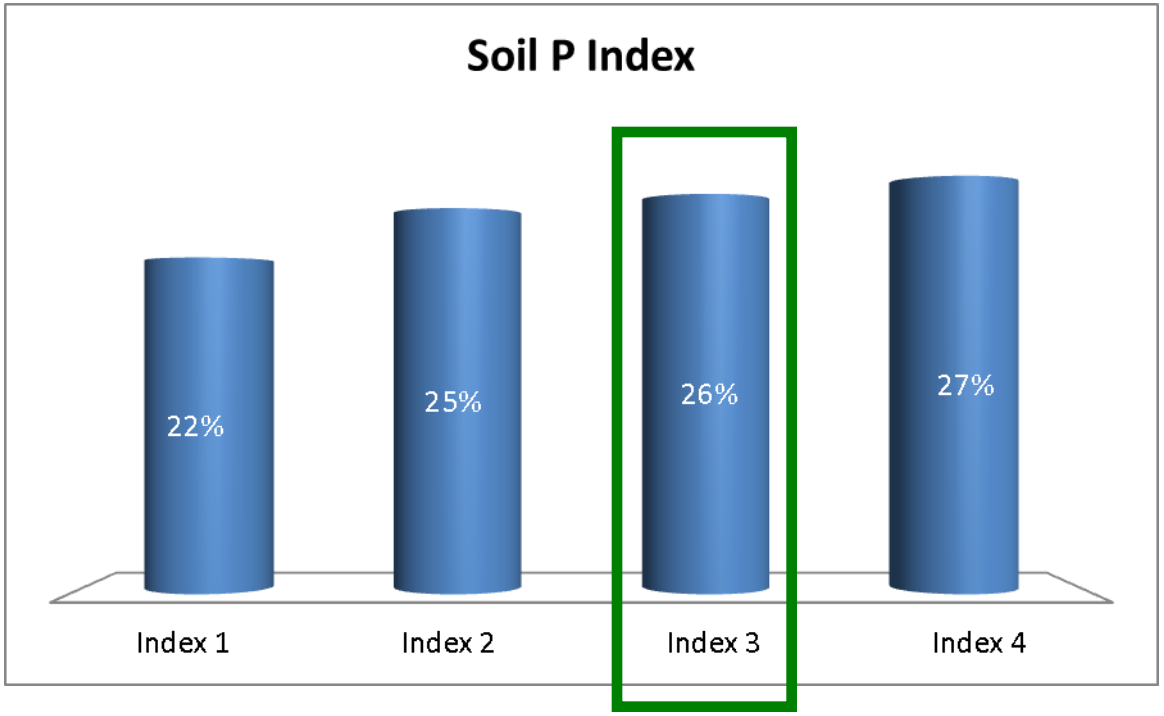


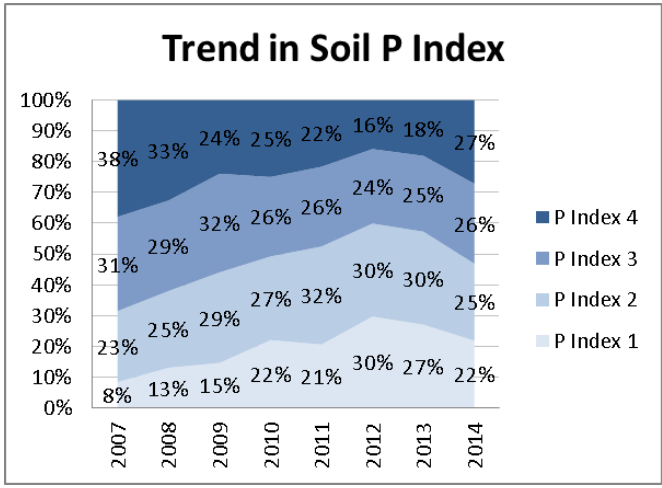


Full report available on **Soil & Soil Fertility**

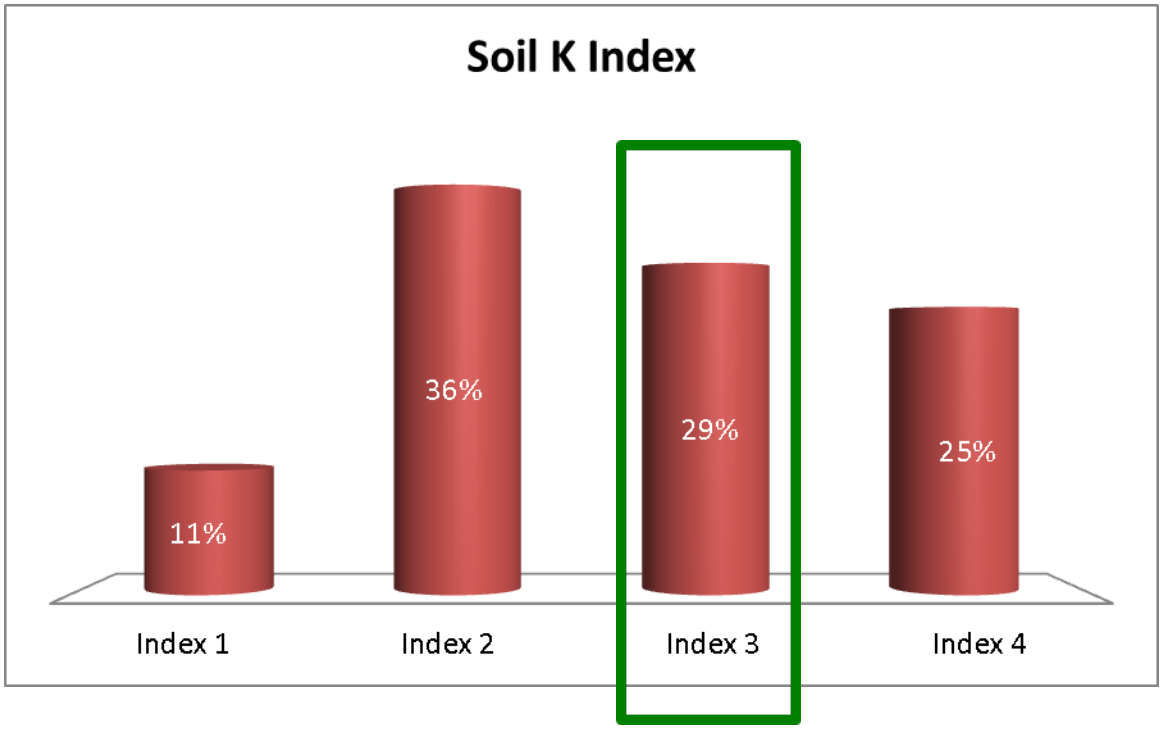
Website www.teagasc.ie/soil

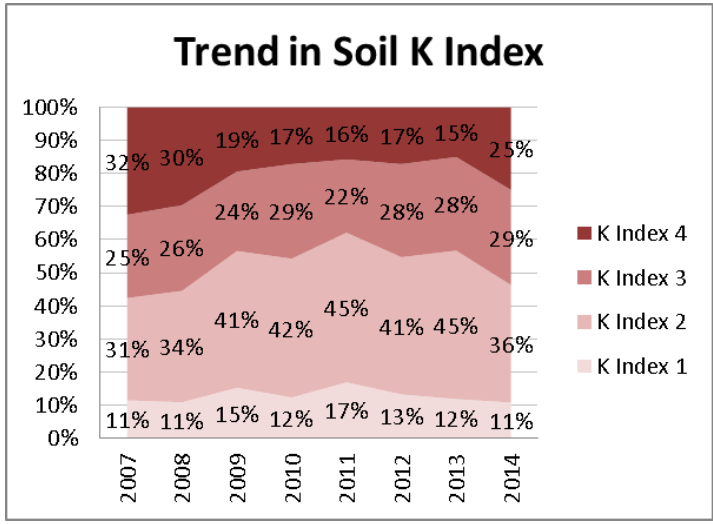
Soil P Levels - Tipperary



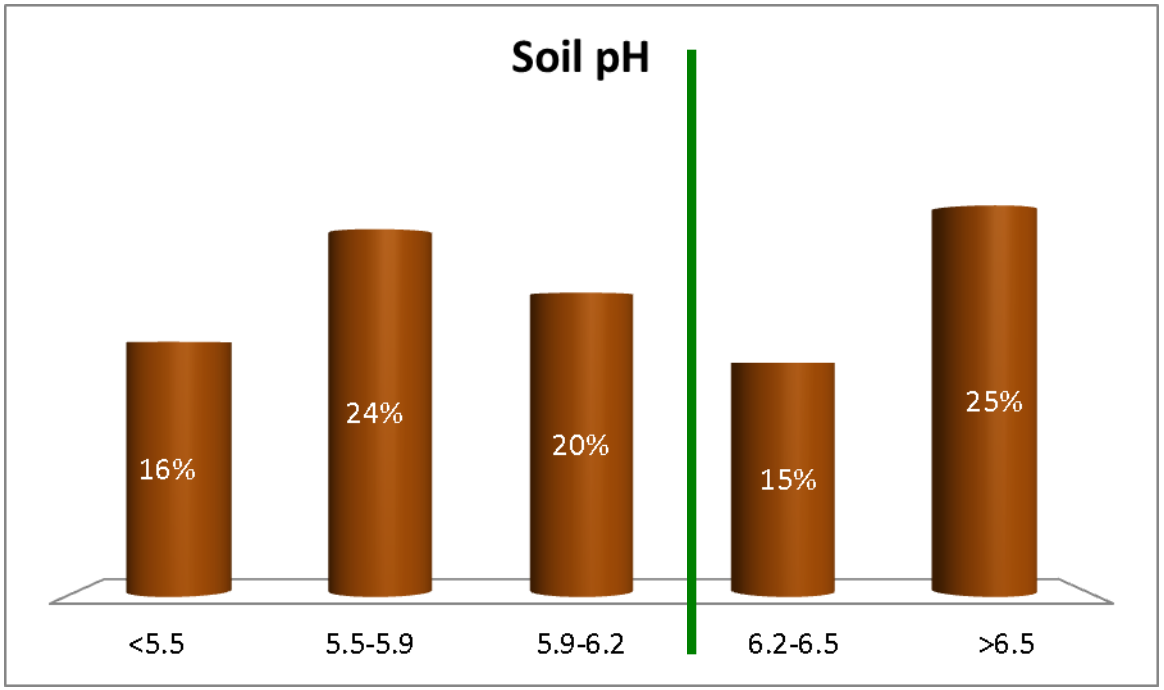


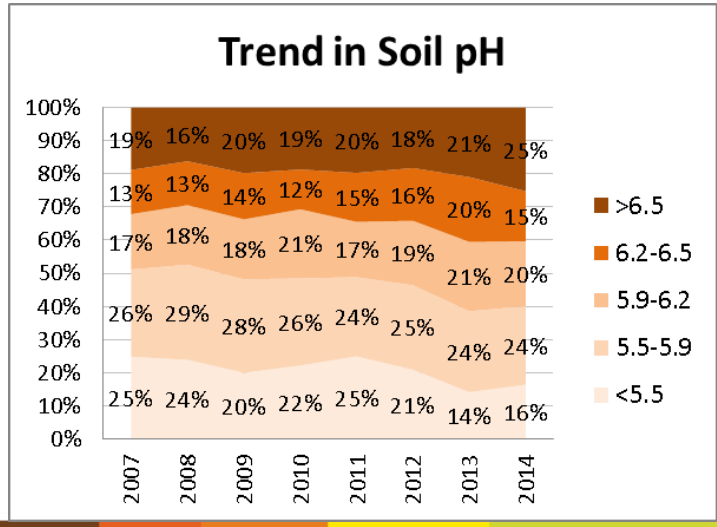
Soil K Levels - Tipperary



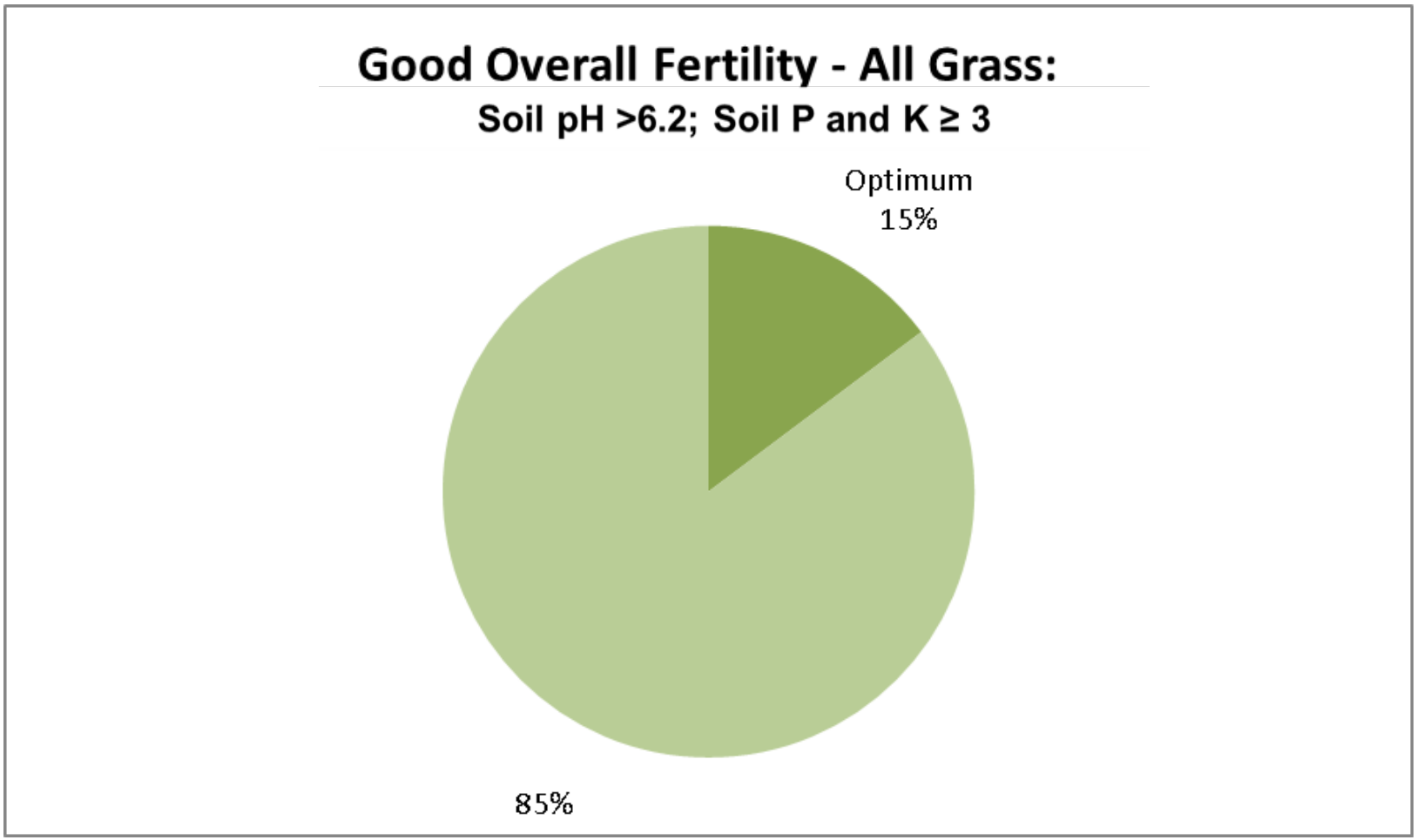


Soil pH Levels - Tipperary





Optimum Soil Fertility - Tipperary



In Summary – National Data

- 10% of soils tested have good overall fertility
- ~70% of Grassland soils require lime
- Soil P has stabilised in last 2 years
  - 55% of soils very low to low P status
- Soil K trends some what follow P trends
  - 50% of soils very low to low K status

Further information on soil fertility data log onto

Soil & Soil Fertility Website *www.teagasc.ie/soil/*

Thank You ……

Acknowledge:-

Teagasc advisory staff

Dr. David Wall

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Dr. Stan Lalor