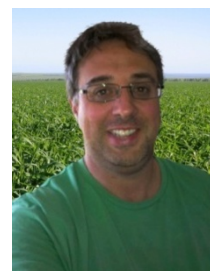# TO MIX OR NOT TO MIX

This Insight is about the **'Ask the Doctor'** inquiry of **Mr. Greg Kaynes – RLF's Area Sales Manager (NNSW / SQLD)** about whether UREA can be applied (mixed) **with RLF's Pasture Plus**.
By Dr. Hooshang Nassery Ph.D

'Ask the Doctor'

Dr. Hooshang, graziers in the New England traditionally applies 100kg UREA (46kg N) per Ha per annum. Many are now enquiring whether they can apply (mix) UREA with RLF's Pasture Plus. Their questions to me are: – will UREA be better utilised when applied as a foliar? – do they still require 100kg/Ha of UREA or can this amount be dramatically reduced – are there dangers to pastures when applying UREA as a foliar? – does RLF have a template advising them how much UREA to mix with RLF Pasture Plus?

Mr. Greg Kaynes
RLF's Area Sales Manager
(NNSW/ SQLD)

'Ask the Doctor' answer from Dr. Hooshang Nassery

The urea application when mixed with **CSF** has advantage of preventing loss of ammonia in the tank and when it hits the soil. However depending on prevailing conditions, the rate of urea/h is limited to between 5 to 10kg preferably as low Biuret urea. Urea efficiency is about four times better with foliar than soil, thus urea application to soil is needed but could be reduced as per such efficiency gaps and also how much nitrogen is used as foliar. Since foliar uptake uses less of plant energy than soil uptake, there are energy saving for plant as well which is of much value in wintery conditions. Templates or guides for application become complicated since information on soil levels of urea/ammonium ion and nitrate ions are not available to us. If growers supply that information along with their history of use of such products and DSE for farm/paddock, we can help them with this.