

HOW PASTURE CROPS RESPOND TO DIFFERING FERTILISER ROUTINES Is it possible to just use Pasture Plus ?

By Dr Hooshang Nassery, Head of Technical



A question was recently asked by Greg Kaynes, (Area Sales Manager Northern NSW/Southern QLD) about the response and results of **Pasture Plus** that he was observing within a trial that is being currently undertaken by him.

Question:

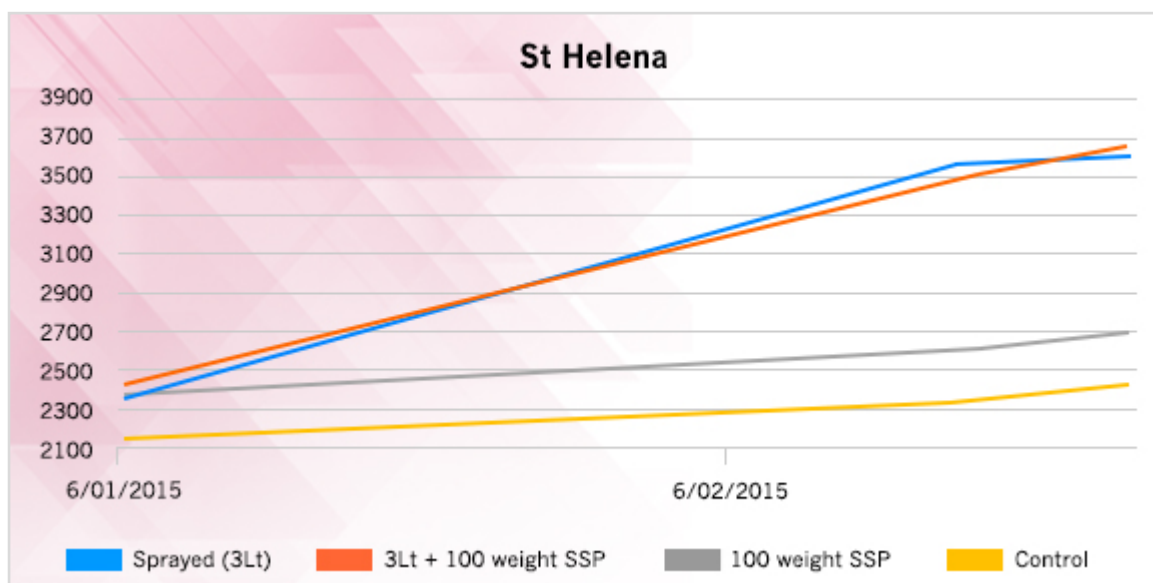
I am running a trial at the moment, where we compare :

1. Control (no fertiliser history for greater than 5 years)
2. 100 weight SSP (Single Super Phosphate)
3. 100 weight SSP + 3-litre **Pasture Plus**
4. 3-litre **Pasture Plus**

The results so far are amazing.

Is it possible for growers to completely steer away from soil fertilisers and just focus on **Pasture Plus** ?

This graph of my observations so far, highlights what I mean. Thanks for your thoughts.



Answer:

After viewing your results I can see that your Trial, after a couple of months, shows that the growth response to Plot 4 (3-litre **Pasture Plus**) and Plot 3 (3- litre **Pasture Plus** with SSP) is similar.

The response to Plot 2 (SSP) is far less, and in fact is much closer to Plot 1 (Control) where none of the treatments were applied.

The overall result suggests that pasture growth in this paddock is not responding to SSP. This is often a reflection of the high phosphorus fixation capacity in soil that results from high activity/availability of iron, manganese and aluminium, when the soil turns more acidic over time.

As to your question as to whether growers can move away from applying granular fertiliser to soil altogether, my answer would be that they might be able to do that if :

1. the soil fixed phosphorus/reverse is abundant, and
2. if other means of releasing the fixed phosphorus of soil comes into play, i.e. by application of **Pasture Plus** and lime.

NOTE :

Full details of this Trial will be released formally at a later date.

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