Case Study - D McEwen

Stirlingshire QMS Monitor farm Year 1

Monitor:

Monitor field tested using the Cation Exchange Rebalancing Soil Survey, field divided into half, one half treated according to the Cation Exchange Rebalancing soil survey results and other treated to the standard soil results system. Field ploughed and sown out with a grass ley in May 2013, various missing nutrients and a bio plant stimulant were applied to the test half and the other half received a standard NPK program, in terms of fertiliser costs, the 2 systems worked out at around the same cost.

Benefits:

- Yield – height/volume of grass tested on 3 separate occasions across year, 15% average yield improvement recorded on the Cation Exchange Rebalancing half.
- Quality – grass tissue tested on both halves, showed improvements in Crude protein 21%+, D value 8 %+, ME 8%+, Sugars 45%+ on the Cation Exchange Rebalancing half, also trace elements were tested and we found a good solid improvement across the main TE's
- Grass utilization – we decided to graze 60 lambs in each half of the field(electric fence to divide the 2 half's), in the the Cation Exchange Rebalancing half, lambs showed a 15% increase in daily live weight gain, also there was only 4 lambs that didn't make the grade on the Cation Exchange Rebalancing half, but 11 lambs on the other half, grass sward was measured on both half's, the Cation Exchange Rebalancing half had enough grass to support 24 lambs for 28 days, but the other half could only support 12 lambs for 28 days.
- Palatability - it was noted on numerous occasions the ewes and lambs preferred the treated half
- Nitrogen – 25% less used on Cation Exchange Rebalancing half.

For more information contact - David Franklin

david@franklinsoilfertility.com Mobile - 07977139242 www.franklinsoilfertility.com