

Right nutrients key to health of your soil

By Rachelle Maddock

“HALF of all the commercial fertilizer ever produced has been applied since 1984. Half of every metric ton of fertilizer applied to fields never makes it into the plant tissue, but ends up evaporating or being washed into local watercourses.” Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) 1999.

Modern agriculture focuses heavily on getting the right nutrients (eg.NPK) for optimum production.

Once this is established farmers are encouraged to apply as much nutrient as they can afford assuming the result will be directly proportionate to the investment.

Whilst this seems to be the case for a period of time, why are we continually adding more nutrient to experience a plateau or a drop in production?

There must be more to plant growth than chemistry.

Biology or soil organisms are too often the forgotten link to essential nutrient cycling.

Plants can only utilize nutrients in their converted form.

And whilst low nutrient levels are considered deficient, too high nutrient levels can be toxic.

We are told to ignore our total nutrient levels in soil tests due to these nutrients being **unavailable** to the plant.

However, with the correct balance of soil biology, these nutrients can be unlocked and made available to the plant.

Farmers considering long term quality production need to look back to soil health including a full quota of soil organisms to cycle nutrients naturally.

If you would like to know more about how to achieve high yields with naturally balanced healthy soils.....

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