Question to ask yourself?

Am I utilising the pasture I have?

If available pasture contains more than 10% old pasture (on dry matter basis) in August, the pasture is under used or over fertilised

Question to ask yourself?

What are my pH levels?

Below 5.0 ($CaCl_2$)

– reduce P efficiency

Lime should be considered.

Need to consider

Other limiting factors

- Compaction
- Waterlogging
- Low water holding capacity

What are the benefits of improving your P levels?

- Improved pasture have more chance to persist
- If utilise extra feed grown (grazing management) may be able to turn off stock earlier or heavier stock
- Improve management of varying climate – ie cut off springs.

In Summary

- Soil test – benchmark & monitoring. Understand your phosphorus trend
- Set your target P level
- What is your rule of thumb for your property?
- Phosphorus is not the only nutrient to consider

VARIATION IN OLSEN P BETWEEN YEARS

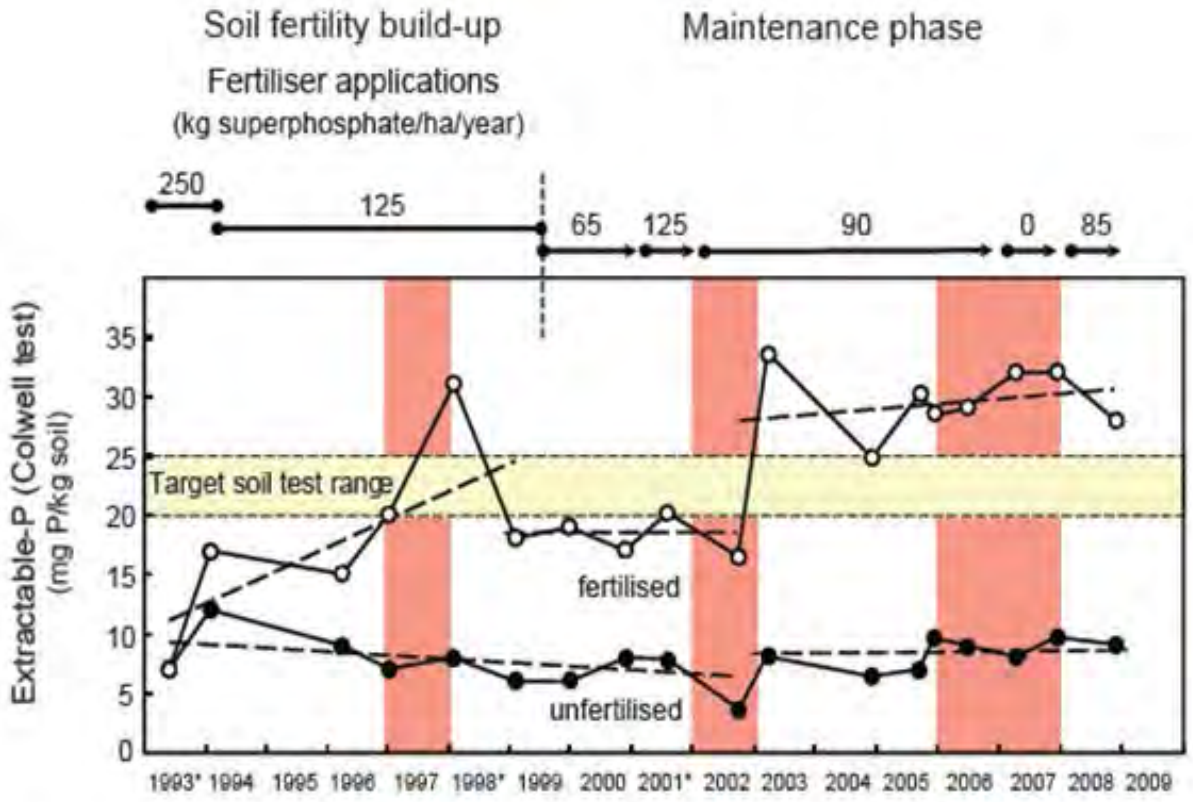

Figure 9: Fertiliser application history and results of annual soil testing in a Grazing Systems Demonstration at Bookham, NSW (e.g. Fig. 7), now extended to show years in which significant spring droughts occurred (pale red shading). Soil test results from an adjacent unfertilised paddock grazed continuously by 6 wethers/ha are also shown.