



SIMPLE IDENTIFICATION OF ON-FARM LIME SOURCES IN THE WESTERN REGION

Year:

2018 - 2019

Funding Provider:

Grains Research and Development Corporation (GRDC)

Lead Organisation:

Liebe Group

Collaborators

- MapIQ
- Merredin and Districts Farm Improvement Group (MADFIG)

Location:**Aim:**

To develop a fact sheet which will assist growers within the Kwinana East Port zone in being able to identify on-farm opportunities for assessing and extracting alternatives to lime from their own property. This includes conducting a quality assessment of the product and assessing if the product found on their property will provide an economically viable alternative to externally sourced lime products.

Project Information:

Soil acidity is a major constraint to production for Western Australian (WA) grain growers. In August 2017, it was identified that the cost of amelioration for soil acidity in the Kwinana East zone is very high, and identified a desire for growers to be able to assess whether they had a potential source of lime/or lime alternatives on their own properties.

Soil surveys since 2005 shown that 70% of soils in South West WA are below recommended pH at the surface (0-10cm), and continued monitoring has shown that this constraint in the majority of the affected area is remaining static (at best) or deteriorating. Although rates of lime application appear to be increasing, they still fall well short of what is required to ameliorate existing, and counter ongoing, soil acidification.

This project scope was developed through ideas from the Kwinana East port zone RCSN and growers at Local Open Forums held in the Kwinana East port zone in August 2017, to provide enough information to growers to help them identify on-farm lime sources, and determining whether these can meet (or exceed) the cost/benefit ratio of more traditional coastal sources.

By February 2019, a fact sheet was produced (electronic) titled "Locating and assessing alternatives to lime on your own property" that included all of the points that need to be considered if a grower wants to find, assess, and use on-farm products to help alleviate acidity on their property.

PROJECT FUNDERS



REPORTS & LINKS

Locating and assessing on-farm lime sources [Link to PDF](#)