

Agency Report  
DPIRD  
Rob Summers

### **uPtake update**

The uPtake project monitoring the response of pasture to phosphorus fertiliser is continuing and preliminary results from DWER are showing that leaching of phosphorus can be reduced if other nutrients are not limiting.

### **HEWA – Healthy Estuaries WA**

Soil testing will be continuing this year until 2024. This year there will be a comparison between soil sampling carried out by DPIRD staff on 60 properties and sampling carried out by the landholders referred to as assisted or DIY sampling. Landholders will be given training and be able to use a battery powered drill and auger to sample their properties. The samples will be analysed as before and presented as maps of their properties at workshops. The workshops will be in March 2021 and the landholders will receive training on how to interpret the maps and decide how much fertiliser to apply. As part of the project they will have access to independent agronomists to help decide a fertiliser program.

Two publications have recently been posted online through the DPIRD research Library:

Summers, R, Richards, P, Weaver, D & Rowe, D 2020, 'Soil amendment and soil testing as nutrient reduction strategies for the Peel Integrated Water Initiative', Resource management technical report 416, Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development, Perth.

<http://researchlibrary.agric.wa.gov.au/rmtr/401>

Weaver, D, Summers, R, Rogers, D & Richards, P 2020, 'The effect of soil pH on phosphorus content of clover pasture', Resource management technical report 417, Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development, Perth.

<https://researchlibrary.agric.wa.gov.au/rmtr/402/>