

Agency Report  
DPIRD  
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### **uPtake update**

The uPtake project monitoring the response of pasture to phosphorus fertiliser has been completed in the Peel and an information session on the results is being planned for November.

### **HEWA – Healthy Estuaries WA**

Farmers have been chosen for the soil testing for 20/21 and their properties have all been mapped so that the paddocks can later be coloured by their nutrient and pH status.

Prior to soil testing, landholders are surveyed for their nutrient management practices and the responses are entered onto an iPad database. If the questions are not changed the results can be quickly compiled to show the changes in fertiliser application rates as well as the changes in understanding. Training on the latest database will soon take place in Manjimup.

Training videos are being created for the DIY soil sampling program which will be available this year. Prior to field training, landholders will be able to see videos showing the way to sample their own property and what they need to know to be able to capture the location of the samples.

Analysis of the REI project which precedes the HEWA project has shown it to be successful in engaging a significant number of farmers across a wide area of WA's sensitive coastal catchments. Farmers responded through changes in practice measured by both reduction in phosphorus fertiliser applied and also application of fertiliser based on the evidence of soil test requirements. The HEWA project will also monitor these changes over a further four years.