

# NUTRIFOCUS LIMITED

KEEPING THE SPOTLIGHT ON CROP NUTRITION

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## MARKET UPDATE

### Nitrogen Pricing

In the last 7 or 8 months we have seen unprecedented increases in fertiliser prices with urea rising by over £60/T, Ammonium Phosphates by £100/T, TSP £70/T and MOP £40/T.

Why are the markets moving so quickly? Buoyant world demand is the main reason.

The world requirement for food is increasing, particularly for grains and this coupled with the rapidly increasing Biofuel market is creating a huge demand for fertiliser.

The International Energy Agency is predicting that the area of land used in Biofuel production will double by 2010 and that this year alone the predicted INCREASE in demand for N from North America alone will be three times the TOTAL UK market.

Will these increases continue? Well seemingly yes. The new Nitrogen production that many predicted would keep N prices down is only just keeping pace with demand and production problems with P's & K's are not helping.

### PK Holiday

A recent topic on one of the farming forums on the internet was discussing PK holidays. The judicious use of a PK holiday is good farm practice but the widespread non application of P&K as a result of high prices is short sighted. What happens if these price levels continue? How long a holiday will you take and what will be the longer term effect?

If you do not have a set of recent soil analysis results then that is your 1st priority. Once you have the results spend some time working out what to apply where and then look at the product mix available to meet your requirements.

**NVZ manure field limits** - The NVZ year runs until 19th December. This means that if you applied manures this spring and are going to apply more this autumn then both applications are in the same year NVZ year and the total N applied must be less than the relevant field limit.

**SOIL TESTING** - We can offer soil sampling, soil analysis and if required pH mapping.

**SLUGGO SLUG KILLER** is organically approved and is not toxic to dogs so if you have issues with public access why not consider using Sluggo.

For information on any of the above items or for any fertiliser or lime requirement please call 01243 261342