Course Description: Basic Principles of Soil Fertility and Fertilization

An intensive 3-day short course designed to help understand and utilise the principles and methods applied by Neal Kinsey as tested and proven worldwide on pastures, crops, grains, vegetables, vineyards, kiwifruit and tree crops. This system is designed to supply and maintain excellent soil fertility - to improve quality and increase yields. Both organic and conventional inputs can be considered, and examples discussed may be designed to include local soil samples.

Based on over 30 years of practical experience working with growers in over 70 countries, this program provides valuable information concerning how to improve and manage soil fertility for all types of land - from the basics of using and interpreting our soil tests to learning how to identify the effects of depleted or excessive nutrients in each soil. Questions about any agricultural aspects of each topic as it is being discussed are always welcome.

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The Neal Kinsey NZ Group
Kinsey’s word is spreading

Course Content:

Day 1
Working with Soil Tests, pH & Liming.

- Introduction to soil testing & soil fertility.
- Interpretation of the KAS Soil Audit.
- Soil pH. Neutralizing extreme pH.
- Total exchange capacity (TEC).
- Understanding base saturation.
- Liming, evaluating liming materials.
- Ca and Mg – Effect on soils & crop production.

Day 2 : Working with Major Nutrients.
- Nitrogen and Sulfur.
- Phosphate and Potassium.
- Sodium.
- Composts and Manures.
- Correcting Extremes.

Evening BBQ Dinner with Peter Norwood - leading Australian Animal Nutrition Specialist
- Some of the soil balance issues he see’s in Australian Soils.
- How these imbalances then affect plants, animals and ultimately us!
- Farmers are the providers of critical nutrition
- The opportunity going forward as nutritionally dense food producers.
- Learn about forerunning technology – hair analysis - measuring nutrient density for animals and humans.

Day 3 : Working with Micronutrients
Introducing the importance of Micronutrients – Soil Fertility Needs.
- Boron - use and cautions.
- Iron and determining if it is needed.
- Manganese for soils and crops.
- Copper - importance and uses.
- Zinc for fertility and crop needs.

Start Times:
Day 1 – Registration 8.00 – 8.30 am
Day 1 – 8.30 am – 5.00 pm
Day 2 – 8.30 am – 9.30 pm
Day 3 – 8.30 am – 5.30 pm