

## DAQ1001 Executive Summary Interpreting Soil Test

In recent times we have encouraged a soil testing regime that involves 0-10cm and 10-30cm testing for P and K because (i) they tend to be the most stratified nutrients (they are not mobile in the soil or water in Vertosols), and (b) the vast majority of uptake for those 2 nutrients occurs in those layers. However, the interpretation of the values generated from those soil tests has remained a dark art and this short paper hopes to summarise 'where we are at' with the principles we use to interpret all those soil tests that have been increasingly adopted by industrious agronomists and producers. The key principle we operate from when examining a soil test is "Will crops grown in this soil respond to surface or deep placement of P and/or K fertiliser?"