

# PayDirt

Unlock the growth potential of your sown pastures

<b>LOCATION:</b>	Wallumbilla, Queensland
<b>DATES:</b>	Session 1 – Friday 19 May Session 2 – Friday 16 June Session 3 – Friday 14 July
<b>PRICE:</b>	<b>\$1,870 inc. GST per business (includes an MLA subsidy) *</b> * With the support of MLA's Profitable Grazing Systems program (PGS) and Back Paddock Company this program has been subsidised for red meat producers.

## Program overview

This targeted program supports red meat producers to make informed decisions about managing unthrifty sown pastures and implement a fertilising program to lift productivity.

### You will learn:

- to evaluate which paddocks are good contenders for fertilising compared to changes in grazing regimes or plant species (via manipulation or re-sowing)
- soil sampling and how to read and interpret your soil test results to recognise which nutrients are most limiting pasture productivity
- identify and address nutrient shortfalls and use simple economic analyses to determine what investments should be given priority.

Throughout the program you will use decision tools to work towards getting the order and magnitude of investment in pasture improvement right.

### Why fertilise sown pastures?

In a highly variable climate, optimising sown pasture productivity via the strategic use of fertiliser provides a low-risk alternative to forage cropping, a means to boost long-term paddock carrying capacity and with good grazing management, a means to improve ground cover and build soil carbon.

### Program format:

Three group learning sessions over three months and access to individual coaching to develop property-specific plans.

### How to participate

For more information please contact your deliverers:

Peter Spies, Pinnacle Pocket Consulting  
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Jill Alexander, Applied Ag  
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Scan the QR code  
to register!



Participation cost is per business for up to two participants per business. An additional one-off subsidy of \$250 is available to producers who have previously attended an EDGE Network workshop (Grazing Fundamentals, Nutrition, Breeding or Business EDGE).

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## SESSION 1

### Is fertiliser the answer for this paddock?

You will work through critical factors to be assessed before considering fertiliser:

- suitability of land type and subsoil constraints
- land condition
- pasture rundown
- grazing management.

This session includes time in the paddock assessing pastures and soil types before learning how to take a soil sample for testing.



## SESSION 2

### Soil test results: What do they mean?

Develop an understanding of plant nutrient requirements and characteristics of the soil that affect nutrient availability and plant growth.

Everyone will bring along their soil test results, and the coach will work through the analyses to help you understand what is really going on and what can be improved through various interventions.



## SESSION 3

### Getting the best bang for your buck

Learn about the most effective and cost-efficient ways to deliver nutrients through a range of fertiliser products and application techniques by examining the 4R's of fertilising (right source, right rate, right time and right placement).

You will work through various real-life scenarios and test their feasibility using simple financial analyses.

## Meet the deliverers

### Peter Spies, Pinnacle Pocket Consulting

Peter Spies is an Agronomist who specialises in soils. Having worked in agriculture for 28 years, he specialises in land suitability, agronomy and feasibility for cropping and pastures, soil carbon, soil conservation, N & P use efficiency, soil biology and grazing land management. Peter has undertaken soil mapping across 140,000ha and has worked with soils across Queensland and NSW. Peter has interests in tropical pastures and runs a seedstock operation breeding tropical composite cattle on the Atherton Tablelands.



### Jill Alexander, Applied Ag

Jill Alexander is a Grazing Land Management extension officer with 26 years of experience in native and sown pasture research, development, and extension across northern Australia. She was part of the development and delivers Grazing Land Management EDGE, Grazing Fundamentals EDGE, Nutrition EDGE and the StockTake pasture monitoring workshops. With her husband, she runs a dryland grain and legume cropping business on the Western Downs.

