A Strategy for Managing Soil Acidity on South Australia’s Agricultural Soils

Aim: Degradation of South Australia’s agricultural soils by acidification is halted by restoring or maintaining soil pH to at least 5.0 (measured in CaCl₂)

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Increasing adoption on the ground

• Raise awareness of soil acidity and its treatment

• Promote practices that
  – restore soil pH
  – slow acidification rates

• Develop and implement collaborative projects with stakeholders
Policy / Institutional

- State-wide soil acidification working group
- Compatibility of agencies and organisations’ strategic goals
- Appropriate soil acidity targets / strategies in NRM Boards plans
- Facilitate development of lime sources
- Impact of institutional policies on adoption of practices
- Impact of technological & environmental developments
- Promote land owners “duty of care” (NRM Act)
- Economics of ameliorating soil acidity
- Raise awareness on cost of soil acidity
Research & Development

- Improve assessing and mapping soil pH
- Refine estimates of soil acidification rates
- New methods / materials to raise soil pH
- Subsoil acidity – occurrence, severity and treatment
Monitoring & Evaluation

- Adoption of acidity amelioration practices
- Monitor acidification rates
- Effectiveness of strategy