

Soil Phosphorus And Potassium Prices On The Rise: Use It Wisely

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Dr. Don Tyler, professor in soil management at the University of Tennessee's West Tennessee Research and Education Center in Jackson Tennessee, has found new interest in soil phosphorus and potassium.

"There is a lot of interest in what phosphorus and potassium does to your soil and what it really means to farmers. I want to help farmers more effectively utilize the information they are given to use everyday," said Tyler.

"I think it's very important to pay attention to what lab you are using as a farmer for your analysis. The type of analysis that the lab has done is important as well as to carefully look at what the soil test levels mean for you," said Tyler.

According to Tyler, it is relative to what category the field is put into in terms such as low, medium and high. Next the farmer should pay attention to the recommended level for their area.

"I want to show farmers how best to use phosphorus and potassium to make the most money," said Tyler, "they (phosphorus and potassium) are very expensive right now. There was a time five to ten years ago that they were cheap enough people weren't concerned about the recommended amounts but with today's economy and the financial slump that we have found ourselves in,

the price has become more important."

Tyler states that in the last year or two phosphorus and potassium have been expensive enough that it has now become more of an issue.

For more information on Tyler's research, go

Helping farmers utilize information they are given about soil phosphorus and potassium is Dr. Don Tyler Professor in soil management at the UT West Tennessee Research and Education Center.

Photo by John LaRose, Jr.



to the University of Tennessee's website or google soil test extractants. Δ

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