

NORTHERN TERRITORY SOIL SYMPOSIUM

Building land manager capacity and
knowledge in soil health and conservation

Jeremy Trembath

Harding Trembath Stock (HTS)





Our soil story

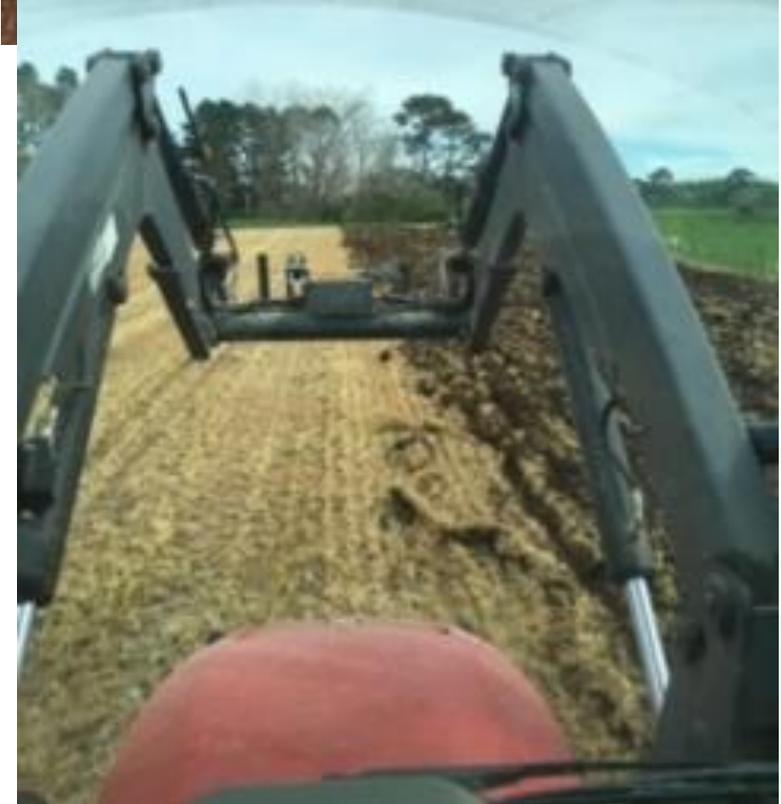
Jeremy and Amy
Trembath



The beginning...



NZ Farming





Returning home



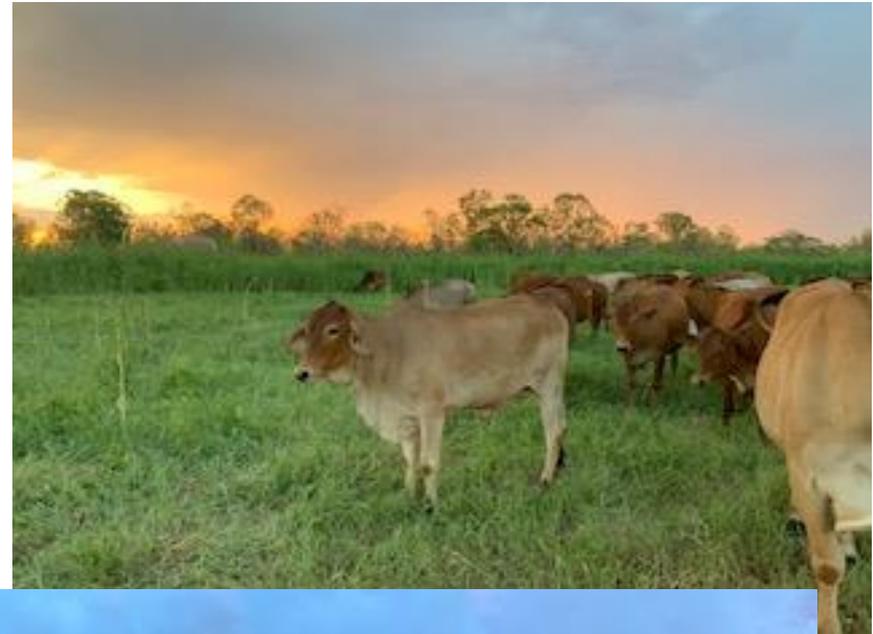
Mentors

- Pat Coleby – ‘Natural Farming’
- Charlie Arnott – ‘Regenerative Journey’
- Graeme Sait – ‘Nutrition Farming’
- Books and magazine articles
- Mungali Dairy Biodynamics
- Jono Shaw
- Andrew Dalgleish
- Dad



Soil Treatment

- Ploughing
- All about the cows



Evolving relationship with soil

- “If you can’t do it for the next 100 or 1000 years.. Don’t!”



- Weeds
- Chemicals
- Disease and pests



Science behind our soil

- Light-medium red clay loam
- Low organic matter
- pH ok, slightly acidic
- High in manganese and iron
- Potassium ok
- Low in everything else!



Client Details

Client: E E MUIR & SONS (KATHERINE)	Date received: 07/07/2021
Grower: TREMAN	Current Paddock: HORSE B (Sampled: 07/07/2021)
Order No.: 24-036509	Date reported: 12/07/21
Sample ID: 21017714	Profile sampled (cm): 30
Lab code: ES25	Client agronomist: MATT DENNIS
Crop: SOIL	Soil Type: Light Soil (CEC <8meq)

N-Check Results

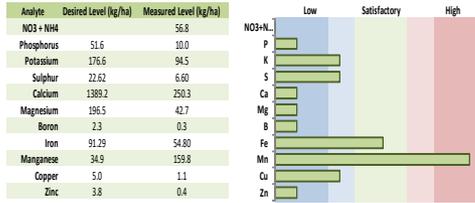
NO3-N:	4.88ppm	Nitrate:	49.7 kg/ha	Total available NO3 + NH4:	56.8 kg/ha
NH4-N:	0.70ppm	Ammonium:	7.1 kg/ha	Total req. NO3 + NH4 (kg/ha):	
				Total available NITROGEN =	16.7 kg/ha
Bulk Density:	1.26g/cm	Rootzone Moisture:	27 mm	% Moisture:	7.21% W/W

expressSoil Results

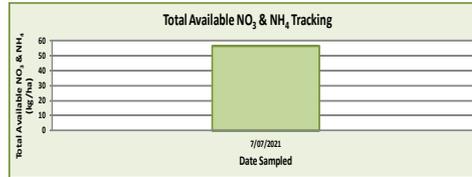
Analyte	Units	Result	Optimal Range	Status
pH (H ₂ O)*	(pH)	6.00	6 - 7	Slightly Acidic
pH (CaCl ₂)*	(pH)	5.09	5.4 - 6.5	Acidic
EC*	dS/m	0.049	0 - 0.15	Satisfactory
Lime requirement	t/ha			
ESI	units		value >0.05	Very High
Total Carbon*	%	0.649		
Total Nitrogen*	%	0.075		
Carbon:Nitrogen Ratio	(ratio)	8.684		
Organic Matter	%	1	3.25 - 5.2	Very Low
M3 PSR	(ratio)	0.03	0.06 - 0.23	Very Low
Mellich Phosphorus*	ppm	12.5	40 - 90	Very Low
Potassium*	ppm	119.1	195 - 320	Low
Sulphur*	ppm	8.3	12 - 45	Low
Calcium*	ppm	315	1300 - 2200	Very Low
Magnesium*	ppm	53.8	165 - 330	Very Low
Sodium*	ppm	2.1	16 - 63	Very Low
Chloride*	ppm	15.545	0 - 200	Satisfactory
Zinc*	ppm	0.45	1.6 - 8	Very Low
Copper*	ppm	1.42	2.5 - 10	Low
Boron*	ppm	0.34	1.7 - 4	Very Low
Manganese*	ppm	201.3	18 - 70	Very High
Iron*	ppm	69.0	30 - 200	Satisfactory
CEC*	meq/100g	3.1		
Calcium	meq/100g	1.6 (51.6%CEC)	6.5 - 11.0	Very Low
Potassium	meq/100g	0.3 (9.7%CEC)	0.5 - 0.8	Low
Magnesium	meq/100g	0.4 (12.9%CEC)	1.4 - 2.7	Very Low
Sodium	meq/100g	0.0 (0.0%CEC)	0.1 - 0.3	Satisfactory
Base Saturation	%	74.2	80 - 87	Low
Exchangeable Acidity	meq/100g	0.8 (25.8%CEC)	13 - 20 %CEC	High
Aluminium Saturation	%	0.00		
Ca:Mg Ratio	(ratio)	4.00	3 - 5	Satisfactory
K:Mg Ratio	(ratio)	0.8	0.3 - 0.5	Very High

Nutrient Status and Imbalances*

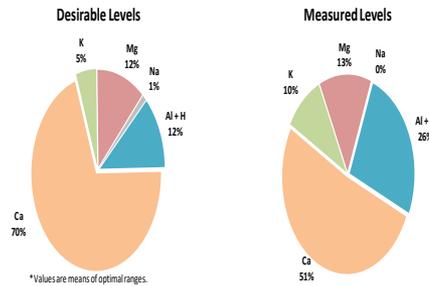
HORSE B (Sampled: 07/07/2021)



* For further explanation, please see our expressSoil Users Guide [here](#).



Soil Cation Ratio (as % CEC)



* Values are means of optimal ranges.

Recommendations:

HORSE B (Sampled: 07/07/2021)

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Recommended Soil Ameliorant Applications

Product	Timing	Rate	Application method	Comments

Recommended Fertiliser Applications

Product	Timing	Rate	Application	N	P	K	S	Ca	Mg

Total nutrient application (kg/ha):



This laboratory has been awarded a Certificate of Proficiency for specific soil and plant tissue analyses by the Australian Soil and Plant Analysis Council (ASPC), tests for which proficiency has been demonstrated as highlighted in this report by * next to the analyte name.

Analysis by Agria Analytical

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Trial and error

- Fertilizers
 - TF Gold
 - Guano S Gold
 - Organica foliar and phosical
 - Biomax
 - Trace
 - Humaboost
 - Molasses
- Cow deodorant
- Composting



New view on soil

- To farm cattle you have to farm grass





The value of soil

It is the start and the finish



Techniques now practiced

- Zero/minimum till
- Using animals pre-planting





- Weed control alternatives
- Drought, Fire, Erosion Strategy



- Fertilizers
- Multi-species forage crops
- Covering bare ground





Grazing pressure on native pasture



Has it helped?

- Less diesel and time
- Native pasture returns
- Ignorant about what the soil was trying to say



The evidence

- Zero till works
- Legumes with sorghum
- Destocked paddocks
- Ploughing and the wet season



Children in agriculture

- Connecting Australians with the land and soil
- Encouraging the most intelligent children into agriculture





Final food for thought

- Is this the way?

A holistic approach extends off the farm

Every bit counts



For us, YES.