

Hawea Farm, 800 acres
Elsthorpe, Hawkes Bay



Hugh & Robyn Pearce

Hugh and Robyn have been Dicalcic Phosphate users from the 1960's with a brief break caused through the economic times of the 80's. They have since started to use a blend of Dicalcic and Cropline Lime (No.14S).

"There is a more even grazing of all our pastures and we don't need cows to clean the paddocks up," says Hugh. "The ewes go right to the top of the silver range and they graze everything, even the rushes in the heavy wet country. Palatability is so important to the stock as they know what they like.

The additional use of Cropfine is making a difference too as the grass has become a darker colour and it stays greener for longer."



"We are getting more lambs away earlier at better weights and at the higher prices. Normally there are 200 - 250 early lambs, but this year during the same period we had 800 better than 16kg. We also sell 300 Poll Dorset rams a year.

We are using the basic feeding regime for our stock - If you get the right balance, you will get the benefits."



The breakdown of all the litter and the dung is quicker and the effect of the humus is great. This results in an upturn in the health and stock are noticeably more contented. Our farm production cycle is extended as well, giving us more productive days in a year, says Robyn.

