



# DAIRY SCIENCE 2007

*Meeting the challenges for pasture-based dairying*

## **Revising the paradigm for improved nutrient management on Australian dairy farms**

CJP GOURLEY<sup>1</sup>, SR AARONS<sup>1</sup>, JM POWELL<sup>2</sup> WJ DOUGHERTY<sup>3</sup>  
and DM WEAVER<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Department of Primary Industries, Australia

<sup>2</sup> USDA Agricultural Research Service, US Dairy Forage Research Center, USA

<sup>3</sup> NSW Department of Primary Industries, Australia

<sup>4</sup> Department of Agriculture and Food, Western Australia, Australia



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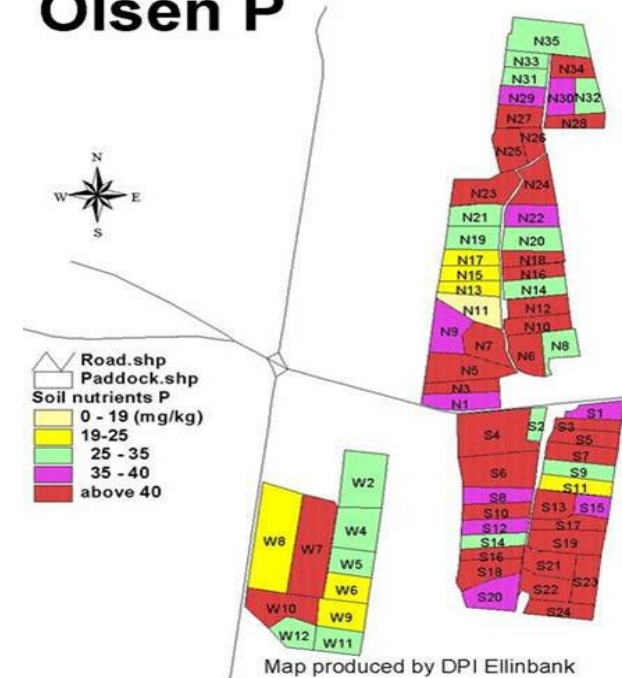
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Nutrient accumulation and loss is the greatest environmental challenge facing the Australian dairy industry

## .... Intensifying dairy production systems

	1980	2006	%
No. of farms	22,000	9,600	-56%
National dairy herd size	1.9 M	2.1 M	+10%
Farm milking area (ha)	65	114	+75%
Avg milk yield / cow / yr (lts)	2,850	5,035	+76%
Avg stocking rate cows / ha	1.3	1.9	+46%
Grain & concentrates / farm (t)	25	210	+710%
Silage cut / farm (t)	44	172	+388%

## Olsen P

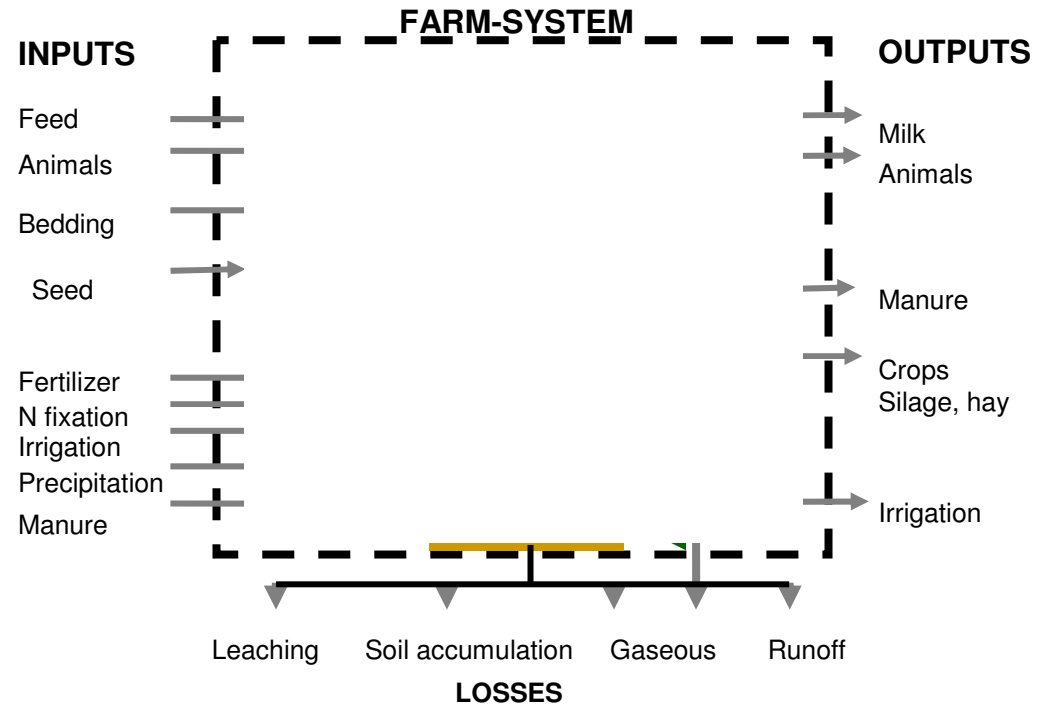
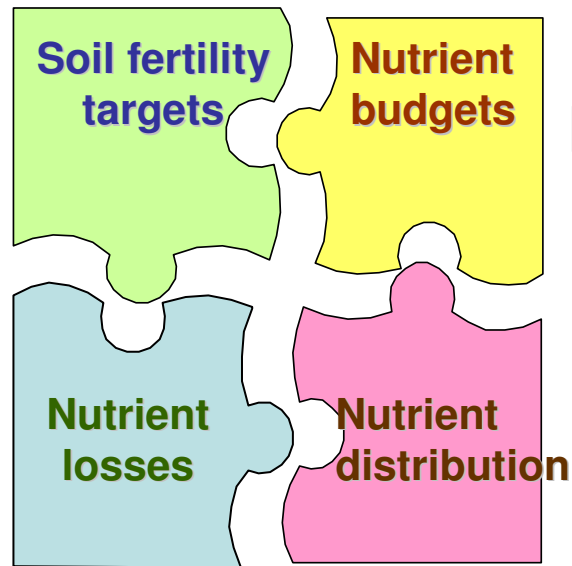




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## Whole farm nutrient management



### Future developments should deliver:

- greater uniformity in methodologies,
- link nutrient management recommendations with farm profitability,
- more efficient ways to utilise and gather data across scales, including farm production records and landscape data
- assess and present uncertainties, and
- develop improved interpretation and presentation of recommendations.