Assessing Soil Compaction and Soil Health

Have you soil compaction problems?
Poor grass growth in certain parts of the field?
Poor drainage and surface water ponding?

GrassVESS is a visual method to assess structure quality

What do our soils do for us?

- Produce food, feed, fibre
- Increasing grass resilience
- Nutrient provision to plants
- Fixing N - reduced fert. costs
- Supply vitamins & minerals
- Supply & purify water
- Protect from pests & diseases
- Store organic matter
- Habitat for biodiversity

Take home messages!

- Know your soil type – Is specific soil management is needed?
- Check your structure regularly!
- Preventing compaction is better than cure! Avoid compaction & erosion!
- Correct application rate of mineral fertilisers and lime – right amounts, right place at the right time!
- Use organic manures to feed the soil regularly and mixed-swards are good!