

NMP Online: software for a tough task

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NMP Online is a nutrient management planning (NMP) tool which generates fertiliser advice. You can access it yourself or work with your advisor to create a plan tailored to your fields.

What information is the fertiliser advice NMP Online based on?

NMP Online is underpinned by the “Teagasc Green Book of Major and Micro Nutrient Advice for Productive Agricultural Crops”. A revised version has recently been released which brings together the latest research and science available to guide farmers, advisors and agronomists alike on how to achieve optimum soil fertility. This information is used to power NMP Online.

What fertiliser advice does NMP online provide?

Using NMP Online, your advisor will determine the nutrient demand of the crops on your farm for each individual field, taking into account your grass and crop types, your stocking rate and your soil sample results, to deliver a fertiliser plan.

The NMP Online systems tailors the advice to your farm and will tell you the right type, the right rate, the right timing and the right field that fertiliser or manure needs to be applied to over the growing season. You are investing in your soil and doing it right will yield solid returns.

What are the results?

You wouldn't waste your money, so don't waste your nutrients. NMP Online and your advisor can help you get the most out of your soils. It can deliver a fertiliser plan that will help you target the fields that need the nutrients.

Getting the fertiliser out at the right rate, right time and in the right place will improve the production capacity of each field on your farm, which will build profit while also enhancing the environmental sustainability on your farm. Ultimately, it will help you get the very best out of your fertiliser investment.



Maintaining a safe distance, Derry O'Brien and Padraig McCormack review the coloured fertility guidance maps generated by NMP Online.

Farmer profile

Derry O'Brien farms in Ballard, outside the village of Kilworth, Co.Cork. The farm is a 76-cow dairy farm of approximately 34ha, with a 21ha milking platform. “Improving soil fertility is important to me as I want to grow as much grass as possible over the year,” says Derry.

Soil samples are taken on the farm every three years which Derry says is a vital exercise. The results of these soil samples are then analysed with his Teagasc advisor, Padraig McCormack, using NMP Online.

“The maps are a great visual aid to know what each paddock needs in terms of P, K and lime,” says Derry. Derry keeps copies of the maps on the wall of his milking parlour and also in his jeep, where he can consult them when needed.

“The colour maps are handy to know exactly where to target slurry, especially in the early part of the year and to identify what fields need to be targeted with lime and P and K and the rates. So by working with Padraig and NMP Online we're saving money and getting a better result by not just blanket spreading across the farm.”

