

ALA members



www.aggregate.com



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www.cemex.co.uk



www.francisflower.co.uk



www.gdharries.co.uk



www.heidelbergcement.com



www.hopeconstructionmaterials.com



www.lafargetarmac.com



www.leiths-group.co.uk



www.limex.co.uk
(Associate member)



www.needhamchalks.co.uk



www.singletonbirch.co.uk



www.smithsblethington.co.uk



ALA code of practice

Members will undertake:

- 1 For the agricultural liming materials which are quarried and processed for sale:
 - a To maintain production standards so as to meet consistently the requirements of existing EU and UK Fertiliser Regulations.
 - b To name and label their products according to the legislation and ensure that their products are marketed in such a way that the purchaser is fully aware of the quality of the material being supplied.
 - c To regularly monitor and analyse their products at an appropriate frequency to ensure that the stated quality is maintained.
- 2 For agricultural liming materials which are merchanted:
 - a To purchase from producers able to meet the requirements of section 1.
 - b To pass on to customers the relevant information regarding the type and quality of liming materials being supplied.
 - c To use advisory and contracting services of staff which meet the requirements set out in sections 3 and 4.
- 3 When advisory work is undertaken:
 - a To preferably use BASIS or FACTS professionally trained advisors to sample, analyse and report on lime requirements. And return for final sign off.
 - b To use established sampling procedures and recognised equipment for assessing lime requirements.
 - c To make recommendations consistent with sound, proven agricultural practise.
 - d To give advice and recommendations in the best interests of the customer.
- 4 When contracting services are being sold:
 - a To spread in accordance with the liming recommendations made at the time of sale.
 - b To use equipment suitable for the type of liming material to be spread and to adequately maintain such equipment.
 - c To operate such equipment in only appropriate weather conditions, to produce an even and accurate spread pattern.
 - d To carry out the work with the minimum of disruption to the soil structure and with due regard for the surrounding land and property.



ALA is part of the Mineral Products Association, the trade association for the aggregates, asphalt, cement, concrete, dimension stone, lime, mortar and silica sand industries.

An affiliate member of

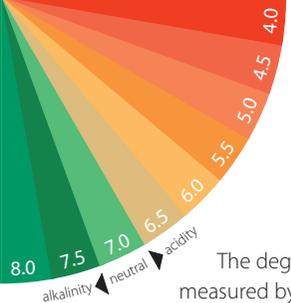


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the natural solution

"There are few improvements which have so fundamental an effect on the success or failure of crops and farming as the application of agricultural lime"

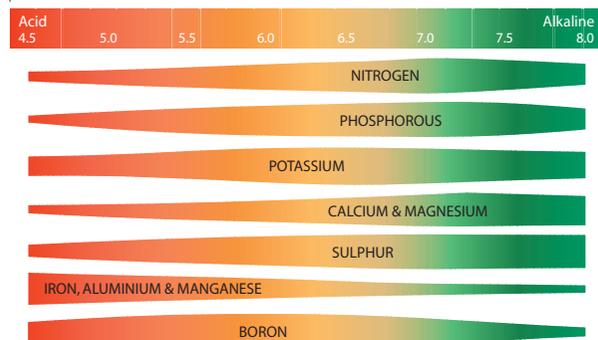


the pH scale

The degree of soil acidity and soil alkalinity is measured by what is known as the pH scale. A figure of pH 7.0 represents the neutral position. Figures below 7.0 indicate increasing acidity and above 7.0 increasing alkalinity. The optimum for general cropping is between pH 6.8 and 7.0. For permanent grassland the optimum pH is slightly lower. There are several methods of testing the pH of soils and with some knowledge of the relationship between pH and lime requirement for various soil types the pH can be used as a guide to the lime requirement.

plant food availability

pH value or reaction of soil



The coloured bands show how liming makes essential plant nutrients more available and toxic aluminium less available. A pH of 6.8 - 7.0 (just on the acid side of neutral) is the best level.

a guide to the optimum pH for crop growth



lime status and lime requirement

ALA Lime Application Recommendations (tonnes/hectare)*

Measured soil pH	Sands and loamy sands		Sandy loams and silt loams		Clay loams and clays		Organic soils (10.25% organic matter)		Peaty soils above 25% organic matter	
	Arable	Grass	Arable	Grass	Arable	Grass	Arable	Grass	Arable	Grass
7.0	2	-	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
6.5	3	0	4	0	4	0	2	-	-	-
6.0	6	2	7	3	8	3	7	2	5	-
5.5	9	5	11	5	12	6	12	5	13	4
5.0	12	7	14	7	16	7	17	7	21	7
4.5	15	7	17	7	20	7	22	7	29	7

Notes

- 1 Recommendation based on soil depths of 200mm/8in (arable) and 150mm/6in (grassland). Greater depths of soil will require more lime.
- 2 Maximum surface application for grass is 7 tonnes/ha (3 tonnes/acre). Minimum application rate: 2 tonnes/ha (1 tonne/acre). Where application rates of over 10 tonnes/ha (4 tonnes/acre) are necessary on arable land the ALA lime should be applied as two dressings (first dressing ploughed in).
- 3 The application rates shown are based on material having a neutralising value of 54 and fineness of 40% passing 150 microns. When using other materials permitted under the Fertiliser Regulations the dressing should be adjusted accordingly. Thus coarser materials and those having a lower neutralising value will also require a heavier dressing.

*multiply by 0.4047 to obtain tonnes per acre.

The above table is a guide to the lime requirement but the actual assessment should be undertaken professionally.



the natural solution

www.aglime.org.uk

Quality natural products High neutralising value Consistent grading Natural enhancement of soil structures Guaranteed products - value for money Essential plant nutrients Efficient use of fertilisers Promotes animal health Environmentally beneficial