Press Release

New soil conditioner helps boost soil health and improve yields with one application

An innovative new soil treatment available for the first time to UK farmers, promises to balance soil pH and supply essential Sulphur to soils in one easy, cost-effective application.

From the makers of Calcifert Lime and Calcifert Sulphur, Calcifert LS11 combines the benefits of both existing products and neutralises soil to maintain a balanced pH, and contains 11% SO_3 to help address the widespread Sulphur deficiency on UK farmland.

Recent data suggests that following a dramatic reduction in atmospheric deposits over the last 30 years, up to 85% of arable land and 88% of grassland, is deficient in Sulphur, with some soils now at critically low levels. Sulphur is an essential nutrient required for the healthy development of all plants and vital to efficient nitrogen utilisation.

Calcifert LS11's Sulphur content is coupled with high reactivity Calcium carbonate – making it very effective at neutralising soil acidity and maintaining the right pH level to optimise fertiliser and nutrient efficiency leading to better quality and yield of crops.

LKAB's technical specialist and agronomist, Mark Tripney, explains more:

"With ever-increasing fertiliser prices and sourcing becoming an issue with some products, it is more important than ever that farmers get the most from the inputs they apply, and Calcifert LS11 is a quick, easy and cost-effective way to target two essential areas of soil health that need addressing annually in nearly all cropping situations - pH level maintenance and Sulphur supply," says Mark.

"Trials on one Scottish grassland farm have shown that a single spring application of just 200kg of Calcifert LS11 per hectare, improved Dry Matter yield by 9.2% between May and August. This equates to a return of 12:1 and is the result of the improved nutrient use efficiency, and plant uptake, when available Calcium and Sulphur are applied early in the growing season and pH is maintained at target level," explains Mark.

 "Soil health, productivity and organic matter are under the spotlight as we look to farm in a more regenerative way, and Calcifert LS11 meets this ambition by improving soil health, and ultimately leading to fewer, more carbon-heavy inputs."

Calcifert LS11 is suitable for all crops and is best suited to spring application but is also suitable for autumn drilled oil seed rape and grass reseeds. As with all Calcifert products, it is supplied in 600kg bags and can be spread on farm using a conventional fertiliser spreader.

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For further information contact

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Notes to editors

Sulphur deposition data from 2019 study by Lancrop Laboratories.

12:1 pay back calculated based on example farm's standard policy, which is to apply Calcifert Lime annually. An extra spend of £6.50 per hectare on LS11, has generated the increase in dry matter.

There is currently no other product available to UK farmers that contains the same properties as Calcifert LS11 and that has a neutralising value to balance pH as well as providing sulphur.

For more information about Calcifert LS11 visit www.lkabminerals.com/en/products/calcifert-ls11/

LKAB Minerals is an international industrial minerals group with a leading position in a number of product applications. We develop sustainable mineral solutions in partnership with our customers, supplying natural minerals engineered for functionality and usability. LKAB Minerals is part of the Swedish company LKAB, an international high-tech mining and minerals group that mines and upgrades the unique iron ore of northern Sweden for the global steel market. Sustainability is core to our business and our ambition is to be one of the industry's most innovative, resource-efficient and responsible companies. The group had sales of about SEK 34 billion in 2020 and employs about 4,500 people in 12 countries. Other group business include industrial minerals, drilling systems, rail transport, rockwork services and property management.

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