



*Using the soil test to
product calculator*

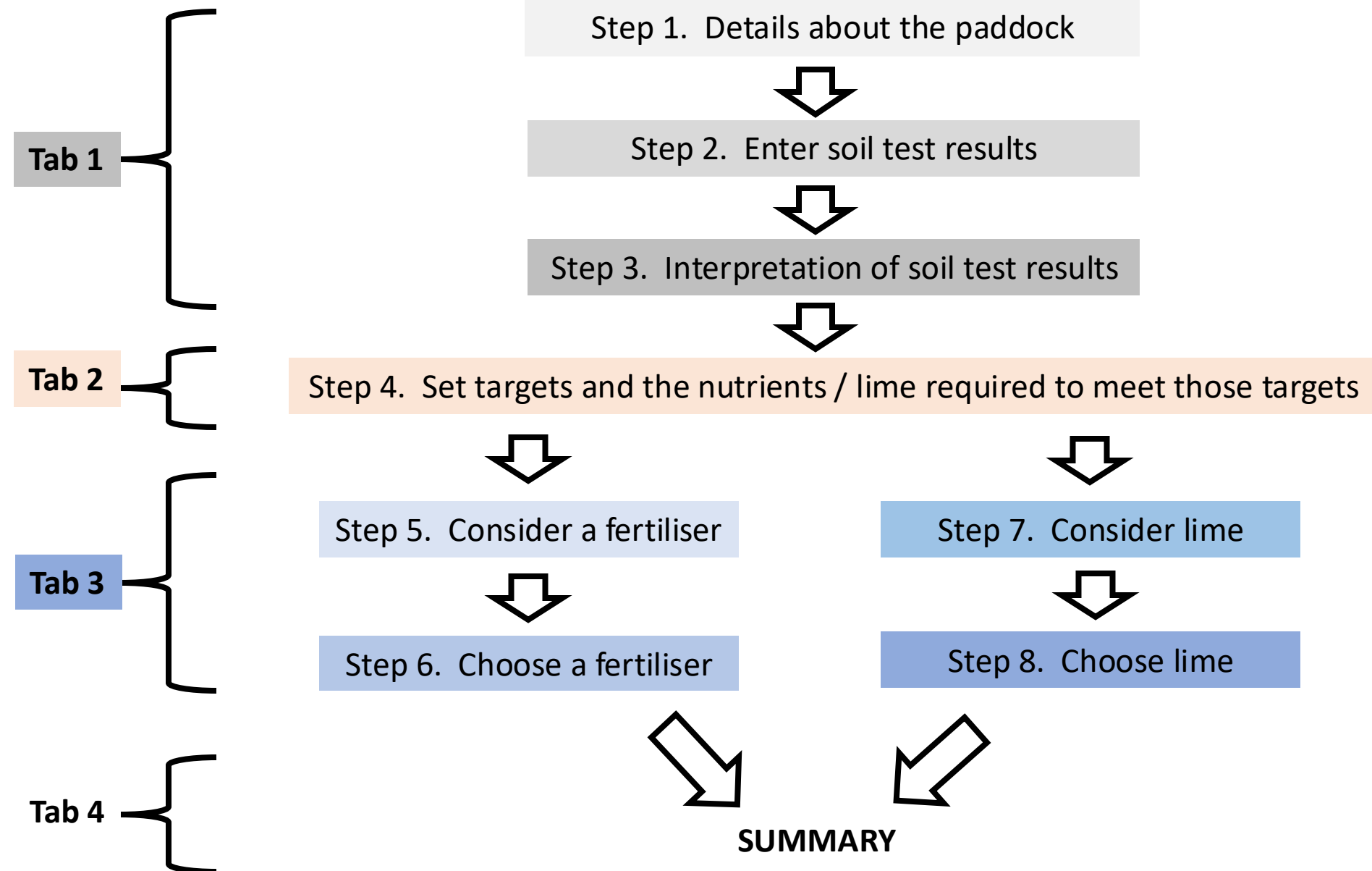


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The calculator design



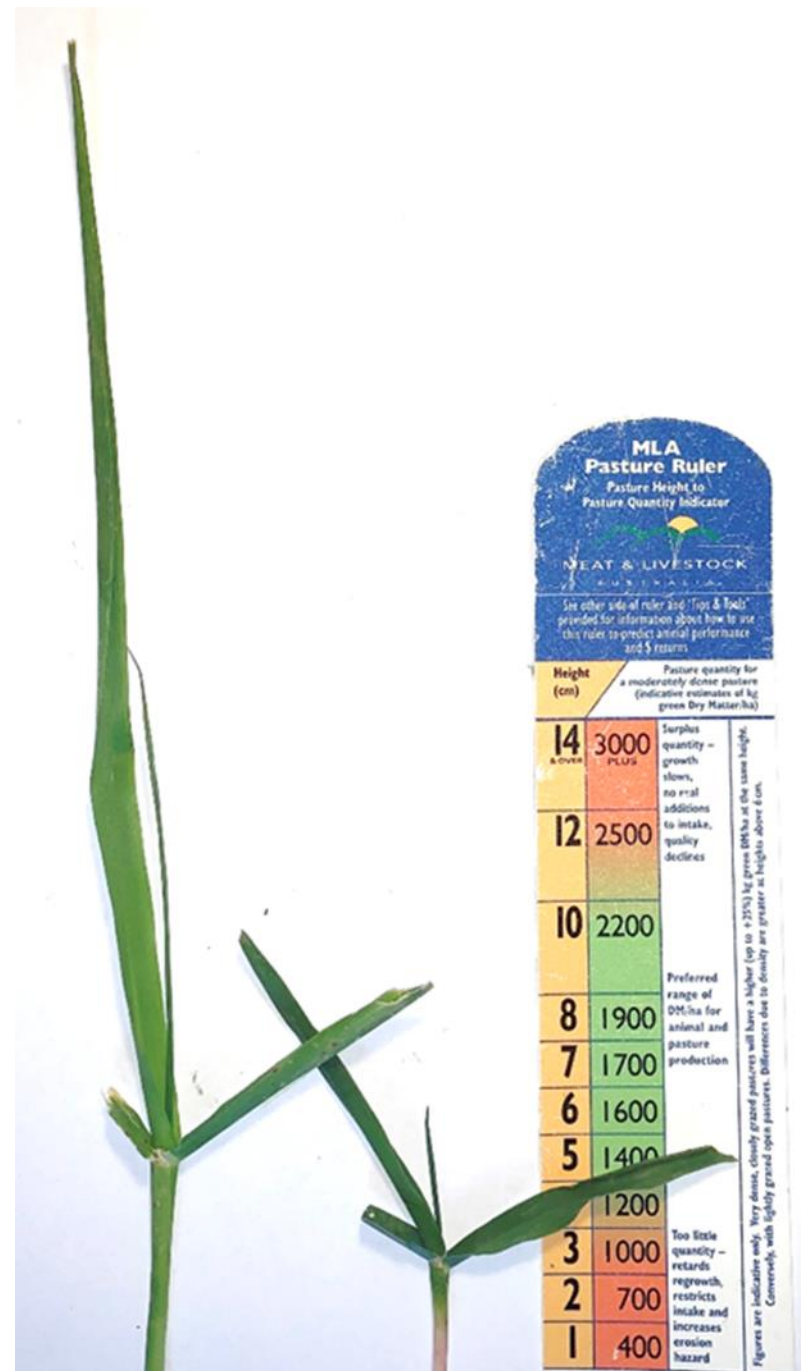
The calculator design

Users can only enter information in the **white** cells and can only make choices from the **green** drop down lists (click on the cell and an arrow will appear). Select from the list.



And another thing!

This is not an exact science – it will be roughly right



More things!

- **Capital** refers to....

the quantity of a specific nutrient (in kg/ha) required to raise the soil test value by 1 unit. This amount will vary depending on the analysis method used along with other soil characteristics (entered in tab 1).

- **Maintenance** refers to....

the quantity of nutrient required to replace what is 'lost' annually in animal products and nutrient 'tie up' in the soil. It is estimated based on the number of DSE carried over the application period (entered in tab 1).

Even more things!

- **No fertiliser or lime** scenario, chosen to estimate the ***decline*** in pasture growth and stocking rate over time as nutrients are ‘exported’ through loss in products e.g. meat, milk, wool, etc and tied up by the soil.
- **Maintenance only** scenario, chosen if the user wished to ***maintain*** current fertility levels. The calculation only includes the nutrients required to replace what is lost annually in animal products and nutrient ‘tie up’ in the soil.
- **Capital + maintenance** scenario, chosen if the user wishes to ***increase*** pasture growth (and possibly stocking rate) from current levels. It requires nutrients to ***maintain*** current and possibly additional annual livestock demand.