



Ravensdown PGP Programme Quarterly Progress Summary Report

Contract reporting period: October - December 2014

Quarter 2 of the 2014/15 year was a very busy period for activities against the data collection and collation objective with field sampling events carried out across all four research farms currently within the programme. To date approximately 7000 soil and plant tissues samples have been collected. This data will be used to strengthen existing relationships between nutrients within soil/plant and spectral scans from remote sensing cameras. This will be a large focus of the next quarter.

Preliminary results relating pasture nutrient levels to sensing data continue to be encouraging however the focus remains on collecting a high quality robust dataset as accomplished in the second quarter of the current year.

The science advisory group met in this quarter and reviewed the current position of the project. The group concluded that it is still early days into the programme but initial efforts and work is promising. Critically the group were comfortable with the overall methodology being employed to collect the soil, plant and sensing data.

In an ancillary project, Ravensdown continues to make very good progress on testing its generation two technology enabling more precise aerial fertiliser applications to hill country. The aircraft has been operating now for close to twelve months and is proving reliable. This system enables a prescription map to be loaded into the aircraft and inform the fertiliser application.
