Ravensdown PGP Programme Quarterly Progress Report

Contract reporting period: April - June 2014

Public summary

In the fourth quarter implementation of contracts across the main breath of the research programme have been formalised. Significant research investments with the programme's two key research providers, Massey University and AgResearch have been contracted.

The programme has received positive media coverage with formal contracts announced. For more information about the Pioneering to Precision: Application of Fertiliser in Hill Country PGP programme a video outlining the programme was released to coincide with contract announcements and is available on **YouTube video**.

Activities against the data collection and collation objective continued with speed. A second research farm was added to the programme during the fourth quarter with a further sampling event carried out on both of these properties during autumn 2014. This amounted to a further 800 individual soil and plant tissue samples collected across the farms with corresponding sensing images.

Encouraging preliminary results relating pasture nutrient levels in pasture to sensing data was observed although it is still very early into the project. The main focus remains on collecting a high quality robust dataset.

In an separate non-PGP project, Ravensdown has made very good progress on testing its generation two technology enabling more precise aerial fertiliser applications to hill country.