Terrestria **NRM Region** 2014 Regional Snapshot Is soil acidity decreasing in our agricultural areas? Healthy soil provides us with food and fibre through our crops and livestock. Healthy soil provides nutrients for crops and pastures, stores and cycles water and carbon, and resists erosion. Trend in lime sales About 83 per cent of Kangaroo Island NRM region's agricultural land has naturally occurring acidic soil. Acidic soil limits the fertility and productivity of agricultural areas. Agricultural production accelerates soil acidification, particularly where large quantities of produce are harvested, and where fertilisers that contain or form ammonium are used. Land managers can reduce acidity by applying lime to their soils. Lime sales are monitored to Getting better track the management of soil acidity in Kangaroo Island NRM region's agricultural areas. Stable Getting worse Unknown Not applicable **State target** Improve soil and land condition Ongoing efforts will be needed to increase the amount of lime applied Trend (2008-12) **Getting Worse** to our soils Lime sales as a percentage of the amount 100 needed to counteract acidification (smoothed over 2 years) 75 Between 2008-12, land managers in Kangaroo Island NRM region applied about 9,000 tonnes of lime each year to counteract soil acidification. 50 The amount of lime sold between 2008-12 relative to the 25 estimated amount needed to counteract acidification each year has declined (see graph on right). 0 2000 2004 2008 2012 Land managers applied about half of the amount of lime needed to Where we are at (2012) Fair counteract soil acidification The amount of lime currently applied in Kangaroo Island NRM region is about half of the amount that is required to counteract soil acidification. Many land managers do not apply lime because they perceive it to be too costly. Controlling soil acidification is important to maintain long term productivity of agricultural soils. **Reliability of information** Fair **Further information:** Technical information for this report

Kangaroo Island

Soil and land condition monitoring in South Australia

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