

Track 1: Advanced Albrecht Methods for Your Soil with Neal Kinsey

This three-day workshop is about the HOW of soil fertility management. We will analyze and discuss in depth specifically chosen soil samples that demonstrate various differences in soil fertility and crop quality and show how one should make recommendations in these cases. The objective is to show how to calculate the correct amounts of each fertilizer or soil amendment application in order to correct that soil's nutrient balance without inhibiting the availability of other needed nutrients. How to evaluate and determine the value of specific limestone products, based on the actual lime analysis reports, is also covered. Examples of soils that are relatively easy to correct are chosen as well as problem soils that will require more difficult equations to correct, and take more time and materials to implement positive change.

Consultants, farmers, fertilizer reps, and individuals interested in a working knowledge for calculating general fertility needs would benefit most from attending the Advanced Workshop. The goal is to help those involved with soil fertility understand how to calculate how much of which fertilizer or amendment they need to apply to correct soil fertility imbalances, and to ensure correct interaction between nutrients present there.

When contemplating attendance at an Advanced Workshop, keep in mind that the Albrecht model is different from other soil analysis models, and many questions may come to mind for those not acquainted with it. Those questions are best answered at the Introductory Workshop or by reading *HANDS-ON AGRONOMY*, not during the Advanced Course. The time it takes to answer basic or philosophical type questions during this workshop can prevent the completion of the planned material and thus are not encouraged. Persons who have not studied *HANDS-ON AGRONOMY* sufficiently enough to understand the Albrecht model are encouraged to first attend the Introductory Workshop.

The course will follow this general schedule for the three days:

9:00 class starts
10:30 – 10:45 break
12:00 – 1:00 lunch
3:00 – 3:15 break
5:00 class ends

Day 1 Working with Soil Tests: soil test methods, ideal soil structure, what makes an excellent soil, dos and don'ts of soil sampling, looking at soil pH.

Liming: explanation of liming materials, determining differences in sources of lime, evaluating liming sources, rules for determining liming needs from soil tests

Day 2 Building Soil Fertility: calcium/heavy soils, calcium proof formula, magnesium for heavy and sandy soils, sulfur use, compost analysis and evaluation, phosphate testing, potassium fertilization, soil sodium.

Day 3 Micronutrients and Special Circumstances: evaluating excesses and their effects, boron, iron, manganese, copper and zinc fertility needs; treated vs. untreated nutrient levels; deep soil preparation; soil and plant analysis; ideal levels.