

Sent away my soil samples last week for growing my exhibition veg on my raised beds - results back ... (8 beds). Because I try to use only organic fertilisers, I don't get the normal build up of salts in my beds! So the soil salt level of my beds was well within the tolerance. The feeds after liming are dried blood (Nitrogen - organic fertiliser), Sulphate of Potash (K - straight fertiliser). I use Rock Potash instead (organic) and the last one superphosphate (P - straight fertiliser). Liming - on all my beds it was 4oz per sq metre of garden lime

Raised bed in the tunnel on the plot, scales used to measure out my amount of lime per sq metre. I use these scales for when I'm judging the 250g onions class - you don't need them!



My bed is measured and marked out by the square metre using a 3ft bamboo cane



Lime is spread out and canes taken away



The bed is given a good watering. Lime is the main source of calcium, which is probably the most



important food after NPK. Lime also helps to speed up the decomposition of organic matter (if you remember my composting methods I use egg shells instead!)



The bed is then covered for nature to carry on doing its bit

If you suffer from wind like I do...then weigh down the covering



I look after you lot... to weigh out lime use a tablespoon and 3/4 fill it, this will give you 1oz of lime - not a heaped spoon that will be over an ounce!



Being in the position I'm in, I meet a lot of new gardeners/growers. This morning, I met a smallholder not too far away and we both talked s\*\*\* (compost) - I was in my element, she has chickens and goats as livestock (not many goats round here!). Small print, she has to get rid of her manure...that's where I come in...

Well rotted chicken manure, hoards of it! And goat manure – I could of swum in it! And she will deliver for free...perks! I was like a pig in s\*\*\*!

