



## Aglime Quarterly

### What's Happening

Growers & Advisors

We want to hear from you,  
[BlueMountainMinerals.com](http://BlueMountainMinerals.com)

to complete the  
**Aglime Use Survey**

**CAPCA / OFAC**  
**Tulare**  
**August 10**



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## Why is this aglime a slightly different color?

The color of limestone is variable; it is typically white, grey or tan but can also occur in shades of yellow, green, blue, brown pink and red. Trace amounts of impurities like iron oxide can make the color seem red, brown or yellow. Carbon, in trace amounts can make limestone appear blue, grey or black. Trace amounts of the minerals found in the rocks in our mine site are mostly clay, graphite and quartz at levels that do not effect the aglime quality and neutralizing value.

The limestone rocks of the world, and in our pit, don't always fit neatly into the commercial definitions. According to some agriculture publications, aglime belongs in only one of two categories, limestone or dolomite, with the caution that dolomite will have almost equal parts of calcium and magnesium, and excess magnesium is a bad thing. The reality is that aglime, (limestone and dolomite) is very rarely ever solely one or the other. Most are better classified into the four categories below.

**Calcite Limestone:** Calcite > 90%, Dolomite < 10%

**Dolomitic Limestone:** Calcite 50–90%, Dolomite 10–50%

**Calcitic Dolomite:** Calcite 10–50%, Dolomite 50–90%

**Dolomite:** Calcite < 10%, Dolomite > 90%

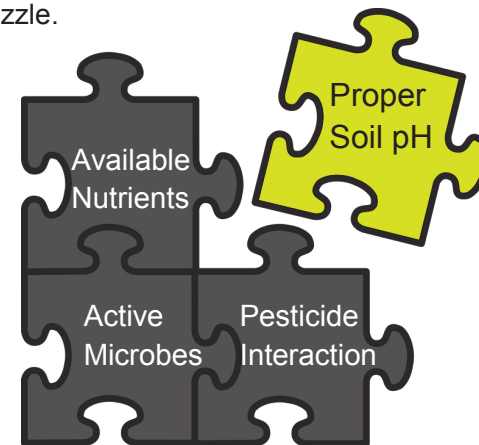


## Is your soil missing pieces?

Healthy soil is the key to productive and profitable food production. Monitoring soil pH for optimal production is an easy and cost effective piece of the puzzle.

- The soil pH effects the solubility of nutrients which can make them unavailable.
- Low soil pH decreases microbial activity, including breaking down organic matter which contributes to the availability of nitrogen, sulfur and phosphorus.
- Soils with a pH outside the recommended range may make pesticides less effective.

Check with your crop professional to ensure you are monitoring all the pieces of your soil puzzle.



### References:

\*Definition and classification of Limestone, Missouri Geological Survey

\*\*<http://soils.usda.gov> Soil Quality Indicators: pH