BOSTON & NORTH WASH TRAINING GROUP

FACTS

Fertiliser Advisers Certification & Training Scheme

Tutor: Jim Lewis

Dates: January 16th and 30th, February 13th, 20th and 27th 2026

Exam part days online: 9th & 10th March 2026

Venue: Carrington, Boston, Lincolnshire

Progressive farmers have long required their fertiliser advisers to be properly FACTS qualified, but with increasing requirements to demonstrate professionalism (whilst gaining a better understanding of fertilisers and plant nutrition) many are now taking the qualification themselves.

Legislation, Assurance Schemes and retailer protocols require that suppliers should only source advice from appropriately qualified sources.
The FACTS award is the standard industry qualification for those selling or advising them on the use of crop fertilisers.

Training is delivered in a series of structured modules covering:

The Codes of Good Agricultural Practice, Nitrate Vulnerable Zones and Water Framework Directive:
Water, Soil and Air. Environmental protection and legislation.

The Soil in Relation to Plant Nutrition:
Major, secondary and trace elements. Soil acidification. Liming materials and making recommendations. The role of plant nutrients.

The Nature and Properties of Fertilisers:
Manufacturing techniques. Raw materials. Fertiliser categories. Statutory declarations. Terminology and definitions.

Organic Fertilisers (Slurries / FYM):
Establishing the nutrient content. Using organics in fertiliser programmes.
Calculating nutrient requirements for a variety of crops. Working with nutrient balance sheets.

The Transport, Storage and Handling of Fertilisers:
Storage locations, storage constraints. safety criteria. Statutory requirements.
Notification of stores. Hauling fertilisers on the public highway.

Recognition of Trace Element Deficiencies:
Visual symptoms. Nutrient interactions. Antagonisms and the law of the minimum.

Application of Fertiliser:
Solids and Liquids. Application techniques and rate calculation. Problem solving. Safe practice.

Assessment is by means of a multiple-choice examination and a fifteen-minute oral exam.

The cost of the five-day course is £975 + VAT, plus the FACTS examination fee of £338 (no VAT). The course fee is inclusive of lunch and refreshments.

For more details or to book a place please contact

Cordelia McCartney: E-mail: cordelia@bostontraining.uk