

MICRONUTRIENT SPRAY-ON ZINC, COPPER & MOLYBDENUM

Incitec Pivot Fertilisers has invested in spray technology at its Primary Distribution centres which allow straight or blend fertiliser to be coated with varying rates of some micronutrients.

Spatial distribution, whether in furrow or broadcast applied, is important in supplying an even supply of nutrient to plants. Dedicated spray lines provide coverage to >90% of individual granules. This method of application offers a greater number of micronutrients point sources compared to granular fertiliser blends. Because a liquid is being sprayed onto a dry fertiliser product, handling characteristics can be affected. Therefore, rates of micronutrient applied have been established to ensure handling and storage is not compromised.

DIRECTIONS FOR USE

Zinc

Zinc can be applied to all phosphorus-based products, including DAP, MAP, Granulock®, Superfect®, to supply a rate of 0.3% or 0.5% Zinc w/w. These rates of zinc can also be applied to blended fertilisers where the nitrogen ingredient (Urea or Gran-Am) is less than 50% of the blend.

Zinc is immobile in the soil which makes placement close to the seed in annual crops important. In alkaline soils the availability of zinc decreases. Minimum tillage and direct drill techniques are suited to supplying a smaller more frequent rate of zinc. Zinc removal in winter crop production systems is approximately 20-30 grams per tonne of grain.

Copper

Copper can be applied to all phosphorus-based products, including DAP, MAP, Granulock, Superfect, to supply a rate of 0.3% or 0.5% copper w/w. These rates of copper can also be applied to blended fertilisers where the nitrogen ingredient (Urea or Gran-Am) is less than 50% of the blend.

Copper is immobile in the soil which makes placement close to the seed in annual crops important. In alkaline soils the availability of zinc decreases. Minimum tillage and direct drill techniques are suited to supplying a smaller more frequent rate of copper. Copper removal in winter crop production systems is approximately 5-10 grams per tonne of grain.

In grazing systems where copper levels in forage and pasture is less than 5 mg/kg (ppm) animal symptoms are likely to occur. These symptoms include anaemia, retardation in growth, abnormal bone formation (fracture easily), failure to fatten, scouring, coarsening and depigmentation of hair (or wool), poor growth rates and nervous disorders (ataxia). Application of molybdenum and or lime can also induce copper deficiency in animals.

Molybdenum

Molybdenum can be applied to all phosphorus-based products, including DAP, MAP, Granulock, Superfect. Newcastle rates of applications supply 0.025% and 0.05% molybdenum w/w. Victoria,

June 2024

DOC ID 199491

South Australia and Tasmania Primary Distribution Centres apply 0.015%, 0.025% and 0.05% molybdenum w/w. These rates of molybdenum can also be applied to blended fertilisers where the nitrogen ingredient (Urea or Gran-Am) is less than 50% of the blend.

Molybdenum is important in grazing systems, particularly for clover-based pastures. Deficiency is most likely to occur in rainfall areas and acidic soils (low pH).

A typical molybdenum application rate in pasture is 25 - 100 g/ha molybdenum. Repeat applications may be required as frequently as every 3 to 4 years, or as far apart as once every 8 to 10 years; depending on the soil type, rainfall, pasture productivity and the rate at which molybdenum is applied.

To achieve these concentrations in a blend, SuPerfect Mo 0.4% must be added at the following concentrations. The amount of molybdenum applied at various Mo concentrations and product application rates is shown in Table 1.

Table 1: Amount of molybdenum (g/ha Mo) applied in molybdenum fortified products at various rates.

Molybdenum Concentration	Superfect application rate (kg/ha)		
(% Mo)	125	250	500
0.015	Mo rate too low	Mo rate too low	75
0.025	Mo rate too low	63	Mo rate too high
0.05	63	Mo rate too high	Mo rate too high

Low concentrations, e.g., 0.015% molybdenum are used where the blend is applied at high rates, e.g., 250 - 500 kg/ha, and higher concentrations, e.g., 0.05% molybdenum, where low rates are applied, e.g., 100 kg/ha.

Molybdenum may also be required in grain legumes, and in some vegetable crops. In vegetable crops that are susceptible to molybdenum deficiency, it is recommended that molybdenum be applied as a foliar spray, rather than to the soil. One or two sprays early in the growing season in the seed bed and/or field is all that is required, given that molybdenum is mobile in plants and is required in minute amounts.

Foliar sprays also allow more uniform distribution of molybdenum than can be achieved by adding it to the planting fertiliser.

COMBINATION OF SPRAY-ON MICRONUTRIENTS

The addition of two micronutrients in combination can be applied to all phosphorus-based products, including DAP, MAP, Granulock, Superfect, and can also be applied to blended fertilisers where the nitrogen ingredient (Urea or Gran-Am) is less than 50% of the blend.

The maximum rate combined of zinc and copper can be 0.8% i.e., 0.5% Zn and 0.3% Cu (or vice versa). Molybdenum can be applied at rates of 0.015%, 0.025% and 0.05% with 0.3% zinc or copper.

If a higher rate of zinc or copper (0.5%) is required, then molybdenum can only be applied at 0.015% or 0.025%.

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CARE OF EQUIPMENT

This product can be corrosive to metals. Clean equipment after use and follow manufacturer's maintenance advice.

FURTHER READING

These Use Directions should be read in conjunction with the Incitec Pivot Molybdenum Agritopic.

SAFETY DIRECTIONS

Refer to the Safety Data Sheet (SDS) for more detailed safety advice. Before use, read the Product Label and the SDS. Use safe work practices and avoid contact with the eyes and skin. Avoid ingestion and inhaling dust. Protective clothing, eyewear and dust masks should always be used when dealing with this product. Observe good personal hygiene, including washing hands after use. Avoid loss of fertiliser to waterways.

WARNING

This document contains information of a general nature. Before using fertiliser seek independent agronomic advice. Fertiliser programs may need to be varied depending on the plants being grown, climatic and soil conditions, application methods, irrigation, agricultural and livestock management practices, the soil's fertility, and cultural practices. ('Unforeseen Elements')

Fertiliser may burn and/or damage crop roots or foliage. Foliar burn to the leaves, fruit or other plant parts is most likely to occur when fertilisers are foliar applied at high concentrations and/or on a regular basis, different products are mixed and sprayed together at cumulatively high rates, the water is of poor quality, or the spray is applied under hot dry conditions, e.g. in the heat of the day.

Fertiliser and supplements may affect animal health. Seek independent advice before using any supplements in livestock rations.

DISCLAIMER

As Unforeseen Elements are beyond the control of Incitec Pivot Limited, in no event Incitec Pivot Limited and its related bodies corporate be liable or accept any responsibility whatsoever for any direct, indirect, punitive, incidental, special or consequential damages (including but not limited to loss of revenue, crops and livestock), in respect of the illness, injury or death of a person, damage to property (including of a third party), or any other loss whatsoever arising out of or connected with the use or misuse of this fertiliser, or its transport, storage, handling or application. Where Incitec Pivot Limited and its related bodies corporate's liability cannot be lawfully excused, it and its related bodies corporate's liability shall be limited to the replacement of, or cost of the fertiliser supplied. The buyer accepts and uses this product subject to these conditions.

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