



TECHNICAL INFORMATION BULLETIN 50

How to Use Foliar Sprays More Efficiently

Foliar fertilisers are relatively new in broad-acre farming. A better understanding of the role of foliar fertilisers and how to use foliar sprays for a better efficiency helps the farmers to get maximum return for their investment. The following instruction will help you to get the best response from RLF products:

1. Plant condition:

- Soils must have reasonable moisture for plants to grow.
- Plants should not be under adverse condition such as water logging. The foliar can however be applied when plants are on the way to recovery from such stresses.
- The efficiency of foliar use is related to the crop cover. It is therefore important to apply foliar where leaf coverage is good.
- The timing (physiological stage) to apply the foliar needs to be observed. RLF literature and licensees can supply you such information.

2. External conditions must be suitable, the following guidelines can help you:

In summer:

- Avoid spraying on hot sunny days. The combination of heat and sun quickly dries the foliar applied solution before leaves take it up.
- The best timing to apply foliar sprays in summer is early in the morning or late in the afternoon. on a cool to warm day.
- If crops are irrigated or there is a chance of a rain, try to use foliar sprays in summer following irrigation or rain.

In winter:

- Avoid spraying if leaves are soggy or too heavy with dew. This will dilute the concentration of applied nutrients and result in slow or inefficient utilization of nutrients.
- The morning of a sunny day in winter is the preferred timing for foliar application.
- If the sun is causing the dew or soginess to go away, it is preferred to spray later when the leaf surface is nearly dry.



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3. Mixing of chemicals, products and carrier ratio:

- For tank mixing of other chemicals refer to RLF literature and licensees.
- K-Komplex, NutriCover mixing instruction guides are also available for various crops/conditions.
- Carrier rate for K-Komplex or NutriCover in horticulture needs to be in a range of 1:50 to 1:150 and in broad-acre crops in the range of 1:20 to 1:50 for best response.

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