



Hort March 2006

Foliar Fertilization: The Perfect Prescription for Many Less-than-Ideal Situations

Is your soil pH between 6.0 and 7.0? If not, then the fertilizer you apply to the soil is partially unavailable to the plant. This is true no matter how much you apply! It simply can't reach the plant! More fertilizer is not necessarily better because eventually you are going to burn the roots with too much soluble salts.

So how did the soil pH get so out of whack? Custom-blended soil contains a lot of peat and the pH is very low. You can add Dolomite, but that takes a long time to break down. Meanwhile, your plants are growing at a very low pH. Maybe you have a tree farm or landscaping job and are about to plant into ground where the pH is 8 or 9. Or you have a blueberry farm where the pH has to be less than 5. Not much of the fertilizer applied in these situations would be available to the plant.

So what's the solution? Foliar fertilization of course that is never affected by soil pH!

Other situations warrant foliar feeding, too. Let's look at these common problems. In the winter, the colder temperatures keep granular fertilizers from breaking down. Recently transplanted crops take time to form new roots that are able to take up any fertilizers applied to the soil. Plants that are stressed by root diseases are fighting to survive and usually look off-color because they can't take up fertilizer through their roots. Sometimes we keep plants longer than originally planned and the granular slow-release fertilizer runs out. Now we get to pay a crew to top-dress them by hand. This

could be avoided with a good quality liquid foliar feed.

If the roots of your plants are not able to absorb fertilizer, the leaves are your only other choice. Here is where clean, high-quality liquid fertilizer really rises to the occasion.

Growers considering foliar fertilizers should look for:

- 1) High quality, low salt ingredients
- 2) Fully chelated micronutrients
- 3) Concentrated products for cost effectiveness
- 4) Slow-release liquid Nitrogen to avoid burn potential and surge growth
- 5) Ease of application (keep that labor cost to a minimum!)

Growth Products, Ltd. has the right foliar product for you! Our Nitro-30 SRN 30-0-0 has the lowest salt index of any nitrogen source available, and that

includes all the granulars and liquids on the market! Nitro-30 provides a nice, steady feed through the foliage when applied as a spray. Just a gallon of Nitro-30 per hundred gallons of water per acre will feed for 4-6 weeks.

Our fully chelated micronutrients are all immediately available to plants and quickly correct deficiencies when applied to foliage. Just a quart per 100 gallons per acre of our Micrel Total once a month will provide your plants with a complete micronutrient package. Cost-Efficient and effective, let Growth Products work for you through the leaves of your plants.

Visit our website: www.growthproducts.com for more information or call (800) 648-7626.

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