# NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT PRACTICES FOR GOOD MAIZE YIELDS

## Benefits of potassium

- Ensures healthy plants with strong stems
- Supports plants to withstand drought periods
- Helps plants resist attack by pests and diseases
- Sustains high maize yields

### POTASSIUM

Potassium-deficient plants dry off prematurely starting from the lower, older leaves.

#### Symptoms of potassium deficiency

- Edges of older leaves turn vellowish-brown
- Dark-brown discoloration of nodes inside maize stalk
- Premature drying of leaves and plants
- Poor grain-filling at the tips of cobs



Potassium-deficient cobs have poor grain filling at the tips.



Potassium-deficient leaf with the distinctive yellowish-brown colour on the leaf margins.

### ight Source

Apply NPK\* fertilizers such as: 25:10:10, 11:22:21, 15:15:15, and 23:10:5.

\*P and K contents in NPK fertilizers are based on  $P_2O_5$  and  $K_2O$  forms, respectively.

#### ight Rate

Right K rate is 30-50 kg per ha depending on local conditions.

Consult your local AEA to determine the right rate for your farm based on the K content of available fertilizers, current soil fertility, and target yields.



### ight Time

Apply K-supplying fertilizers as a basal application two weeks after planting.

#### ight Place

Place fertilizer in small holes about 5 cm from the plant and then cover it with soil.















