

4 NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT PRACTICES FOR GOOD MAIZE YIELDS

Benefits of phosphorus

- Supports good crop establishment
- Helps plants grow healthy roots
- Ensures uniform and early crop maturity
- Sustains high maize yields

PHOSPHORUS

Symptoms of phosphorus deficiency

- Short plants with weak stems and sparse, short roots
- Purple colour along leaf edges in young plants
- Delayed plant maturity
- Small and twisted cobs with small grains



Phosphorus-deficient plants have weak, thin stalks. Purplish symptoms first occur on older leaves, especially when plants are young.



Phosphorus-deficient cobs are small and twisted.



Phosphorus-deficient leaf with the distinctive purple colour on the leaf margins.

Right 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 P₂O₅ and K₂O forms, respectively.

Right Rate

Right P rate is 20-30 kg per ha depending on local conditions.

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



<https://4rsolution.org>

Right Time

Apply P-supplying fertilizer as a basal application two weeks after planting.

Right Place

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