

4 NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT PRACTICES FOR GOOD MAIZE YIELDS

Benefits of sulphur

- Increases grain protein content
- Enhances nitrogen uptake
- Supports grain formation
- Essential for healthy green plants
- Sustains high grain yields

SULPHUR

Symptoms of sulphur deficiency

- Entire leaves become uniformly pale green or yellow
- As sulphur is not mobile in plants, symptoms first appear on younger leaves
- Interveinal chlorosis on the youngest leaves
- The entire plant may become pale green as the deficiency persists



A maize plant with pale green, young leaves resulting from sulphur deficiency.



Sulphur deficient maize shown in the back portion of the image. Maize in foreground has sufficient S. Courtesy: Camberato (Purdue)



Young maize plants (3-leaf) showing classic interveinal chlorosis on youngest leaves. Courtesy; N.C. State

Right Source

Select a multi-nutrient fertilizer that can supply S along with other nutrients that are required; for example, 11:22:21 + 5 S + 0.7 Zn + 0.5 B.

To ensure the selected fertilizer contains S, check the details on the label.

Right Rate

Apply 10 to 20 kg S per ha depending on soil fertility and observed S deficiency in previous seasons.

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



<https://4rsolution.org>

Right Time

Apply S-supplying fertilizer during the first fertilizer application at two weeks after planting.

Avoid application of S-supplying fertilizer during periods of very high rainfall to avoid runoff losses of applied S.

Right Place

Place S-supplying fertilizer near the plant's root zone within small holes located about 5 cm away from plants.