



Alfalfa crop trends
Key micronutrients needed



Getting it right with DDP
Our recommendation

micronutrients matter

KEY FERTILIZATION STRATEGIES FOR ALFALFA PRODUCTION

ALFALFA

Crop Trends

New alfalfa varieties, improvements in management practices and more intensive alfalfa production over the past two decades have increased alfalfa yields and led to higher crop removal of micronutrients. Maintaining a strong fertility program that includes micronutrients throughout the alfalfa growing season will enhance stand longevity, increase feed quality, improve winter hardiness, and is essential to obtaining optimum economic yields.

Key Micronutrients

Alfalfa has a high requirement for boron and is among the crops that are most likely to suffer from a boron deficiency. Boron in alfalfa is essential for:

- Proper cell formation
- Faster regrowth after cuttings
- Improved winter hardiness

Factors Impacting Boron Availability

Boron deficiency is most common under the following conditions:

- Coarse textured soil
- High soil pH
- Low soil organic matter
- High soil calcium levels
- Low or excessive soil moisture

Visual deficiency symptoms in alfalfa include yellowing of the youngest leaves on the plant and reddening between veins of the leaves.

Getting it Right When it Comes to Boron

Micronutrients like boron are required in small amounts but are essential for reaching maximum growth potential in alfalfa stands. There is a small window between nutrient sufficiency and toxicity when it comes to boron, so it's especially important to consider the 4Rs of Nutrient Stewardship: using the right source, at the right rate, ensuring the right placement and applying at the right time.

An initial soil-application or boron early in the season (often after the first cutting) is important to ensure adequate boron for the growing season. Soil applications provide more consistent, season-long nutrition than do foliar applications. Foliar applications are popular, but because the foliage is removed at the next cutting, may not provide season-long boron nutrition. Many growers will also soil-apply potassium and boron after the last cutting to increase root reserves – improving winter hardiness and promoting aggressive spring growth.



wolftrax®
INNOVATIVE NUTRIENTS

Introducing Wolf Trax DDP Nutrients

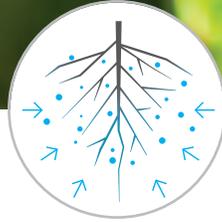
Wolf Trax Boron DDP® is designed to evenly coat granular fertilizer blends, such as phosphorous and potassium, commonly used in alfalfa production. This results in improved field distribution of boron in the field – delivering an ideal dose to alfalfa plants – and avoiding toxicity which can occur when plants are near large boron granules.

UNIQUE FEATURES OF WOLF TRAX DDP NUTRIENTS:



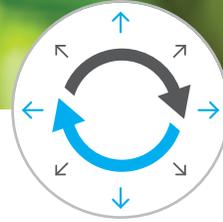
EvenCoat™ Technology

Wolf Trax DDP Nutrients thoroughly coat each and every granule of a fertilizer blend. This provides more feeding sites of boron and early plant uptake. Once applied, the DDP Nutrient will not come off during transport or handling.



PlantActiv™ Formulation

Wolf Trax DDP Nutrients are chemically and physically designed for better, earlier availability to plants. The particle size is ideal for plant uptake, and the unique formulation helps nutrients avoid soil tie-up and remain plant-available.

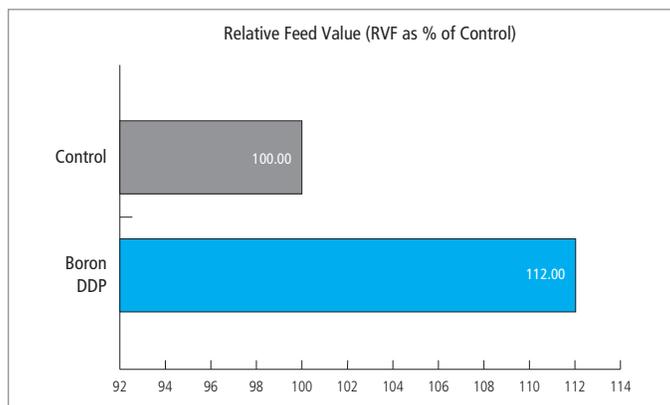


DUAL ACTION™ Availability

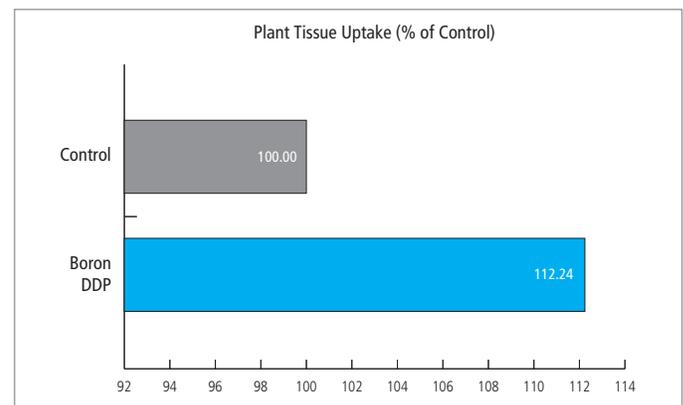
With Wolf Trax DDP Nutrients, plants get the nutrition they need, when it's needed most. The DUAL ACTION Availability means each DDP Nutrient is formulated with at least two forms of the mineral, providing immediate nutrient uptake by the plants, as well as continuous feeding over time.

Wolf Trax DDP Nutrients are Field-Proven

Application of Boron DDP as a fertilizer coating increased the Relative Feed Value (RFV) of alfalfa by 12% compared to the control.



Boron DDP applied as a fertilizer coating is an effective way to deliver boron to alfalfa, as shown by plant tissue values.



Results based on percent increase vs the control treatment without DDP from multiple cuttings, one location.

Recommendations:

A soil-application of Wolf Trax Boron DDP after the first cutting is a safe and effective way to promote rapid regrowth and improve feed value of subsequent cuts in alfalfa stands. Following the last cutting, adding Wolf Trax Boron DDP to soil-applied potassium can also foster winter hardiness and provide a strong start next spring. If foliar crop protection applications are made, Wolf Trax Boron DDP can be added to the tank mix where soil or tissue levels indicate low boron levels. For more information about foliar applications, contact your Compass Minerals representative.

Dealer Comments:

Helping you make informed decisions on the positive returns from using micronutrients.



Copyright © 2016, All Rights Reserved - Compass Minerals Manitoba Inc. Wolf Trax and Design, DDP, EvenCoat, PlantActiv and DUAL ACTION are trademarks of Compass Minerals Manitoba Inc. Compass Minerals is the proud supplier of Wolf Trax Innovative Nutrients. Not all products are registered in all areas. Contact wolfrax@compassminerals.com for more information.