The Next 15% In Yield Increase!

Do you ever wonder where the next increment in yield increase is going to come from? There are several potential answers to this question, but the safest, the easiest, and the most cost effective answer is to use N-Cal® fertilizer as part of your balanced plant nutrition program.

Research has shown that applying soluble calcium with urea (ammonium forms of nitrogen) can improve crop production. Calcium increases ammonium, potassium, and phosphorus absorption; stimulates photosynthesis; and increases the size of saleable plant parts, while improving the efficiency of nitrogen use.
N-Cal may be applied at or prior to planting—either broadcast, banded over the seed row, or co-applied with most pre-emergent herbicides.

The benefits of using enriched calcium and ammonium fertilizers early:

- Salt removal in the seed bed,
- Anticrusting for better seedling emergence,
- Suppression of many seedling diseases, including those associated with the “damping off” disease complex, and
- Enhanced plant vigor.

N-Cal is recommended as a replacement fertilizer for all first side dress and water run applications of nitrogen solutions such as UAN, AN-20, and urea. For optimum agronomic response, N-Cal should be formulated with a calcium-to-nitrogen ratio of no less than 1:3 (Ca:N). The benefits of using this product are well documented in literature and include patent technology from Texas A&M University. The goal is to increase ammonium absorption, thereby increasing photosynthesis and resulting in higher yields and more marketable fruits and vegetables.

N-Cal is recommended in all subsequent side dress or water run applications of fertilizer. Simply substitute an N-Cal formulation such as 16-0-0-6 (a 50% mixture of UAN-32 and Hi-Cal™ 12% calcium). The critical time for using this fertilizer is during the early season when the benefits of increased ammonium absorption and increased photosynthesis result in more carbohydrate production. Increased carbohydrate production stimulates and prolongs the period of fruit set, which means higher yields and increased quality.

N-Cal may be used later in the season if tissue tests indicate that the crop is becoming nitrogen deficient too early in the season to insure proper fruit sizing and maturation. Since the ammonium form of nitrogen is taken up in larger quantities and at a rate that is almost twice as fast as nitrate, plant response to the application is almost immediate. Foliar applications of this product are another excellent way of addressing a late season need for additional nitrogen. Rates of calcium-ammonium solutions containing 1 to 2 pounds per acre of calcium have produced significant benefits in research trials.