



### Planning for Your Sulfur 2022 Needs – Consider Tiger XP

Extreme weather conditions either drought or excess water, can complicate crop nutrient plans for next year. Management strategies should be reevaluated to enhance future crop yields. In extended dry soil conditions sulphur to sulphate conversion will be reduced due to in active soil microbes. When excessive soil moisture prevails sulphate loss can be due to immobilization of sulphur, volatilization, and leaching of sulphate. A product of choice to minimize sulphate losses is Tiger XP that contains 85% elemental sulphur, bentonite clay, humic acid, and carbon. When applied in the fall the soil temperature will be low enough that soil bacteria will be in active and minimal sulphur oxidation will occur. Therefore, it will still be present next spring and converted to season-long plant available sulphate for your crops as the temperature increases. Always apply enough sulphur to meet the plant's sulphur uptake needs! Tiger sulphur bentonite converts from elemental sulphur to sulphate. Factors influencing the conversion process include: soil temperature, soil aeration, soil moisture, sulphur particle size, soil microbial activity. Conditions favoring plant growth also favor faster sulphur to sulphate conversion.

Sulphate requirements based on uptake demand: Corn = 0.18 lbs S/bu., Soybeans = 0.36 lbs S/bu., Wheat = 0.24 lbs S/bu.

**Advantages of Tiger-XP:** Consistent size, blends easily with P & K products, provides predictable particle distribution

**Benefits from fall application:** Provides ample time for pastille fracturing and dispersion; wetting/drying & freezing/thawing cycles assist in fracturing & dispersion; pastilles are dispersed and available for immediate conversion to sulphate when soil warms in spring. **Source: Trevor Loewen of Tiger Sul**



For more info on Tiger Sul's products check out <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0YJaUjCJVqQ> or talk to your Holmes Agro rep!

### The Start of Good Things to Come – Winter Wheat Starter

Most crops have a difficult time getting enough Phosphorous (P). Applying a seed placed starter fertilizer when planting winter wheat is proven to provide positive ROI. Wheat will positively respond to seed placed P, as banding puts a readily accessible P source in the root zone making it positionally more available. Banding also concentrates other nutrients with the P, such as sulphur (which can help acidulate high pH soil growth medium for improved P uptake), nitrogen (which can slow fixation reactions and enhance P uptake), potassium (as the level of soil bank K drops, root uptake decreases).

Phosphorous nutrition should be the focus, but an overall balanced blend should be a priority. Talk to your Holmes Agro Rep about enhancing root development this fall with a fertilizer blend that includes Tiger XP85 and the micronutrient power of ProCote BCMZ.

### Fall Herbicide Q & A with NuFarm

**When is the best time in the Fall to attain the highest level of control of perennial weeds?**

Fall is an ideal time to enhance a weed control system with limited cost and effort. Most growers may apply herbicide to control their toughest weeds in two distinct fall application windows, post-harvest wheat and spring cereal or pre-plant/pre-emerge winter wheat. These application timings are crucial for control of perennial or winter annual weeds such as Canada Fleabane, dandelion, plantain, and chickweed because it weakens the plant as it is readying for winter. As long as the target weeds are emerged and actively growing it is the correct time to apply a fall burndown even as late as mid November, perennial weeds can be effectively controlled.



**Does the addition of a tank mix partner or second mode of action increase the effectiveness of the fall burndown program?**

Nufarm's Credit Xtreme makes the foundation for a great burndown any time of year, especially in the fall. Credit Xtreme combined with 2,4 D Ester is a great way to reduce resistant weed pressure for the following spring. Both BlackHawk and Estaprop XT also make great additions to glyphosate at burndown with no risk of antagonism with other popular add-ins. Estaprop XT is the best choice for larger perennial weeds and all-around broadleaf control while Blackhawk delivers safety pre-emerge to wheat and a quicker visual brown down or dry down. **Source: Adam Bent of Nufarm**



## VRT Fall Fertility

As crops come off this fall, it is a great time to begin applying fertilizer for next year's crops. Fall applied fertility has several benefits, such as an increased nutrient availability early in the following spring, and time management. Getting some jobs like spreading fertilizer done in the fall, can help ease the workload in the spring and get you into the planter sooner.

Fall P/K is also a great opportunity to use some variable rate strategies. Especially with the increasing costs of fertilizer it becomes even more important to place fertilizer where it will have the most benefit. There are several ways to generate these scripts. The most precise method is to use a grid sample to determine nutrient levels across the entire farm to decide appropriate application rates. We can also use grid maps to separate out sample zones and use those samples, or simply use the yield map to determine which areas removed more nutrients and should receive a higher rate of fertilizer in the fall to balance it out.

All of Holmes Agro's application fleet are capable of variable rate applications. Even if you want to use a pull spreader, we can still use soil tests to determine higher/lower testing areas of the farm and spread different blends or rates. Talk to your Agronomist today to figure out your fall strategy, and how Variable Rate fertilizer will fit in!

## Winter Wheat Seed Bed Management

Wheat planting is on our doorstep and many growers will be gearing up to plant wheat following their soybean crop. The job we do this fall ensuring our wheat gets off on the right foot is directly responsible in determining our 2022 wheat yield. With current market values there are significant opportunities for growing wheat. Most soybeans are much more vegetative this year, this stover is likely to be more challenging for combines to chop and spread. Maximizing the spread of residue will be very important, particularly in no-till situations, and can be challenging to incorporate properly, even in conventional systems.

- ✓ It may be required to make a pass of tillage to meet our seedbed needs.
- ✓ Seed placement and promoting a strong germination environment will help ensure we maintain top end yield.
- ✓ Making sure our planting equipment is set up to properly place the seed can be a field-to-field decision.

Spending a few minutes behind the drill or seeder this fall to dial in the seed could help ramp up production!

## Resilient Soils - What's the 'Dirt' on Soil Organic Matter?

Do you know the benefits organic matter has on your soil?

Soil organic matter **improves** physical, chemical, and biological functions of the soil; **supports** soil structure, water-holding capacity, beneficial microorganisms, disease tolerance, nutrient mineralization, degrading pollutants, and water infiltration; healthy soil will **aid** in erosion reduction, carbon sequestration, improve crop resistance and resilience, **resulting in improved profitability**.

It is important to note, **soil fertility** is understood by soil sampling to get the result of nutrients in the ground. But understanding **soil health** focuses on the biology of the soil, how **alive** the soil is with microbes and beneficial organisms! It is important to understand both soil fertility and soil health, to ensure your soil will be able to sustainably produce crops for years to come; and organic matter is a great tool to use.

How to improve soil organic matter on your farms?

**Add** manure, crop residue, or soil amendments; **use** cover crops and crop rotations; **manage soil disruption** by reduced tillage.

You need soil to be productive, profitable, and sustainable for the long-term. So, why not take care of it now! If you're interested in management techniques, resources, or products to help you increase your soil organic matter, talk to your Holmes Agro agronomist.

## Stop Accidents Before They Happen

With fall harvest gearing up, there comes long days of late nights and early mornings and tired workers. Be sure to follow proper lockout procedures on all equipment before doing any daily maintenance.

- ✓ Make sure equipment is fully shut down and remove the key to avoid unintended start-up of machinery.
- ✓ Let other workers know of your intent to perform any type of work to a machine.
- ✓ Be sure to check all equipment, and ensure that brakes, tires, mirrors, lights, and chains are in safe and working order.
- ✓ Check that fire extinguishers are full, working, and accessible on all equipment.

In Canada 13% of farm related fatalities are from traffic related accidents most of which involved tractors and almost half of all collisions occurred in the period of July to September. **Safety Doesn't Happen by Accident** – Avoid busy roads wherever possible; ensure operators are trained and licensed; travel at a speed that will allow you to always maintain full control; if possible, move equipment in daylight periods during light traffic; obey all traffic laws and signs; **You must** use visible light signals or hand signals if lights are not available/visible. This may require the use of additional escort vehicles or lighting.



## Calendar 2022

The deadline to submit pictures for the Calendar is fast approaching, please email your pictures to [laura@holmesagro.com](mailto:laura@holmesagro.com) before September 20<sup>th</sup>. We are proud to be able to provide a calendar full of grower pictures – all thanks to your great submissions!

\*\*\*\*\* Please email [laura@holmesagro.com](mailto:laura@holmesagro.com) to sign up for our e-newsletter \*\*\*\*\*

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