NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT PRACTICES FOR CANOLA PRODUCTION

SULPHUR
the 4th major crop nutrient

Symptoms of sulphur deficiency in canola

- Leaves are cupped or rolled inwards.
- As sulphur is not mobile in plants, younger leaves appear pale green or yellow. Interverinal chlorosis may occur as a sulphur deficiency progresses.
- Purpling on leaf edges or underside of leaves.
- Flowering plants have light yellow or white flowers.
- Sulphur deficiency is more common in sandy soils or poorly aerated soils with low organic matter.

Benefits of sulphur in canola

- Required for oil and protein synthesis.
- Increases chlorophyll production.
- Supports grain formation.
- Essential for healthy green plants.
- Sustains high canola yields.

Sulphate-containing fertilizers can be used when canola needs sulphur (S) for immediate crop uptake. Elemental S will become available to the crop depending on the degree of S oxidation into sulfate during a cropping season.

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

**Light Source**

**Light Rate**

Apply 11 – 22 kg S/ha (10 – 20 lbs S/ac) depending on soil fertility and observed S deficiency in previous seasons. Consult your local crop advisor to determine right rate for your farm based on the S content of available fertilizer, current soil fertility, and target yields.

**Light Time**

Apply S fertilizer before or at seeding. Available nutrients should be near crop roots during uptake periods. In-crop applications can correct S deficiencies. Avoid application of S fertilizers during periods of very high rainfall to avoid leaching loss of applied S.

**Light Place**

Surface and incorporation of soluble sulphate fertilizers are equally effective. Granular elemental S requires dispersion of the S particles within the soil for oxidation to take place.