

TOPCROP Protein focus demo

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BACKGROUND

With increased intensity of cropping rotations, less frequent legume phases in rotations and higher yields, wheat protein levels are declining. Low protein wheat attracts a price discount and grade penalty.

AIM

To demonstrate the importance of adequate nitrogen nutrition to achieve desired protein levels. To evaluate the Nitrogen fertilizer recommendation tools available for optimum N fertilizer strategies.

SITE

Paddock name, 17-15 cm grey sand over red/yellow clay.
2002 sub-clover pasture 2t/ha DM, 80% legume. 2001 barley, 2000 pasture
Mitre wheat treated with Jockey sown at 60 kg/ha on 15 May 2003
Sown with 80 kg/ha DAP and 95 kg/ha urea. (60 kg/ha N applied at sowing)

P ppm	K ppm	S ppm	PRI	OC%	PH (CaCl ₂)	EC dS/m

METHOD

Sow paddock normally with 80 kg/ha MicroRich and 95 kg/ha urea spread on the seeder bar. Apply rates of early nitrogen fertilizer about 4-6 weeks of sowing. Spray liquid fertilizer on plots with boomsprayer. Observe soil moisture and rainfall after application of fertilizers.

plot	treatment	N rate	L/ha Maxam-Flo
1	1	0	0
2	4	52	200
3	3	26	100
4	2	13	50
5	4	52	200
6	2	13	50
7	3	26	100
8	1	0	0
9	3	26	100
10	1	0	0
11	2	13	50
12	4	52	200

NOTES

Nitrogen calculator estimates 110 kg/ha N required for 4t/ha yield at 10% protein