

## 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 15; brown loam, 1.0% OC.  
2002 wheat  
2001 barley  
2000 barley  
1999 wheat

### METHOD

Paddock will be topdressed with Ammonium sulphate in late April. Rates of amsul will be spread by a contract spreader up and back across a paddock at 40' centres. Three consecutive runs at a given rate will make a plot with an area large enough to harvest with minimal drift from adjacent rates. The plot area will be across the centre of the paddock to avoid carners.

Sow paddock normally, round and round with compound fertilizer, 70 kg/ha multi MAP and Carnamah wheat.

plot	treatment	Extra N applied	Rate of Ammonium Sulphate
1	Control	21	100
2	Half recommended rate	11	50
3	Control	21	100
4	Double recommended rate	42	200
5	Control	21	100
6	nil	0	Nil
7	Control	21	100

### NOTES

20 kg/ha suggested from N calculator.