

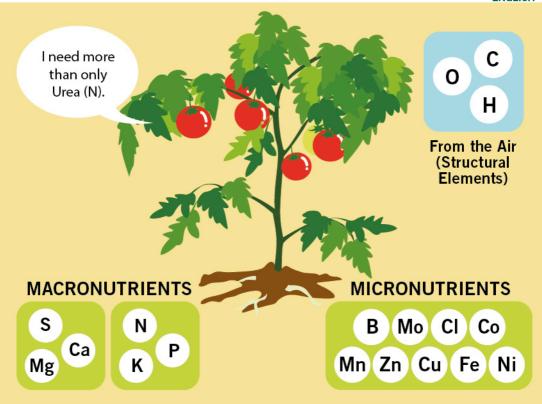
# MACRONUTRIENTS Technical Guide

## What are macronutrients?

\* Elements required in relatively large amount for plant growth.

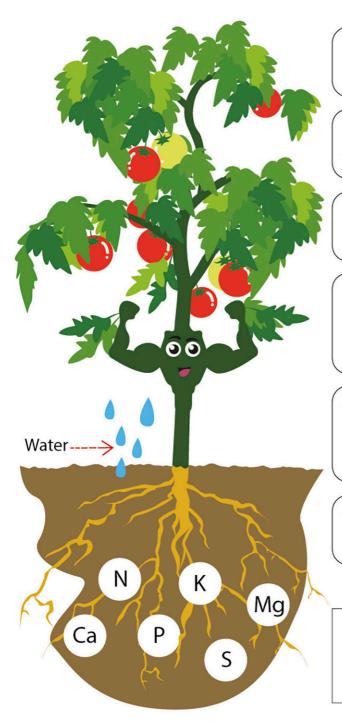


**ENGLISH** 



18 Essential Nutrients for Plants

## • Functions of macronutrients



#### NITROGEN (N)

- \* Involved in photosynthesis
- \* Promotes vegetative growth

#### PHOSPHORUS (P)

- \* Stimulates root development
- \* Promotes maturity

#### POTASSIUM (K)

- \* Improves quality of fruits
- \* Increases disease resistance

#### MAGNESIUM (Mg)

- \* Regulates uptake of other nutrients
- \* Key nutrient in chlorophyll production (green plants)

#### SULFUR (S)

- \* Promotes nodule formation on legumes
- \* Aids in root growth and seed formation

#### CALCIUM (Ca)

- \* Increases fruit setting
- \* Increases disease resistance

#### TIP BOX:

GOOD WATER MANAGEMENT ensures

GOOD PLANT NUTRITION.

# Deficiency symptoms

#### TIP BOX:

Symptoms may overlap with drought, chemical injury or diseases. If unsure, check with the experts.

## **UPPER/YOUNGER LEAVES AND FRUITS**



Sulfur: Yellowing like in Nitrogen, but starts in younger leaves



Calcium: Blossom-end rot; necrosis on leaf edges; distorted new leaves

### LOWER/OLDER LEAVES



Potassium: Yellowing starts on the edges



Nitrogen: Yellowing of the leaves



Magnesium: Yellowing between the veins (interveinal)



Phosphorus: Purpling of the leaves

# Deficiency management



Do regular soil test. Test N before each cropping season. Test P, K, Ca, S, Mg and pH every 5-6 years.



Apply fertilizers. Add lime, if soil pH is acidic. Consult an expert.

# Sample of available inorganic and organic fertilizers

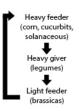
Inorganic Fertilizers *		N	P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub>	K <sub>2</sub> O
Compound	NPK 15-15-15	15	15	15
	NPK 20-20-15	20	20	15
	NPK 10-26-26	10	26	26
Binary	Diammonium Phosphate (DAP)	18	46	0
	Ammonium Phosphate	16	20	0
	Mono-Potassium Phosphate	0	52	34
Single	Urea	46	0	0
	Muriate of Potash (MOP)	0	0	60
	Phosphate	0	36	0

- \* 100 kg DAP is not equal to 100 kg Urea
- \* 100 kg DAP has 18 kg N (Nitrogen) and 46 kg P<sub>2</sub> O<sub>5</sub> (Phosphate)
- \* 100 kg Urea has 46 kg N (Nitrogen)

Organic Fertilizers			
Animal Manure	Cow dung Guano Chicken dung		
Crop Residues	Rice straw Legumes Maize stalks		
Others	Vermicompost Bokashi CalPhos (Eggshells/Bones) Fish Amino Acid (FAA) Fermented Fruit Juice (FF Fermented Plant Juice (FF Seaweed Extract		







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