



BENEFITS OF FOLIAR MICRONUTRIENTS ON CEREALS IN A LOW RAINFALL ZONE ENVIRONMENT

Year:

2018 - 2020

Funding Provider:

Grains Research and Development Corporation (GRDC)

Lead Organisation:

Liebe Group

Collaborators

CSBP and Murdoch University

Aim:

- To determine the requirements and benefits of a foliar application of micronutrients in a low rainfall environment of the Northern Agricultural Region (NAR).
- To address and improve grower understanding of micronutrient management using decision support tools, such as plant testing; on farm productivity due to the timely application of foliar micronutrients, and; positive economic return through the improvement of grain yield and quality.

Project Information:

Historically, nutrient management R&D in Western Australia has focused on macro-nutrients (N,P&K) due to their greater natural uptake demand from crops, when compared to the smaller requirements of micronutrients for normal crop growth. The result is a widening, disproportionate research gap between macro and micro nutrients. Future implications of crop nutrient demands have raised concern about micronutrient management. Plant testing and paddock observation indicates increased prevalence of micronutrient deficiencies, thus raising questions about these changing trends and potential responsive management practices.

Previous trial work conducted by CSBP indicated a 50% reduction in wheat yields as a result of manganese (Mn) deficiency, as well as 80% reduction linked to copper (Cu) deficiency. This combined with the results of the 2017 Liebe Group survey indicated strong interest amongst growers to increase knowledge about the limiting threat micronutrients are posing to production.

PROJECT FUNDERS



REPORTS & LINKS

Managing Micronutrient Deficiencies

<https://tinyurl.com/cerealslrz>