

ALPINE LIQUID PHOSPHATE WORKS GREAT ON PULSE CROPS, TOO

With pulse crops like peas and lentils, farmers have been shying away from applying any fertilizer at seeding time.

Terry Good, Western Canada sales manager for Alpine, says pulse crops are more sensitive to fertilizer with the seed. Plus peas take up a lot of the air cart.

"Due to the high seeding rate for peas, farmers want to use the whole cart for seed. They don't want to handle dry fertilizer, so they don't use anything," he says.

"It seems that the first place farmers cut their fertility program is on their pulses. Everybody knows pulses don't need nitrogen, but the plants still need phosphate to establish a strong root system in cold, dry conditions."

"Having plant available nutrients at germination time is key. Alpine Liquid Phosphate also has a low salt index with a neutral pH, making it a seed safe product. So adding some Alpine at seeding time is a good idea." We

"The idea of putting a small amount of very available phosphate in the ground, in cold, dry conditions like Western Canada is paying dividends. You've got more availability of the nutrients you need at germination time," he says.

"The whole idea of phosphate is to grow roots and get the crop started – build the base of the crop. I really like Elston Solberg's comment that 'a root dominated crop is the foundation to healthy and profitable crop production'. That idea is what we promote."

Phosphate per foot of row

Good says Alpine differs from other fertilizer companies when they make rate recommendations.

"We have found that crops need a certain amount of phosphate per foot of row to grow roots. Why would you put more on some fields than others if the job you're trying to do is grow roots?" he asks.

"The thing that changes with Alpine is if you have narrow or wider row

Nutrition (ASN) product, then seed placed Alpine at seeding, followed by a foliar application during the crop growing season.

Foliar plot work conducted at Wheatland Conservation Area in Swift Current this year showed a **4.4 bu increase** in pea yield with less than \$2 of foliar Alpine applied.

Alpine also has an equipment rebate program, where farmers can get up to \$2,000 of Alpine application equipment covered by purchasing Alpine Liquid Phosphate fertilizer.

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the starter fertilizer company™



Owen Cairns, Hillcrest Enterprises Ltd. 13,000 acres – Coronach, SK

"After being in no-till for over 20 years we were seeing no response to phosphate fertilizer. After being introduced to ALPINE I liked the theory, so we tried it for the first time in the spring of 2007. We instantly noticed the quicker crop emergence and had substantial yield increases compared to our checks, with up to 25% yield increase on yellow peas. We also like the ease of handling the product.

have also seen excellent results with seed placed Alpine on sensitive crops like Flax and Canola.

Good says Alpine is a liquid orthophosphate which is immediately usable by crops compared to dry phosphate, which has to dissolve in soil solution to become available before the plant can use it.

spacing, then you adjust your rate. We want a concentration per foot of row to help germination, get crops started and grow some roots."

Alpine also works well as a foliar feed. Good says he's looking into 'Phazed nutrition', where they're feeding the crop by putting some nutrition directly on the seed with an Alpine Seed