Practice SQ n° 6

SPLIT N APPLICATION. FOR GRAIN CROPS, DIVIDING THE DOSE INTO 2 OR 3 SPLIT APPLICATIONS

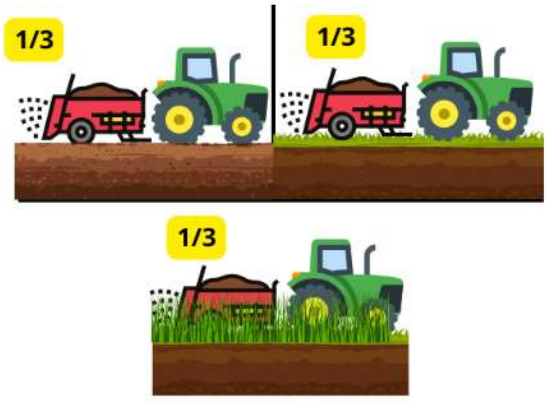
Introduction

Category: Good Practice (GP)

Practice identity card

#Fertilizer efficiency, nitrogen

#SQ, food, fibre, oil, Good Practice (GP), Spain



Short description

➔ This practice is quite common in our region, and it is indeed one of the easiest ways to ensure fertilizer efficiency. Our recommendation is to split N application when the dose is higher than 120 NFU. When using this practice, farmers usually split N fertilizer in two separated applications, close to the moments when the crop has higher needs.

Implementation process

Which practice is considered as the standard in this region? The standard is to split N application in two separated applications. Some farmers even apply it in three times.

What was the on-farm issue/challenge/opportunity that led to the implementation of the practice? The main point is to reduce N losses to the environment.

Logistics

- **Logistic aspects to consider:** No
- **Skill/education level required:** rather low

Agronomical traits

- **Can the practice be applied to a multitude of cultivation techniques?** Multiple techniques
- **Targeted crop categories:** food, fibre, oil
- **Soil types suitable for the practice:** peaty, sandy, clay, loamy, chalky, silty
- **Expected effect on crop yield**: increase
- **Expected effect on crop yield variation**: decrease
- **Expected effect on crop quality:** increase
- **Which costs may increase due to the practice?** fuel
- **Which costs may decrease due to the practice?** none
- **Expected long-term/indirect economic benefits of the practice:** Improve water quality
- **Expected effect on the leaching of nutrients:**
    - Nitrogen: Decrease
    - Phosphorus: none
    - Potassium: none

Administrative context

- **Does the practice qualify for subsidies?** No
- **Status of the legal framework that regulates the practice:** well-developed
- **Are there any policy barriers complicating the practice's application?** No
- **Does the practice involve the use of hazardous substances?** No
- **Is the practice compliant with EU organic farming practices?** No
- **Is the practice supported by Eco-schemes?** Yes
- **Are there any gaseous emissions to be considered upon application of the practice?** yes: nitrous oxide, yes: ammonia
- **Greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction potential of the practice:** little or none
- **All features of the practice than may hinder its social acceptance:** applicable
- **Expected effects from the practice on the time occupation of the farmer?** moderate increase
- **May the practice contribute to a better public image of agriculture?** Yes, reducing N leaching will lead to a reduction on water bodies contamination
- **May the practice improve the farmer's self-image?** Yes

Contact

Name of the FIN (Fertilization Innovation Network) partner submitting the information: INTIA
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Eu member state: Spain

Find out more

Source of information INTIAs own fertilization trials