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INNOVATIVE MICRONUTRIENTS

NEWS RELEASE

MICRONUTRIENT RATES CAN BE LOWER IF BASED ON PLANT NEEDS – NOT WHAT THE SOIL NEEDS

February 22, 2007 – Traditional soil test recommendations for micronutrient applications may no longer be appropriate given new technological advances, a company spokesman for Wolf Trax Inc., said today.

“For years, we have been recommending farmers apply fairly high rates of micronutrients to soils that are deficient,” said Mark Goodwin, Director of Research and Development for Wolf Trax. “That’s because recommendations were based on traditional granular micronutrient technology.”

Granular micronutrient is typically blended into a fertilizer blend of nitrogen (N), phosphorus (P) and potassium (K). As the NPK fertilizer is spread across the field, the chunks of micronutrient are spread as well. However, distribution of granular micronutrients has been quite inefficient for a number of reasons, says Gary Tuxhorn, Corporate Agronomist with United Suppliers, Inc.

Plants generally require very small amounts of micronutrients for optimum growth, explains Tuxhorn. “For example, a 150 bushel corn crop has about 0.15 lbs of zinc in the grain at harvest, or about 0.5 lbs of zinc in the grain and stalks at maturity. The soil tests may tell us to put on two to ten lbs of zinc. That’s how much has been needed to get the tiny amount of granular micronutrient, widely spread through the field, to the plant.”

Wolf Trax DDP® Micronutrients are designed to coat and adhere to each prill of dry N, P, or K fertilizer, therefore delivering the micronutrient throughout the soil profile, and right to the plant’s roots. This, says Tuxhorn, ensures the corn plant finds almost all of the zinc applied, because of better root interception due to greater distribution in the soil.

“Wolf Trax recommended rates are based on plant needs, not building the soil,” says Goodwin. “It’s important to remember that the plant does not need five pounds of zinc even though that’s what the soil test recommendation calls for. The soil-micronutrient-

plant environment is very complex, and plant availability is an issue. By intelligently placing the right amount of micronutrient, in an available form, directly to the plants roots, we can ensure plant uptake, and improve plant health.”

Wolf Trax is an innovative micronutrient company committed to extensive research and testing, superior quality, and customer service.

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