



TECHNICAL BULLETIN

Best Use Practices for Applying DDP Micronutrients in a Volumetric Blender

There are many advantages to using Wolf Trax DDP® Micronutrients in your dry fertilizer blend:

- Blending procedures are similar to those used to blend typical granular micronutrients
- Less micronutrient is required per batch
- There is less packaging to dispose of
- There is less product to inventory
- You achieve a very consistent distribution of micronutrient throughout the fertilizer blend.

Volumetric blenders are commonly used to apply Wolf Trax® DDP Micronutrients to dry fertilizer, and are simple to use, once the system is calibrated. The following outlines some key guidelines to ensure success, and also provides answers to commonly asked questions.

Blending Instructions:

- 1) Determine the micronutrient needs per acre based on Soil Test Recommendations and Wolf Trax Rate Conversion sheet.
- 2) Determine the amount of micronutrient needed based on your total batch size, and acres to be covered.
- 3) It is very important to ensure the correct amount of DDP is added. DO NOT mix in more than 1% of the total blend weight.
- 4) Minor bin modifications are required to deliver a powder product into a volumetric blender. Calibrate your system using micronutrient bulk densities as provided by Wolf Trax.
- 5) The Micronutrient bin MUST be located at the end of the fertilizer stream, so that it will coat all other products in the blend.
- 6) A four-inch double-flighted auger is needed in the micro bin.
- 7) Five to seven feet between where the micronutrient enters the horizontal cross auger and the point at which the blend gets elevated is needed to adequately coat the blend.

Best Use Practices and Helpful Hints

- A bin vibrator may be necessary to prevent the micronutrient from “bridging”.
- Most micronutrient bins can be easily modified to allow for a powder application. Ranco® has an upgrade kit available to convert your existing micronutrient bin to one that can feed DDP Micronutrients (retail value approximately \$650). Four-inch double-flighted auger bins are also available.

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Commonly Asked Questions

Can I use my existing Micronutrient bin?

Yes, however, some modifications are usually required. If your micro bins have a six-inch single flighted auger, they do not run slow enough to accurately apply DDP. There are several simple solutions available either off the shelf, or for on-site modifications. Talk to your Wolf Trax representative for more information.

Can I add DDP to another product and have it carried into the blend auger?

This is possible, however, care must be taken when calibrating the DDP Micronutrient rate. You must also ensure that there is an adequate amount of granular fertilizer product available so that all the DDP is adhering to a fertilizer granule, and not left on its own. If excess DDP is not adhered to a granule, dust problems may develop.

Will the micronutrients “bridge” or “hang up” in the micro bin?

DDP micronutrients seldom bridge, or hang up in the micro bin. If it should occur, the simple addition of a bin vibrator will solve any bridging issues.

How does humidity affect the flow of the micronutrient?

There should be minimal, if any, affect of humidity on the flow of the micronutrients.

How much blend auger is needed to thoroughly coat the macro blend?

Most fertilizer products are adequately coated in as little as five to seven feet of auger.

Where do DDP Micronutrients need to be introduced in the sequence of products?

DDP should be introduced to the horizontal blend auger last, so that it will coat all other products in the blend.

How do I calibrate my Ranco blender?

Calibration instructions for Ranco volumetric blenders are available on our website at: www.farmtested.com/513.html or call Wolf Trax at 204-237-9653 and we will fax them to you.

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For more information on the Wolf Trax DDP family of Innovative Micronutrients, contact your Wolf Trax Representative, call 204-237-9653, or visit us at www.wolftrax.com.