



# A closer look at micronutrient rates

Wolf Trax® DDP Fertilizer Coating Micronutrients are applied to the field in a completely different way than traditional granular micronutrients. Because of this, recommended rates for Wolf Trax Micronutrients are different than those used with the old-fashioned granular products.

With traditional granular micronutrients, relatively large “chunks” of zinc, copper or boron are mixed into fertilizer blends and then distributed unevenly, often at widely spaced points in the field. Using this “old fashioned” technique, a single particle of zinc may have to feed 150 to 300 square inches of actual earth. Dealers have to handle and apply as much as 5, 10 or 15 pounds of actual micronutrient to achieve even this inadequate distribution. In fact, plant scientists will tell you that these multi-pound rates exceed the amount the crop needs by THOUSANDS of percent.

When Wolf Trax DDP® Micronutrients are used as a fertilizer coating, a small amount of micronutrient is coated onto each N, P or K prill or granule. With the N, P and K doing the “work” of carrying and distributing the micronutrient, you get hundreds of points of contact where the crop can access the micronutrient. This superior coverage means that it is no longer necessary to over-apply zinc at rates of 5 pounds plus, or boron at one or more pounds.

### **How do you select the right rate for your field?**

The problem is that a typical soil test lab assumes the use of granular micronutrients (and the associated inefficient coverage), and therefore recommends multi-pound rates. Wolf Trax has developed a rate conversion chart that can help you convert a typical soil test recommendation to the appropriate Wolf Trax rate. Contact your Wolf Trax rep, or e-mail [infomaster@wolftrax.com](mailto:infomaster@wolftrax.com) for a copy.

### **Four reasons you can be confident in Wolf Trax recommended rates**

1. Wolf Trax DDP Micronutrients are distributed more evenly in the seed bed – little bit of micronutrient on every single prill or granule. As previously mentioned, when you are applying Wolf Trax DDP as a fertilizer coating, you are delivering the micronutrient to EVERY SINGLE SPOT that an N, P or K granule falls into the soil profile. In other words, if the farmer knows that the crop is accessing the N he has applied, he will also know for certain that the crop is accessing the Wolf Trax DDP Micronutrient that is coating that N granule.

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2. Wolf Trax DDP rates are set to match crop needs. Table 1 shows you how much micronutrient a crop typically needs. For example, a typical corn crop needs a little less than ½ pound of zinc to grow to maturity. It is terribly inefficient to respond to that small crop need by applying a typical 5 lb rate of zinc through use of a granular product in a blend, yet that has been what we have become used to doing.

Crop	Yield	Zn (lbs/acre)		Percent of crop need
		What the crop needs	Typical granular rate	
<b>Corn (grain and stover)</b>	<b>180 bu</b>	<b>0.45</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1111%</b>
<b>Cotton:</b>	<b>2 bales</b>	<b>0.96</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>521%</b>
<b>Oats:</b>	<b>140 bu</b>	<b>0.42</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1190%</b>
<b>Peanuts:</b>	<b>4000 lbs</b>	<b>0.25</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2000%</b>
<b>Soybeans</b>	<b>50 bu</b>	<b>0.05</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>10000%</b>
<b>Wheat:</b>	<b>80 bu</b>	<b>0.29</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1724%</b>

Table 1: Amounts of zinc removed by different crops

3. Wolf Trax rates are extensively tested. Wolf Trax recommended rates for DDP Micronutrients as a coating on N, P or K are regularly validated through trials measuring uptake, and early growth (above ground fresh weight, root growth, etc.). Results confirm that Wolf Trax recommended rates (which are closer to what the crop actually needs) are effective in getting micronutrient into the plant, and optimizing early plant growth. In short – Wolf Trax Micronutrients applied as a fertilizer coating offer a more efficient way to apply micronutrients.

4. Wolf Trax rates are guaranteed. If the recommended rate of Wolf Trax DDP does not correct a deficiency, your grower-customer is covered. Wolf Trax will fix the problem under its Growing Forward guarantee. This is the only performance guarantee of its kind in the micronutrient industry.

*You and Wolf Trax....Growing Forward® together.*

For more information on the Wolf Trax DDP family of Innovative Micronutrients, please call 204-237-9653, or visit us at [www.wolftrax.com](http://www.wolftrax.com).