





About
WHAT FORM OF TRACE ELEMENT IS BEST ?

Trace elements are more suited to foliar spray
Just how efficient are the four different nutrient forms

Oxide – less efficient because entry to the plant is slow via the stomata

Sulphate – although readily available it generally only supplies **one nutrient at a time**

Chelate – generally too expensive for **broadacre farming and horticulture**

Phosphate – more efficient because **entry to the plant is rapid** and into every leaf cell within 30 minutes of being sprayed on

Grant Borgward,
Farmer and RLF Manager



Grant Borgward talks about **WHAT FORM OF TRACE ELEMENT IS BEST ?**

Farmer and National Sales Manager for RLF

About this Series

An informative and insightful video series featuring Grant Borgward has been released for 2016.

It has been called FARMER TO FARMER with very good reason.

This series has been developed to enable farmers everywhere to draw knowledge and inspiration from a fellow farmer as well as to spread further the message of RLF products.

Grant Borgward talks about What Form of Trace Element is Best ?

We have spoken about the fact that trace elements are more suited to foliar spray.

So okay, let's say I am going to spray some trace element on. It then comes down to what form of trace elements am I going to apply to the crop. My options are an oxide, a sulphate, a chelate or a phosphate form. Now it's all a bit confusing, until we start working out just how efficient each of the four different forms are.

We start with the oxide – which is generally the least efficient – although they do give the highest analysis in the drum. When they are applied to the leaf they are very slow to go into the plant. Entry is restricted because they can only gain entry through the stomata and can be washed off before the plant gets to utilise the zinc that's in the zinc oxide.

The next one is the sulphate. They are the most readily available form and come in a bag as a powder which is easily mixed up by the farmer and sprayed on. They have better uptake than an oxide, but still have limited uptake capacity and generally only supply one nutrient at a time.

The third category I speak of is chelates. They are a very good form of trace elements, but generally too expensive for broadacre crops and cost prohibitive in horticulture. But, they do ensure safe delivery and normally fairly fast delivery into the plant.

The last on the list is trace elements in phosphate form. That is basically RLF engineered technology, where the trace elements are supplied to the plant in phosphorus form. The low pH technology ensures rapid uptake once it is sprayed onto the leaf. But once inside the leaf it gains rapid entry into any leaf cell that it hits. The plant then will utilise that nutrient and take it to where ever it needs it inside the plant, basically within 30 minutes.



About Grant

Grant farms nearly 10,000 ha of mid-west land located southeast of Geraldton in Western Australia. A son of a farmer, Grant's been bought-up on farm all of his life. In professional life Grant is the National Sales Manager of RLF for the last 18 years.

RLF Products

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| Seed Priming BSN Superstrike BSN Ultra BSN-10 | Ultra Foliar Plasma Fusion Plasma Power Broadacre Plus Fruits & Veggies Plus | Crop-Specific Foliar Canola Plus Cereal Plus Cotton Plus Horticulture Plus Viticulture Plus |
| Foliar Boron Plus Calcium Plus Potassium Plus | Rapid Foliar Rapid Zinc Rapid Max | Nutrient Charger Unidip |
| Foliar Nitrogens PowerN26 PowerN42 PowerPK | Fertigation/Furrow Fertigation Plus Plasma Furrow Inject Nutricover | AdBlue Bulk Fertilisers |

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