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CC105 General Fertilizer Recommendations for Eastern Nebraska

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GENERAL FERTILIZER RECOMMENDATIONS

FOR EASTERN NEBRASKA

Nebraska
COOPERATIVE EXTENSION WORK
IN AGRICULTURE AND HOME ECONOMICS
W. V. Lambert, Director, Lincoln
### General Fertilizer Recommendations for Eastern Nebraska (nonirrigated land)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rate of Application</th>
<th>Following alfalfa, clover, or 4-8 tons of manure</th>
<th>Following grass or grain crops</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Crop</th>
<th>Nitrogen</th>
<th>Phosphate</th>
<th>Potash</th>
<th>Nitrogen</th>
<th>Phosphate</th>
<th>Potash</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Corn</td>
<td>0-30</td>
<td>None***</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>30-60****</td>
<td>None***</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grain sorghum</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>30-60</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wheat</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>20-30</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>30-40</td>
<td>20-30</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oats</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>20-30</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>30-40</td>
<td>20-30</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alfalfa*</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>40-60**</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>40-60**</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clover*</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>40-60**</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>40-60**</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Small grain, legume*</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>40-60**</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>20-30</td>
<td>40-60**</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New seedings</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brome-alfalfa*</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>40-60</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>15-30</td>
<td>40-60</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brome seed production</td>
<td>0-40</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>50-70</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Old stands of bromegrass for pasture or hay--apply 80-120 pounds of nitrogen per acre

* Inoculation of the legume seed with reliable cultures is desirable.
** 40 pounds of additional available phosphate per acre for each year the legume is to occupy the land.
*** On sandy or strongly acid soils where plenty of available nitrogen is present, corn sometimes responds profitably to phosphate applied at planting time.
**** On irrigated corn apply 60-80 pounds of nitrogen per acre.
Time and Method of Application

Farmers trying commercial fertilizers for the first time should place fertilized and unfertilized strips side by side in the field, in order to observe by direct comparison whether it pays to use the fertilizer.

A. Phosphate Fertilizers

1. Small grains--The phosphate fertilizer should be applied at the time of planting with a combination drill or broadcast and disked into the soil prior to planting. If the phosphate is broadcast and disked in before seeding apply 10-15 pounds of additional available phosphate per acre.

2. Corn--The phosphate fertilizer may be applied with an attachment on the lister or planter.

3. Legumes--Broadcast and disk into the soil before planting.

B. Nitrogen Fertilizers

1. Corn or grain sorghums--Best applied with an attachment on the cultivator. The nitrogen fertilizer may be broadcast between the rows prior to the second cultivation.

2. Wheat--Broadcast in the spring before the grain is 6 inches tall. If a mixed fertilizer is used it should be applied in the fall before planting.

3. Oats and barley--Broadcast at planting or within 4 weeks after planting. If used, mixed fertilizer should be applied before planting.

4. Bromegrass pasture--Broadcast in the fall (September or October) or early in the spring (before April 15.)

5. Bromegrass seed production:

Solid stands--Broadcast in the fall (September or October) or early spring (before March 15.)
Rows--Apply in the fall with an attachment on the cultivator or broadcast in the fall as a topdressing.

C. Mixed Fertilizers

Mixed fertilizers should be broadcast and disked in before planting. On land that is low in fertility a mixed fertilizer containing some nitrogen and the recommended amount of phosphate is desirable, especially on legume and small grain seeding.

D. Lime

Much of the flat upland in Eastern Nebraska needs lime for successful growth of legumes. Before seeding any legume, soil samples should be tested, and lime applied if the test shows a deficiency.

E. Potash

The soils of Nebraska are usually well supplied with potash. In experimental work over the state with commercial fertilizers, potash has usually not given a profitable response on most crops, except in isolated fields where the soil is sandy, acid, and deficient in potash.