

NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT PRACTICES FOR CANOLA PRODUCTION

Benefits of sulphur in canola

- Required for oil and protein synthesis.
- Increases chlorophyll production.
- Supports grain formation.
- Essential for healthy green plants.
- Sustains high canola yields.

SULPHUR the 4th major crop nutrient

Symptoms of sulphur deficiency in canola

- Leaves are cupped or rolled inwards.
- As sulphur is not mobile in plants, younger leaves appear pale green or yellow. Interveinal chlorosis may occur as a sulphur deficiency progresses.
- Purpling on leaf edges or underside of leaves.
- Flowering plants have light yellow or white flowers.
- Sulphur deficiency is more common in sandy soils or poorly aerated soils with low organic matter.



Sulphur deficiency symptoms in canola may appear as interveinal yellowing or cupping on young leaves. Courtesy: IPNI



A sulphur deficient canola plant with cupped leaves and purpling on leaf edges and underside of young leaves. Courtesy: Canola Council of Canada



Light yellow or white buds on canola may be a sign of sulphur deficiency. Courtesy: Canola Council of Canada

Right Source

Sulphate-containing fertilizers can be used when canola needs sulphur (S) for immediate crop uptake. Elemental S will become available to the crop depending on the degree of S oxidation into sulfate during a cropping season.

To ensure the selected fertilizer contains S, check the label for details on S content.

Right Rate

Apply 11 – 22 kg S/ha (10 – 20 lbs S/ac) depending on soil fertility and observed S deficiency in previous seasons.

Consult your local crop advisor to determine right rate for your farm based on the S content of available fertilizer, current soil fertility, and target yields.

Right Time

Apply S fertilizer before or at seeding. Available nutrients should be near crop roots during uptake periods. In-crop applications can correct S deficiencies.

Avoid application of S fertilizers during periods of very high rainfall to avoid leaching loss of applied S.

Right Place

Surface and incorporation of soluble sulphate fertilizers are equally effective.

Granular elemental S requires dispersion of the S particles within the soil for oxidation to take place.