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DeltAg Product Brief

## Nutri K for Your Crop

**At Heavy Fruiting:** The many crops grown across the Southern United States today are well known for their ability to set fruit in a fashion that sometimes appears to be “all at once”. This character or “tendency” creates a huge demand for nutrients, particularly nitrogen, potassium and boron during this two to three week period of heavy fruiting.

With over thirty years of crop monitoring and tissue analysis at *DeltAg Formulations*, we are convinced that supplemental nutrients are very economically sound in foliar applications during this time frame. We describe this phase of crop development as ‘*feeding an elephant through a straw*’.

**The critical period is the 3rd to 7th week of bloom.** Before this period, the fruit load is not heavy enough to justify supplemental foliar nutrients, and the period after is effecting fruit that we most likely will not harvest. At *DeltAg Formulations*, we have developed a product combination that will supply these needed nutrients. We combine foliar urea at one gallon broadcast in a total three gallon volume with 8 ounces of *PercPlus* and 32 ounces of *Nutri K*. If Boron is desired, we will tank mix 4 ounces of *Boron Plus* in with these materials. This provides ample potassium (0.9 units) and nitrogen to supplement the younger fruit and “set” more blooms. Years of tissue testing have shown N and K to be “*in the basement*” during this critical time.

The *PercPlus* serves to aid in absorption of the urea nitrogen into the plant and will therefore help reduce foliar burn. This reduction in “burn” allows for continuous weekly applications as necessary. With legume crops such as soybeans, this combination works well without the foliar urea.

Standard Combination:

Total water volume:	3 to 5 gallons
Foliar Urea:	one gallon
<i>PercPlus</i> :	8 ounces
<i>Nutri K</i> :	32 ounces
<i>Boron Plus</i> :	4 ounces **as needed

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(continue) Many dealers throughout the country are using this combination with growers that have, in the past, used the standard bulk foliar 10-0-10 made from potassium nitrate and urea, or the slow release combinations that are now being marketed.

**We at *DeltAg* prefer ‘quick absorbance’ of foliar nutrients, rather than ‘slow release’, either of which will reduce potential crop damage from burn.**

**At Sizing or Bulking:** As a crop reaches peak bloom, or as the maturing crop starts to ‘size’ or fill out, there is a tremendous demand for cations, particularly potassium. This phase of crop development is described by many as “bulking”. Research on many crops throughout the region has shown that supplemental potassium as a foliar spray can be very economical with proper timing.

At *DeltAg Formulations*, we have formulated *Nutri K* specifically for that purpose. After many years of ‘on farm’ research and development, and now several years of University studies, *Nutri K* has become known as a premier source material for foliar potassium, particularly at bulking.

**Disease Tolerance (Rice & Wheat):** Many growers are discovering the benefits of *Nutri K* and *Boron Plus*, when applied with fungicides at Flag Leaf on rice and wheat. Applications of foliar potassium at this stage of crop development have been shown to aid in crop tolerance to disease as well as increasing final yield.

**Translocation of Potassium:** At *DeltAg*, we like to tank mix 4 ounces of *Boron Plus* with *Nutri K* at 32 ounces per acre in an effort to assure good translocation of the K to the fruiting portion of the plant. *Boron Plus* is also recommended when *Calcium Plus* is used as a supplemental foliar calcium source.

**DeltAg Product Brief:** *DeltAg* dealers receive this series of Product Briefs. If other members of your staff would like to receive a Brief, we will gladly add them to our list of recipients.

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