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Foliar Burn and Wheat Grain Yield Responses Following Topdress-Applied Nitrogen and Sulfur Fertilizers

S. B. Phillips  & G. L. Mullins

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Abstract

The most common fertilizer sources for topdress nitrogen (N) applications to winter wheat (*Triticum aestivum* L.) in Virginia are a urea ammonium nitrate (UAN) solution (30-0-0) or a UAN solution with added sulfur (S) (UAN-S; 20-0-0-4). However, there are some concerns regarding leaf burning following foliar N applications, particularly at

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significantly greater foliar burn than UAN at both N rates. Despite the increased foliar damage that occurred when UAN-S was topdress-applied at GS 32, there was no reduction in grain yield compared with UAN or either of the soil-applied sources at either growth stage. Although there was no evidence of a grain yield response to added S in this study, many soil types common to the Coastal Plain of Virginia are likely to lack sufficient S for optimum winter wheat production.

Keywords: Nitrogen Sulfur Foliar fertilizer Winter wheat


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