



For The Soil | For The Plant | For the Future

# Apple Production

# Rough Estimate of Nitrogen Fertilizer on Apple Trees

- 1 year old add      0 - 1/8<sup>TH</sup> lb per tree
- 2 year old add      1/4 lb per tree
- 3-5 year old add    1/4 - 1/3 lb per tree
- 6-7 year old add    1/3 - 1/2 lb per tree
- > 7 year old add    150-200 lbs per TREATED AREA per SOIL SAMPLE.
- NOTE: YOU ARE TREATING BY TREE DENSITY OF PLANTING. If there are 388 trees per ac, then the lbs. N per ac would be lower than on a denser planting with 500 trees per ac.

# Factors Affecting Nitrogen Program

## Non-bearing Trees:

- Young, non-bearing trees will often benefit more from higher N programs than older bearing trees.
- The goal with young trees is to produce wood and vegetative growth.

## Bearing Trees:

- Control vegetative growth to control pruning.
- The goal with bearing trees is strong yields of high quality fruit.

# Low Nitrogen Requirement Varieties

*(Leaf N levels 1.8% - 2.2%)*

- Cortland, Empress, Britemac, Jersey mac, Jonathan, Jonamac, Macoun, McIntosh, Mutsu, Paulared, Spartan, Tydeman Red, Turley, Jerseyred, Gravenstein, Starr, Crispin, Ginger Gold.
- Included are other early ripening, softer varieties and/or those typically intended for fresh market.



# High Nitrogen Requirement Varieties

*Leaf N Levels 2.2% - 2.4%*

- Empire, Idared, Golden Delicious, Liberty, Melrose, Jonathan, RI Greening, Rome, Stayman, Red Delicious, Rome Beauty, York Imperial, Honey Crisp, Granny Smith, Braeburn, Gala
- Included are other **hard varieties** or soft varieties if that fruit is intended for processing.

# Other Leaf N Related Items to Understand

- Keep balance between N and K
- Low N trees 1.25 : 1 K vs High N trees 1.5 : 1 K
- Larger trees take more N than dwarf stock
- Heavily pruned trees reduce N demand
- Very high density plantings can balance the need

# Phosphorus

## New Plant

Soil test Status:	Low	Medium	Good	High
Recommendation lb/A :	200	100	60	0

## Established Trees

Soil test Status:	Low	Medium	Good	High
Recommendation lb/A:	90	60	30	0

# Potassium

## New Plant

Soil test Status:	Low	Medium	Good	High
Recommendation lb/A:	300	200	90	0

## Established Trees

Soil test Status:	Low	Medium	Good	High
Recommendation lb/A:	150	120	90	0

# Boron

<u>Soil Test Level</u>	<u>Boron Rate</u>
Low	3.0 lb/A
Medium	2.0 lb/A
High	1.0 lb/A
Very High	0 lb/A

- If no soil test or Leaf analysis < 35 ppm add 2 lb/A

# Boron Deficiency



# Zinc

- If soil test level is low, add 20 lbs. soil applied
- Foliar apply from late dormant to silver tip bud
- (Caution! no oils and be careful if freezing has or can take place)
- Zinc can be tricky, so call and ask when in doubt for timing and amount before you apply.

# Sulfur

Not often a concern, Lighter soils may be the exception. If leaf symptoms or plant analysis call for Sulfur use 30 lbs. soil applied per acre to correct. (6 gallons AccesS).



# Magnesium

Watch soil tests and CEC. K & Mg ratio should not exceed 1.5 lbs./ac. Dolomitic lime can correct if lime is needed. I believe AgroLiquid Mg as a foliar could work well even though other chelates have had low success.

# Apple Recommendation



## Typical Agro Liquid Recommendations:

### Banded next to trees (per acre):

High NRG-N	15 gallons
Pro-Germinator	5 gallons
Sure-K/Kalibrate	5 gallons
eNhance	0.5 gallons
Micro 500	0.5 gallons
MicroLink Manganese	0.125 gallons
MicroLink Boron	0.125 gallons

### Foliar Application (per acre):

Liberate Ca	0.25 gallons
Fase2	0.5 gallons
ferti-Rain	0.5 gallons
(applied after fruit set x 3 applications)	

# FASE 2

- Foliar applications in orchards and vineyards
- Formulated to trigger growth while promoting greater fruit set and bud retention
- Increased trunk girth, greater lateral development, more vertical growth
- Reach production size sooner or enhance yields in first year production





# Spring 2014 Grower Standard



# Spring 2014: Pre-Treated w/ Fase 2



3 applications at 2 qt/A in 2012

## FASE 2



# Fall 2014 – 1st Tree Comparisons





# 1<sup>st</sup> Tree – Harvest comparisons



Grower Standard



FASE2



# Premium Pack out AgroLiquid Treated GALA Apples in Washington

Separate orchards Packed out at:  
96%



98% Premium





# Example Apple Fertilizer Program Emphasizing Fase 2 and LiberateCa (New York)

## Pre Bloom *Drench*

High NRG-N	12 gal
Sure-K	6 gal
Pro-Germinator	6 gal
Micro500	3 qts
Boron	1 pt

## Bloom *Foliar*

Pro-Germinator	2 qt
LiberateCa	1 qt
Micro500	1 qt
Boron	1 pt
NResponse	2 qt
Fase2	2 qt

## Petal Fall *Foliar*

LiberateCa	1 qt
Micro500	1 qt
NResponse	3 qt
Pro-Germinator	1 qt

A photograph of a blooming apple tree in a green field with a vibrant rainbow arching over it against a blue sky.

The logo for AGROLiquid, featuring a stylized green leaf and the brand name in a bold, sans-serif font.

## Foliar Applications

Fase2 LiberateCa	2 qt 1 qt	1st Cover (10 days after PF)
Fase2 LiberateCa	2 qt 1 qt	2nd Cover (10 days after 1st)
Fase2 LiberateCa	2 qt 1 qt	3rd Cover (10 days after 2nd)
Fase2 LiberateCa	2 qt 1 qt	4th Cover (14 days after 3rd)
Fase2 LiberateCa	2 qt 1.5 qt	5th Cover (14 days after 4th)
Fase2 LiberateCa	2 qt 1.5 qt	6th Cover (10 days after 5th)
Fase2 LiberateCa	2 qt 1.5 qt	7th Cover (14 days after 6th)
Fase2 LiberateCa	2 qt 1.5 qt	8th Cover (10 days after 7th)
Fase3	1.5 ga	7 - 10 days before harvest

# Fase2 For Apple Production: Quincy, PA (2015)

Granny Smith



Check: 690 bu/A  
Fase2: 736 bu/A

Fase 2 qt/A  
2014  
3 Application 2015  
3 Applications

Ramey York



Check: 690      667 bu/A  
Fase2: 1334    1104 bu/A

Golden Delicious



Check: 1518 bu/A  
Fase2: 1564 bu/A

Knouse Fruitland, 15-20 year old blocks of apples.  
All other soil and foliar applications were the same.

# Bitter pit showing up pre-harvest



# Know the Conditions that create shortage

1. Low soil levels
2. Low pH
3. High levels of competing cations K, Mg, NH<sub>4</sub>



# Early onset of calcium deficiency



# Conditions that affect apple calcium status

Apple roots are slow to absorb and translocate calcium. The tree out-competes the fruit for Ca, making foliar a MUST.

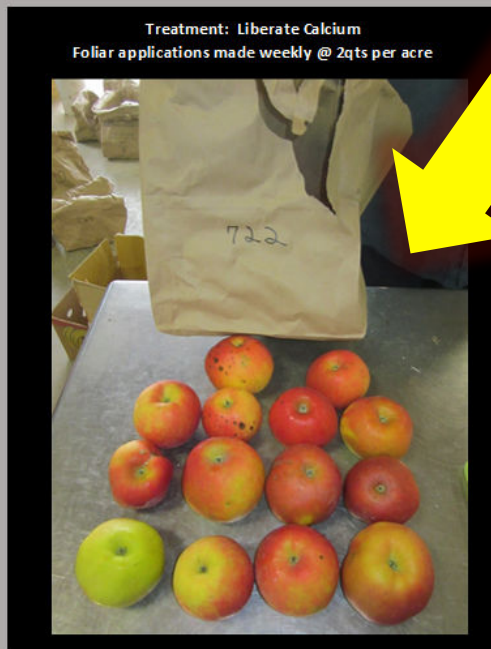
## Tree management: Fertilization

- Excess N stimulates vegetative growth, increases Ca demand
- Excess K or Mg competes with Ca uptake
- Boron deficiencies reduce Ca movement (translocation)

# Calcium deficiency shows up in storage and on the shelf

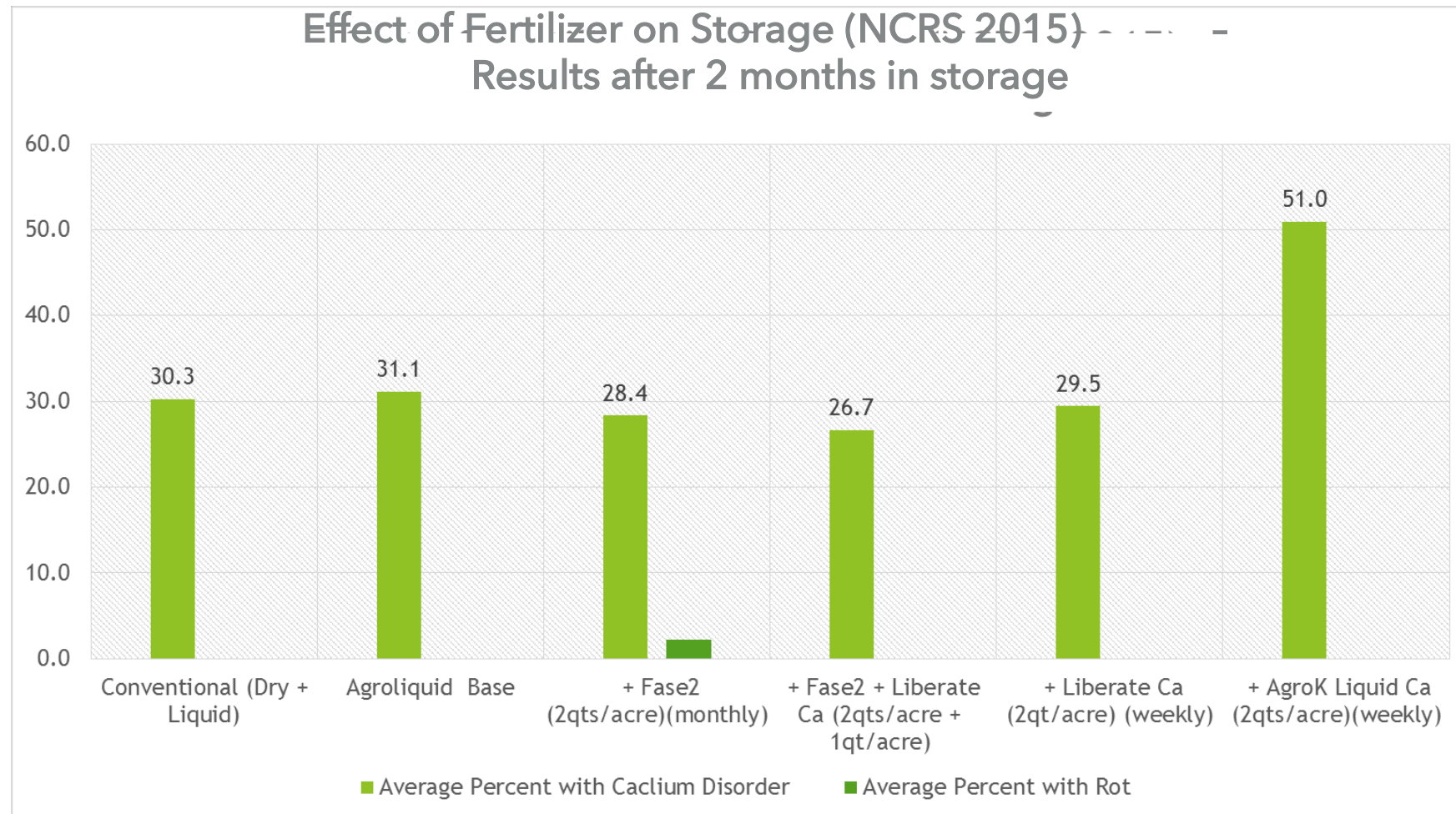








## STORAGE QUALITY OF HONEYCRISP APPLES



*\*Average of 4 replications with 15 apples per replication. A total of 60 apples from each treatment in storage.*

# FASE 3

Increases uniformity of fruit coloring in apples

Apply 7 – 10 days prior to anticipated harvest at 1.5 gallons/acre

Do not use with other growth regulators as tank mix partners



Honey Crisp Apples – not treated



Honey Crisp Apples with Fase3



# Improving color: Development of the “RED” Honeycrisp

- In 2014 we discovered a foliar to help induce color in apples.
- Sprayed a week before harvest on Honeycrisp
- Saw results in three different orchards in MI
- Spray contains N,P,K, Fe, & Ca
- Is surface contact dependent



# Fase3 is a contact Product





# EARLIER TRIALS IN TRI-CITIES WA.

BY: STEVE HOLLAND 2015



# Example of Canadian Supermarket Gala Display

Very common sight in most years for this varietal





**Both bins have color but the ones on the right were picked from FASE3 Acre's.  
Deeper Reds can equal higher prices.**



# APPLE QUALITY FROM FASE3 APPLICATIONS: ST. JOHNS, MI (2015-16)

	Check	Fase3
Sugar/A	17.7	17.2
Pressure (lbs)	9.4	10.3

*\* quality values from 2016*

