

Panel discussion on innovations in the field of enhanced-efficiency fertilizers

IFA workshop Frankfurt June 2005

The target: highest nutrient efficiency

Definitions:

biologic / ecologic: N uptake fertilized – N uptake unfertilized

fertilization

agronomic: <u>yield fertilized – yield unfertilized</u>

fertilization

economic: <u>value yield fertilized – value yield unfertilized</u>

costs fertilization

Optimized biologic / ecologic efficiency usually in line with an optimized agronomic and economic efficiency !

Folie 2



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The challenges: losses / suboptimal growth factors

Undesired losses of Nitrogen:

Leaching

Volatilization

Denitrification

Immobilization

Lacking availability of other nutrients

Losses / unavailabilities to be minimized by:

- 1. Conventional fertilizers / special application methods (tools)
- 2. Enhanced efficiency fertilizers / conventional application methods (products)



Folie 3

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The tools: specific application methods

Application methods / other treatments:

Spoon feeding according to short term demand

Incorporation

Placement / Injection

Aerification

Corrections of soil properties (structure, pH...)

Using conventional fertilizers

These tools require a high analytical, manpower and machinery input and / or can only be used before planting!



Folie 4

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The products: enhanced-efficiency fertilizers

Enhanced efficiency fertilizer technologies:

Nitrification inhibitors (DCD, DMPP...)

Urease inhibitors (NBPT...)

SRFs based on Urea condensates (MU, IBDU, CDU...)

Using conventional application methods

Polymer coated CRFs (Polyethylene, Polyurethane...)

Chelated trace elements (EDTA, EDDHA, DTPA...)

All products can be used during the vegetation cycle of any crop!



Folie 5

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The solutions: targeted use of fertilizer technologies

Life cycle perennial crop and adapted use of enhanced-efficiency fertilizers

Nursery / planting hole: Fully coated complex fertilizer into substrate

One application

Safe

All required nutrients Minimized losses

Vegetative development: N(PK) topdressing with nitrification inhibitor

Few applications solid / liquid Minimized leaching / denitrification Improved availability of P / TE

Productive period: Chelated TE in case of deficiency

Targeted use

Leaf or soil application

Small volumes Highest efficiency



Folie 6

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