



PRODUCT INFO
& DATASHEET

BANANAS

Deficiency indicators

Some suggested products from the SICO portfolio of specialty fertilisers & micronutrients

* Soil - ideally with pH of between 5.5 to 8.0

* For a crop yielding 50 MT per ha per year fruit about 1,500 kgs Potassium may be extracted from the soil! Amounts of other nutrients found in field grown crops at harvest are (kg/ha/yr): N - 450, P - 60, Ca - 215, Mg - 140, Mn - 12, Fe - 5, Zn - 1.5, B - 1.25, Cu - 0.5. Thus large quantities of nutrients have to be replaced in order to maintain soil fertility and to permit continuous production of high yields.

* K is the most important element - deficiency indicators are "leaf fall", "premature yellowing", "banana yellows" - appears as orange - yellow chlorosis of older leaves and their subsequent death. Other effects are: choking, reduced leaf size, delay in flower initiation, reduced fruit number / bunch and especially fruit size.

Where K supply is low, the transfer of N, P, Ca, Mg, Na, Mn, Cu and Zn across the xylem is restricted - exception is K itself.

PRODUCTS

1. We have a "K Extra" product - our SICOGREEN - L (liquid) K-EXTRA 0.0.21 + 14 S + TE (CAC) - that has had limited experience (Middle East) and not on bananas. This is based on KTS (Potassium Thiosulphate) + Micros.
2. "SICO-TRIGGER" applied at 1 litre per 250 litres at onset of new growth and second application 21 days later, should provide earlier flowers and earlier fruit.
3. "SICO-TRIGGER-PHYTE" a product that is 50:50 SICOPHYTE and SICO-TRIGGER - SICOPHYTE being a product of Phosphorus chemistry - ex P2O3. This should be better than SICO-TRIGGER alone.

We would expect SICO-TRIGGER and SICO-TRIGGER - SICOPHYTE to be very "useful" on bananas - perhaps to control black or the yellow sciatoga. Not proven yet...

4. We have a 6% Zn EDDHA that would be worth testing and a combo of EDDHA and EDTA for soil application. This would be trial only.
5. We have also a ATS (Ammonium Thiosulphate) product that has phosphite chemistry attached - this would be used at 25l per hectare.
6. A product that contains 100 g/l Mn, 150 g/l Zn as nitrates (113 g/l N). This would be quite impressive. We will be pleased to make an offer for the products of interest, based on min. quantities required.