



# PURSHOUSE RURAL

ag business services



## Kickin Clods

### EASY N - Alternative Nitrogen for winter cereals

Easy N fertilizer gives growers an easy and flexible method of applying nitrogen to almost any crop. It can be applied pre-plant, at planting or side dressed to match crop growth stages.

Easy N allows the use of strategic nitrogen management to achieve better crop results. Recognising that too much nitrogen early on in a winter cereal crop can encourage it to use extra moisture that then may not be available during grain fill. By applying some of the crops nitrogen after the vegetative phase of growth, we can effect the level of tillering and then strengthen the integrity of those tillers by supplying nitrogen when it is needed the most.

It also enables growers the flexibility to plant with no Nitrogen under the crop, as in times of uncertain moisture, and allows them to fully fertilise for the crop requirements in crop. This season we have quite a lot of last seasons sorghum ground planted to wheat with very little or no nitrogen under it. Easy N can provide an easy to apply alternative to urea when it comes time to top these crops up.

As Easy N contains a mix of Urea and Ammonium Nitrate, with 42.5% N (w/v), there is a percentage available to the crop immediately, and while it will still need rainfall to move the bulk of the product down into the root zone (like urea), there is that percentage that is also less prone to losses from denitrification.

Rates of application vary according to crop stage and also how it is applied. If using traditional flat fan nozzles, we are relying on foliar uptake where the potential for leaf burn is quite high, determining that rates of N that can be supplied are quite low.

A safer method of applying much higher rates of nitrogen is by using streaming nozzles or dribble bars. These nozzles can be used to apply up to 120 lts/ha (51 kgs N/ha) of Easy N to cereal crops from 5 leaf to post flowering under good moisture conditions. These nozzles deliver an even solid stream of solution to the soil, minimizing spray drift and leaf contact, allowing a directed spray to a particular area. These nozzles have the option of a single solid stream, three even solid streams or seven even solid streams. While application in this manner allows most of the fertilizer to run off the leaves onto the soil, leaf wetting is unavoidable and some leaf burn may occur.

This season Purshouse Rural will have a bulk tank of Easy N available for dispatch of product in either bulk quantities or in 1000lt shuttles. We have also purchased a set of streaming nozzles for trial use by anyone interested in applying Easy N to their winter cereals this winter.

An information morning will also be arranged sometime in the very near future to discuss options for topdressing winter cereals, and any other crop requirements in more detail. Please contact your Purshouse Rural agronomist for more information.



**Easy n Tanks- now available  
through Purshouse Rural**

Purshouse Rural  
Now Stocking  
Timber Round, Split,  
Stay & Rail Posts

#### This months specials

Oaten/Wheaten Chaff  
\$24.00 inc GST

Feedlot Super Mix 30kg \$38.50 inc GST  
(Equivalent to Feedlot 80)

Horse & Pony Pellets 20kg  
\$9.75 inc GST

20% off Hydraulic Hose & Fittings  
for July & August –  
Clifton Branch Only  
(No Labour Charge)

## Cotton Choices from Monsanto in 09/10

This year the marketing options from Monsanto have changed regarding cotton. This year there are three options for the purchase of stacked technology in the form of Bollgard II, combined with either Roundup Flex or Roundup Ready technology. All growers will have until planting audit to determine which option they wish to take when stacked varieties represent over 80% of their cotton plant, apart from the EPR for Dry land or semi irrigated scenarios, which require expressions of interest now.

As far as single stacked technologies such as Roundup Ready conventional, Roundup Flex conventional and straight Bollgard II varieties payment terms are still based on February terms.

### Option 1 – Price discount

This involves a percentage off the purchase for a given area. For example if you grow 200 hectares you will get a 2% discount on the price of the technology. This is capped at a 9% discount for areas of 2,000 hectares or greater. So the more cotton you grow the greater the discount. This is only available to growers with greater than 80% stacked technology, i.e BRF or BRR varieties. Payments still due in April.

Option 2 – The late crop removal offer, giving growers the flexibility to remove any unviable crop by the 20<sup>th</sup> April for what ever reason, and receive 100% refund on the cost of the technology. This offer includes the April payment terms and is only available on stacked varieties and roundup ready flex refuge areas eligible for removal.

Option 3 – EPR – an option for dry land cotton or semi irrigated crops. There is a requirement to register your interest if you want to know more about this option. You can either register with your TSP or download the EPR form off the Monsanto website and fax it directly to them.

Essentially the planting fee is based on a green hectare basis and costing is on a sliding scale of final yield, with the initial payment due in February. This will require ginning documentation to be supplied to determine final yields.

For example if your dry land cotton yields 3.6 bales per hectare then the technology fee will be \$49/ha on double skip or \$73.50 for single skip or \$98/ha for solid plant. For every bale over limit of 3.6 bales per hectare, you will pay an extra \$7.50/bale for double skip or \$11.25 per bale for single skip or \$15 per bale for solid plant per bale.

Therefore if you grow 5.2 bales per hectare the cost of the stacked technology of Bollgard II flex cotton based on the EPR guidelines will be the equivalent to a per hectare irrigated cost for the technology. If you have any further questions please your nearest Pursehouse Rural agronomist.

### Choice 3 - End Point Royalty

BGII/RRF fees	Double Skip	Single Skip	Solid
Planting fee	\$ 49.00	\$ 73.50	\$ 98.00
EPR 0-3.6 b/ha	\$ 37.50	\$ 56.25	\$ 75.00
EPR >3.6 b/ha	\$ 7.50	\$ 11.25	\$ 15.00

Planting fee cost per broad hectare based on December planting audit area and due February 2010. EPR cost per bale based on ginned lint yield and due June 2010. Growers must register with Monsanto prior to planting to participate in the end point royalty program. This offer is only available for BGII/RRF or BGII/RRC varieties as well as any associated RRF unsprayed refuge. Planting fee for BGII/RRC is \$45.5/ha (Double skip) and \$18.75 (Double skip) for RRF unsprayed. EPR prices are the same for BGII/RRF, BGII/RRC and RRF unsprayed refuge yield.

BGII/RRF Yield Bales/ha	Planting Configuration - Total fee/ha (broad)		
	Double Skip	Single Skip	Solid
1.0	\$ 86.50	\$ 129.75	\$ 173.00
1.3	\$ 97.75	\$ 146.63	\$ 195.50
1.6	\$ 109.00	\$ 163.50	\$ 218.00
1.9	\$ 120.25	\$ 180.38	\$ 240.50
2.2	\$ 131.50	\$ 197.25	\$ 263.00
2.5	\$ 142.75	\$ 214.13	\$ 285.50
2.8	\$ 154.00	\$ 231.00	\$ 308.00
3.1	\$ 165.25	\$ 247.88	\$ 330.50
3.4	\$ 176.50	\$ 264.75	\$ 353.00
3.7	\$ 187.75	\$ 277.13	\$ 369.50
4.0	\$ 187.00	\$ 280.50	\$ 374.00
4.3	\$ 189.25	\$ 283.88	\$ 378.50
4.6	\$ 191.50	\$ 287.25	\$ 383.00
4.9	\$ 193.75	\$ 290.63	\$ 387.50
5.2	\$ 196.00	\$ 294.00	\$ 392.00
5.5	\$ 198.25	\$ 297.38	\$ 396.50
5.8	\$ 200.50	\$ 300.75	\$ 401.00
6.1	\$ 202.75	\$ 304.13	\$ 405.50
6.4	\$ 205.00	\$ 307.50	\$ 410.00
6.7	\$ 207.25	\$ 310.88	\$ 414.50
7.0	\$ 209.50	\$ 314.25	\$ 419.00

## Do you know what's in your soil?

It's that time of year again to start thinking about your next summer crop. With the price of fertiliser beginning to fall it is still important to know what your crop is going to require to maximise yield. The usefulness of soil testing is frequently a topic of discussion between agronomists and their clients. Those for the negative generally cite variability involved in sampling, variability in laboratory accuracy and that they know what is in their soil. While citing these as a source of variation, careful planning can alleviate many of these objections to provide a very useful nutrition plan.

The main value in Soil testing is as follows:

- o Optimising nutrition budgets on fitting the right crop to a paddock
- o Assessing residual elements left from previous crops or failed crops

Helping to devise a fertiliser program (approximate quantity and when) as well as confirming fertiliser supplementation rates is where the value lies.

With this in mind soil testing is a very important tool in farming. It allows you take this snap shot on what is happening prior to planting to form a nutrition action plan. Pursehouse Rural agronomists have a wide range of local knowledge plus trial data to analyse these results and form an economical program tailored to your farm. If you have any further questions on soil testing please do not hesitate to contact your local Pursehouse Branch.