OVERHEAD IRRIGATION - ALFALFA

General Information

GENERAL INFORMATION

CaTs is a neutral to basic, chloride-free, clear solution, containing 6% calcium and 10% thiosulfate sulfur. Each gallon of CaTs contains 0.63 pound of calcium (Ca) and 1.0 pound of thiosulfate sulfur (S). CaTs may be applied by drip, sprinkler, or flood irrigation. It may be blended with other fertilizers or applied as a foliar treatment on selected crops. When used as a foliar fertilizer, CaTs should first be diluted with water before applying. Blends of CaTs should not be acidified below a pH of 6.0.

CaTs may be used as a fertilizer for the correction of calcium and sulfur deficiency as well as a soil amendment. As a soil amendment CaTs may be used to improve water infiltration and aid in leaching of harmful soil salts.

CaTs is compatible with most fertilizer solutions.

CaTs is not compatible with phosphate, sulfate and ammonium thiosulfate fertilizers. In absence of specific recommendations and data, do a jar test before mixing large quantities. The addition of water to the mixture may be helpful to maintain blend stability.

When blending with micronutrients and pesticides, trial blends should be conducted before beginning large scale mixing. When mixing other liquid fertilizers and/or pesticides with CaTs, the blend sequence should be as follows: water, pesticide, CaTs and/or other fertilizer.

CaTs may be applied to a wide variety of ornamental, turf, greenhouse, and other agricultural crops. Calcium requirement for most crops increases during periods of rapid growth and early fruit development. Application of CaTs should be made based on soil, fruit and/or plant tissue analysis for calcium.

APPLICATION PRECAUTIONS

CaTs is not compatible with phosphate fertilizers.
DO NOT apply CaTs to foliage of crops sensitive (foliar burn) to sulfur such as corn.

DO NOT mix with acids or acidic fertilizers below a pH of 6.0. Be sure to check other manufacturers’ labels concerning dormant oil treatment spray guidelines and foliar nutrient applications containing sulfur.

DO NOT apply CaTs foliar with crop oil sprays. Allow at least 5 days before or 9 days after an application of crop oil before applying CaTs as a foliar.

DO NOT apply CaTs or other thiosulfate fertilizers while chlorinating irrigation system. Thiosulfates will neutralize chlorine.

DO NOT apply to foliage of any crop when temperatures are above 90°F.

Apply CaTs in the early morning or late evening.

When mixing CaTs or any liquid fertilizer with pesticides, always keep agitators running during filling and spraying operations. Failure to maintain agitation may cause separation of products resulting in uneven spray application.

Pop Up Fertilizers: Many crops are sensitive to salts during germination. When soil moisture is low, delayed crop emergence and/or phytotoxicity may occur when fertilizer is placed too close to the seed. DO NOT use CaTs in pop up fertilizer when soil moisture is limited; soil salinity is above an electrical conductivity of 2; or when irrigation is delayed such that germination may be affected. DO NOT apply CaTs with knife injectors or other types of fertilizer injecting equipment that may cause root pruning.

Sprinkler application of CaTs and other liquid fertilizers over an established crop may cause foliar injury to a crop if: injection period is short enough to cause an excessive amount of fertilizer to accumulate on the leaves; temperatures are above 90°F and humidity less than 30%; fertilizer rates are higher than recommended; irrigation pump breaks down during or immediately after injecting fertilizer; and/or any combination of these conditions.

Limitations, Restrictions, and Exceptions

IRRIGATION WATER TREATMENT

Irrigation water derived from snowmelt or rainwater may contain low levels of salts
(low electrical conductivity).

While this is good for crops, it can have a negative effect on water infiltration in many soils, resulting in puddling and/or runoff. Crops become moisture stressed during periods of high temperatures due to lack of deep moisture and/or shallow root system.

Application of CaTs can:

1. improve water infiltration
2. increase deep moisture and
3. reduce moisture stress.

Application rates are dependent on field conditions. For additional information contact a Tessenderlo Kerley representative.

FERTIGATION

CaTs may be applied through most irrigation systems. Apply CaTs in the middle 1/3 of the irrigation set.

Method

Irrigation
Rates

field_rates 0

Timings

After the first cutting and again after the third cutting.