

# **ESSENTIAL FOR LIFE IN ALL ITS FORMS**

## The Importance of Zinc to Agriculture

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#### The Fundamental Facts

Zinc is essential for all forms of life, whether it be soil, plant, animal or human.

#### Human Health

Zinc deficiency in humans results primarily from reduced dietary intake, and it is reported that as much as 25% of the world's population is at risk.

An effective preventative measure to ensure greater human health is to increase the amount of zinc in the soil, and thereby pass it to productive, healthy and accessible food crops. Zinc plays an essential role in numerous biochemical pathways within the body and is important for the skin, the gastrointestinal tract, the central nervous system, plus the immune, bone and reproductive systems.



## Soil Health

Soil zinc is an essential micronutrient for plant growth and development and is heavily involved in enzyme systems that regulate the early growth stages.

It is vital for fruit, seed and root system development, photosynthesis, formation of plant growth regulators and crop stress protection. Zinc is also a team player with nitrogen (N), phosphorus (P) and potassium (K) for many of the plant's development processes.

Soils however require zinc in very small amounts compared, for instance, to nitrogen or potassium. Yet, lack of zinc can seriously limit plant growth.

- zinc is required in protein synthesis and growth regulation
- zinc-deficient plants exhibit delayed maturity
- zinc is not mobile in plants; therefore, these deficiency symptoms occur mainly in new growth. This lack of mobility suggests the need for a constant supply of available zinc for optimum growth
- zinc is required in small amounts and high yields are impossible without it

Zinc requirements vary amongst crops, but it is considered that almost half of the world's cereal crops are deficient, and this often leads to poor crop yields. By having a basic knowledge of the dynamics of the soil, and by understanding the uptake and transport of zinc in crops better, a response to overcoming soil zinc deficiency can begin to be implemented in the effort that is required towards sustainable solutions to this global problem.













## **Special Zinc Report**

RLF has recently prepared a Special Zinc Report.

It is freely available for our customers and viewers and contains information such as:

- a. The Global Perspective
- b. Zinc for Humans
- c. Zinc for Crops
- d. What We Know
- e. The Three Most Effected Cereal Crops
- f. What We Can Do
- g. The Experience of Our Customers
- h. RLF Products Designed to Help

This is a comprehensive report and articulates the science of zinc and its important role for healthy, productive crops. It is a clear and easy to understand report and you are invited to download it.

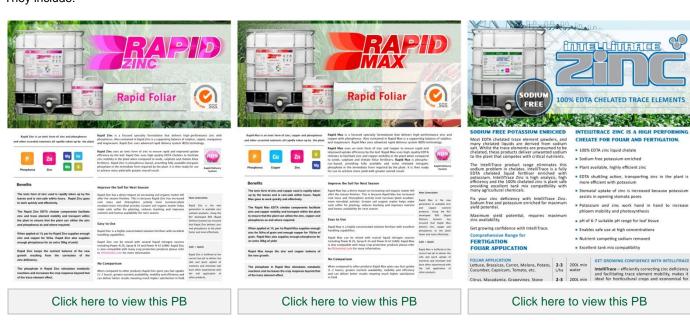






# **RLF Products Manufactured to Help Reduce this Problem**

There are a range of specialty liquid fertilisers developed and manufactured by RLF that address the issue of zinc deficiency. They include:





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