



## Aspire® Alfalfa Timing Study

### Objective

- Evaluate the alfalfa yield response of various treatments and application timings of MOP (0-0-60), an MOP + Granular B blend, and Aspire® (0-0-58-0.5B).

### Overview

- Alfalfa removes high rates of potassium (K) from the soil, so MOP is commonly used as a K source to replace nutrient removal.
- In addition to K, adequate soil boron (B) is needed to achieve maximum yields (Figure 1).
- Granular B products can be blended with K, but application of these blends often leads to undesirable distribution.
- Aspire is a superior B delivery source that combines K with two forms of boron for both early- and late-season needs.
- Additionally, application timings vary across producers (often driven by weather and logistics), so it is important to understand crop responses with different management approaches.



### Trial Details

#### Locations and Crop Management:

**CROP:** Alfalfa (*Medicago sativa*)

**YEARS:** 2017-2018

**LOCATIONS:** 6 trials (Columbus, WI; Cambridge, WI; and Deford, MI)

**DATA SOURCE:** Field studies conducted by independent third-party researchers.

**EXPERIMENTAL DESIGN:** Small-plot RCBD with 4 replications.

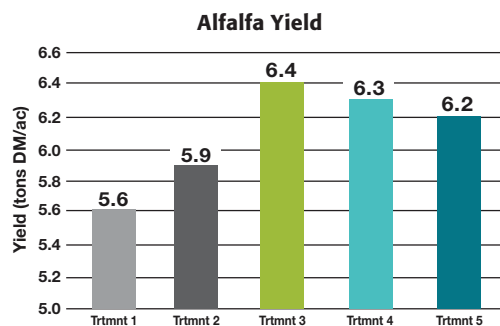
**Cropping conditions:** Trials conformed to local cropping practices and were conducted on an established stand.

**Treatment (Trtmnt) / Rates / Timing:** Numbered and color-coded to match bar chart below.

All treatments received a total of 240 lbs K<sub>2</sub>O/ac. Trtmnts 2-5 received a total of 2 lbs B/ac. Values in ( ) represent lbs K<sub>2</sub>O/ac or lbs B/ac

- MOP (120) applied after 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> cutting of harvest year.
- MOP (120) + Granular B (1) blend applied after 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> cutting of harvest year.
- Aspire (120/1) applied after 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> cutting of harvest year.
- Aspire (120/1) applied fall of previous year. Aspire (120/1) applied spring of harvest year.
- Aspire (240/2) applied fall of previous year.

**Application Method:** Broadcast



### Summary

- Alfalfa yields responded positively to the addition of boron.
- Aspire split-applied after 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> cuttings of harvest year increased alfalfa yield 0.8 tons/ac over MOP and 0.5 tons/ac over the MOP+Granular B blend.
- Split applications (120-Fall/120-Spring) of Aspire and full-rate fall applications (240-Fall) yielded 0.7 ton/ac and 0.6 ton/ac over MOP, respectively.
- The results suggest that while applications of Aspire after 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> cuttings of harvest year provide maximum yield, split application (fall/spring) or full-rate fall applications perform almost as well and demonstrate the flexible application window offered by this fertilizer technology.

**Aspire**®

**0.8**  
tons/ac

Increase with Aspire over  
MOP (Split-applied In Season)

**0.6**  
tons/ac

Increase with Aspire over  
MOP (Fall Application)



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Individual results may vary, and performance may vary from location to location and from year to year. This result may not be an indicator of results you may obtain, as local growing, soil and weather conditions may vary. Growers should evaluate data from multiple locations and years whenever possible.

**WARNING:** Contains boron. Use of boron may result in crop injury. DO NOT place this product in direct contact with the seed.

For more information, go to [AspireBoron.com](http://AspireBoron.com).  
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