



Peppermint (Central Oregon)

Peppermint was introduced into central Oregon in 1955. (The acreage devoted to this crop has been steadily expanding.) Additional experiments are needed on this crop to determine the effects of fertilizer placement and time of application.

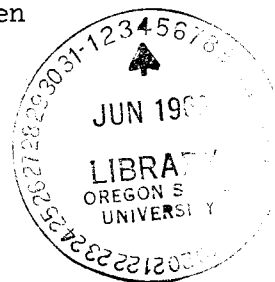
Nitrogen

1. A total of 120 to 150 pounds of N should be applied as a top dressing during the growing season.
2. The rate of application on individual fields should be adjusted to prevent production of excess vegetative growth. Split applications are desirable if practical.

Phosphorus

Phosphorus requirements of peppermint can be predicted reasonably accurately by soil tests.

1. Apply 60 to 80 pounds of P_2O_5 whenever soil test values are below 20 pounds P per acre.
2. Apply 40 to 60 pounds P_2O_5 when soil test values fall between 20 and 35 pounds P per acre.
3. Apply 30 to 40 pounds P_2O_5 as an insurance factor when soil test values are above 35 pounds P per acre.



Sulfur

Sixty to 80 pounds of S should be applied annually in the fertilizer program. Sulfur may be applied as gypsum or in combination with nitrogen or phosphorus.

Potash

Potash fertilizers have not given a consistent response in this area as most soil test values are in excess of 500 pounds per acre. An application of 60 pounds K_2O per acre would probably be beneficial whenever soil test values drop below 350 pounds per acre.

Prepared by Howard E. Cushman, Soil Conservation Specialist; David P. Moore, Assistant Soil Scientist, Oregon State University; and Malcolm J. Johnson, Superintendent, Central Oregon Experiment Station.

Test First

TESTING TELLS

Then Fertilize