

# MAGNESIUM



## Antagonism

**High Mg levels can reduce the availability of:**

- Potassium

## Stimulation

**Increased Mg levels can create a demand for more:**

- Phosphorus
- Nitrogen

## Functions

- The center molecule of the chlorophyll
- Aids several functions of different plant enzymes
- Aids plant to form sugar and starches
- Plays an important part of the translocation of P

## Deficiency Symptoms

- Intervenal chlorosis beginning in the tops of older leaves. Veins remain green, while the chlorotic areas turn yellow to brown (other colours in some plants).
- Leaves become brittle and necrotic and may drop prematurely
- Yield may be seriously reduced
- Cotton leaves develop a purplish red colour between veins
- Some varieties of black grapes and stone and pit fruit can develop interveinal red chlorotic areas

## Factors Affecting Availability

- Sandy, acidic soils, particularly in high rainfall areas
- Coarse textured soils in humid regions
- Cold, wet conditions
- Soils where there has been heavy inputs of K
- Soils which have received repeated manuring
- Severe defoliation of terminal shoots progressing from base to tip

## Sensitive Crops

- Vines, pome fruit, stone fruit, citrus, tomatoes, capsicums, broccoli, cauliflower, lettuce, potatoes, parsley, pumpkin, cereals, oilseeds, corn, and other root crops

## Visual Guide

