

# NITROGEN

7  
**N**  
14.007

## Antagonism

High N levels can reduce the availability of:

- Potash
- Copper

## Stimulation

Increased N levels can create a demand for more:

- Magnesium

## Functions

- An essential element in all living systems
- Needed by all cells
- Occurs in the living substance (protoplasm) of cells
- A major component of protein
- A major component of chlorophyll
- Affects both yields and quality

## Deficiency Symptoms

- Light green, yellow leaves. First evident in older leaves
- Stunted growth
- Lower protein levels
- Delayed maturity
- Decreased resistance to disease and pests
- Smaller fruit
- Lower yields
- Shorter storage life

## Factors Affecting Availability

- Light or sandy soils where nitrate nitrogen is leached
- Water logged soils
- Soils with structural problems as a result of poor aeration
- Mineral soils low in organic matter
- Nitrogen depleted soils
- Soils where ammonium has been applied to high pH soils (free ammonia)

## Sensitive Crops

- All crops

## Visual Guide

