

# Effective mineral supplements

## Incitec Pivot



Fertilisers are often used as direct livestock supplements in licks and dry rations, due to their ready availability and competitive price.

According to Andrew Cox, Incitec Pivot's Area Sales Manager, Townsville, the most commonly sought after

products are urea, sulfate of ammonia and Liquifert P.

He said Liquifert P was a soluble fine grade of MAP, of high purity.

Liquifert P is most commonly used in agriculture in fertigation programs, but it can also be used in the preparation of stock licks.

Mr Cox added that all grades of urea could be used as non-protein nitrogen supplements, but problems could be experienced with granular urea being dissolved in molasses, on account of its large particle size.

"The larger the particle size, the longer it takes to dissolve when preparing licks for roller drums. Extra agitation and time may be required to make sure the urea has fully dissolved," he said.

"Prilled grades of urea and Stockfeed Urea, which have a smaller particle size than granular urea, will dissolve more quickly."

He said while urea poisoning could be attributable to accidents, poor management or faulty equipment, the most common causes were:

- increasing the supplementation rate too quickly, especially when the stock were hungry,
- stock drinking concentrated solution off the top of dry licks after rain,
- urea not being properly dissolved in wet licks, and
- stock being able to drink liquid mixture instead of licking it off roller drums.

Mr Cox said the best supplementary sources of sulfur were Gran-am and Stockfeed Sulfur.

About ten times as much nitrogen as sulfur is required in the diet or supplement. Where Gran-am is used as the sulfur source, this ratio can be achieved by adding one part Gran-am for every five parts urea in the mix.

Mr Cox warned against the use of granular phosphorus fertilisers such as MAP and triple superphosphate, as they contained too much fluorine and could harm stock.

Fluorine toxicity, otherwise known as fluorosis, can be induced if these fertilisers are used as a livestock supplement.

Incitec Pivot's premium range of stockfeed fertilisers is available from Causeway Produce. For more information contact 07 4729 0666.

## TOP FERTILISERS FOR STOCKFEED

Incitec Pivot supplies a range of premium feed-quality fertilisers for your stock.

- For phosphorus choose Liquifert P, a soluble fine grade of MAP of high purity.
- For nitrogen choose prilled or Stockfeed Urea, small particle size fertilisers that are easy to dissolve.
- For sulfur choose Gran-am or Stockfeed Sulfur, top quality products that can be blended with nitrogen supplements.

**Contact Causeway Produce today on 07 4725 3111**

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