

# AERIAL APPLICATIONS REVOLUTIONIZE AGRICULTURE



Aerial applications are a tool that growers can utilize to apply nutrients and pesticides to crops quickly and efficiently with fewer passes across a field than through traditional application methods.

This efficient and targeted approach to nutrient application allows growers access to their fields to control nutrient placement through a variety of methods such as crop dusting with planes, application with helicopters, and the emerging technology of drone flight. Utilizing aerial application methods can enhance soil health by minimizing field traffic, thus reducing soil compaction and enhancing pore space for improved water movement and nutrient distribution.

## PLANES AND HELICOPTERS IN AGRICULTURE

Helicopters and planes are often deployed for fertilizer applications in large-scale operations, especially in remote or difficult-to-reach areas. These aerial methods offer swift coverage over expansive fields, ensuring uniform distribution of nutrients for optimal crop growth. Additionally, their efficiency and speed minimize disruption to farm operations, making them valuable tools in modern agricultural practices. Larger aircraft have the ability to cover 2,000 acres in one day, making this an efficient way to cover more acres, saving growers valuable time while making their foliar nutrition applications.

## DRONES IN AGRICULTURE

Drones have many uses within the agriculture industry ranging from field mapping, evaluating crop conditions, fertilizer and chemical application, and much more. Growers can save time and money by utilizing a drone in their operation.

Drones are a cutting-edge tool for monitoring crops and their health throughout the growing season, allowing growers to make nutrient decisions in real-time based on the images from drones. The images that a drone captures allow growers to see the big picture of their field to identify nutrient deficiencies, pest and disease issues, and overall plant health. These issues can then be corrected and spot-treated with a drone to the certain area that needs to be treated.

## BENEFITS OF DRONE FERTILIZER APPLICATION

- Saves time and money with field passes that can be simply customized for each part of the field
- Variable rate application that allows for fertilizer application amounts to change throughout a field to accommodate the various nutrient needs within a field with less calibration than a standard sprayer
- Precision application allows for target application in problem areas in fields with less potential for large areas of drifting
- Nutrients can be applied to crops when they most need them, optimizing plant uptake and reducing nutrient loss.



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