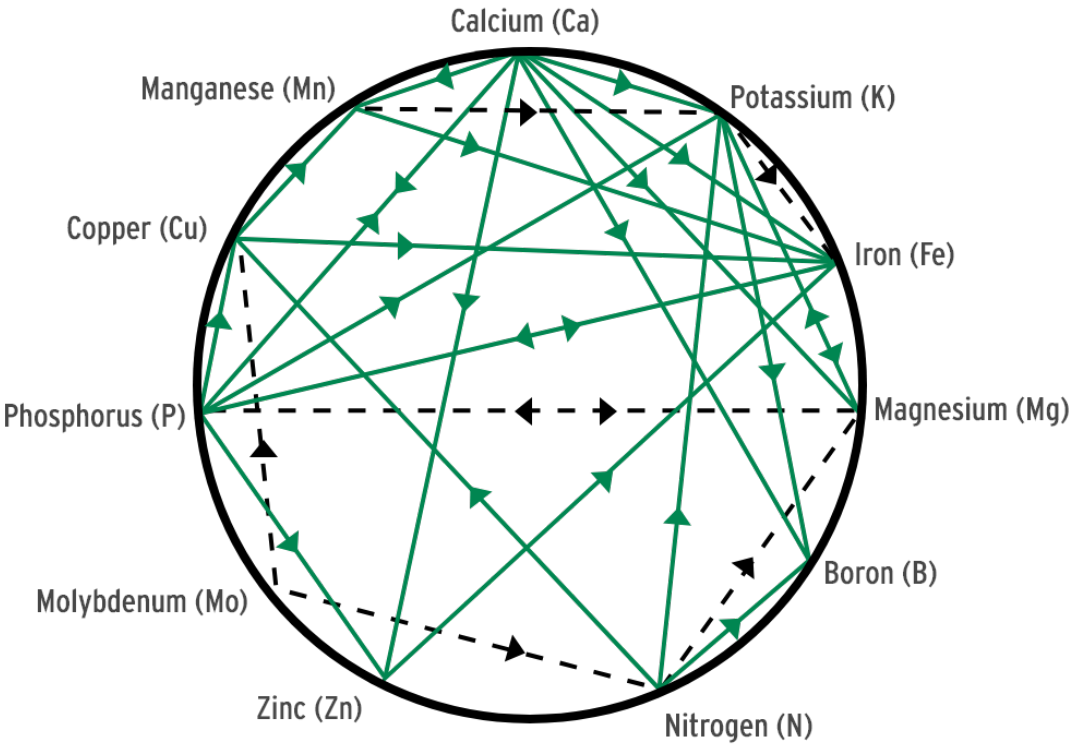
Agronomy Update | Why Soil Test?

Fall is an ideal time to begin soil testing. When seeds go in the ground in spring they have their full genetic potential, and balanced plant nutrition helps unlock that potential and optimize yields. A soil test is one of the most reliable tools to align fertility programs with yield targets. Without it, you are guessing what remains in the soil after the growing season and what nutrients next year's crop will need.



ANTAGONISM ——→

Decreased availability of a nutrient to a plant due to the action of another nutrient.

STIMULATION - - -▸ - -

High level of a nutrient increases the demand by the plant for another nutrient.

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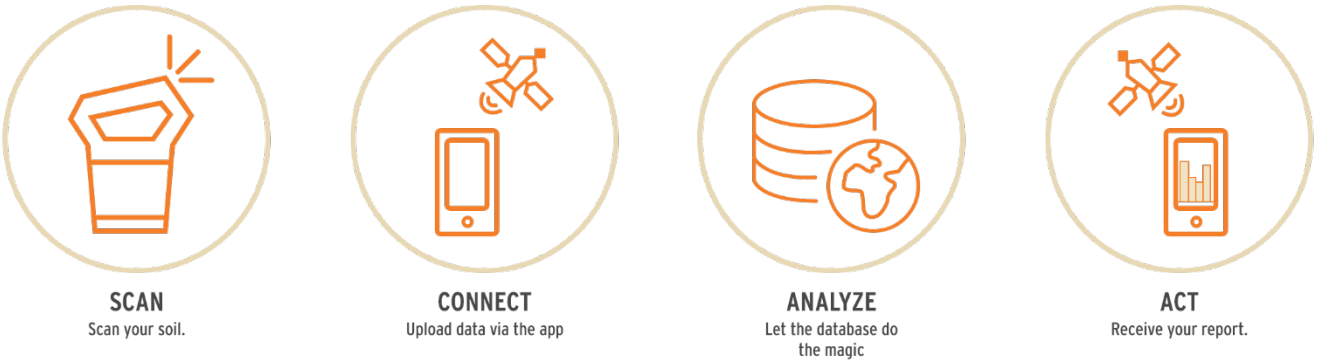
Nutrient Balance and Interactions

Plants need specific nutrients in the right balance. When one nutrient is out of balance it can limit the availability or uptake of others. Soil testing helps identify potential imbalances and hidden issues before they affect yield. Refer to Mulder's Chart for how nutrient interactions can influence availability and crop response.



SOIL CHARACTERICS	MACRONUTRIENTS	MICRONUTRIENTS	BASE SATURATIONS
Organic Matter	Nitrogen	Boron	K
Organic Carbon	Phosphorus	Zinc	Mg
pH	Potassium	Manganese	Ca
CEC	Sulphur	Copper	K/Mg
EC	Calcium	Iron	
Soil Temperature	Magnesium	Aluminum	
		Sodium	

Here at UFA CAMS have access to a device called NutriScan. This handheld diagnostics tool uses near-infrared (NIR) spectroscopy and can provide growers with real-time infield monitoring of soil nutrients. Meet with your local CAM to review the analysis report and develop a tailored fertility plan for your farm. The process is simple:

Source: [NutriScan Soil Diagnostics - ATP Ag - Restoring the Balance]

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