

Mulberry (*Morus* spp.), is the primary food plant of the silkworm *Bombyx mori* L. and cultivated mainly for protein rich foliage. It requires at least 16 essential nutrients. Among these carbon, hydrogen and oxygen are obtained from air and water while remaining are absorbed from soil, through roots and also through leaves in case of foliar spray. Quality of mulberry leaves depends on the balanced supply of essential nutrients from soil and their effective utilization. With the introduction of high yielding mulberry varieties, the demand of nutrients for optimum production per unit area has increased tremendously.

Inadequate nutrition affects the overall plant growth. The deficiency can also affect the growth of terminal bud. Nutrient deficiency symptoms are



observed in mulberry in the form of chlorotic signs on the foliage.

Soil application of fertilizers are mainly done on the basis of soil tests, whereas foliar nutrient application is mainly done on the basis of visual foliar symptoms or plant tissue tests. Mulberry being a high biomass producing foliage crop, exhibits number of nutrient deficiency symptoms under field conditions and respond well to foliar nutrition. Hence, timely diagnosis of nutrient deficiencies is fundamental to the successful foliar fertilization. Timely application of specific nutrients during growth and development is important.

A multi-nutrient formulation namely Poshan used as foliar spray contains all the necessary nutrients in a balanced and readily available form for the healthy growth of mulberry, thereby providing complete nutritional requirements of the leaf and in turn to the silkworms. A Single spray is recommended for correcting the deficiencies. Mulberry sprayed with Poshan result in uniform plant growth and healthy development of silkworms, in turn producing good quality cocoons.

Advantages

- Poshan provides nutrients for rapid utilization and faster recovery of deficiency than soil application
- Corrects the physiological disorders due deficiencies of both macro and micro nutrients
- Helps to develop resistance against pest and diseases
- Economic nutrient utilization with a single foliar spray
- Improves the leaf quality and yield up to 20% even in good gardens
- Helps to reduce 30% leaf yield loss in deficient gardens
- Poshan increases cocoon yield, shell weight and silk content.



Method of application

- For one acre of mulberry, dilute one liter of Poshan in 140 liters of water (@ 7ml /L).
- Spray on mulberry foliage 25 to 30 days after pruning or leaf picking, till the leaves are drenched
- Spray in the forenoon between 8 am to 11 am.



Text

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POSHAN

A MULTI NUTRIENT FORMULATION FOR CORRECTING NUTRIENT DEFICIENCIES IN MULBERRY



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