

TF (2) 30406/17

Directorate of Agriculture Development &
Farmer's Welfare Department
Thiruvananthapuram,
Dated: 01.08.2017
Email: fertilizer2010@gmail.com

Circular

Sub: Annual Plan 2017-18 Scheme on Support for Secondary and Micro nutrients working instructions – issued.

Ref: 1. G.O (Rt) No. 634/17 dated: 23.06.2017

2. No. TP (2) 16107/17 dated: 04.05.2017 of Director of Agriculture Development & Farmer's Welfare Department

Government vide Government Order 1st cited above have accorded sanction during 2017-18 for the implementation of the Scheme Component **“Support to Secondary and Micronutrients”** for an amount of Rs.250.00 Lakhs under the Head of Account 2401-00-800-28 Plan from the total financial outlay of 2700 lakhs under **“Soil Health Management and Productivity Improvement”** Scheme.

Plants require seven essential micro nutrients viz. Zinc, Copper, Boron, Iron, Manganese, Molybdenum & Chloride. Kerala soils are generally deficient in essential secondary and micro nutrients. Calcium, Magnesium and Sulphur are the three essential secondary nutrients.

The deficiency of Boron is acute and extensive, requiring immediate intervention through Boron is acute and extensive, requiring immediate intervention through Boron supplements. Copper & Zinc are also required in small quantities in most of the soils. Government of Kerala had notified the use of Zinc, Copper and Boron in Kerala Soils and its application level for foliar and soil applications. In the joint survey conducted recently by the State Planning Board & Department of Agriculture under the **“Soil Based Plant Nutrient Management Plan for Agro-Eco Systems of Kerala”** reveals that Kerala Soils are deficient in micronutrients.

High-yielding crops remove more micronutrients from the soil hence application of micronutrients is essential to achieve full balanced nutrition for crops. These are nutrients used in small quantities and there are seven micro nutrients which are needed for proper growth and productivity. Through soil testing and plant analysis, micronutrient deficiencies can be identified.

Soil factors that affect the availability of secondary and micronutrients are organic matter content, soil texture and soil pH. Soils very low in organic matter will usually be deficient in micronutrients. Sandy soils are more likely to show micronutrient deficiencies than clay soils. Micronutrient availability generally decreases as the soil pH increases, with the exception of Mo.

Objectives:-

- 1) The main objective of the scheme is to apply sufficient quantity of Secondary and Micronutrients to overcome the deficiency. Boron deficiency can be avoided by the use of borax (20 kg pr ha), Magnesium deficiency by the use of Magnesium Sulphate (80 kg/ha) and Zinc deficiency can be corrected by the use of 10 kg of Zinc Sulphate per ha.
For coconut 50 gms of Borax, 500 gms of Magnesium sulphate and 50 gms of Zinc Sulphate can be used.
- 2) To assist farmers in the application of Secondary and micro nutrients thereby increasing the productivity of paddy, coconut, vegetables and spice crop.

Mode of Implementation:-

This programme will be implemented to promote the use and application of Secondary and micro nutrients for better soil status and crop productivity. Among micronutrients Zinc, Copper & Boron are the only nutrients which are notified by the State Government, subsidy can be given only to these micronutrients and secondary nutrients such as Calcium, Magnesium & Sulphur under the scheme.

The Additional Director of Agriculture (CP) will monitor the programme at the state level. At district level Deputy Director of Agriculture (WM) at Principal Agricultural Office will implement the programme. The Assistant Directors of

Agriculture of the block will supervise the implementation of the programme in the concerned blocks. The field level implementation charge is given to Agricultural Officers of the concerned Krishi Bhavans.

The purchase of the Secondary and Micro nutrient fertilizers will be arranged by Co-operative Societies/Banks and supplied through farmer cluster, coconut clusters, vegetable clusters and padasekhara samithies through permit system by Krishi Bhavans. Agricultural Officer of the Krishi Bhavan will ensure the quality of the fertilizer supplied.

The programme will be implemented in 1400 farmer clusters of paddy/vegetable/coconut/spices. Soil/plant analysis will be undertaken in the field of the farmers involved in these cluster groups. Since the department labs are equipped with AAS for analysing micronutrients, the soil samples under the scheme will be analysed at the Soil Testing Laboratories of the department free of cost.

Assistance @ Rs.500 per ha will be provided to farmers and this programmes will be implemented in an area of 50000 Ha. Supply will be arranged through Agencies like (FACT), Government or quasi Government institutions like Kerala Agro Industries Corporation, RAIDCO and through approved agencies etc. As the actual input materials are supplied to the farmers through the cooperative societies/banks or other agencies who are willing to stock and distribute the micronutrient fertilizer to the farmers, the normal issue of subsidy to the farmers through e-payment system will be delinked for the implementation of this scheme. The farmers who avail any assistance from any other scheme for the same purpose will not be considered for this scheme. Micro nutrient mix developed by IIHR Bangalore can also be considered.

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Financial Outlay Districtwise:-

Districtwise Physical & Financial Allocation

Sl No	Name of District	Assistance to purchase of Secondary & MicroNutrient fertilizer		Total Amount in lakhs
		Area in Ha	Amount in Lakhs	
1	Thiruvananthapuram	3600	18.00	18.00
2	Kollam	3600	18.00	18.00
3	Alappuzha	3600	18.00	18.00
4	Pathanamthitta	3600 3200	16.00	16.00
5	Kottayam	3600	18.00	18.00
6	Ernakulam	3600	18.00	18.00
7	Idukky	3600	18.00	18.00
8	Thrissur	3600	18.00	18.00
9	Palakkad	3600	18.00	18.00
10	Malappuram	3600	18.00	18.00
11	Kozhikkode	3600	18.00	18.00
12	Wayanad	3600	18.00	18.00
13	Kannur	3600	18.00	18.00
14	Kasaragod	3600	18.00	18.00
	Total	50000	250.00	250.00

Rupees Two Hundred and Fifty Lakhs Only

During the year 2017-18 an amount of Rs.2700 lakhs is available under the head of account 2401-00-800-28 Plan "Soil Health Management and Productivity Improvement". An amount of Rs.250.00 lakhs set apart for the implementation of the programme "support for Secondary and Micro Nutrient" can be utilized.



Copy to:

1. All Additional Directors of Agriculture
2. All Principal Agricultural Officers
3. TA to DA
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5. IT Section 6. SW Section

Director of Agriculture Development
& Farmer's Welfare Department

DIRECTOR
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