



A Success Zinc Story in Turkey and HarvestZinc Project

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NATO-Zinc Project in Anatolia (1993-1998)



Effect of Zinc Fertilization on Wheat Production in Central Anatolia



Effect of soil applications of micronutrients (5 kg ha^{-1}) on grain yield of wheat and barley. Experiment was conducted by Mufit Kalayci in Eskisehir (YEAR 1992)

Applications	Cereals	
	Barley	Bread Wheat
	(tons ha^{-1})	
Control (all micros)	4.73	4.64
All micros -Mn	5.38	4.54
All micros -Cu	4.91	3.93
All micros -B	4.81	4.20
All micros -Fe	4.53	4.36
All micros -Zn	3.07	2.96

Cakmak et al 1998, Field Crops Res.



Pictures from NATO-Zinc Project in Central Anatolia.

Green Areas show the areas treated with Zinc Fertilizers.

Project was supported by NATO Science for Stability Program (NATO-SFS)



NATO-Science for Stability (NATO - SFS)

Successful zinc deficiency project gets world-wide recognition

The results of a study of the reasons for zinc deficiency in wheat crops in Turkey, which was funded through the NATO Science for Stability programme in the early 1990s, are now being demonstrated at international symposia with a view to extending Turkey's experience to other areas of the world. Wheat production in Turkey at that time had very low yields, and the study aimed to identify the underlying causes and a possible link to zinc deficiency. The results of the study were spectacular and were quickly passed on to interested parties, including Turkish farmers and the TOROS fertilizer company. Today, the total amount of zinc-containing fertilizers applied in Turkey is 300,000 tonnes, up from zero ten years ago, and Ministry of Agriculture estimates put annual economic benefits at 100 million dollars. In addition, large numbers of the Turkish population which have suffered from a diet containing too little zinc, now

Project with 1 Million USD Budget Generated a Benefit of 100 Million USD

Project of 1 million USD Provided a Benefit of 100 million USD

At the Technology Management Session, we learned from Tuzan Tuncel, president of TUBITAK, that small-sized research projects can provide considerable amounts of profit.

Tuzel's field of wheat the quality and yield of wheat grown in Central Anatolia is not as good as it should be. As a result of a project carried out by scientists from Ankara University with the funds of NATO, it has been found that soils of wheat growing areas are deficient in zinc.

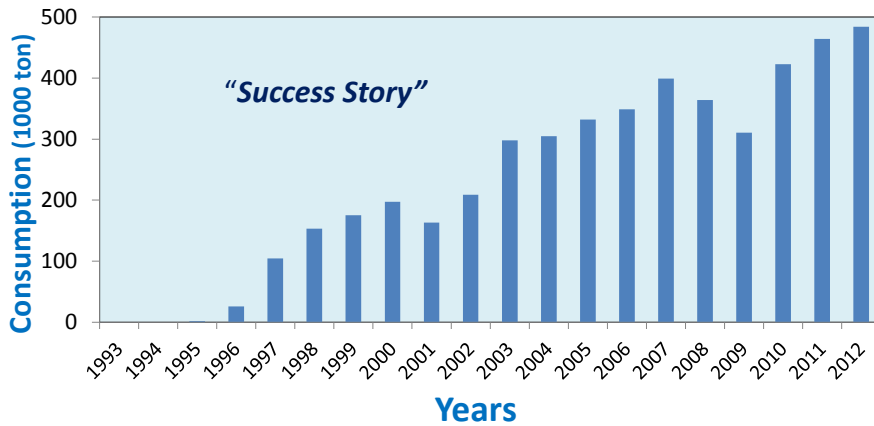
Zinc deficiency in wheat may be solved totally by adding zinc every 2-3 years to the soils in the Central Anatolia region.

The money spent for this project was even less than 1 million dollars. However, solving the zinc deficiency problem in wheat is providing an additional benefit of about 100 million dollars to the farmers every year.

Tuncel, during this project as a major example, has made some statements for the reason of scientific projects:

- First of all, there were no funds. There was a source. NATO provided funds.
- Secondly, a very good scientific research team was selected to carry out the project.

Use of Zinc Containing Compound Fertilizers after NATO-Zinc Fertilizer Project in Turkey



Source: Ministry of Agriculture and Toros Fertilizer

Statement of IFA

-International Fertilizer Industry Association-
12 April 2005:

"The Anatolia initiative is one of the world's first examples of using agricultural practices to address public health problems as well as improved crop production, and its success provides a model for countless other nations"

Zn and Fe Deficiencies: Global Malnutrition Problem



**Iron Estimated
2 billion**



**Zinc
Estimated 2
billion**

www.harvestplus.org

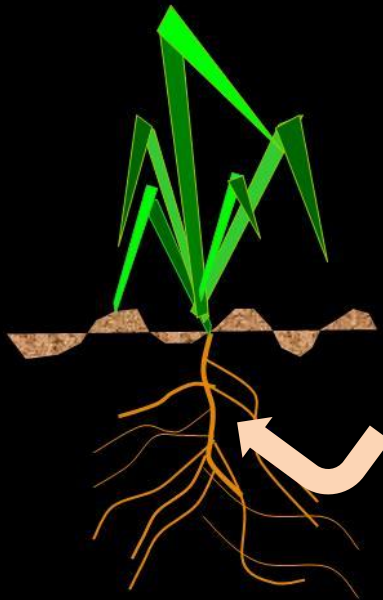
Major Reason: Low Dietary Intake High Consumption Cereal Based Foods with Low Zn and Fe Concentrations

**In number of developing countries
cereals contributes nearly 75 % of the
daily calorie intake.**



For a better Zn nutrition of human beings,
cereal grains should contain around
40-60 mg Zn kg⁻¹

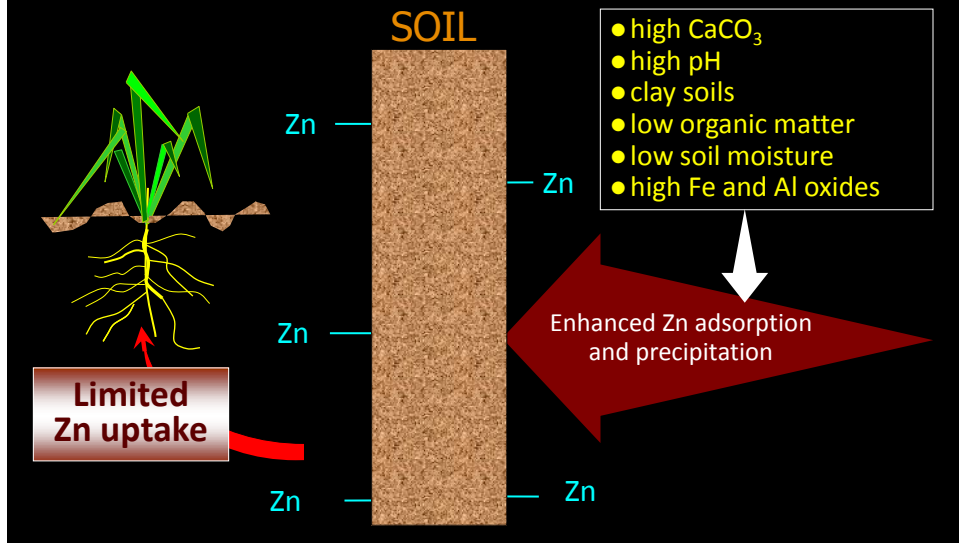
Current Situation:
10-30 mg kg⁻¹



Plants are not able
to synthesize
mineral nutrients

Mineral nutrient
must be absorbed
by roots (or by
leaves)

There are several soil chemical and physical factors limiting capacity of plants to absorb adequate amount of zinc from soils



Solutions to Micronutrient Deficiencies



- Supplementation
- Food Fortification



Golden Wheat Fortified with Zn

Agricultural Solutions

(Breeding and Fertilizer Approaches)



• Breeding



• Agronomy/Fertilizers

Complementary
approaches



Rapid and Sustainable Solution

Application of Zinc Fertilizers: (Agronomic Biofortification)

Application of Zn-containing fertilizers offers a rapid solution to the problem





Global Zinc Fertilizer Project

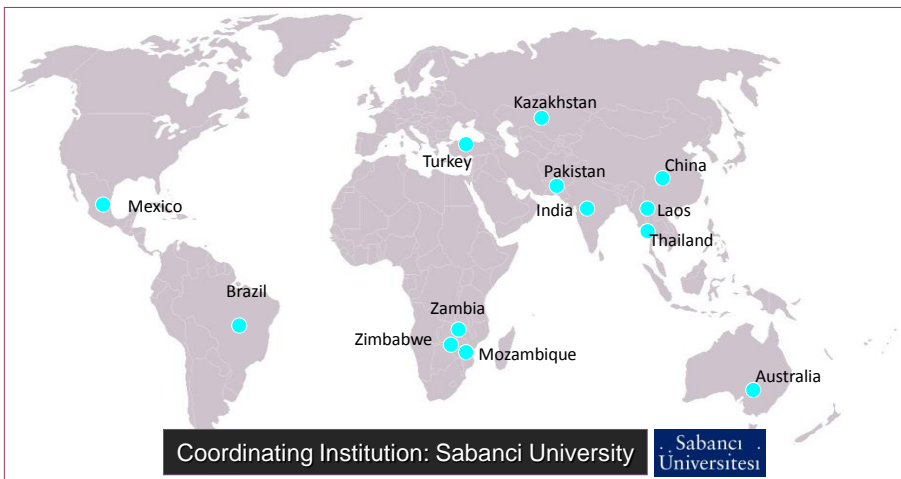
II. Phase



www.harvestzinc.org



Global Zinc Fertilizer Project



Effect of Soil and/or Foliar Applied ZnSO₄ on Grain yield and Grain Zn Concentrations in Wheat

Effect of Zn applications on wheat grain yield in 7 countries with 14 locations over 2 years

Country	Location	Harvest year	Grain yield (t ha ⁻¹)				F test	LSD _{0.05}
			Nil	Soil Zn	foliar Zn	Soil + Foliar Zn		
China	Quzhou	2009	5.4	5.4	5.4	5.6	n.s.	-
		2010	6.1	5.8	6.0	5.8	n.s.	-
India	Yongshou	2009	5.0	5.0	5.0	4.9	n.s.	-
		2010	5.1	5.6	5.1	5.0	n.s.	-
	Varanasi	2008	2.8	3.1	2.9	2.8	n.s.	-
		2010	4.2	4.2	4.2	4.5	n.s.	-
Kazakhstan	Kapurthala	2011	4.4	4.7	4.5	4.7	n.s.	-
		2010	6.8	6.7	6.4	6.3	n.s.	-
	Shortandy	2011	6.2	6.4	6.2	6.4	n.s.	-
		2009	3.8	3.7	3.8	3.7	n.s.	-
Mexico	Yaqui Valley	2010	1.7	1.7	1.8	1.7	n.s.	-
		2008	7.9	7.7	8.2	7.8	n.s.	-
Pakistan	Ayub	2009	4.5	5.2	5.4	5.8	*	0.67
		2008	2.2	2.7	1.7	2.2	*	0.19
	Faisalabad	2009	5.0	5.7	5.3	6.0	*	0.76
		2010	4.1	5.1	5.0	4.4	*	0.58
	Muridke-2	2009	3.7	4.3	4.1	4.5	*	0.55
		2010	3.5	3.7	4.0	4.0	*	0.25
Turkey	Eskisehir	2009	6.6	6.6	6.5	6.1	n.s.	-
		2010	4.4	4.3	4.4	4.2	n.s.	-
	Konya	2009	5.0	5.0	5.1	5.1	n.s.	-
		2010	5.5	5.6	6.1	5.2	n.s.	-
Zambia	Chisamba	2010	4.5	4.5	n.d.	4.2	n.s.	-
Grand mean			4.7	4.9	4.9	4.8		
Increase (%) in grain yield over nil Zn treatment								
Mean			5.1	3.0	3.6			
Standard deviation for different trials			8.1	9.5	9.5			

Zou et al., 2012, Plant and Soil

Effect of Zn applications on wheat grain yield in 7 countries with 14 locations over 2 years

Country	Location	Harvest year	Grain yield (t ha ⁻¹)				F test	LSD _{0.05}
			Nil	Soil Zn	foliar Zn	Soil + Foliar Zn		
China	Quzhou	2009	5.4	5.4	5.4	5.6	n.s.	-
		2010	6.1	5.8	6.0	5.8	n.s.	-
	Yongshou	2009	5.0	5.0	5.0	4.9	n.s.	-
		2010	5.1	5.6	5.1	5.0	n.s.	-
India	Varanasi	2008	2.8	3.1	2.9	2.8	n.s.	-
		2010	4.2	4.2	4.2	4.5	n.s.	-

Based on the trials in 7 countries with 14 locations over 2 years, Zn application improved grain yield by 5.1 %

Turkey	Muridke-2	2010	4.1	5.1	5.0	4.4	*	0.58
		2009	3.7	4.3	4.1	4.5	*	0.55
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Zou et al., 2012, Plant and Soil

Grain Zn concentration in different countries with and without foliar zinc fertilization

Country/Location	-Zn	+Zn	Country/Location	-Zn	+Zn
	mg kg ⁻¹			mg kg ⁻¹	
India			Mexico		
•Varanasi	29	47	•Year-I	21	45
•PAU-I	25	81	•Year-II	36	60
•PAU-II	28	77	Turkey		
•PAU-III	26	61	•Konya	12	29
•PAU-IV	49	65	•Adana	32	57
•IARI	33	45	•Samsun	23	49
			•Eskisehir	22	43
Kazakhstan			China		
•Loc-I	19	54	•Loc-I	28	54
•Loc-II	28	73	•Loc-II	19	26
Pakistan			Australia		
•Loc-I	27	48	•Loc-I	18	39
•Loc-II	28	44	Germany		
•Loc-III	30	40	•Average	20	32
•Loc-IV	29	60	Iran		
			•Average	17	28
			Brazil		
			•Average	30	52

Average of all countries -Zn: 26 +Zn:50

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Grain Zn concentration in different countries with and without zinc fertilization

Country/Location	-Zn	+Zn	Country/Location	-Zn	+Zn
	mg kg ⁻¹			mg kg ⁻¹	
India			Mexico		
•Varanasi			•Year-I	21	45
•PAU-I				36	60
•PAU-II				12	29
•PAU-III				32	57
•PAU-IV				23	49
•IARI				22	43
				28	54
Kazakhstan				19	26
•Loc-I				18	39
•Loc-II				20	32
Pakistan			Iran		
•Loc-I	27	40	•Average	17	28
•Loc-II	28	44	Brazil		
•Loc-III	30	40	•Average	30	52
•Loc-IV	29	60			

**Average Concentrations of
Grain Zn**
(10 Countries with 32 locations)

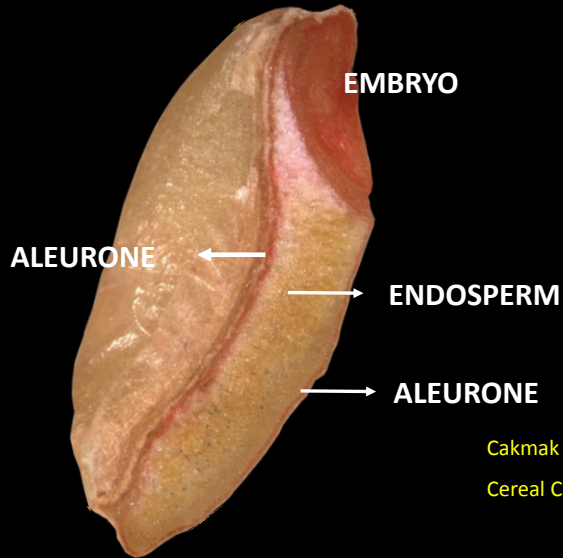
-Zn: 26 ppm
+Zn: 50 ppm

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Timing of foliar Zn application

Foliar spray of Zn late in growing season results in much greater increases in grain Zn concentration when compared to the earlier applications of Zn.

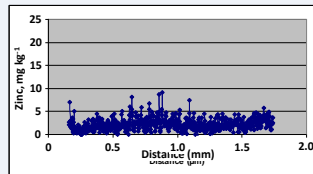
Staining/Localization of Zinc in Wheat Grain (red color)



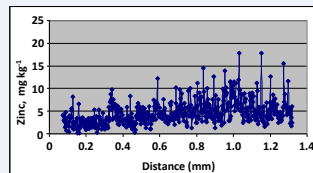
Cakmak et al., 2010

Cereal Chemistry, 77: 10-20

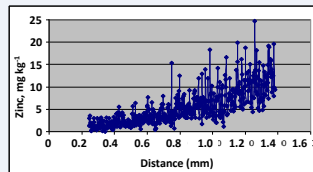
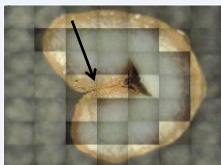
Changes in Zinc Concentrations of Endosperm Depending on Timing of Foliar Zinc Spray (Measurements by LA-ICP-MS)



No Foliar Zn Application



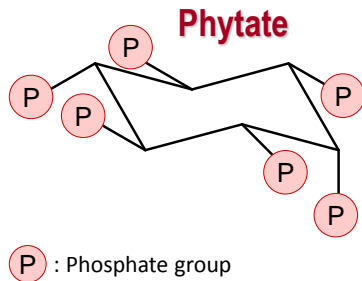
Foliar Zn Spray at Stem Elongation and Booting



Foliar Zn Spray at Milk and Dough Stages

Cakmak et al 2010, J. Agric. Food Chem.

Phytate is belived to impair Zn bioavailability

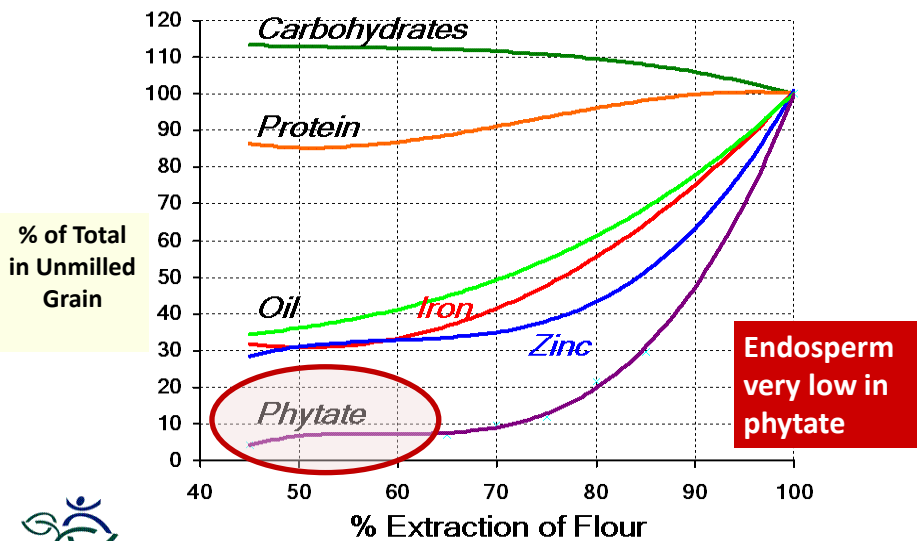


■ Cereal grains are rich in phytate

■ Phytate forms insoluble complexes with Zn^{2+}

■ Phytate concentration is very low in endosperm

Change in Nutrient Composition With Milling Affects Bioavailability & Warrants Consideration in Breeding



Economy

Based on the knowledge and information collected from our collaborators from Haryana, Punjab, Varanasi, Orissa and Delhi, the cost of a single spray of ZnSO_4 by using power-spray ranges is around 15 USD per ha (including the costs for 4 kg ZnSO_4 and the costs associated with power-spray and labor).

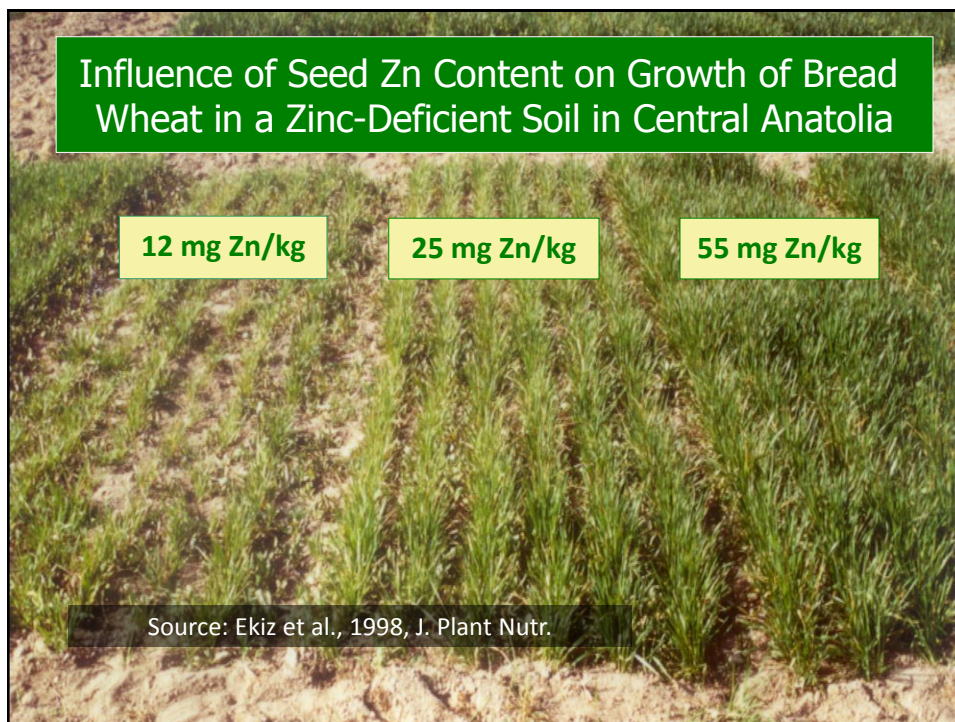
A yield increase of only 1.5 % (+45 kg grain) would cover the costs of foliar Zn application assuming that average grain yield is about 3 tons per ha..

Seed germination and seedling vigour improved when high Zn-seeds are used



Seed Zinc

Planting seeds with high zinc

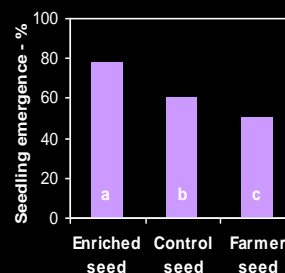


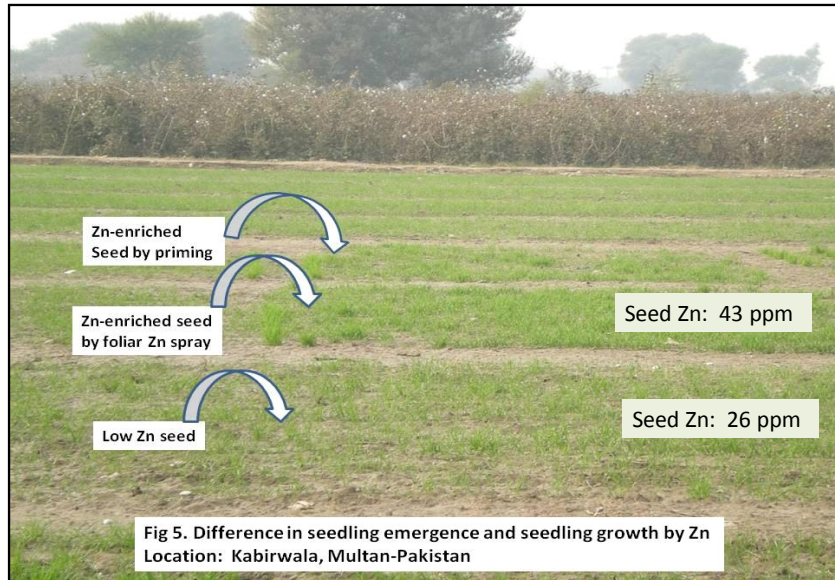
Impact of Micronutrient Dense Rice Seed in Bangladesh

(data from J. Duxbury, 2002, Cornell Univ.)

Seed Treatment	Yield (t/ha)
Complete (Zn, Mn, Cu, Mo, Zn only)	4.6 a
Complete - Mo	4.0 b
Control	4.1 b
	3.6 c

¹ letters indicate significant difference at $p < 0.1$





Conclusion

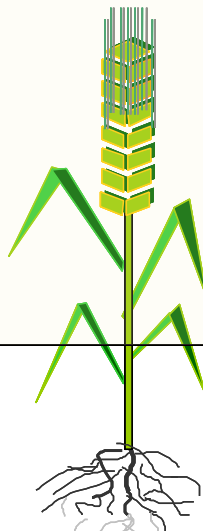
Foliar Zn application represents a successful, rapid and cost effective practice in Zn biofortification of cereals

The positive impact of foliar Zn fertilization occurs irrespective of the soil and environmental conditions, management practices and cultivars.

Foliar Zn fertilizer approach can be locally and quickly adopted for increasing dietary Zn intake in rural areas.

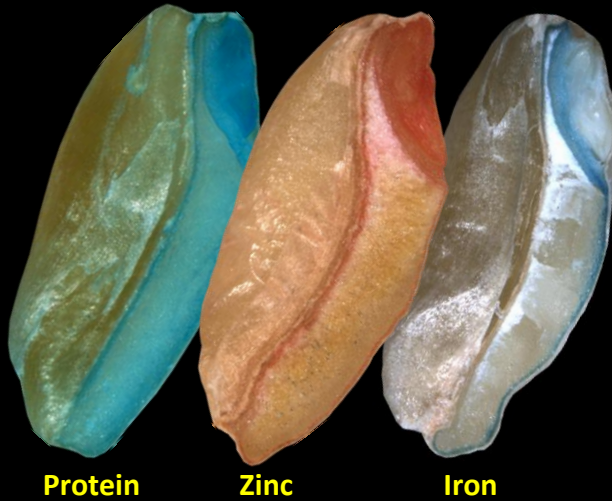
Nitrogen Dependent Zinc and Iron Partitioning (%) at Maturity

Shoot Part	IRON		ZINC	
	Low N	High N	Low N	High N
Husks	9	7	10	6
Grains	38	60	59	78
Leaves	48	28	17	8
Stem	5	6	14	7



Kutman et al. 2011,
Plant and Soil

Localization of Protein, Zinc and Iron in Wheat Grain



Cakmak et al., 2010 Cereal Chem, 77: 10-20

Staining of Protein, Zinc and Iron in Wheat Grain



Cakmak et al., 2010 Cereal Chem, 77: 10-20