



Slow and Controlled Release and Stabilized Fertilizers for Climate Smart Agriculture

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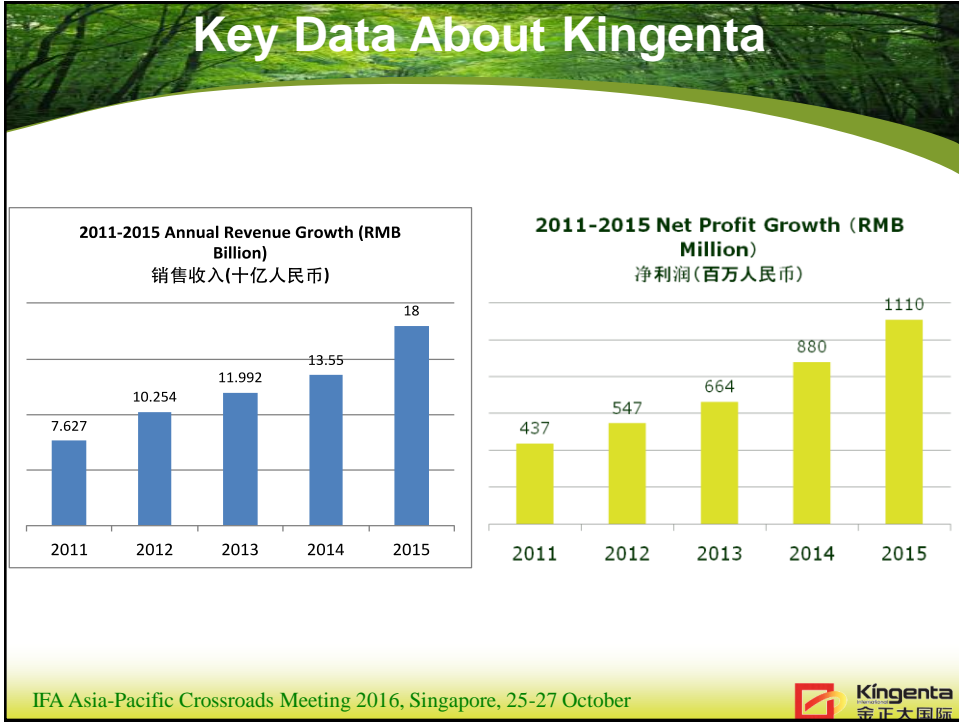
Kingenta's Vision

**To be the world's leading expert in plant nutrition
and a provider of crop solutions**



IFA Asia-Pacific Crossroads Meeting 2016, Singapore, 25-27 October





Topics

- 1 Introduction to the principles of Climate Smart Agriculture
- 2 Role of SCRF's in Climate Smart Agriculture
- 3 Role of Stabilized Fertilizers in Climate Smart Agriculture

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Increasing agricultural productivity to minimize climate change (adapted from IFA Message Map, 2009)

- **Agricultural productivity must increase by between 40 and 70% up to 2050 to ensure Food Security for a growing global population.**
- **However this must be done in a sustainable manner which has minimum environmental and climatic impact.**
- **A significant driver of this increased productivity will be N-based fertilizers.**
- **Improving their 'upstream' production efficiencies as well as then optimizing 'downstream' applications has a 'double benefit' in reducing their impact.**

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What is Climate Smart Agriculture?


- ◆ **Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA) is an integrated approach to address the interlinked challenges of addressing food security and climate change with the following objectives:**
 - **Sustainably increasing agricultural productivity;**
 - **Adapting agricultural systems to climate change at multiple levels;**
 - **Reducing Green House Gas (GHG) and other harmful emissions and pollutants from agricultural systems;**
 - **Minimizing impact on natural resources.**
- ◆ **This presentation will focus on the third of these with emphasis on application of advanced formulation fertilizers to enable improvements in Nitrogen Use Efficiency (NUE) by crops.**

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Routes of nitrogen losses

- ◆ **Less than 3% of total global Green House Gas (GHG) emissions are directly related to fertilizer production and use.**
- ◆ **However most of these are emitted as Nitrous Oxide (N₂O) gas, half of which arises from application of N fertilizers to soils.**
- ◆ **These losses arise mostly from low N use efficiency (NUE) of applied fertilizers by crops which can also result in:**
 - **Leaching of N (as nitrates) as a pollutant into ground waters, rivers and lakes;**
 - **Loss of N (as ammonia gas) by volatilization into the atmosphere.**

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Benefits of improving Nitrogen Use Efficiency (adapted from Yara, 2010)

All contribute to reducing GHG emissions and N loss for CSA



© Yara 2010

Increasing Nitrogen Use Efficiency (NUE)

Increases Resource & Energy Use Efficiencies

←


↑

Reduces Nitrogen Loss into Environment

↓

Increases Food & Biomass Production and Soil Carbon Capture


→

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- 2 Role of SCRF's in Climate Smart Agriculture
- 3 Role of Stabilized Fertilizers in Climate Smart Agriculture

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Definitions of Slow and Controlled Release Fertilizers

Slow Release Fertilizers (SRF's) involve the release of N at a slower rate than is usual for uncoated fertilizer but the release patterns are not well controlled, for example: Sulphur Coated Urea (SCU)


Controlled Release Fertilizers (CRF's) are more advanced in that the factors dominating the rate, pattern and duration of release are well known and controllable, for example: Polymer Coated Urea (PCU)

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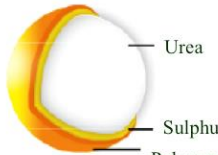
Coatings used for SCRF's

Sulfur Coated Urea (SCU):
Urea granules are repeatedly coated with a suspension of liquid sulfur to ensure the coating uniformity of each granule.



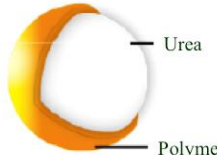
Urea
Sulphur

Polymer and Sulfur Coated Urea (PSCU):
Urea granules are coated with 1% polymer after which they are coated with sulfur. Polymer coating makes the SCU coat more flexible and durable.




Urea
Sulphur
Polymer

Polymer Coated Urea (PCU):
Urea granules are coated with a biodegradable polymer using advanced membrane coating technology which makes the release as required thus increasing fertilizer utilization rate.

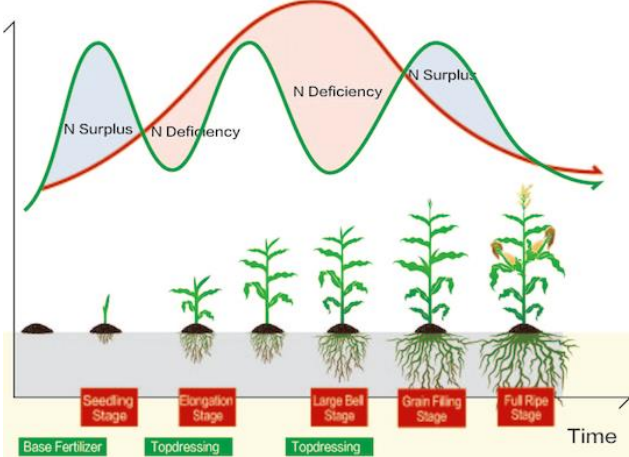


Urea
Polymer


Polymer coatings improve control of N release from urea with typical rates of release from 3 to 12 months

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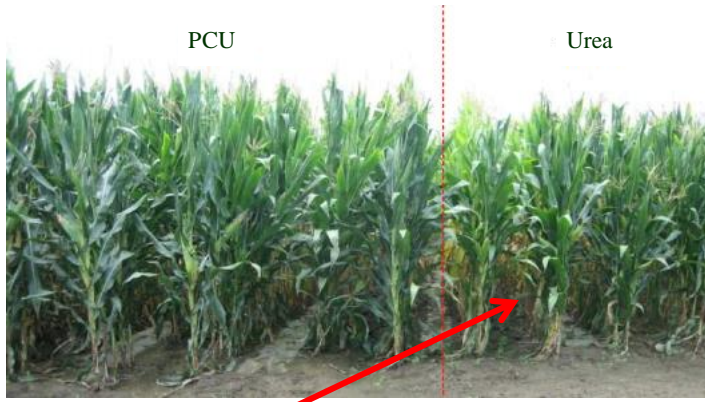
Traditional multiple straight N applications during crop growth (adapted from Kingenta, 2015)



Crop 'feast or famine' with surplus causing GHG emissions and N leakage into environment and N deficiency resulting in yield loss and reduced NUE

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Controlled N release improves corn growth and yield (Chen, 2013)

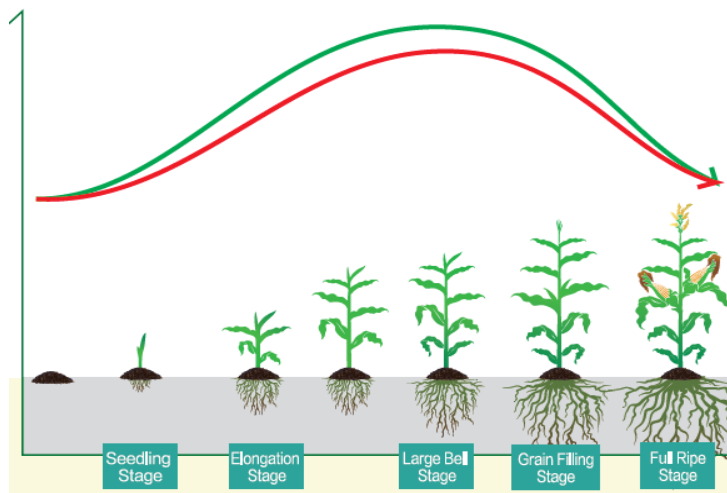


Symptoms of “firing” (N deficiency) more pronounced in urea treatments

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The 'Ideal Fertilizer' – synchronizing N release with crop requirement



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Benefits of SCRF over straight urea in rice (Levi, 2003)

Fertilizer applied	Rate (kg/ha)	Cost (RMB)	Cost of application	Yield (kg/ha)	Total Value (RMB)	Profit (RMB/ha)	NUE (kg/kg N)
Straight Urea	225	383	3@50 RMB =150 RMB	6,000	10,200	9,667	26.6
Coated Urea	150	750	1@50 RMB =50 RMB	7,000	11,900	11,100	46.6

Despite doubling of coated fertilizer cost:

- N application rates were 33% less and labour costs reduced by 66%;
- Yield was increased by nearly 17% and NUE was improved by 75%;
- Profit was increased by 1,433 RMB/ha;
- ALL meet criteria for Climate Smart Agriculture.

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Comparison of N loss potential for urea and 'Meister' polymer coated urea on rice in Japan (Shoji, 2005)

Treatment	N rate kg N/ha	N rate reduction	N uptake kg N/ha	NUE %	N loss potential kg N/ha
Straight urea	100	0	30	30	70
Polymer coated urea	40	60	32	80	8

Lower rates of N using controlled release urea result in improved crop uptake and NUE and reduced N loss potential as emissions and leakage – both contributing to CSA.

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¹⁵N tracer SCRF comparison field research (Kingenta, 2014)



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¹⁵N loss comparison of PCU with conventional urea (Kingenta, 2014)

<i>Treatment</i>	<i>Nitrogen Applied</i>	<i>N losses in runoff</i>	<i>The leaching loss of N</i>
	<i>kgN/ha</i>	<i>(N%)</i>	<i>(N%)</i>
<i>PCU</i>	<i>240</i>	<i>9.22</i>	<i>8.55</i>
<i>Urea</i>	<i>240</i>	<i>12.6</i>	<i>10.2</i>
<i>PCU vs Urea</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>-3.38 (-27%)</i>	<i>-1.65 (-16%)</i>

When comparing PCU with conventional urea, N-runoff was **27% less** and N-leaching was **16% less**. Also reduction in volatile ammonia by **68%** and nitrous oxide losses by **34%**.


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Stabilized Fertilizers (SF's)

Fertilizers which are treated to stabilize applied N-based fertilizers in soils for a longer period of time and protect against N-losses into the environment.

These can be either:


- **Urease inhibitors which slow the hydrolysis of urea into ammonia by the soil urease enzyme;**

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \begin{array}{c} \text{O}=\text{C} \\ \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ \text{NH}_2 \quad \text{NH}_2 \\ \text{(urea)} \end{array} + \text{H}_2\text{O} & \xrightarrow{\text{UREASE}} & 2\text{NH}_3 + \text{CO}_2 \\
 & & \text{(Ammonia gas)}
 \end{array}$$

- **Nitrification Inhibitors which slow the soil-bacterial oxidation of ammonium-N into nitrate-N.**

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \text{NH}_4^+ & \xrightarrow{\text{Nitrosomonas}} & \text{NO}_2^- \xrightarrow{\text{Nitrobacter}} \text{NO}_3^- \\
 \text{(ammonium)} & & \text{(nitrite)} \quad \text{(nitrate)}
 \end{array}$$

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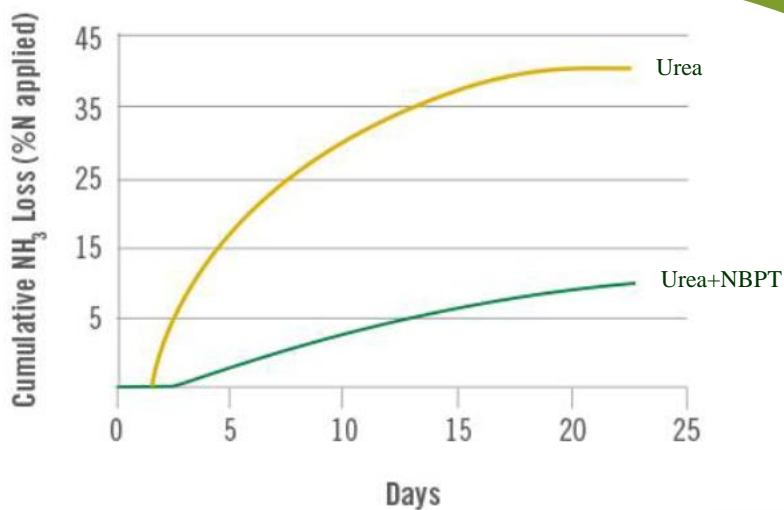
Main types of urease inhibitors (Fertecon SCR&SF Report, 2016)

Acronym	Chemical formula	Supplier/Brand
NBPT	N-(n-butyl) thiophosphoric triamide	Koch Agronomic Services/Agrotain® Eurochem/UTEC® BASF/Limus® (+NPPT) Solvay/Agrho® N-Protect Weyerhaeuser Co/Arborite®
NPT	N-phenylphosphoric triamide	SKW Piesteritz
NPPT	N-(n-propyl) thiophosphoric triamide	BASF/Limus® (+NBPT)

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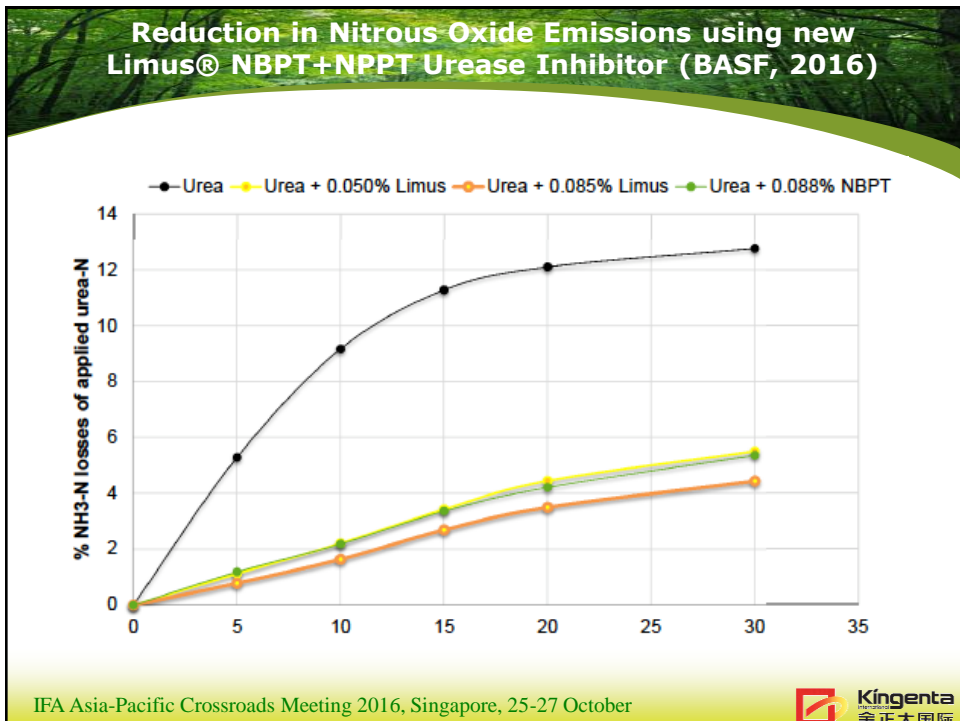
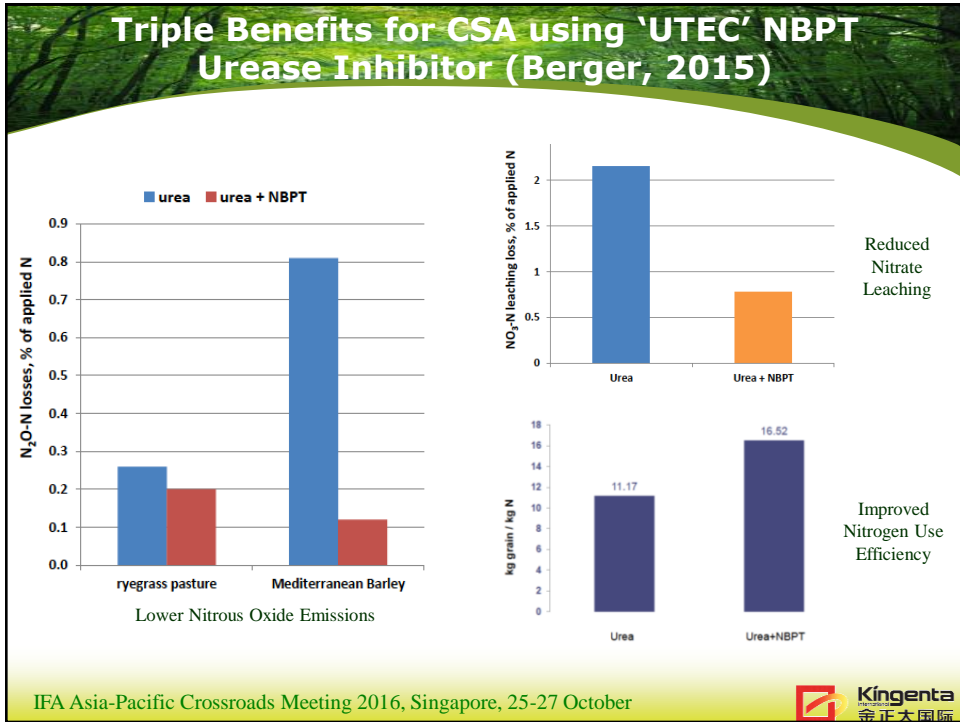


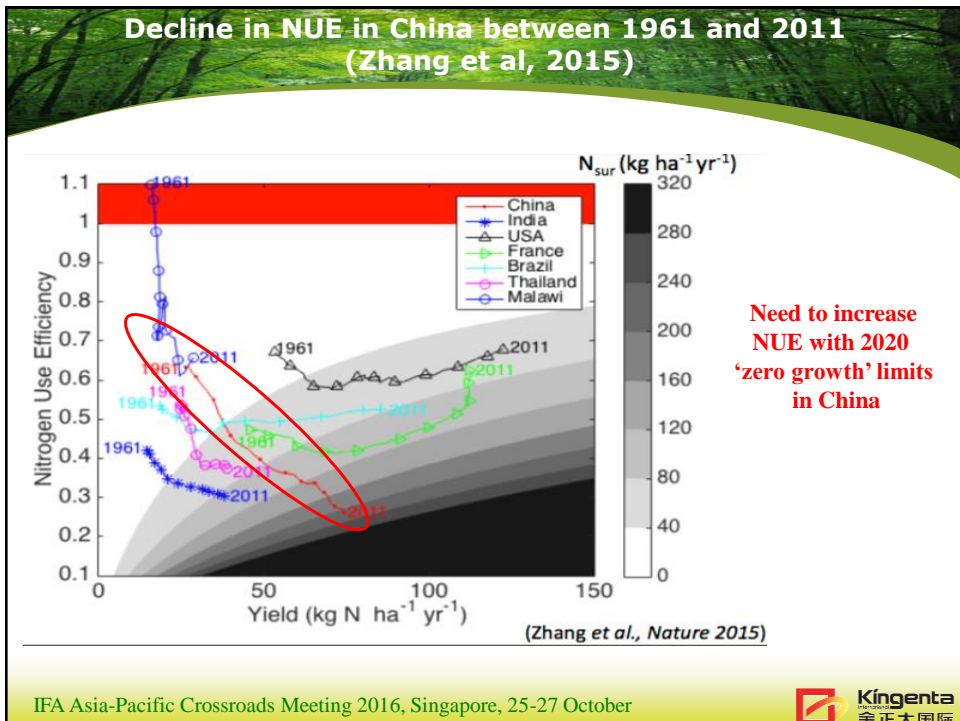
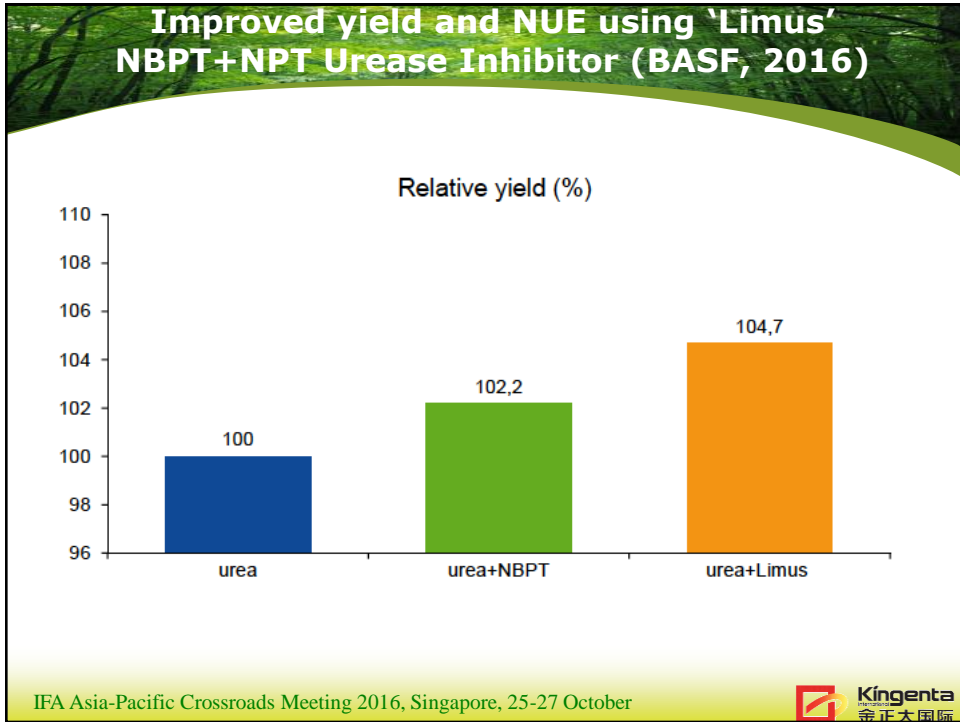
Reduction in ammonia emissions with 'Agrotain' NBPT urease inhibitor (Wade, 2015)



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A step in the right direction for CSA!

“Optimal plant nutrition using more N efficient fertilizers:
Kingenta and BASF to jointly address a tough
agricultural challenge in China.”

“Limus®, a novel urease inhibitor, addresses the serious problem
of N-loss in urea-based fertilizers”.

“BASF and Chinese fertilizer supplier Kingenta recently announced
their partnership to bring farmers in China novel fertilizers coated with BASF’s
new Limus® technology, available from July 2016”.

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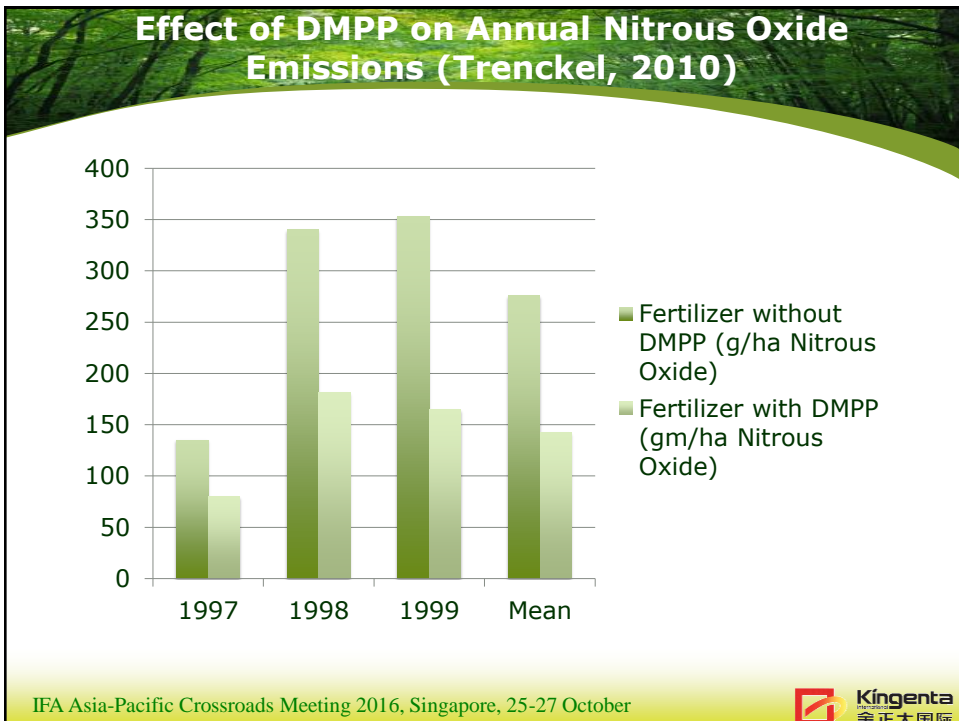
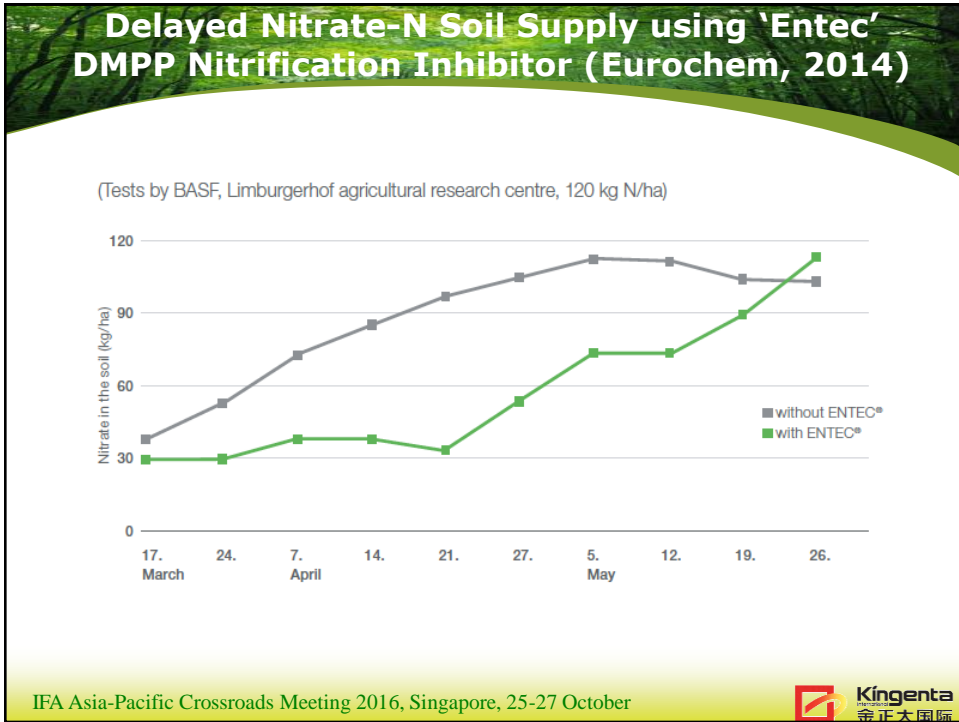


Main types of nitrification inhibitors (Fertecon SCR&SF Report, 2016)

Acronym	Chemical formula	Supplier/Brand
DCD	Dicyandiamide	Conklin Co/Guardian®
		JCAM-Agri Co/Yodel®
		SKW Piesteritz/Alzon®
		Solvay/Agrho® N-Protect
DMPP	3-4 dimethylpyrazole phosphate	Compo Expert/Novatec®
		Eurochem/Entec®
Nitrapyrin	2-chloro-6-trichloromethyl pyridine	Dow Agrosiences/N-Serve®
ATS	Ammonium thiosulphate	Tessenderlo Kerley

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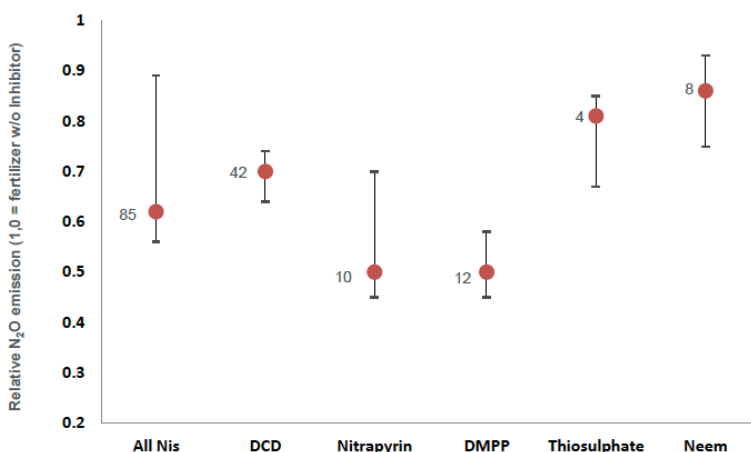
CSA Benefits from Nitrification Inhibitors

- ◆ In 24 winter wheat trials, one application of N-based fertilizer+DMPP increased yields by 7% compared with (European standard practice) of three applications of untreated fertilizer (Huther et al, 2000).
- ◆ For winter rapeseed, the conventional two N applications could be replaced by one when using N-based fertilizer+DMPP early in the spring (Huther et al, 2000).
- ◆ Cabbage yields were increased by 2.0 t/ha and 5.5 t/ha at two locations (Jinhua and Xinch), and quality including vitamin C, soluble sugars and micronutrient content, using DMPP in China (Xu et al, 2004).
- ◆ Trials in Europe on various field grown vegetables and fruit crops showed DMPP-containing fertilizers reduced N-leaching losses and increased yields at lower applied N-rates (Hahndel and Zerulla, 1999-2001)

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Relative influence of main Nitrification Inhibitors on Nitrous Oxide Emissions (adapted from Berger, 2015)



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Conclusions

- **Slow and Controlled Release and Stabilized Fertilizers offer many benefits which contribute to the principles of Climate Smart Agriculture, including:**
 - Increasing agricultural production by matching N supply more closely to crop growth demands therefore improving Nitrogen Use Efficiency (NUE);
 - This reduces the potential for GHG and other emissions, particularly of the very potent Nitrous Oxide (N₂O) gas and the harmful volatilization of Ammonia (NH₃).
 - Furthermore, leaching of excess soil nitrate-N into water resources is significantly reduced;
 - Improved NUE results in the direct benefit of increased profit/ha for farmers and indirectly through improvements in soil quality, environmental and human health;
 - Improvements in 'downstream' NUE will amplify the increases in 'upstream' efficiencies and use of GHG mitigation technologies currently underway in international fertilizer production industry;
 - Altogether, these represent powerful resources to support the objectives of Climate Smart Agriculture.

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New Report from Fertecon

Fertecon
Agribusiness Intelligence | Informa



Innovations for Slow,
Controlled Release &
Stabilized Fertilizers

Implications for Climate Smart Agriculture

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Thank you for your attention !

**We welcome cooperation at
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