

Spreader advice and guidance

Here at Yara, we pride ourselves on the quality of our fertilisers. But, the results you see in the field also depend upon how successful you are at spreading the fertiliser.

There is lots of advice out there on how to successfully spread your fertiliser to achieve the best results. Yara has joined forces with [SCS Spreader & Sprayer Testing Ltd](#) to bring you the latest advice.

[Spreader and application advice](#)

Make the right fertiliser choice

1. **Broad spectrum soil analysis** will help you decide which fertiliser is the most appropriate for your crop's needs.
2. Buy a **true uniform fertiliser** – all nutrients will be in each granule ensuring you benefit from no segregation in the hopper to deliver an even spread of all nutrients.



When to spread

1. **Spread your nutrients when your crops need them most.** For example, trial data has shown that crops benefit from a spring application of NPK and S because this is when your crops' need is greatest.
2. **Heed the weather!** Strong winds may effect your spread pattern, especially if you're spreading lighter prills. Keep an eye on humidity levels too, on a damp day fertiliser can absorb moisture which will affect flow rates.

Spreader maintenance

1. **Regularly check your spreader for wear and tear** as it will have an impact on your spread pattern. It's also a good idea to check the PTO read out on the screen in your tractor compared to the PTO shaft.
2. **Clean spreader vanes before refilling your hopper throughout.** This is especially important when using fertilisers that contain sulphur. Sulphur is known to leave deposits on the spreader vanes which may create residue or cause blockages. SCS recommends using a WD40 type product and rag to clean vanes. Oil based lubricants dissolve sulphur build up quickly
3. **Machine height:** Ensure the disc or spout on a mounted spreader is at the correct height above the crop (see manufacturers guide) and that it is mounted correctly.
4. **Make the most of new precision technologies:** Did you know that new automated features can only provide optimal spreading if it is shown what a 'good pattern' looks like first? The only way to do this is by tray testing for each fertiliser you plan to use.

For more advice on spreading practices such as forward speed, bout width and dealing with headlands, please check our [website](#).

[Read more spreader maintenance advice](#)

In association with SCS

SCS Spreader & Sprayer Testing Ltd undertake testing nationwide and are the UK and Ireland's leading NSTS tray testing experts.



[Find out more on the SCS website](#)



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