

Frequently Asked Questions

QUESTION	ANSWER
What is AVAIL?	AVAIL is a water-soluble additive for granular or liquid phosphorus fertilizer that enables phosphate to remain free in the soil, providing opportunity for greater plant uptake with minimal costs. AVAIL is the only phosphorus fertilizer enhancement of its kind.
What are the major benefits of AVAIL?	Research has shown 75-95% of phosphorus fertilizer is tied up, or fixed, in the soil. AVAIL is a revolutionary technology that helps solve the long-standing problem of poor phosphate availability. AVAIL provides: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greater phosphate efficiencies • Improved yield potential • Increased profitability
Does AVAIL tie up the nutrients in the soil?	AVAIL is only effective in the very small zone around the phosphorus. It does not change the overall nutrient availability in the soil.
For crop producers, what are the benefits of AVAIL?	Numerous research studies have been conducted in the United States on the effects of AVAIL on key crops, including wheat, grasses, alfalfa, corn, soybeans. University research plots demonstrate an increase in phosphate uptake in AVAIL-treated plants, resulting in higher yields and improved crop quality.
What are the relevant crops for which AVAIL may be applied?	Phosphorus fixation is a problem with the soil, not with the crop. AVAIL is effective on all crops, in any soil and in any climate. AVAIL is currently being applied with proven response to alfalfa, cole crops, corn, cotton, onions, potatoes, rice, sugar beets, soybeans, sweet corn, tomatoes and wheat.
Can AVAIL be used directly on the soil?	No, AVAIL is designed to help prevent the fixation of applied phosphorus in the soil. Once untreated phosphorus has been applied to the soil and becomes fixed, there is no way to set it free.
What is the environmental impact of AVAIL?	There is no environmental footprint with the use of AVAIL. It is a water-soluble and biodegradable phosphorus-enhancement product. Studies show that the AVAIL polymer breaks down during the 8 to 12-month period between field crops, with no residual effect on subsequent crops.
Can AVAIL be leached out of the fertilizer application zone by rain or excessive moisture?	Work with flooded rice has shown that AVAIL gives season-long protection without being moved out the nutrient zone by rain or irrigation.
Can AVAIL be used on manures?	With its extremely variable nutrient composition, as well as high volume usage, SFP is currently testing the use of AVAIL on solid and liquid manures and litter.
Does the use of AVAIL lessen the amount of fertilizer needed?	Utilizing the recommended phosphorus rates plus the AVAIL polymer technology can lead to even higher yield potential, reduced production costs per bushel and a greater return on investment. However, if reducing phosphorus rates is a necessity, SFP strongly recommends the grower review soil tests, discuss rates with a dealer or agronomist and, if possible, conduct a trial first before implementing reduced rates as a standard practice.
Should I broadcast or band AVAIL?	AVAIL is effective in broadcast and banding applications. By using AVAIL, broadcast applications of phosphorus can now be made efficient for the first time.
Should AVAIL be used in the fall or spring?	University research shows that AVAIL is just as effective applied in the fall as it is in the spring.