## Growing WHEAT IN





## **KEY FINDINGS**

POLY4 fertilizer plan increased the yield by 3%

MOP + POLY4 was a profitable alternative to a current commercial practice of MOP + AS

# **A CASE FOR POLY4**

- Wheat is the largest crop by area in Poland with an average yield of 4.5 t ha<sup>-1</sup>.
- S deficiency is an increasing problem for European farmers.
- POLY4 supplies K, S, Mg and Ca in one product.

### **POLY4 BENEFITS**



Source of macro and micro nutrients



Sustained dissolution rate



Suitable for organic farming



No requirement for chemical processing





Low CO<sub>2</sub> emissions

Treatment	Average nutrients applied in trial (kg ha-1)						
	Ν	P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub>	K₂O	CaO	MgO	S	CI
MOP + AS	190	50	75	0	0	30	60
MOP + POLY4 (70:30)	190	50	75	27	9	30	47
POLY4	190	50	75	91	32	102	16

## **IMPROVED YIELD**



POLY4 or MOP + POLY4 fertilized crops had the greatest yield at all four sites.



#### **OPTIMAL GRAIN WEIGHT**

Balanced nutrition and K supply are important for optimal grain fill and ripening. Across the four sites POLY4 fertilized crops had the highest thousand grain weight.

#### **INCREASED FERTILIZER MARGIN**



MOP + POLY4 treatment increased fertilizer margin by US\$11/ha compared to MOP + AS.



#### **IMPROVED QUALITY**



Hagberg falling number (HFN) of POLY4 treated wheat was 300 and was 8.5% higher than MOP + AS. HFN reflects starch digestion and is an important parameter for determining premium payments for bread-making wheat. Bakers typically target an HFN value above 250.

Notes: 1) Pulawy (2016) Trial report; 2) FAOSTAT (2018); 3) Trials were conducted at four locations with the following initial soil analysis: Pulki I: pH (H,Q) 6.6, pH (KCl) 5.5, 116 mg P kg<sup>-1</sup>, 180 mg K kg<sup>-1</sup>, 29 mg Mg kg<sup>-1</sup>, 4.6 mg S kg<sup>-1</sup>; Pulki II: pH (H<sub>2</sub>O) 6.8, pH (KCl) 5.9, 301 mg P kg<sup>-1</sup>, 150 mg K kg<sup>-1</sup>, 59 mg Mg kg<sup>-1</sup>, 2.8 mg S kg<sup>-1</sup>, Baborówko I: pH (H<sub>2</sub>O) 6.3, pH (KCl) 6.1, 170 mg P kg<sup>-1</sup>, 104 mg K kg<sup>-1</sup>, 39 mg Mg kg<sup>-1</sup>, 3.8 mg S kg<sup>-1</sup>, Baborówko II: pH (H<sub>2</sub>O) 6.0, pH (KCl) 4.7, 87 mg P kg<sup>-1</sup>, 112 mg K kg<sup>-1</sup>, 25 mg Mg kg<sup>-1</sup>, 4.6 mg S kg<sup>-1</sup>; 4) Results presented are based on data from GENSTAT ANOVA at K<sub>2</sub>O rate of 75 kg ha<sup>-1</sup>; Fertilizer CRU prices: urea US\$290/t, DAP US\$532/t, AS US\$168/t, MOP US\$333/t; POLY4 US\$200(t; spreading cost; wheat price: US\$176/t; spreading cost US\$20.11/t; Fertilizer margin is the value of the crop output minus the cost of fertilizer product and spreading.

### TRIAL FOCUS

The study compared the effect of POLY4 with standard K and S fertilizer on winter wheat yield and quality at four sites across Poland.

#### PARTNER

Institute of Soil Science & Plant Cultivation

#### LOCATION

Szamotuły and Puławy, Poland

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