

while at the two greatest rates, yield appeared to become less affected by year-to-year variation in rainfall (i.e. moisture deficits). Thus, increased K availability appears to have improved water use efficiency.

Vertical stratification of applied fertilizer K was apparent in this study after adoption of no-tillage practices (**Figure 3**). Soil test K increased the greatest in the shallow 0- to 2-in. depth. Only a slight increase was apparent in the 2- to 6-in. depth. Surface deposition of K from crop residues would also contribute some to this effect due to the elimination of tillage. Due to the high CEC (greater than 25) and mineralogy, this soil has a high capacity to adsorb K and limit its movement. Although

leaching would not be expected on this soil, the high shrink-swell potential could cause some movement of surface soil into cracks formed during dry periods.

Results of this study suggest that K requirements for no-tillage cotton may be greater than for conventional tillage cotton, especially on high CEC soils. Improved water retention with no-tillage as well as the effect of K on water use efficiency may at least be partially responsible for the effects observed in this study. **BC**

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In Memory of Dr. Larry C. Bonczkowski, 1953-2000

Dr. Larry C. Bonczkowski, a well known agronomist and dedicated leader in fertilizer industry programs, passed away June 30, 2000. From December 1993 until his untimely death, he served as Manager, Agronomy Services, for Agrium U.S. Inc. in Denver, Colorado. Previously, he worked for Growmark, Inc. in Illinois and for Great Salt Lake Minerals Corporation.

In his professional career, Dr. Bonczkowski was responsible for providing technical agronomic information to staff and customers, delivering dealer and farmer meetings, conducting training programs, facilitating research and development programs, serving as liaison with land-grant universities, and participating at various regional and national events.

A native of Madison, Kansas, Dr. Bonczkowski grew up on the family farm and attended Kansas State University. After receiving his M.S. degree in 1977, he joined the Cooperative Extension Service in



Kansas as Northeast Area Crop Protection Specialist. He completed his Ph.D. degree in 1989. Dr. Bonczkowski became a highly respected authority on chloride nutrition of wheat and other crops and later was active in addressing issues related to heavy metals and fertilizers.

He was a Certified Professional Agronomist and an active member of the American Society of Agronomy and the Soil Science Society of America. Also, he was a member of the Ag Retailers Association, the Fluid Fertilizer Foundation Board of Directors, and the Program Committee of the Great Plains Soil Fertility Association. Dr. Bonczkowski served on committees of The Fertilizer Institute and the Program Advisory Group of PPI.

A memorial fund was established at Kansas State University to provide an annual scholarship to a graduate student in soil fertility. Dr. Bonczkowski is survived by his wife, Patty, two sons, his mother, and a brother. **BC**