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Conversion Factors for U.S. System and Metric

Because of the diverse readership of Better Crops with Plant Food, units of measure are given in U.S. system standards in some articles and in metric units in others...depending on the method commonly used in the region where the information originates. For example, an article reporting on corn yields in Illinois would use units of pounds per acre (lb/A) for fertilizer rates and bushels (bu) for yields; an article on rice production in Southeast Asia would use kilograms (kg), hectares (ha), and other metric units.

Several factors are available to quickly convert units from either system to units more familiar to individual readers. Following are some examples which will be useful in relation to various articles in this issue of Better Crops with Plant Food.

To convert Col. 1 into Col. 2, multiply by:	Column 1		To convert Col. 2 into Col. 1, multiply by:
Length			
0.621 1.094 0.394	kilometer, km meter, m centimeter, cm	mile, mi yard, yd inch, in.	1.609 0.914 2.54
Area			
2.471	hectare, ha	acre, A	0.405
Volume			
1.057	liter, L	quart (liquid), qt	0.946
Mass			
1.102 0.035	tonne¹ (metric, 1,000 kg) gram, g	short ton (U.S. 2,000 lb) ounce	0.9072 28.35
Yield or Rate			
0.446 0.891 0.0159 0.0149	tonne/ha kg/ha kg/ha kg/ha	ton/A lb/A bu/A, corn (grain) bu/A, wheat or soybeans	2.242 1.12 62.7 67.2

The spelling as "tonne" indicates metric ton (1,000 kg). Spelling as "ton" indicates the U.S. short ton (2,000 lb). When used as a unit of measure, tonne or ton may be abbreviated, as in 9 t/ ha. A metric expression assumes t=tonne; a U.S. expression assumes t=ton.