

### **Zeolite:**

- ❑ Enables better plant growth
- ❑ Improves the efficiency and value of fertilizer
- ❑ Improves water infiltration and retention
- ❑ Improves yield
- ❑ Retains nutrients for use by plants
- ❑ Improves long term soil quality
- ❑ Reduces loss of nutrients in soil

### **Applying zeolite to the soil can improve its ability to hold nutrients and water**

Zeolite is a natural super porous mineral (part of a group of hydrated alumino silicates). It carries a negative charge balanced by freely moving cations with positive charges. This provides an ideal trap for positive cations like nitrogen rich ammonium and potassium which are then released when demanded by plants.

Zeolites have a very open framework with a network of pores giving it a large surface area for trapping and exchanging valuable nutrients.

More efficient fertilizer use

With the current high price of ammonium fertilizers zeolite can be used to extend their efficiency and performance. Blending fertilizer with zeolite can produce the same yield from less fertilizer applied because of the reduction of volatilization and leaching losses. It is particularly suitable for banding under drip irrigation planting where it will assist water infiltration, distribution and retention. When fertigation is practiced it will actively hold the nutrients in the root zone.

### **More efficient water use**

Zeolite assists water infiltration and retention in the soil due to its very porous properties and the capillary suction it exerts. Acting as a natural wetting agent, it is an excellent amendment for non wetting sands and to assist water distribution through soils.

### **The role of zeolite**

Zeolite can hold nutrients in the root zone for plants to use when required. This leads to more efficient use of N and K fertilizers - either less fertilizer for the same yield or the same amount of fertilizer lasting longer and producing higher yields.

An added benefit of zeolite application is that unlike other soil amendments (gypsum and lime) it does not break down over time but remains in the soil to help improve nutrient and water retention permanently. With subsequent applications the zeolite will further improve the soil's ability to retain nutrients and produce improved yields.