

# Technical Bulletin

## FoliPhos™ plus Calcium

RSA MicroTech  
P.O. Box 39, Marysville, WA 98270  
1.800.426.5969 [www.rsamicrotech.com](http://www.rsamicrotech.com)

### Introduction

Quality production of fruits and vegetables makes proper nutrition a priority for the grower. Shelf life, taste and appearance are a few qualities important to the producer that are influenced by the crop's nutritional status.

Quality characteristics such as fruit size, shelf life and taste are determined quite early in most fruit development. Thus, elements such as phosphorus (P) and calcium (Ca) are prominent in the grower's nutrition plan during early fruit development.

### Value of P and Ca

To assure quality produce, we want the fruit to have a large number of very strong and structurally sound cells. Phosphorus is required for cell production and helps assure cell strength.

Calcium is essential for strong cell walls to reduce harvest damage and prolong shelf life. There is a very small window in which to achieve an increase of calcium levels in the fruit. This window only exists during the time of cell division and cell production. The more cells produced at this time, the higher the concentration of calcium in the fruit. This helps insure reduced harvest loss and better shelf and storage life.

Most fruit and vegetable crops determine cell number and quality very early in the development period. This means the grower must address phosphorus and calcium nutrition early to insure a quality crop. For instance, total cell numbers of an apple are determined in the first 3 to 4 weeks after bloom. Problems that adversely affect fruit

quality, such as bitter pit, can be reduced during this period with a good phosphorus and calcium program.

### Analysis and Availability

FoliPhos plus Calcium is designed specifically for foliar applications at early fruit development stages to help insure quality production. FoliPhos plus Calcium contains phosphorus and calcium forms that are 100% available to the plant. This is vitally important to insure that maximum cell division and cell calcium levels are achieved during the critical period of cell division.

Foli-Phos plus Calcium contains a high analysis of 28% phosphorus. When combined with an adequate soil phosphorus program, it helps produce quality, high value fruits and vegetables.

### Application Information

Foli-Phos plus Calcium contains 3% calcium which provides a good calcium source when used at label rates of 2 to 4 quarts per acre. It can be tank mixed with RSA Quick Cal to increase the calcium concentration of the application.

FoliPhos plus Calcium is a trademark of RSA MicroTech, LLC.

