

Potassium Trial

Observations late season at IREC of the 2017-18 crop indicated pre-mature defoliation with associated leaf discolouration and subsequent top bolls being shed late season. This symptom can be caused by insufficient potassium being taken up by the plant. Potassium is involved in carbohydrate transport in the plant and if insufficient amounts are taken up then the demand is met by top leaves and bolls.

This field trial examined that application of two different rates of potassium being incorporated into the hill to overcome the symptoms that were exhibited last year. Three replicates of Potassium Sulphate was incorporated into the hill at three rates of 0, 100 and 200 kg/ha. Gypsum at 2.5 tn/ha was also spread across the field between cotton crops across all treatments. There were no observed differences in plant uptake or yield across the various treatments this year.

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