

Mr A Farmer  
Town House  
Long Lane  
Herefordshire

19<sup>th</sup> October 2015

### 2015 Sulphur Survey

Dear

Thank you for participating in our 2015 Sulphur Survey. We have established that sulphur levels have generally depleted since 2005. This information will be vital when considering Nitrogen and Sulphur applications for 2016.

Following our Sulphur Survey in 2014, which demonstrated that only 13% of all crops sampled had a result in the normal range, all the others were low or slightly low, we felt it was vital that we continue to monitor levels on an annual basis. The 2015 results show that this figure has dropped to just 6% of crops sampled with a result in the normal range. Monitoring these figures will help us to advise you on the appropriate steps to ensure the future crops do not suffer due to a lack of sulphur available to the plant.

Please find enclosed a copy of your N:S Ratio Analysis Report. The optimum is around 12:1, anything higher than this indicates a deficiency. The chart over the page demonstrates how your farm compares to the rest of the participants in the survey.

**Your crop had a Nitrogen: Sulphur ratio of 17:1. This is in the slightly low range.**

Please see overleaf for some further information and interpretation of the survey results.

We will be in touch regarding your specific requirements and will make full recommendations for a Nitrogen and Sulphur policy. In the meantime please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any queries. Thank you again for your participation.

Kind Regards

Cobb Agri Ltd

### What we recommend

Cobb Agri & Andrew Goodinson of Hutchinsons recommend applications of:

75kgs/ha of sulphur to Winter Wheat  
100kgs/ha of sulphur to Oil Seed Rape

Sulphur must be repeat applied every year to the crops, this is because sulphate levels are easily reduced from the soil through;

plant uptake  
leaching as sulphur is water soluble

Therefore little sulphur is stored in the soil year on year.

Sulphur must be applied to the soil at the right growth stage, we recommend applying it at the first and second pass of nitrogen.

There is sulphur in manures applied to crops however an additional application of sulphur may be necessary especially in responsive sites in order to achieve an optimum yield.

### Soil Facts

2tn/acre of Poultry Litter will provide 32 units/acre or 40kgs/ha of So<sub>3</sub>

10tn/acre of FYM will provide 48 units/acre or 60kgs/ha of So<sub>3</sub>

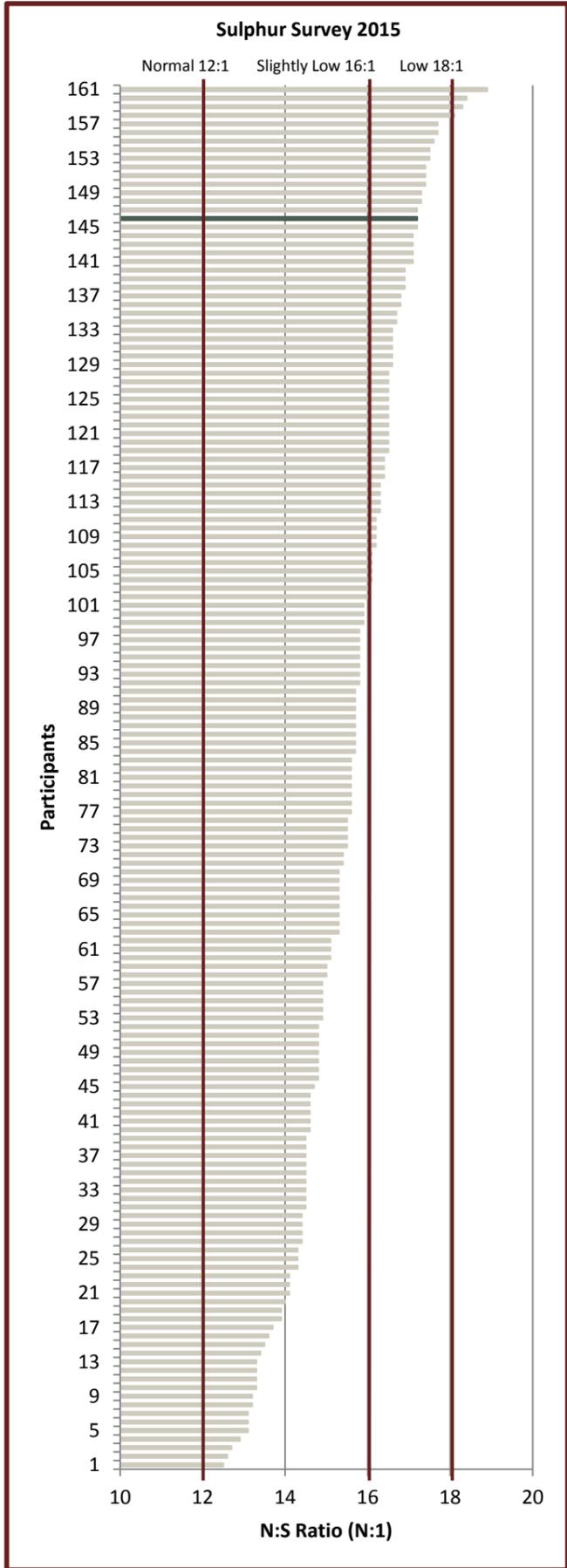
There are more organisms in **one tablespoon** of healthy soil than there are people on earth

By **2050** agricultural production must increase by **60% globally** (and 100% in developing countries) in order to meet the demand for food

It can take up to 1000 years to form **one centimetre** of soil

**11ha** of soils are sealed under expanding cities **every hour** in Europe

# Introduction to the Sulphur Survey Results



Continuous intensive arable crops with high-yield crop varieties have depleted sulphur in the ground and at the same time atmospheric deposition is not occurring to maintain the sulphur levels, causing a sulphur deficiency.

Sulphur is a major fundamental nutrient needed for plant establishment, development and even crop maturity. It also helps to increase yield and protein within wheat.

The 2015 samples collected show that 55% of crops had low sulphur levels triggering a high N:S ratio content of 16:1 or above.

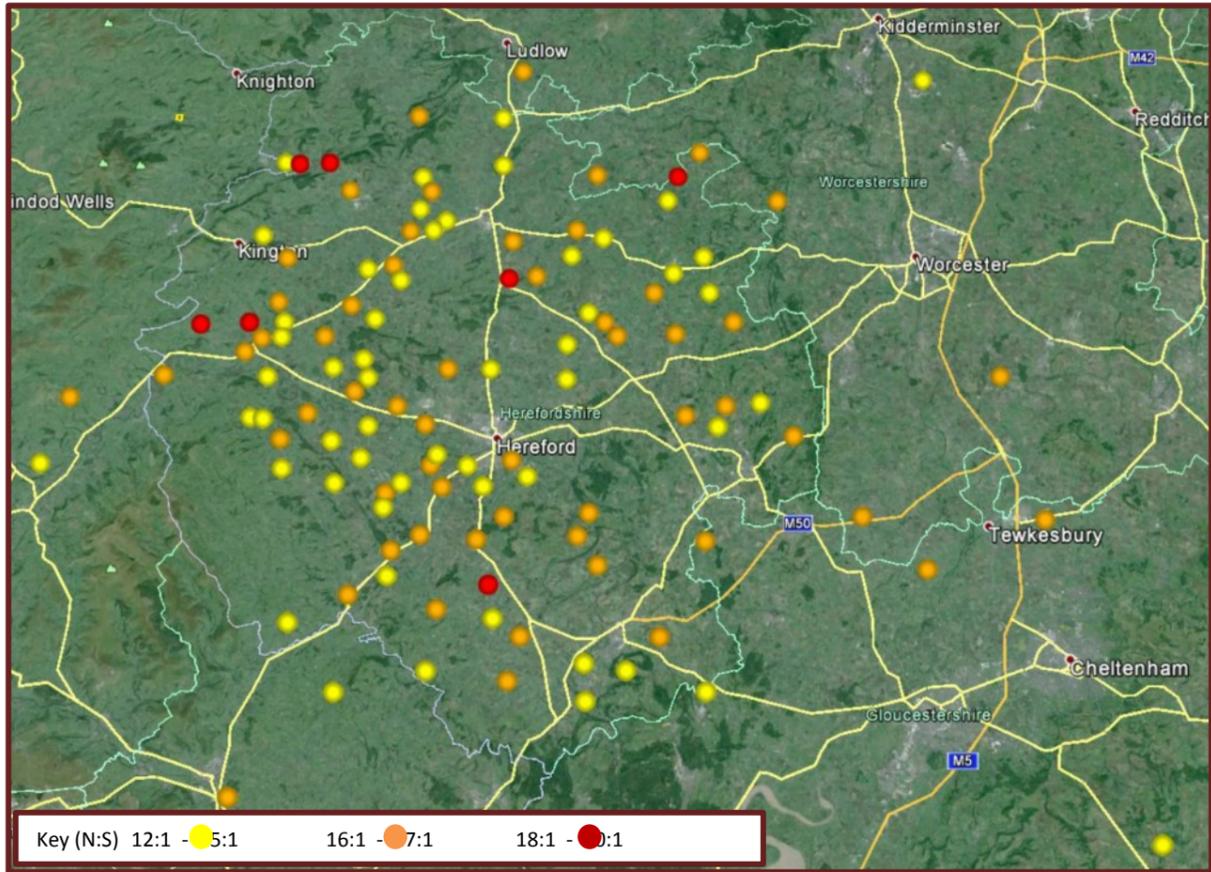
Repeat applications of sulphur will be necessary in order to meet future crop demands and to utilise nitrogen to its full capacity.

The 2015 results show the plant has used sulphur applications more effectively.

Results also show that where organic manures are being used, sulphur levels are generally better.

Your result is highlighted to show as a comparison. Please note that we have rounded up and down to the nearest point from the lab results

# Snapshot of sulphur levels across the county



A total of 168 separate wheat samples were collected from different farms across the whole of Herefordshire and border counties in order to get a snapshot of the sulphur levels in Herefordshire in August/September 2015.

