



Fertilizers can be used to

- Increase palatability of forages
- Increase available nutrients to plants and animals
- Alter plant species composition
- Affect distribution of wild herbivores (ungulates)
- Extend period of green forage growth into autumn
- Induce early green-up in spring



When to fertilize

- Fertilizers have potential on mesic sites and high rainfall areas of the prairies
- Fertilizing native range is practical only where soil moisture is adequate and plant response is 'guaranteed' (more likely).
- Responses are area-, site-, and species-specific



Success with fertilization

- To be successful, fertilizing depends most upon site selection and timing of application
 - Timing depends upon target plant species, amount and distribution of rainfall, and kind of fertilizer
 - Site selection is most affected by slope and soil



Fertilizer application methods

- Aerial application (liquid or pellet)
- fertilizer guns (granular or pellet)
- Spreaders - large capacity (granular or pellet)
- Wide hoppers (granular or pellet)
- Liquid spray applicators (liquid fertilizers)
- Manure spreaders (organic manure or straw mulch)
- Large scale and inaccessible areas
- Steep terrain with vehicle access
- Not suited to steep or inaccessible terrain
- can be used with seed drills
- restricted to level sites with good vehicle access
- restricted to level areas w/ vehicle access