BORON DEFICIENCY IN WHEAT
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Boron deficiency in wheat is not very common, and is thought to be almost non-existent in North America. Wheat is not very sensitive to low levels of boron, and many other crops would exhibit boron deficiencies before wheat would. However, boron deficiency has been documented in parts of India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, and China. Many of the semi-dwarf wheat varieties currently grown are poor accumulators of boron compared to wheat grown before the Green Revolution in the 1960s. Boron deficiency in wheat causes poor seed set, that is, many kernels fail to form and yield is reduced. Boron deficiency is most common on sandy soils low organic matter with pH greater than 8.5. Boron is a contaminant of many fertilizers, and only a few pounds per acre are needed for sufficiency, so boron deficiency seldom occurs. Boron deficiency can be diagnosed with a leaf sample. Boron can be applied as a granule, foliar, or with herbicide. The window between deficiency and toxicity is very narrow with boron, so care must be taken to not over-apply boron fertilizer. If you do decide to try some boron, leave at least one untreated strip to see if the applied boron had any effect.