

**SMALL GRAIN FORAGE PROBLEM CHALLENGE IN
*SOIL AND PLANT DIAGNOSIS PROBLEM SET: FROM TESTING TO DECISIONS***

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ABSTRACT

Small grain crops like wheat, triticale, and barley have flexible growth habits. This feature enables a responsive approach to N fertilizer management that can be easily informed by site-specific, in-season measurements of the plant and soil. Two tools that help determine whether and how much N fertilizer to apply to a given crop are the soil nitrate quick test and N-rich reference zones. The University of California has recently developed information resources and web-tools that facilitate precision N management using these tools. This presentation will demonstrate how to conduct and interpret a soil nitrate quick test and how to utilize a N-rich reference zone to make real-time decisions about N fertilizer management in small grain crops.

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