What is Cropzeal Boron Boost?
Cropzeal Boron Boost is a high-quality compound fertiliser designed to meet the needs of a wide range of crops, particularly forage brassicas.

Cropzeal Boron Boost supplies nitrogen, phosphorus and boron, the three nutrients most important for high-yielding, healthy brassica crops.

Cropzeal Boron Boost has been formulated for use as a standalone starter fertiliser. However, if necessary, it may be blended with Serpentine Super. It should not be blended with Superten or Pasturezeal G2. Care should be taken if mixing with any other fertilisers.

Advantages of Cropzeal Boron Boost

**No segregation:** Cropzeal Boron Boost is a compound fertiliser, which means that every granule contains the same ratio of every nutrient listed in the product specifications. This means there are no segregation issues, so every plant receives a similar spectrum and concentration of nutrients.

**Soluble phosphorus:** The highly soluble phosphorus in Cropzeal Boron Boost helps to promote strong, healthy crop establishment.

**Readily available nitrogen:** The nitrogen in Cropzeal Boron Boost is in the ammonium form. Once in the soil, this can be taken up by plants directly, or converted to nitrate, which is also used by plants. Ammonium is relatively immobile, which helps reduce nitrogen loss by leaching.

**Boosted with boron:** Boron is essential for healthy crop development and is especially important for brassica crops. When boron is incorporated into the granule, more even application of this essential trace element can be achieved, compared to that seen in blends of starter fertiliser and Granular Boron.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cropzeal Boron Boost</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nitrogen</td>
<td>16.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phosphorus</td>
<td>19.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sulphur</td>
<td>1.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boron</td>
<td>0.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Particle size range</td>
<td>2-4 mm (93%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bulk density</td>
<td>1.05 kg/litre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Granular strength</td>
<td>&gt;5 kg (high)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Granular degradation</td>
<td>0.1% (low)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Superior handling: The hard nature and even size of Cropzeal Boron Boost granules means they are easy to apply accurately, whether by machine or by hand.

Using Cropzeal Boron Boost
Cropzeal Boron Boost is intended mainly as a starter fertiliser for brassica crops, e.g. kale, turnips, Pasja, Hunter, etc.

Cropzeal Boron Boost may be broadcast or drilled – if it is to be drilled, it must be placed in a separate box from the seed.

The rate of application will depend on the specific requirements of the crop, which can be determined with the Ballance Brassica Calculator. A typical rate of application would be 250 kg/ha.

In most cases, the recommended application rates for Cropzeal Boron Boost will be sufficient to meet the crop’s boron needs. However, if deficiencies are severe, additional boron can be blended with the product.

Application method
Brassicas do not have extensive root systems, so the nutrients they need to grow must be placed close by, so they are easily accessed.

Drilling and ridging both place the fertiliser close to the seed, which helps to maximise crop yield.

If fertiliser is broadcast, improvements in crop yield can be achieved by incorporating the fertiliser into the soil afterwards (see Figure 1).

Overcoming boron deficiency
In order to grow healthy, high-yielding brassicas, soil boron levels need to be a minimum of 1.1 ppm, as measured by the hot water soluble boron (HWSB) test. It takes 0.25 kg boron/ha to raise HWSB levels by 0.1 ppm.

If the HWSB result was 0.4 ppm, it would require 1.75 kg boron/ha to raise soil boron to the minimum level.

An application of Cropzeal Boron Boost at 250 kg/ha will apply 1.88 kg boron/ha, so would be sufficient to overcome this deficiency.

Alternatively, 12.5 kg Granular Boron could be blended with any starter fertiliser. However, coverage will not be as even using this approach.