Meeting phosphorus needs with struvite

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Struvite is a slow-release phosphorus (P) fertilizer that is derived from municipal wastewater and available commercially as the product Crystal Green. Struvite can be an effective P source for crops and may reduce the risk of seedling injury as well as P loss to the environment through runoff. But its low solubility in water means that struvite behaves differently in soil than common soluble fertilizers such as monoammonium phosphate. Factors such as soil pH, struvite granule size, and crop type can affect struvite solubility and crop response. The slow dissolution of struvite in soil also has implications for multi-year soil fertility planning and soil testing after struvite application. This presentation will highlight what is known about using struvite as a fertilizer as well as key agronomic questions that remain unanswered.