

### **Pest & Disease Damage Control:**

Resistance to disease or pest damage is determined in part by the ability of the host plant to limit penetration, stop the development of the invading pathogen, or limit the feeding of pests. Tolerance is characterized by the ability of the host plant to maintain its own growth despite the infection or pest attack. Improving the nutritional status of the plant can increase resistance. For example, you can reduce the amount of time the plant remains in the most susceptible stage by early, heavy fertilization. Research has shown high levels of available phosphorus at early growth stages, increased root mass and overcame the effect of soil born pathogens. High levels of potassium and Manganese have been shown to help the plant grow through disease and insect infestations without substantial damage. When potassium is deficient in plants, sugar and amino acid levels are high in the leaves and increase the germination of fungal disease spores. By applying potassium, the number of spores that germinate can be limited. There are thousands of documented improvements in plant health through nutrition as it is related to disease and pest damage. For more information, call us or email us at 1-800-633-7685 or [greensol@fritinc.com](mailto:greensol@fritinc.com).