



## *Sunland Analytical*

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### **Soil Copper is Usually Adequate**

The required amount of Copper in plant tissue is the lowest for the common micronutrients and thus, small amounts in the soil provide an adequate supply. However, there are always exceptions (but very, very few). Copper is used in plants as cofactors for various enzymes, thus, limiting amount will effect the metabolism of the plant and typically the plant will show the lighter green in interveinal tissue. It's effecting photosynthesis. Also young leaves may be irregularly shaped. Like iron soil with pH above 7 and well aerated are the best candidates for this condition. Since liming increases the soil pH, excessive lime application may facilitate this condition (which almost never happens). As indicated (several times) this conditions is not common in mineral soils, however, organic soils tend to make the copper unavailable for the plant and, thus, the possible deficiency might occur. Since many of the micronutrient deficiency symptoms are similar, the best way to evaluate plants for suspected deficiency is by plant tissue analysis.

Excessive copper in the soil may result in symptoms similar to Iron deficiency. This occurs because the copper competes with the iron for entry into the root and with too much copper the iron uptake is limited.