## Supplementary Material

# Investigating the foliar uptake of zinc from conventional and nano-formulations: a methodological study.

Read, Thea L.<sup>1</sup>; Doolette, Casey L.<sup>1\*</sup>; Cresswell, Tom<sup>2</sup>; Howell, Nicholas R.<sup>2</sup>; Aughterson, Robert<sup>2</sup>; Karatchevtseva, Inna<sup>2</sup>; Donner, Erica<sup>1</sup>; Kopittke, Peter M.<sup>3</sup>; Schjoerring, Jan K.<sup>4</sup>; Lombi, Enzo<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>University of South Australia, Future Industries Institute, Mawson Lakes, South Australia 5095, Australia

<sup>2</sup>ANSTO, Sydney, Lucas Heights, New South Wales 2234, Australia

<sup>3</sup>The University of Queensland, School of Agriculture and Food Sciences, St. Lucia, Queensland 4072, Australia

<sup>4</sup>Department of Plant and Environmental Sciences, Faculty of Science, University of Copenhagen, DK-1871 Frederiksberg C, Denmark

\*Corresponding author. Email: Casey.Doolette@.unisa.edu.au

### Supplementary table:

Table S1: Mean diameter and relative abundance (in brackets) of the different ZnO products for all experiments where PSD is the particle size distribution.

#### Supplementary figures:

*Figure S1: Autoradiography was performed on the treated leaf and a new leaf of live plants.* 

Figure S2: SEM micrograph of unirradiated ZnO-MPs. These particles were then applied to the YFEL of wheat plants.

*Figure S3: SEM micrograph of unirradiated ZnO-NPs. These particles were then applied to the YFEL of wheat plants.* 

Figure S4: High resolution image of irradiated ZnO-NP showing lattice fringes (indicative of ordered layering of atoms) across the entirety of the grains imaged (indicative of completely crystalline grains).

Figure S5: High resolution image of irradiated ZnO-MP showing lattice fringes (indicative of ordered layering of atoms) across the entirety of the grains imaged (indicative of completely crystalline grains).

Sample I.D.		Intensity PSD		Zeta potential, mV	
	Expt	Original Spiking solution	Irradiated Spiking solution	Original Spiking solution	Irradiated Spiking solution
ZnO-MP*	1, 2	Peak 1: 143 (90%) Peak 2: 505 (10%)			
ZnO-NP*	1, 2	Peak 1: 56 (98%) Peak 2: 161 (2%)			
ZnO-NP	3	$1029\pm93~\text{nm}$	Peak 1: 697 ± 44 (63%) Peak 2: 193 ± 26 (37%)	+ 16.6 ± 1.3	+ 25.0 $\pm$ 0.7
ZnO-MP	3	$\rm 2769 \pm 430 \ nm$	2545 ± 273 nm	$\textbf{+23.8} \pm \textbf{1.9}$	+ 8.9 $\pm$ 0.1

Table S1: Mean diameter and relative abundance (in brackets) of the different ZnO products for all experiments where PSD is the particle size distribution.

\*data are from Li et al. 2018

Li C, Wang P, Lombi E, Cheng M, Tang C, Howard DL, Menzies NW, Kopittke PM (2018). Absorption of foliar-applied Zn fertilizers by trichomes in soybean and tomato. Journal of Experimental Botany **69**, 2717–2729. doi:10.1093/JXB/ERY085



Figure S1: Autoradiography was performed on the treated leaf and a new leaf of live plants.

## SEM for ICP and XFM experiments



Figure S2: SEM micrograph of unirradiated ZnO-MPs. These particles were then applied to the YFEL of wheat plants.



Figure S3: SEM micrograph of unirradiated ZnO-NPs. These particles were then applied to the YFEL of wheat plants.



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