

WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY: THE IMPORTANCE OF TAKING CARE OF A KEY RESOURCE SUCH AS THE SOIL.

Bahía Blanca, June 2, 2021 - World Environment Day is celebrated this June 5 all over the world to raise awareness of the importance of caring for the environment in every productive and social sphere. Agriculture has a fundamental role to play in this, since it is largely responsible for protecting a key resource: the soil.

In order to maintain a healthy soil, which fulfills its strategic function in the care of the environment, it is essential to replenish the nutrients that crops use for their development. "That is why the role of a company like Profertil is especially important. Not only to help producers with our fertilizers so that they have higher productivity every day, but also so that they can return the necessary nutrients to the soil," said Federico Veller, general manager of the company.

It is clear that soil is a strategic resource for food production, but it is also a fundamental factor to ensure environmental sustainability in a world threatened by climate change. For this reason, Profertil, the leading company in the production of granulated urea in Argentina, permanently conducts different actions to disseminate the importance of these issues.

Since 2014, it has been developing the ProSuelos training program, which seeks to raise awareness of the importance of soil analysis as a diagnostic tool to make the best decisions regarding nutrient doses. This year, it is also conducting a program of videoconferences, within the framework of a cycle called "Building Together the Green Agenda Argentina 2030".

The event has already been attended and will continue to be attended by influential figures in the country's agriculture, such as the agronomists Fernando Vilella (former dean of the Faculty of Agronomy of the University of Buenos Aires -FAUBA-) and Federico Bert (former technical coordinator of CREA groups). The two discussed the sustainability of the country's agricultural systems, within the framework of Argentina's commitment to the Paris agreement on the environment.

"With them we analyzed how production systems should evolve to become more sustainable. Today we have to get involved with these issues and talk about the evolution of food demand and the opportunities that appear with the issues of environmental added value", summarized Mirta Toribio, Profertil's Research and Development coordinator.

In other chapters of the cycle participated the soil specialist Guillermo Peralta (who pointed out the importance of making an adequate soil diagnosis and how its health impacts on the environment and productive results) and crop nutrition experts Fernando García and Nicolás Reussi Calco, who focused on nitrogen nutrition of two strategic winter crops for sustainability, such as wheat and barley.

"In the second part of the year we will have more videoconferences to continue training on these topics," said Toribio, who recalled that those already broadcast can be revisited on the company's YouTube channel.

Profertil has been working for years in environmental care and continues to do so. Since 2020, no less than 60% of the energy consumption of the company's factory in Bahía Blanca comes from a wind farm located near the city.

The company also has multiple certifications on these issues, such as the ISO 50001 standard for energy efficiency and others linked to the United Nations that measure the carbon footprint in urea production. In 2019 it obtained the Protection and Sustainability certification from the International Fertilizer Association (IFA), which certifies safety and sustainability in the integrated management of urea throughout its life cycle.

In this sense, Veller closed by saying that "The best way to celebrate World Environment Day is by working, as we do every day, to deepen our commitment to take care of it better and better and helping producers and the entire agricultural chain so that they can also do so, with the best technology to nourish crops and produce food".