

FERTILIZERS: A STRATEGIC RESOURCE FOR GLOBAL FOOD SECURITY AND SUSTAINABILITY OF THE PRODUCTION SYSTEM

Bahía Blanca, October 13th, 2023 – Fertilizers have been essential allies for agriculture since the early 20th century. The application of fertilizers in accordance with best agronomic management practices is essential to preserve and protect soil health, plant nutrition, and increase crop yields

Every October 13th, International Fertilizer Day is celebrated, paying tribute to the Haber-Bosch process invention, a crucial advancement in fertilizer production. Today, it is estimated that these inputs play a critical role in enabling the production of about 50% of the food generated globally by humanity.

In Argentina, fertilizers play a key role in promoting strategic crops for agricultural sustainability, such as corn, maize, and barley. The primary fertilizer used for these cereals is granulated urea, which provides the highest percentage of nitrogen, a key nutrient in the development of above-ground biomass. In Argentina, granulated urea is produced by Profertil at its Bahía Blanca plant. With an impressive annual output of over 1,320,000 tons, the company supplies approximately 50% of the local market through its own production. A significant achievement is that Profertil recently entered into an agreement to source 100% of the plant's electricity from renewable sources.

This day was established by the International Fertilizer Association (IFA). IFA is the entity that brings together major manufacturers worldwide, including Profertil. Moreover, IFA actively promotes rigorous quality standards, such as the Protect&Sustain program. Profertil achieved recertification under this program for the second time in 2022, securing an excellent score. This recognition stands as the pinnacle of achievement for companies like Profertil on a global scale. It guarantees product safety, environmental responsibility, and preparedness for emergency response throughout the product's life cycle.

Fertilizers play a critical role not only in boosting agricultural productivity, thus ensuring greater food availability, but also in replenishing the soil with essential nutrients that plants extract for their growth. In this regard, Profertil emphasizes soil care as a central company policy. We highlight the importance of soil analysis, the use of tools for crop nutrition planning, and the application of the 4Rs (4 rights): choosing the right source, at the right time, in the right amount, and in the right manner.

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According to IFA, the world will need to produce 50% more food by 2050 to ensure sufficient food for the Earth's population, which will surpass 9 billion at that time. Moreover, this must be achieved on a cultivable land area that remains stable over time. Expanding the cultivable land area would involve encroaching upon protected or natural areas, adversely affecting ecosystem biodiversity. That is why fertilizers are essential allies in achieving this global challenge.

Our purpose is clear: we sustainably nurture the soil to produce more and better food," says Marcos Sabelli, General Manager of Profertil, who adds: "This is a concept our entire team lives and acts upon every day, from urea production to supporting distributors and producers in its final application. Consistency throughout the chain is key to achieving this."

About Profertil

Profertil S.A. is the leading national producer of fertilizers needed to optimize crop yields in a sustainable way.

The company has had its production plant in the port of Ingeniero White, in Bahía Blanca, for more than 21 years. There it annually produces 1,320,000 tons of Granulated Urea, a key nitrogen fertilizer for the nutrition of the main crops in our country and the world.

Profertil currently has 362 direct employees, more than 1,500 indirect contracts and more than 850 active suppliers. All of them are distributed in its administrative offices located in Bahía Blanca and Buenos Aires; logistics terminals in Necochea, San Nicolás and Puerto General San Martín (Santa Fe), in addition to its main production plant in Ingeniero White, Bahía Blanca.

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