Fertilizer major crop nutrients are nitrogen, phosphorus and potash – all naturally occurring elements in the environment – which are “fed” to plants and crops for healthy and abundant food production. Crops need nutrients to grow and be productive – just like humans.

Fertilizers are resource-based products. Nitrogen fertilizer is produced by capturing nitrogen from the air using a complex chemical reaction. Nitrogen is currently produced in over 78 countries worldwide. The primary raw material for nitrogen production is natural gas, but nitrogen can also be produced from coal, fuel oil and naphtha.

The production of phosphate and potash fertilizers begins at the mine. The manufacture of phosphate rock and sulfur. Phosphate rock reserves have been identified in 32 countries world wide, but the economic extraction of the rock is limited to fewer countries, as the top three producing countries account for 68 percent of total world production while the top 12 account for 94 percent.

Potash ore reserves have been identified in 21 countries world wide. Currently, the economic extraction of potash is limited to only 12 countries. Consequently, most countries have to rely on imports to meet demand. Potash is imported by 99 countries world wide as over 80 percent of world potash production is exported.

The United States is the largest importer of fertilizer in the world, with more than half our nitrogen and over 85 percent of our potash coming from international sources.
Operational U.S. Phosphatic Fertilizer Production Sites

11 Production Companies in 14 States

**Florida**
- CF Industries - Plant City
- CF Industries - South Pasture Mine
- PCS Phosphate Company, Inc. - White Springs
- The Mosaic Company - Bartow
- The Mosaic Company - Four Corners
- The Mosaic Company - Hooker's Prairie
- The Mosaic Company - Hopewell
- The Mosaic Company - New Wales
- The Mosaic Company - South Fort Meade
- The Mosaic Company - Tampa
- The Mosaic Company - Wingate Creek

**Georgia**
- Agrium U.S. Inc. - Americus
- Monsanto Company - Augusta

**Idaho**
- Agrium U.S. Inc. - Conda
- Agrium U.S. Inc. - Dry Valley
- Simplot - Caribou County

**Mississippi**
- Mississippi Phosphates - Pascagoula

**North Carolina**
- PCS Phosphate Company, Inc. - Aurora

**New York**
- FMC Corporation - Carteret

**Tennessee**
- Bain Capital - Nashville

**Texas**
- Agrifos Fertilizer Inc. - Pasadena

**Utah**
- Simplot - Vernal

**Wyoming**
- Simplot - Rock Springs
The Fertilizer Institute
Nourish, Replenish, Grow

1. Fertilizers are drawn from nature – they are not man-made.

2. Farmers are not adding fertilizers to the ground. They are replacing nutrients that are lost at each harvest.

3. The world has no choice but to use fertilizers. Without them, more than two billion people would starve.

4. By helping to conserve land, fertilizers safeguard recreational land and wildlife habitats.

5. Farmers care about the environment as much as anyone.