

Consumption of Fertilizers

The consumption of chemical fertilizers (in terms of nutrients) during 2008-09 has been 249.09 LMT, which is higher by 10.36 % over 2007-08 consumption. The consumption of major fertilizers and NPK nutrients since 2000-2001 is indicated as under:-

Consumption of Fertilizers (in lakh tonnes)

Year	Urea	DAP	MOP	Complex	N	P	K	Total
2000-01	191.86	58.84	18.29	47.80	109.20	42.15	15.67	167.02
2001-02	199.17	61.81	19.93	49.63	113.10	43.82	16.67	173.60
2002-03	184.93	54.73	19.12	48.10	104.74	40.19	16.01	160.94
2003-04	197.67	56.24	18.41	47.57	110.77	41.24	15.98	167.99
2004-05	206.65	62.56	24.06	56.80	117.13	46.24	20.61	183.98
2005-06	222.97	67.64	27.31	66.94	127.23	52.04	24.13	203.40
2006-07	243.38	73.81	25.86	67.99	137.73	55.43	23.35	216.51
2007-08	259.63	74.97	28.81	65.71	144.19	55.15	26.36	225.70
2008-09	266.49	92.31	40.77	68.05	150.90	65.06	33.13	249.09

To ensure adequate availability of fertilizer to farmers, the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation makes a demand assessment well in advance through half yearly input zonal conferences in consultation with the State Governments and the Fertilizer Industry. Thereafter, the Essential Commodities Act (ECA) Supply Plan and Movement Orders are issued under the Fertilizers Movement Control Order for indigenous and imported Urea by the Department of Fertilizers to ensure its timely availability.

The All India average consumption of fertilizers has also registered an increase in 2008-09 over 2007-08 from 116.5 kg./hactare to 128.6 kg./hactare. A great deal of variability has, however, been observed in fertilizer consumption among the States. Whereas, the per ha. consumption is 239.7 kg. in Andhra Pradesh, 221.4 kg. in Punjab, 216.5 kg. in Tamil Nadu, 201.6 kg. in Haryana, the consumption is comparatively low in Rajasthan (48.9kg/ha.), Jharkhand (55.7kg./ha), Himachal Pradesh (60.6kg./ha), Orissa (61.6kg./ha), etc.The consumption is below 5 kg./ha. in some of the North Eastern States.

Fertilizer Prices: - Urea is the only fertilizer under statutory price control, though indicative Maximum Retail Price (MRP) is being fixed by the

Government for Phosphatic and Potassic fertilizers also under the concession scheme to ensure its availability at reasonable prices to farmers. The prices of fertilizers at present are as under:-

S.No.	Product	Rs. per MT
a.	Urea	4830
b.	Di-Ammonium Phosphate (DAP)	9350
c.	Muriate of Potash (MOP)	4455
d.	Mono Ammonium Phosphate (MAP)	9350
e.	Single Super Phosphate (SSP)	Prices fixed by State Govts.
f.	Complex Fertilizers	5121 - 8185

Buffer Stocking of Fertilizers:- A buffer stock of limited quantity of Di-Ammonium Phosphate (DAP) and Muriate of Potash (MOP) is being maintained at strategic locations to meet emergent requirements. These stocks are in the nature of rolling stocks and are replenished when depleted. Besides meeting emergent needs, the Buffer Stock also helps to meet requirements of States which have low demand and hence sometimes find it difficult to induce supplier to move fertilizers in small quantities.