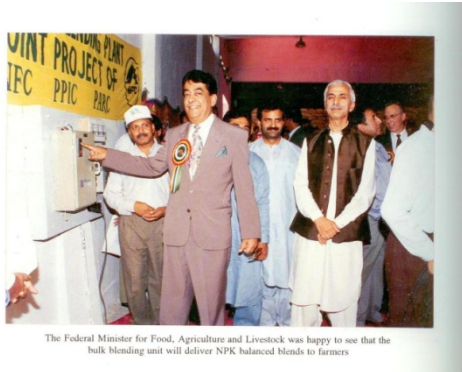


Promotion Potash Use in Pakistan through Fertilizer Bulk Blending Technology

PICTURES OF THE INAUGURATION CEREMONY OF FERTILIZER BULK BLENDING PLANT AT KISSAN



Bulk Blending Plant



The Federal Minister for Food, Agriculture and Livestock was happy to see that the bulk blending unit will deliver NPK balanced blends to farmers

CHALLENGE:

Pakistan is at an advanced stage in fertilizer use but its use is imbalanced and skewed towards nitrogen as its use is about 78% followed by phosphate 21%; and potash is negligible i.e. 1% only. Potash, the third major plant nutrient is at an introductory stage in Pakistan and sulphate of potash (SOP) has traditionally been used in Pakistan at subsidized rates. However, after the phasing of subsidy on fertilizers, SOP became very expensive and K use for agricultural crops went down drastically. The need arose for exploring the cheaper K sources like Muriate of Potash (MOP), a main potassium fertilizer for crop production worldwide.

INTERVENTION:

Nation-wide research was conducted under the ambit of PPIC/PPARC and Potash PSDP projects to evaluate the potash use on crops in the country. The results of the research necessitated that there is dire need to promote potash use in the country for increasing crop productivity and breaking the yield stagnation and hence, Introduced fertilizers bulk blending in the country.

OUTCOME:

Then fertilizer companies adapted the technology and producing NPK blends. Significant increase in a number of crops has been observed by the use of balanced use of fertilizers including potash. The crops studied include, sugarcane, wheat, cotton, maize, rice, canola, groundnut, potato, onion, garlic and tomato and the increase in yield ranged from 10 to 30%, depending upon the nature of crop and soil.