Fertilising

Potatoes

with Fertilizerplus products
Guidelines for balancing your nutrient strategy with FertilizerpluS

FertilizerpluS is a range of high quality granular fertilisers produced by ICL. All products are Polysulphate® based.

For good uptake of nitrogen from the soil your potato crop needs adequate potassium and sulphur. However, most soils within the UK and the rest of Europe are now deficient in sulphur because of the Clean Air Act and subsequent reduction in depositions from atmospheric pollution.

ICL Fertilizers has done extensive research into the best way to grow potato crops. In our trials, we have found that an application of sulphur can improve the uptake of nitrogen, while additional magnesium and calcium increases root development. In our trials we have seen improvements in the reduction of sugars and reduced formation of acrylamide in cooked potato.

Potato crops treated with sulphur from one of the ICL FertilizerpluS collection of high quality products, which contain Polysulphate®, have shown yield and quality improvements at harvest.

FertilizerpluS recommendations

**Potato crops**
- Polysulphate applied at 200 kg/ha before ridging (building the beds).*
- ICL PotashpluS can be used as a replacement for MOP with the added benefit of extra magnesium, calcium & sulphur.

* Remember to consider the extra potassium from Polysulphate in your fertiliser calculations
Estimated nutrient offtakes (removal) by potatoes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nutrient</th>
<th>Offtakess kg/t</th>
<th>Offtakess kg/ha</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Potato tubers</td>
<td>50 t/ha potato tubers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K₂O</td>
<td>5.8</td>
<td>290</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MgO</td>
<td>0.4</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CaO</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sources: UK Fertiliser Manual, PDA and UNIFA

FertilizerpluS product analysis

- Polysulphate (14% K₂O, 6% MgO, 17% CaO, 48% SO₃)
- PotashpluS (37% K₂O, 23% SO₃, 2.8% MgO, 8% CaO)

Expected benefitsof balanced crop nutrition with FertilizerpluS products

- Increased nitrogen use efficiency (NUE)
- Better yield
- Good skin finish
- Improved dry matter
**Potassium** - secures yield and quality, transport of sugars and stomatal control. It reduces susceptibility to diseases and impact of drought and is essential for good nitrogen use efficiency.

**Magnesium** - fundamental for photosynthesis as it is integral to chlorophyll. It is also important in the development of healthy root systems.

**Sulphur** - an essential constituent of proteins and oil production. Essential for nitrogen use efficiency.

**Calcium** - for strong and healthy crops. It is a major building block in cell walls and reduces susceptibility to diseases. Along with phosphate, calcium is very important in the development of the root system.

Mined in the UK, ICL is the first – and only – producer in the world to mine polyhalite, marketed as Polysulphate.

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[www.polysulphate.com](http://www.polysulphate.com)

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