

# SAFETY DATA SHEET

Product Name: FertiMax Potassium Nitrate Greenhouse Grade

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This revision issued: March, 2015



## Section 1 - Identification of The Material and Supplier

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Chemical nature: Inorganic salt.  
Trade Name: **FertiMax Potassium Nitrate Greenhouse Grade**  
Product Use: Fertiliser additive.  
Creation Date: **January, 2010**  
This version issued: **March, 2015** and is valid for 5 years from this date.

## Section 2 - Hazards Identification

### Statement of Hazardous Nature

This product is classified as: Not classified as hazardous according to the criteria of SWA Australia.  
Dangerous according to Australian Dangerous Goods (ADG) Code, IATA and IMDG/IMSBC criteria.

**Risk Phrases:** R8. Contact with combustible material may cause fire.

**Safety Phrases:** S14, S41. Keep away from metals in powder form, flammable and combustible substances. In case of fire and/or explosion, do not breathe fumes.

**SUSMP Classification:** None allocated.

**ADG Classification:** Class 5.1: Oxidising substances.

**UN Number:** 1486, POTASSIUM NITRATE



### GHS Signal word: DANGER.

#### HAZARD STATEMENT:

H272: May intensify fire; oxidizer.

#### PREVENTION

P102: Keep out of reach of children.

P220: Keep or store away from combustible materials.

P221: Take any precaution to avoid mixing with combustible or flammable materials.

P262: Do not get in eyes, on skin, or on clothing.

P280: Wear protective gloves, protective clothing and eye or face protection.

#### RESPONSE

P353: Rinse skin or shower with water.

P301+P330+P331: IF SWALLOWED: Rinse mouth. Do NOT induce vomiting.

P332+P313: If skin irritation occurs: Get medical advice.

P337+P313: If eye irritation persists: Get medical advice.

P370+P378: In case of fire, note the following. Coarse water spray is the preferred medium for large fires. Try to contain spills, minimise spillage entering drains or water courses.

#### STORAGE

P402+P404: Store in a dry place. Store in a closed container.

#### DISPOSAL

P501: If product can not be recycled, consider controlled incineration, or contact a specialist waste disposal company (see Section 13 of this SDS).

## Emergency Overview

**Physical Description & Colour:** Fine white prill or crystals.

**Odour:** No odour.

**Major Health Hazards:** no significant risk factors have been found for this product.

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Phone: 03 9209 2815

Poisons Information Centre: 13 1126 from anywhere in Australia, (0800 764 766 in New Zealand)

## Potential Health Effects

### Inhalation

**Short Term Exposure:** Long term inhalation of high amounts of any nuisance dust may overload lung clearance mechanism. Available data indicates that this product is not harmful. In addition product is unlikely to cause any discomfort or irritation.

**Long Term Exposure:** No data for health effects associated with long term inhalation.

### Skin Contact:

**Short Term Exposure:** Available data indicates that this product is not harmful. It should present no hazards in normal use. In addition product is unlikely to cause any discomfort in normal use.

**Long Term Exposure:** No data for health effects associated with long term skin exposure.

### Eye Contact:

**Short Term Exposure:** This product is believed to be not irritating to eyes.

**Long Term Exposure:** No data for health effects associated with long term eye exposure.

### Ingestion:

**Short Term Exposure:** Significant oral exposure is considered to be unlikely. This product is unlikely to cause any irritation problems in the short or long term.

**Long Term Exposure:** No data for health effects associated with long term ingestion.

### Carcinogen Status:

**SWA:** No significant ingredient is classified as carcinogenic by SWA.

**NTP:** No significant ingredient is classified as carcinogenic by NTP.

**IARC:** No significant ingredient is classified as carcinogenic by IARC.

## Section 3 - Composition/Information on Ingredients

Ingredients	CAS No	Conc, %	TWA (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	STEL (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )
Potassium nitrate	7757-79-1	pure *	not set	not set

\* Commercially pure. May include small quantities of materials due to manufacturing or reaction processes.

This is a commercial product whose exact ratio of components may vary slightly. Minor quantities of other non hazardous ingredients are also possible.

The TWA exposure value is the average airborne concentration of a particular substance when calculated over a normal 8 hour working day for a 5 day working week. The STEL (Short Term Exposure Limit) is an exposure value that may be equalled (but should not be exceeded) for no longer than 15 minutes and should not be repeated more than 4 times per day. There should be at least 60 minutes between successive exposures at the STEL. The term "peak" is used when the TWA limit, because of the rapid action of the substance, should never be exceeded, even briefly.

## Section 4 - First Aid Measures

### General Information:

You should call The Poisons Information Centre if you feel that you may have been poisoned, burned or irritated by this product. The number is 13 1126 from anywhere in Australia (0800 764 766 in New Zealand) and is available at all times. Have this SDS with you when you call.

**Inhalation:** First aid is not generally required. If in doubt, contact a Poisons Information Centre or a doctor.

**Skin Contact:** Irritation is unlikely. However, if irritation does occur, flush with lukewarm, gently flowing water for 5 minutes or until chemical is removed.

**Eye Contact:** No effects expected. If irritation does occur, flush contaminated eye(s) with lukewarm, gently flowing water for 5 minutes or until the product is removed. Obtain medical advice if irritation becomes painful or lasts more than a few minutes. Take special care if exposed person is wearing contact lenses.

**Ingestion:** If product is swallowed or gets in mouth, do NOT induce vomiting; wash mouth with water and give some water to drink. If symptoms develop, or if in doubt contact a Poisons Information Centre or a doctor.

## Section 5 - Fire Fighting Measures

**Fire and Explosion Hazards:** There is no risk of an explosion from this product under normal circumstances if it is involved in a fire. The presence of this product in a fire is likely to intensify the fire due to its oxidising properties. Violent steam generation or eruption may occur upon application of direct water stream on hot liquids.

Fire decomposition products from this product may be toxic if inhaled. Take appropriate protective measures.

**Extinguishing Media:** Coarse water spray is the preferred medium for large fires. Try to contain spills, minimise spillage entering drains or water courses.

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**Fire Fighting:** If a significant quantity of this product is involved in a fire, call the fire brigade. There is little danger of a violent reaction or explosion if significant quantities of this product are involved in a fire. Recommended personal protective equipment is full fire kit and breathing apparatus.

**Flash point:** Not flammable.

**Upper Flammability Limit:** No data.

**Lower Flammability Limit:** No data.

**Autoignition temperature:** No data.

**Flammability Class:** No data.

## Section 6 - Accidental Release Measures

**Accidental release:** In the event of a major spill, prevent spillage from entering drains or water courses. Evacuate the spill area and deny entry to unnecessary and unprotected personnel. Immediately call the Fire Brigade. As a minimum, wear overalls, goggles and gloves. Suitable materials for protective clothing include rubber, PVC. Eye/face protective equipment should comprise as a minimum, protective goggles. If there is a significant chance that dusts are likely to build up in cleanup area, we recommend that you use a suitable Dust Mask. Use a P1 mask, designed for use against mechanically generated particles eg silica & asbestos.

Stop leak if safe to do so, and contain spill. Under no circumstances should sawdust or other combustible material be used. Sweep up and shovel or collect recoverable product into labelled containers for recycling or salvage, and dispose of promptly. Consider vacuuming if appropriate. Recycle containers wherever possible after careful cleaning. After spills, wash area preventing runoff from entering drains. If a significant quantity of material enters drains, advise emergency services. Contaminated area may be neutralised by washing with weak or dilute reducing agent. This material may be suitable for approved landfill. Ensure legality of disposal by consulting regulations prior to disposal. Thoroughly launder protective clothing before storage or re-use. Advise laundry of nature of contamination when sending contaminated clothing to laundry.

## Section 7 - Handling and Storage

**Handling:** Keep exposure to this product to a minimum, and minimise the quantities kept in work areas. Check Section 8 of this SDS for details of personal protective measures, and make sure that those measures are followed. The measures detailed below under "Storage" should be followed during handling in order to minimise risks to persons using the product in the workplace. Also, avoid contact or contamination of product with incompatible materials listed in Section 10.

**Storage:** Store in a dry, well ventilated area. Check containers periodically for corrosion and leaks. Containers should be kept closed in order to minimise contamination, especially from combustible or reducing materials. Make sure that the product does not come into contact with or substances listed under "Incompatibilities" in Section 10. Check packaging - there may be further storage instructions on the label.

## Section 8 - Exposure Controls and Personal Protection

The following Australian Standards will provide general advice regarding safety clothing and equipment:

Respiratory equipment: **AS/NZS 1715**, Protective Gloves: **AS 2161**, Occupational Protective Clothing: AS/NZS 4501 set 2008, Industrial Eye Protection: **AS1336** and **AS/NZS 1337**, Occupational Protective Footwear: **AS/NZS2210**.

<b>SWA Exposure Limits</b>	<b>TWA (mg/m<sup>3</sup>)</b>	<b>STEL (mg/m<sup>3</sup>)</b>
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Exposure limits have not been established by SWA for this product.

No special equipment is usually needed when occasionally handling small quantities. The following instructions are for bulk handling or where regular exposure in an occupational setting occurs without proper containment systems.

**Ventilation:** No special ventilation requirements are normally necessary for this product. However make sure that the work environment remains clean and that dusts are minimised.

**Eye Protection:** Eye protection such as protective glasses or goggles is recommended when this product is being used.

**Skin Protection:** The information at hand indicates that this product is not harmful and that normally no special skin protection is necessary. However, we suggest that you routinely avoid contact with all chemical products and that you wear suitable gloves (preferably elbow-length) when skin contact is likely.

**Protective Material Types:** We suggest that protective clothing be made from the following materials: rubber, PVC.

**Respirator:** If there is a significant chance that dusts are likely to build up in the area where this product is being used, we recommend that you use a suitable Dust Mask. Use a P1 mask, designed for use against mechanically generated particles eg silica & asbestos.

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## Section 9 - Physical and Chemical Properties:

<b>Physical Description &amp; colour:</b>	Fine white prills or crystals.
<b>Odour:</b>	No odour.
<b>Boiling Point:</b>	400°C at 100kPa
<b>Freezing/Melting Point:</b>	337°C
<b>Volatiles:</b>	No specific data. Expected to be low at 100°C.
<b>Vapour Pressure:</b>	Negligible at normal ambient temperatures.
<b>Vapour Density:</b>	No data.
<b>Specific Gravity:</b>	2.11 at 20°C
<b>Water Solubility:</b>	Very soluble (320g/L at 20°C)
<b>pH:</b>	5.5-8.0 (at 50 g/L, 20°C)
<b>Volatility:</b>	No data.
<b>Odour Threshold:</b>	No data.
<b>Evaporation Rate:</b>	No data.
<b>Coeff Oil/water Distribution:</b>	No data.
<b>Decomposition temp:</b>	>400°C
<b>Autoignition temp:</b>	No data.

## Section 10 - Stability and Reactivity

**Reactivity:** This product is unlikely to react or decompose under normal storage conditions. However, if you have any doubts, contact the supplier for advice on shelf life properties.

**Conditions to Avoid:** This product should be kept in a cool place, preferably below 30°C. Keep containers tightly closed. Containers should be kept dry. Keep containers and surrounding areas well ventilated. Keep isolated from combustible materials.

**Incompatibilities:** reducing agents, zinc, tin, aluminium and their alloys, combustible materials.

**Fire Decomposition:** Nitrogen and its compounds, and under some circumstances, oxides of nitrogen. Occasionally hydrogen cyanide gas in reducing atmospheres. Potassium compounds.

**Polymerisation:** This product will not undergo polymerisation reactions.

## Section 11 - Toxicological Information

### Local Effects:

**Target Organs:** skin, eyes

Partial reduction to nitrite may cause methaemoglobin formation in the blood. Ingestion causes nausea, diarrhoea, vomiting and will have an irritating effect in the mouth, throat and stomach. Ingestion of large quantities may cause methaemoglobin anaemia with headaches, drop in blood pressure, breathing difficulties, cramps, heartbeat irregularities and cyanosis (blue colouration of the blood).

## Classification of Hazardous Ingredients

### Ingredient

### Risk Phrases

No ingredient mentioned in the HSIS database is present in this product at hazardous concentrations.

## Section 12 - Ecological Information

This product is unlikely to adversely effect the environment. Salts, acids and bases are typically diluted and neutralised when released to the environment in small quantities.

Do not allow to reach water courses, waste water streams or soil. Nitrates are used in fertilisers. They are essential for the growth of plants. They do not consume oxygen in water courses and water treatment plants. Nitrate contamination occurs when there is more nitrate in the soil than plants can use. Excess of nitrates in lakes and rivers may lead to eutrophication.

Toxicity to daphnia:

LC<sub>50</sub> 490 mg/L/24 h (*Daphnia magna*) LC<sub>50</sub> 226 mg/L/72 h (*Daphnia magna*)

LC<sub>50</sub> 39 mg/L/96 h (*Daphnia magna*)

Toxicity to fish: EC<sub>0</sub> 200 mg/L LC<sub>50</sub> >500 mg NO<sub>3</sub>/L

## Section 13 - Disposal Considerations

**Disposal:** This product may be recycled, reworked or worked off if unused, or if it has not been contaminated so as to make it unsuitable for its original intended use. If it has been contaminated, it may be possible to separate the

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contamination in some way. Only if neither of these options is suitable, we suggest that you contact a specialist disposal company to arrange disposal.

## Section 14 - Transport Information

**Dangerous according to Australian Dangerous Goods (ADG) Code, IATA and IMDG/MSBC criteria.**

**UN Number:** 1486, POTASSIUM NITRATE

**Hazchem Code:** 1Z

**Special Provisions:** None allocated

**Limited quantities:** ADG 7 specifies a Limited Quantity value of 5 kg for this class of product.

**Dangerous Goods Class:** Class 5.1, Oxidising Agents.

**Packaging Group:** III

**Packaging Method:** P002, IBC08, LP02

Class 5.1 Oxidising Agents shall not be loaded in the same vehicle or packed in the same freight container with Classes 1 (Explosives), 2.1 (Flammable Gases), 2.3 (Toxic Gases), 3 (Flammable Liquids), 4.1 (Flammable Solids), 4.2 (Spontaneously Combustible Substances), 4.3 (Dangerous When Wet Substances), 5.2 (Organic Peroxides), 6 (Toxic Substances, where the Toxic Substance is a fire risk substance), 7 (Radioactive Substances), 8 (Corrosive Substances), 9 (Miscellaneous Dangerous Goods, where the substance is a fire risk substance), Fire risk substances other than Dangerous Goods. They may however be loaded in the same vehicle or packed in the same freight container with Classes 2.2 (Non-Flammable, Non-Toxic Gases), 6 (Toxic Substances except where the substances are fire risk substances), 9 (Miscellaneous Dangerous Goods except where the goods are fire risk substances) Foodstuffs and foodstuff empties.

## Section 15 - Regulatory Information

**AICS:** This product is compliant with NICNAS regulations.

## Section 16 - Other Information

**This SDS contains only safety-related information. For other data see product literature.**

### Acronyms:

<b>ADG Code</b>	Australian Code for the Transport of Dangerous Goods by Road and Rail (7 <sup>th</sup> edition)
<b>AICS</b>	Australian Inventory of Chemical Substances
<b>SWA</b>	Safe Work Australia, formerly ASCC and NOHSC
<b>CAS number</b>	Chemical Abstracts Service Registry Number
<b>Hazchem Code</b>	Emergency action code of numbers and letters that provide information to emergency services especially firefighters
<b>IARC</b>	International Agency for Research on Cancer
<b>NOS</b>	Not otherwise specified
<b>NTP</b>	National Toxicology Program (USA)
<b>R-Phrase</b>	Risk Phrase
<b>SUSMP</b>	Standard for the Uniform Scheduling of Medicines & Poisons
<b>UN Number</b>	United Nations Number

THIS SDS SUMMARISES OUR BEST KNOWLEDGE OF THE HEALTH AND SAFETY HAZARD INFORMATION OF THE PRODUCT AND HOW TO SAFELY HANDLE AND USE THE PRODUCT IN THE WORKPLACE. EACH USER MUST REVIEW THIS SDS IN THE CONTEXT OF HOW THE PRODUCT WILL BE HANDLED AND USED IN THE WORKPLACE.

IF CLARIFICATION OR FURTHER INFORMATION IS NEEDED TO ENSURE THAT AN APPROPRIATE RISK ASSESSMENT CAN BE MADE, THE USER SHOULD CONTACT THIS COMPANY SO WE CAN ATTEMPT TO OBTAIN ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FROM OUR SUPPLIERS. OUR RESPONSIBILITY FOR PRODUCTS SOLD IS SUBJECT TO OUR STANDARD TERMS AND CONDITIONS, A COPY OF WHICH IS SENT TO OUR CUSTOMERS AND IS ALSO AVAILABLE ON REQUEST.

Please read all labels carefully before using product.

This SDS is prepared in accord with the SWA document "Preparation of Safety Data Sheets for Hazardous Chemicals - Code of Practice" (December 2011)  
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