



GROWING SMARTER

News & Information To Help You Grow

Herbicide Impregnated Fertilizer: Two Birds, One Stone

Cut Labor Costs With Impregnated Fertilizers For Alfalfa & Turf



While we have built a reputation of delivering high-quality fertilizer and crop protection products, our company continues to look for new, innovative ways to make customers' lives easier—like enabling them to perform two jobs at once. Taking that extra step to help growers and turf managers alike, Fertizona and Compton Ag Services impregnate a variety of herbicides onto fertilizers.

“Offering our customers impregnated fertilizers allows us to provide them with a customized solution for their specific needs,” says Craig Allen, Fertizona-Fennemore Man-

ager. “They can choose virtually any granular fertilizer or Smart-Blend™, and we can impregnate it with their choice of herbicide as long as the label permits it.”

Two Jobs, One Application

With a herbicide impregnated fertilizer, what used to be a dual process of applying fertilizer and herbicide separately is now a one-time application.

“Now you can apply fertilizer and herbicide in one application as opposed to going through two separate processes,” says Allen.

Impregnated Fertilizers For Alfalfa

Alfalfa growers have seen success impregnating 11-52-0 and 16-20-0 fertilizer (200 lbs. per acre) with these herbicides.

- **TriAP™ 4HF**
 - Offers 6-8 weeks of weed control
 - Effective on most annual grasses
 - Apply in early spring
 - Offers 6-8 weeks of weed control
 - Rate: ½ gal. per acre
- **Sencor®**
 - Provides broad-spectrum control throughout the season
 - Reduces weed competition for clean start in the spring
 - Rate: ⅓ to ½ lbs. per acre
- **Eptam® 7-E**
 - Weed control begins immediately
 - Excellent crop safety and tank-mix flexibility
 - Rate: ⅓ gal. per acre

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Giving You The Best Liquid Calcium Nitrate Possible.

At Fertizona and Compton Ag Services, we believe that the more value we can offer our customers, the better—and one of the ways we provide more value to you is through local manufacturing. A good example of this is our Liquid Calcium Nitrate formulation, which is manufactured in Willcox, Arizona.

We are the only manufacturer that makes agricultural-grade Liquid Calcium Nitrate in Arizona. This ensures that our growers receive a high-quality formulation of this nutrient that is also cost-effective because we're not hauling a lot of water around.

In addition to being cost-effective, our Liquid Calcium Nitrate is also ammonia-free. That means there is a significantly lower chance of burning plants, especially in greenhouses.

Our advanced manufacturing process and commitment to offering you the most value possible makes sure you get the highest quality products at the lowest prices. Talk to your local field rep about our locally manufactured Liquid Calcium Nitrate and see how it can work for you.



Jim Compton Jr., President, Fertizona and Compton Ag Services.

Jim Compton

Turf Tip

Granular/Sprayable Herbicides For Turf And Surrounding Areas

Turf managers would benefit from these herbicides.

- **Anderson's Barricade®**
 - Great control in both summer and winter grasses
 - Incorporation timing is not a factor.
Rate: About 200 lbs. per acre
- **XL 2G®**
 - Used only on non-turf areas
 - Incorporation timing is not a factor
 - Year-round control of grasses and broadleaf weeds
Rate: 150 lbs. per acre (6-month control)
- **Pendulum® 2G**
 - Same weed control spectrum as Barricade
 - 3-month control
Rate: 150 lbs. per acre
- **Prodiamine 65WDG**
 - Great control in both summer and winter grasses
 - Must be incorporated by water ASAP
Rate: 1-½ lbs. per acre
- **15-3-5 Weed and Feed With Viper™**
 - Controls 250 types of broadleaf weeds
Rate: 10,000 sq. ft. per 40 lb. bag



Silverleaf Golf Course, Scottsdale, Arizona.

Herbicide Impregnated Fertilizers Get More Done

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Silverleaf Golf Course, Scottsdale, Arizona

“This certainly amounts to labor savings, especially since labor is a major issue in our industry.”

There are other benefits. In the case of alfalfa, Fertizona-Buckeye Manager Tim Walsh says impregnated fertilizers eliminate stunting



because the herbicide doesn't come in contact with the leaves.

In addition, impregnated fertilizers widen the window of getting incorporated into the soil.

Quality Options

Products that Allen strongly recommends for turf are Barricade and Prodiamine, which are both pre-emergence herbicides that can be impregnated onto fertilizer.

Allen recommends applying Barricade and Prodiamine six weeks before overseeding in the summer or six weeks after overseeding in the winter. Each application of one pound of active ingredient per acre lasts about six months under normal conditions.

“We tested Barricade impregnated fertilizer during the summer,” says Allen. “We haven't experienced any negative results. It offers good control.”

Countless Choices

Both Fertizona and Compton Ag Services offer a full spectrum of herbicides and fertilizers for impregnation. Allen recommends Pendulum® for fertilizer impregnation on turf applications and surrounding non-turf areas.

Herbicide Impregnated Fertilizer For Turf

- Anderson's Barricade® & Prodiamine 65WDG
Rate: 1-1.6 lbs. of a.i. per acre
- Pendulum® 3.3
Rate: 3.6-4.8 pints per acre

Contact your field rep to decide which herbicide and fertilizer combination would work best for your specific needs. Once an order is made, the process takes 2 to 3 days.

OPERATIONS OVERVIEW

Miedema Produce Grows Quality Radishes With The Help Of Fertizona



Dave Williams (left), Farm Manager, and Rich Dragt, General Manager, grow radishes and other vegetables at Miedema Produce.

One of the keys to a long-standing, successful growing operation is the ability to produce the freshest crops. A strong partnership with Fertizona can help growers reach this goal. Located in Waddell, Arizona, Miedema Produce grows, packs and ships radishes and other vegetables—and is a long-time Fertizona customer.

Operating since 1970, the Miedema Produce is headquartered in Hudsonville, Michigan. The Waddell location has been in business for 12 years and has worked with Fertizona since that time.



“One thing that distinguishes us from the rest is that we are one of the only companies that grows and packs radishes and parsnips all year round,” says Rich Dragt, General Manager at Miedema Produce at the Waddell location. “We supply to the major chain stores, wholesalers, processors and food service facilities all over the United States.”

Fresh Crops

To ensure all vegetables from Miedema Produce are grown to perfection, they count on Fertizona to provide them with a wide array of fertilizers and crop protection products.

“We are always working to improve the quality of our produce, and working with Fertizona has helped us continue to strive for excellence,” says Dragt. “We’ve used their products for many years and achieved very good results with them.”

Some of the products they use on their radishes and vegetables include basic fertilizers, micronutrients, insecticides and high-calcium based products.

“We worked with our field rep, Jim Osborn, to develop an **extensive foliar program** for our crops,” says David Williams, Farm Manager at Miedema Produce at the Waddell location. “We’ve been using this program for five years and it’s proven very successful for our farm. Fertizona has done a great job and we are very pleased to be working with them.”

Williams says that Miedema also uses 10-34-0, Ferti-Gro 20-20-20 and a few custom SmartBlends, which Williams says have worked wonders for their radishes.

Delivering Solutions

For Miedema Produce, excellent service is what makes a partnership work well.

Miedema Produce At-A-Glance

Founded: 1995

Location: Waddell, Arizona

Specialty: Radishes and other vegetables

“Jim Osborn checks our fields twice a week to make sure we continue to produce only high-quality radishes, and he makes any necessary changes to our foliar program too,” Williams says.

“Establishing a good relationship with Fertizona has helped our operation immensely,” says Dragt. “Any time we’ve had problems with our crops, our field rep has worked closely with our farm managers to get us back on track.”

Highlighting Reliable Corn Seed Varieties

Offering You The Best In the Market

Fertizona and Compton Ag Services are proud to offer some of the best corn seed varieties on the market.

NK 4693

NK 4693 is a hybrid with a proven track record of high yields and excellent palatability.

“The NK 4693 has established itself to be a trusted hybrid in the southwestern silage corn market,” says Gene Kempton, Seed Manager at Fertizona-Casa Grande. “It’s a tall, upright growing silage corn that stays green longer, giving the grower a wider harvest window.”

Kempton adds that NK 4693 is also a tough hybrid that can handle rough soils and dry stress conditions.



Fertizona and Compton Ag Services offers several of the best corn seed varieties on the market.

GV 16A02 requires a full season and good fertility to achieve maximum potential. Medium to high populations are recommended.

Garst 8270RR

From Garst Corn Research, we offer an inexpensive Roundup Ready® corn that can be used for both grain and silage.

Like NK 4693, Garst 8270RR stays green longer for a wider harvest window and can perform under the toughest soil conditions.

GV 25R96

GV 25R96 is a hybrid known for performing consistently in all long-season areas while providing Roundup Ready technology.

GV 26B50

The Grand Valley hybrid 26B50 delivers stellar performance. “26B50

makes an excellent Roundup Ready and corn borer protected stack, and it is ideal for the Southwest,” Kempton explains.

Moderate populations are recommended for this variety.

GV 25B00 and GV 25P00

Equipped with Roundup Ready technology, Grand Valley hybrids 25B00 and 25P00 come with extra protection.

25B00 provides corn borer protection, while 25P00 provides corn borer and root worm protection.

Both work best with reduced plant population applications (28,000-30,000) and is recommended for Willcox area grain.

For more information, contact your local sales rep. ▲



GV 16A02

Known for its high grain yield and large size, Grand Valley Hybrid’s 16A02 is one of the most reliable hybrids on the market.

“High grain yield and high tons make GV 16A02 a top producer of milk and beef per acre,” says Kempton.

Conventional	Roundup Ready	Stacked
NK 4693	Garst 8270RR	GV 26B50
GV 16A02	GV 25R96	GV 25B00 and 25P00

Feeding Cereal Grains

Fertilizing Wheat And Other Cereal Grains

Quality crops and high yields are every grower’s dream. One way of achieving this is using a good fertilizer program. With wheat and other cereal grains, proper nitrogen management can ensure a successful wheat harvest.

“Nitrogen is a critical component when growing wheat,” says Lin Evans, an independent pest control advisor in central Arizona. “The biggest challenge is using fertilizer wisely to maintain good quality and achieve high yields.”

Overcoming Challenges

Tim Smith, owner of Discovery West Ranches in Goodyear, Arizona, says one of the biggest issues wheat and cereal grain growers’ face is maintaining protein levels.

“You have to supply your wheat with the right amount of nitrogen throughout the season in order to maintain high protein levels,” advises Smith. “And high protein levels in wheat is crucial for maintaining high quality.”

“The people who buy the grain want the wheat to contain a certain percentage of protein,” says independent pest control advisor Ben Hoyler, who works primarily in Pinal and Pima counties. “So, if the quality is not good, growers are docked for having a poor-quality wheat crop, and end up getting a reduced price for it. That’s why it’s important to apply enough nitrogen late in the season to keep the protein levels up.”

Date	Days After Planting	Growth Stage	Total Available
Dec 1	0	Planted	100 lbs.
Jan 20	51	5th leaf	50 lbs.
Feb 11	73	2nd node	50 lbs.
Mar 4	94	Boot	60 lbs.
Mar 25	115	Flowering	60 lbs.
Total Nitrogen			320 lbs.

The above table outlines the recommended application of readilyavailable nitrogen needed to meet a minimum 13 percent protein at an 8,000 lb. potential. The available nitrogen recommendations assume that other nutrients, such as phosphorus and sulfur, are sufficiently available.

Nitrogen Is Key

Hoyler recommends putting down 100 lbs. of nitrogen at the start of the season in the form of 16-20-0. At the fifth-leaf stage and then again after the second-node stage, add 50 lbs. of available nitrogen. Finally, at boot and then again after flowering stage, 60 lbs. of nitrogen should be added, for a total of 320 lbs. of available nitrogen for the entire year. Hoyler says the nitrogen late in the season builds up the protein, which produces high-quality wheat.

“If you don’t put out at least 300 units of nitrogen, you’re not going to make high yields,” says Hoyler. “Growers that apply 320 lbs. of nitrogen to their wheat will get a substantially higher yield than

growers who don’t. And when they sell their wheat they don’t lose a lot of money for low protein levels.” At Discovery West Ranches, Smith follows the same recommendation, putting down a significant amount of nitrogen and maintaining a steady supply throughout the different growth stages of wheat.

“It’s important to supply the wheat with enough nitrogen throughout the season to achieve the yield you want,” says Smith. “A higher yield, would take more nitrogen.”

Evans recommends applying the nitrogen with the irrigation water, and adds that it’s best to start applying fertilizer when the wheat is 8 to 10 inches tall.

Perfect Application, Perfect Results

Evans warns that putting too much fertilizer, not putting out enough or spreading it unevenly can also compromise the quality of grain. “It’s important to apply the amount of fertilizer accurately and evenly—and that will give you your best result,” says Evans. ▲

“If you don’t put out at least 300 units of nitrogen, you’re not going to make high yields.”

**– Ben Hoyler
Independent Pest Control
Advisor**

Jim Osborn Looks Out For Growers' Best Interest

It's never a dull day for Fertizona Field Rep Jim Osborn. With 38 years experience in the Ag chemical industry and an eye for new technologies, Osborn partners with his growers to deliver customized solutions.

"I love working with growers helping them solve their problems and fulfilling their farm needs," says Osborn. "It is very satisfying for me."

Cotton And Vegetable Expertise

Osborn's main area of expertise is cotton and alfalfa, but he spends his winters and springs working with Arizona vegetable growers in the Waddell and Buckeye area. But not all his time is spent thinking about the crops.

"The biggest challenge that most growers face is keeping within their budget restraints," says Osborn. "It seems to get tougher every year, but sometimes you have to go to war with the equipment you have!"

Technologically Savvy

"I'm always looking into new ideas, especially if it will make the grower's operation run more efficiently," says Osborn. "You'll never know if something's not a good idea unless you work with it yourself."

Currently, Osborn is working with Roundup Ready® technology in alfalfa and plant growth regulators in cotton.

"Plant growth regulators in cotton have really evolved over the past twenty years," explains Osborn. "It used to be just an emergency



Jim Osborn helps growers be more successful.

application to stop vegetative growth. Now, if timed properly and used in conjunction with fertilizer and watering, it becomes a yield enhancer. I'm still tweaking these products after all these years."

Osborn also works with new products as they become available to the market. "I'm always fascinated by new technology," says Osborn. "Not because it's new, but because of the potential I see for helping my growers."

Looking Out For Growers

Everyday Osborn is helping growers work through their challenges. "My approach to every situation is whatever is best for the grower's interest," he says.

Osborn says his growers' most pressing concern is achieving high yields at a low cost.

"It's difficult to keep yields up and spend less because there are factors, like fuel, that growers don't have

control over," explains Osborn. "They're at the mercy of their market, so they have to work on minimizing their cost."

Osborn likes to start by sitting down with his growers to map out a plan.

"Whether it's changing the watering schedule or the seed variety, I always try to look at new and different approaches when helping growers maximize their yields while holding their costs down," says Osborn. "Every grower experiences different challenges, so I customize their plan to fit their needs. It's all about building relationships with my growers."

In his spare time, Osborn spends time with his family. He has six children and 11 grandchildren with one on the way. He is also involved with an AWANA youth program at his church in Buckeye. He enjoys baseball, hunting and camping. ▲

LOCATIONS

Fertizona—Casa Grande Main Office

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Dennis Osborn—Crop Protection
Gene Kempton—Seed Products
Jimmy Compton—Crop Nutrition
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Fertizona and Compton Ag Services
accept Visa and MasterCard.

*Unavailable at these locations.

Compton Ag Services—Blythe now
accepts Visa and MasterCard.

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