

Glossary

AIC	Agricultural Industries Confederation. A trade association representing suppliers of agricultural inputs into the agricultural and farming sector.
Ammonia	A basic chemical that is produced from natural gas and nitrogen from the atmosphere, primarily used as a raw material in the production of nitrogen -containing fertilizers.
AN	Ammonium nitrate. A nitrogen fertilizer, which contains nitrogen only in ammonia and nitrate form.
ANS	Ammonium nitrate sulphate. A nitrogen fertilizer which is a mixture of AS and AN containing 26 per cent nitrogen and 13 per cent sulphur.
AS	Ammonium sulphate. A nitrogen fertilizer comprising 21 per cent nitrogen and 18 per cent sulphur.
ANFO	AN mixed with fuel oil. An explosive consisting of 94 per cent AN prills and 6 per cent of fuel oil.
Anhydrous ammonia	A colourless gas or liquid derived from a mixture of carbon monoxide, hydrogen, CO₂ and nitrogen .
Aqueous ammonia	Also known as aqua ammonia and ammonia water, it is a derivative of fertilizer manufacture produced by dissolving anhydrous ammonia in demineralized water.
Bioethanol	An alternative energy source especially as an automobile fuel produced from fermentation of biomass and hydrolysis of cellulose.
Blended fertilizer	A complex fertilizer for which the combination of nutrients is obtained by the dry mixing of several materials.
CAN	Calcium ammonium nitrate. A fertilizer made of 60 per cent AN and 40 per cent limestone and containing 20 per cent nitrogen .
CO₂	Carbon dioxide. Colourless gas recovered from synthesis gas in ammonia production and from other sources. Raw CO ₂ may be liquefied or solidified, in the latter case as dry ice.
Complex fertilizer	A blended or compound fertilizer which contains at least two of the three primary nutrients (NPK) . Can also contain secondary and micro nutrients.
Compound fertilizer	A complex fertilizer for which the combination of nutrients is obtained by chemical reaction. Each granule that results contains the required mixture of nutrients.
Dessicant	Hygroscopic substance used to maintain dry atmosphere, usually magnesite, which has absorptive capacity.

EEA	European Economic Area, consisting of all 27 countries in the European Union plus Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway.
EBITDA	Earnings before interest, tax, depreciation and amortization.
EFMA	European Fertilizer Manufacturers Association.
Fertilizer season	A 12-month period that starts on 1 July and ends on 30 June.
FIAS	Fertiliser Industry Assurance Scheme, which was developed by the AIC and sets the framework for voluntary codes of practice relating to the traceability of fertilizers across the supply chain.
GEF	Kemira GrowHow European Forum.
HHI	Herfindahl-Hirschman Index. A measure of concentration, defined as the sum of the squares of all the market shares in the market. A market with an HHI above 1,000 is regarded as concentrated.
Nitric acid	A basic chemical compound manufactured from ammonia . Its chemical formula is HNO_3 .
Nitrogen (N)	Primary nutrient essential for plant growth. Colourless gas constituting four-fifths of the air, distilled from liquid air.
NPK fertilizer	A multi-nutrient fertilizer, in which the primary nutrients are nitrogen , phosphorus and potassium . Can also contain secondary and micro-nutrients.
Phosphorus (P)	An element essential to life. One of the three primary nutrients obtained by refining phosphate-containing ores.
Potassium (K)	An element essential to life. One of the three primary nutrients . Mined as a salt from bedrock.
Prills	Small round or acicular (needle-shaped) aggregates of material, usually a fertilizer, artificially prepared. In the explosives field, prills-and-oil consists of 94 per cent coarse, porous AN prills and 6 per cent fuel oil.
Primary nutrients	Nitrogen , phosphorus and potassium .
Process chemicals	A term usually used to describe products sold to the chemical process industry, such as nitric acid , ammonia and technical urea .
SSNIP	Small but significant non-transitory increase in price.
Straight N fertilizer	Fertilizer containing only nitrogen as a primary nutrient (ie no potassium or phosphorus).
TAN	Technical ammonium nitrate. AN for industrial use, chemically identical to AN sold for agricultural use, used by explosives manufacturers as a source of oxygen.

Urea

Single-nutrient fertilizer, rich in **nitrogen**, made from **ammonia** and **CO₂**. Also used as a raw material for resins. Used as fertilizer.

UAN solution

Urea ammonium nitrate solution. A compound with a 28 to 32 per cent **nitrogen** content made by dissolving **AN** and **urea** in water. UAN can be handled as a liquid at atmospheric pressure and temperature.