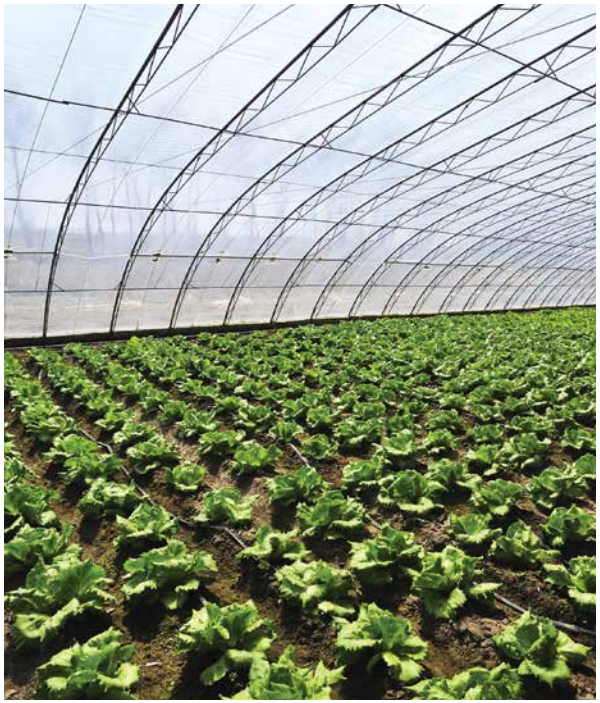
Recommendations for use

- SoluPotasse® has all the necessary characteristics to be ideal for fertigation. It is a pure, highly concentrated, fully soluble fertilizer that is easy to handle.
- When used for fertigation, we recommend that SoluPotasse® is dissolved first, before adding any other fertilizers to the solution. With very alkaline water (pH > 8), we recommend first acidifying the solution before adding the SoluPotasse®.
- The frequency of SoluPotasse® application depends on the soil type - light textured soils need more frequent, smaller doses than heavier soils with a high fixation capacity.
- For all uses, Tessenderlo Group highly recommends the preparation of a trial mixture, to check compatibility prior to any large scale application.



Technical characteristics

SoluPotasse® is available in bagged form, either in 25 kg bags or 1 ton big bags.

Typical SoluPotasse® specifications	
Average K_2O	51.5%
Average SO_4	56.0%
Average Cl	0.6%
Sieve analysis	90% < 0.30 mm
Bulk density	1.46 (struck) 1.21 (loose)
Angle of repose	40°

Tessenderlo Group Fertilizers
giving nature a helping hand

Tessenderlo Group
Troonstraat, Rue du Trône 130
B-1050 Brussels, Belgium
Tel: + 32 2 639 1858
Fax: + 32 2 639 1713

www.tessenderlo.com
fertilizers@tessenderlo.com

Member of SOPIB
Sulphate of Potash Information Board
www.sopib.com

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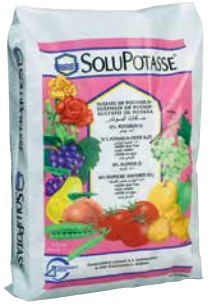
SoluPotasse®

THE SOLUBLE SULPHATE OF POTASH FERTILIZER FOR FERTIGATION



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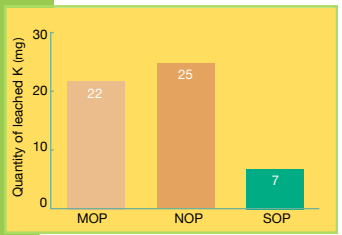
All the benefits of Tessenderlo Group's SOP

SoluPotasse®, Tessenderlo Group's soluble Sulphate of Potash (SOP), provides one of mildest forms of the important plant nutrient potassium. The fertilizer offers a number of important benefits over other sources of potassium, which enable it to help produce high quality crops with maximum export value, as well as to protect the environment.

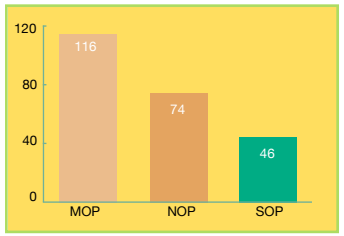
- **Potassium and sulphur in a readily available form** - SoluPotasse® contains 51.5% K_2O (42% potassium) and 56% SO_4 (18% sulphur). Intensive cropping combined with limited sulphur replacement has created an increasing sulphur deficiency in some soils. SoluPotasse® ensures optimum uptake of both potassium and sulphur (as sulphate).
- **Equal performance in alkaline or acidic soils** - in alkaline and salt-affected soils, SoluPotasse® helps to lower the pH level at the root surface. This improves the availability of phosphorus, iron and most other micronutrients. In acidic soils (mainly light or sandy), SoluPotasse® reduces cation leaching, as well as the risk of potassium loss. SoluPotasse® is considerably less prone to leaching than other potash fertilizers, ensuring that potassium is not lost to the plant.

Leaching of potassium sources in sandy soil (Univ. of Florida, USA)



- **Virtually no chloride** - chloride makes a significant contribution to soil salinity. It is a direct threat to a variety of cash crops with poor chloride tolerance. An excess can be detrimental to the quality of many crops. Application of 1 ton of MOP (muriate of potash) adds almost half a ton of chloride to the soil.
- **Extremely low salt index** - salinity can destroy agricultural land by seriously reducing water quality in arid and semi-arid regions. Of the three most common potash fertilizers, SoluPotasse® has by far the lowest salt index and is the best product to use in areas at risk from salinity.

Salt index of main potash fertilizers (Base index: 100 = sodium nitrate)



- **Improved fruit and vegetable quality** - use of SoluPotasse® gives high quality produce with outstanding flavour. The fertilizer also improves yield and, in many cases, the size and consistency of the produce. Most fruit and vegetables treated with SoluPotasse® contain more pigments, giving a better colour and appearance. They also have an increased sugar, acid and juice content, which results in better flavour and scent. Furthermore, SoluPotasse® has been shown to enhance resistance to disease, also contributing to yield increases and improved appearance.
- **Enhanced nutritional value** - SoluPotasse® has a positive effect on the plant's production of vitamins, starch and sugar, the basic factors for high nutritional value. This will, more than ever, help secure the value of the crop.
- **Increased durability** - not only does SoluPotasse® improve the quality and nutritional value of produce, it also provides firmer fruit and vegetables with a better resistance to bruising. SoluPotasse® can also increase the suitability of fruit and vegetables for canning or processing.
- **A nitrogen-free source of potassium** - the problem of nitrates in water sources and in fruit and vegetables makes it increasingly important for growers to match the exact nitrogen input to the require ment of the crop. Evidence suggests that an excessive nitrate supply when the fruit is forming can have a detrimental effect on quality. SoluPotasse® provides a nitrogen-free source of potash that allows growers to develop fertiliza tion programmes that match crop requirements.

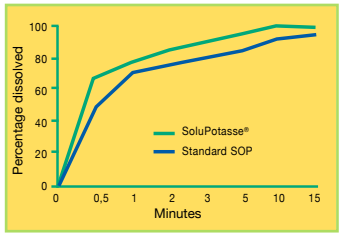
Ideal for fertigation

SoluPotasse® offers a number of important benefits for fertigation:

- **Fast-dissolving, completely soluble SOP** - SoluPotasse® is a fine white powder which dissolves much more rapidly than other SOP fertilizers and leaves no residue. At 20°C (68°F), SoluPotasse® only takes a few minutes to dissolve at a concentration of 100 g/l, the highest recommended practical dose.

To obtain the optimum fertilizer solution Tessenderlo Group recommends that SoluPotasse® is first dissolved in a tank at least two thirds filled with water. The dissolution time depends on the stirring technique used, as well as the quality of the water. Continuous stirring, combined with use of tepid water, will speed up the dissolution of SoluPotasse® considerably.

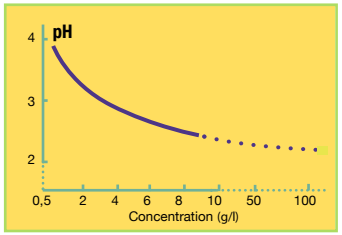
Dissolution speed of SoluPotasse® versus standard SOP



- **Lower pH solution** - by lowering the pH, SoluPotasse® helps improve the availability to the plant of phosphorus, iron and most other micronutrients.

SoluPotasse® also prevents drippers from clogging and helps keep micro-irrigation systems clean.

pH versus concentration of K_2SO_4 in pure water



- **Compatibility** - SoluPotasse® is compatible with most other fertilizers within normal concentration ranges, except those containing calcium, which causes precipitation of $CaSO_4$ (Gypsum).

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