PRESS RELEASE



PETROKIMIA GRESIK ENHANCES FARMERS TO APPLY BALANCED FERTILIZATION

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Petrokimia Gresik is an Agroindustry Solution company and a member of <u>Pupuk Indonesia</u> holding company, again urged farmers to apply balanced fertilization. Apart from being beneficial for agricultural sustainability, balanced fertilization will also make the use of subsidized fertilizers more efficient.

As for balanced fertilization, the recommendation of Petrokimia Gresik for rice plants is to use the 5:3:2 formula. The details are 500 kilograms of Petroganik, 300 kilograms of NPK Phonska, and 200 kilograms of Urea for 1 (one) hectare of rice fields.

President Director of Petrokimia Gresik, Dwi Satriyo Annurogo explained that this balanced fertilization recommendation is very important. Because according to data from the 2018 Center for Agricultural Land Resources (BBSDLP), at least 70 percent of the 8 million hectares of rice fields in Indonesia are not healthy. This means that around 5 million hectares of rice fields contain low organic matterial.

"So this recommendation is Petrokimia Gresik's effort to realize sustainable agriculture, increase crop productivity, and at the same time improve soil conditions. Because the recommendation for balanced fertilization uses organic Petroganik fertilizers, "said Dwi Satriyo.

This condition, continued Dwi Satriyo, was caused by several factors. One of them is the excessive use of chemical fertilizers and pesticides in the long term. Thus, causing the soil organic matter content become decompose and getting less.

Dwi Satriyo revealed that, based on a number of studies and conditions in the field, there were still many farmers using Urea fertilizer excessively or not according to recommendations, namely more than 400 kg per hectare of rice fields. Because the average farmer thinks that the more urea fertilizer is used, the better the plants will be.

Whereas too much Urea fertilization will make plants succulent so they are more susceptible to pests and diseases. Then it damages soil fertility, because too much Urea will cause the soil to become acidic, which causes the absorption of certain nutrients to be inhibited.

Petrokimia Gresik itself has been testing the effectiveness of balanced fertilization for years in various regions. As a result, there is an increase in productivity of 1-2 tons of harvested dry grain per hectare of rice fields.

"We hope that the fertilizer recommendation from Petrokimia Gresik is adopted by farmers throughout Indonesia to increase agricultural productivity and build sustainable agriculture," Dwi Satriyo concluded.

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