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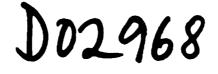
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TRIENDS OF CO-OPERATION AMONG THE CHEA COUNTRIES

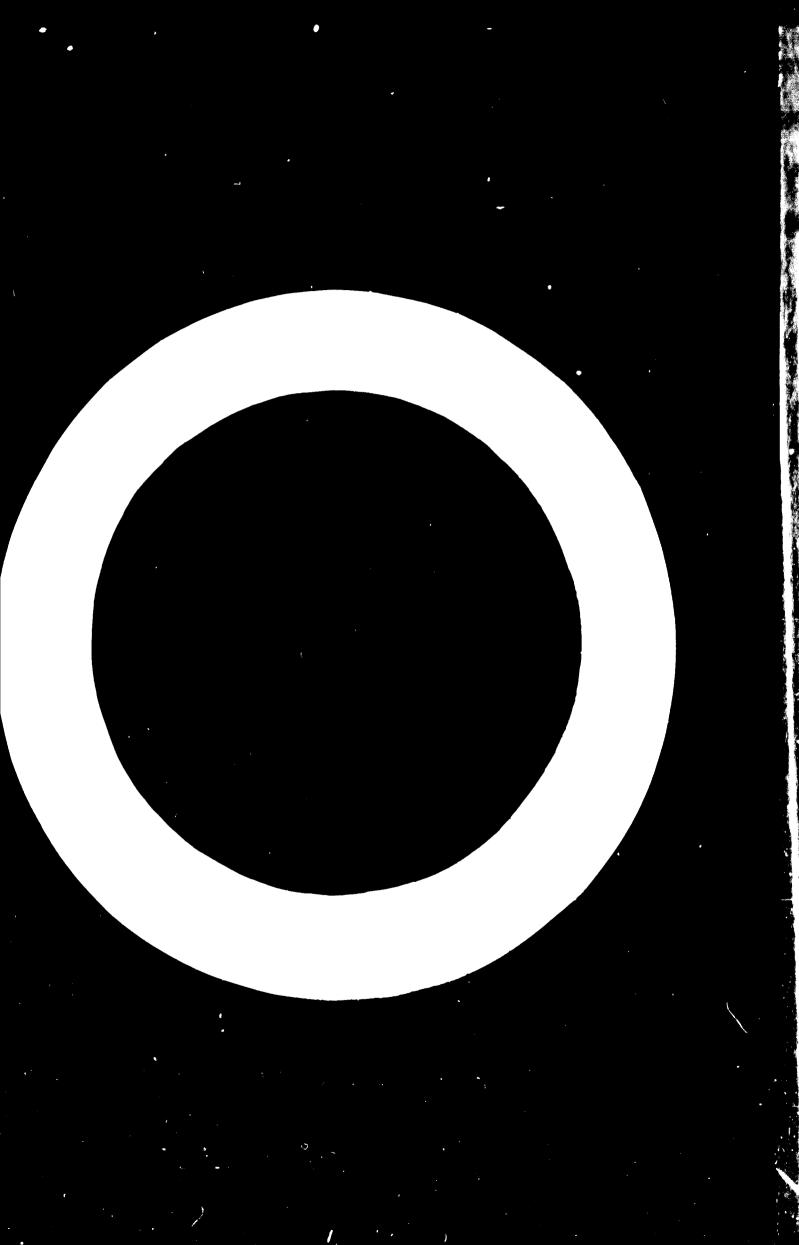
by

E. Schmidt

Council for Mutual Economic Assistance Moscow USSR

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In the process of intensification of agricultural production primary importance is attached by the CMEA countries to raising the productivity of land as a main means of production in agriculture. They consider that systematic raising of the soil's fertility ensures bumper and steady crops with the minimum labour expenditure and costs per unit of production.

The level and rate of intensification in the agricultural production practiced by the CMEA countries has been largely determined by the progress made in the chemization of agricultural production, in particular, by use of chemical fertilizers. That is why the CMEA Standing Commission on Agriculture, from the very start of ist activities, paid special attention to working out recommendations on more extensive use of mineral fertilizers. For this purpose the CMEA Standing Commission on Agriculexchange of experience, and ture organized systematic worked out proposals on the practical use of latest scientific achievements in the following fields: expansion of the range of mineral fertilizers used, optimum proportio: of nutrient substances when used for various agricultural crops, technology of their use and influence of soil and climatic conditions on the efficiency of mineral fertiliser used.

During the 20 years of the CMEA activities its member-countries have raised substantially the volume of

mineral fertilizers used. At present, they are using, over 19,8% of arable land and perennial plantations of the world, about 30% of all the mineral fertilizers used in the world, including nitric - 28%, phosphorus - 29%, and potash - 32%. The average annual rate of increase in the consumption of mineral fertilizers in the CMEA countries made up about 20% in 1951-1960, up to 30% in 1961-1969, whereas with relation to the world total this index was equal to 17 and 23 per cent respectively.

A wide use of mineral fertilizers matched by the introduction of new varieties and better agrotechnics and other improvements, has told substantially on the yield of agricultural crops in the CMEA countries. For example, an average yield of wheat in all the CMEA countries during the four years of 1966-1969 was 25% higher than that in the period of 1961-1965, and compared with the average index of 1951-1955 - 35% higher.

In separate CMEA countries an average wheat crop during the 4 years of 1966-1969 increased against the average crop of 1961-1965 at about the following rate: in Bulgaria - by 48%, in Hungary - by 34%, in the GDR - by 16%, in Poland - by 18%, in Rumania -- by 19%, in the USSR - by 33% and in Osechoslovakia - by 19%.

The CMEA countries produced during the period of 1966-1969 34.2% of the total wheat production in the world as compared with 31.2% in 1961-1965.

A rapid growth in the consumption of minoral fertilizers in the CMEA countries has been particularly the result of coordination of efforts made by the countries within the CMEA framework in the solution of major problems which determine the conditions and possibilities for the development of the raw material basis and fertilizers industry, as well as in the field of highly effective use of fertilizers.

The CMEA Standing Commission on Agriculture has always proceeded from the fact, that the use of mineral fertilizers can substantially influence the ferility of soil and boost the yield of agricultural crops, and considers that at present more than half of the crop's surplus is attributed to the effect of mineral fertilizers.

During the years of its activity the CMEA Standing Commission on Agriculture has many a time organized discussions of the experience gained in the effective use of fertilizers and worked out relevant recommendations to the CMEA countries. Questions for discussions arose in the process of development in the use of mineral fertilizers in the CMEA countries, when their solution was of common interest. Below is the survey of the results of these discussions and of experience of the CMEA countries which they gained in the use of mineral fertilizers

The CMEA Standing Commission on Agriculture has always attached, in the field of effective use of mineral fertilizers, great importance to all-round consideration

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and most full use of soil and climate factors. For this purpose research studies were conducted of the effect produced by mineral fertilizers in various soil/climatic and economic conditions at different levels of their use. The results of these studies have been used for mor rational per area distribution of fertilizers and definition of their optimum doze. In order to make a more thorough study of the effect produced by fertilizers research was also carried out of the balance of nutrient substances in the soil and of the influence of fertilizers on the quality of the crop.

Substantial role in the correct use of mineral and organic fertilizers, espacially under conditions of specific farms, is played, in the opimion of the CMEA countries by agrochemical service. That is why the CMEA Standing Commission on Agriculture has repeatedly dealt with the agrochemical service in the CMEA countries, of which we shall speak later.

In order to insure the effective use of mineral fertilizers the Standing Commission on Agriculture made the following recommendations to the CMEA countries:

> - mineral fertilizers are to be used in close combination with the complex of agro-technical measures, such as the use of organic substances, timely cultivation of soil, the use of scientifically founded crop rotation, ect.;

- mineral fertilizers are to be used in accordance with the systematic field experiments and systematic agrochemical study of soils;
- when using mineral fertilizers, it is necessary to study their effect upon the quality of agricultural crop;
- it is to be taken into account, that the effective use of mineral fertilizers necessitates the liming of acid soils;
- mineral fertilizers are to be primarily forwarded to areas with sufficient atmospheric condensation and irrigated land, and it is deemed necessary to accumulate and preserve moisture.

The CMEA Standing Commission on Agriculture drew attention in its recommendations to the fact that the economic effect produced by mineral fertilizers depends largely on the time and norms of their use.

During the period when there was a shortage of mineral fertilizers in the CMEA countries, a wide spread practice was to apply them locally, in small quantities, into rows, nests and holes while sowing or planting agricultural crops, espacially when using nitrif fertilizers and granulated superphosphate.

As the supply of mineral fertilizers to farms grew a possibility emerged in all the CMEA countries to turn from fertilisation of separate crops to the system of fertilisat ion int crop rotations. Under such system, as practice showed, the effect produced by mineral fertilizers is substantially increased, which tells on the yield of all crops in a rotation and contributes to gradual increase in soil fertility. In doing so it is useful to apply mineral fertilizers primarily for leading crops in a rotation, yielding the biggest crop surplue per unit of fertilizer applied.

Questions relative to the system fertilization for different crop rotations in specific soil/climatic conditions and continuation of studies in this direction constitutes one of the major tasks of research work on which the Studing Commission on Agriculture adopted recommendations to the CMEA countries.

In order to decrease labour expenditure in the use of fertilizers, the CMEA countries have been studying and practicing in certain areas the use of phosphorus and potash fertilizers in stock. Due to low consumption of phosphorus fertilizers in the first year and incomplete use of potash fertilizer, as well as insignificant washing away of phosphorus and potash (except on very light soils), it was found to be justified by many production experiments that it pays to apply big dozes of phosphorus and potash fertilizers in stock for 2 or 3 years with no decrease in efficiency.

In connection with substantial increase in supplies of mineral fertilizers to agriculture in the CMEA

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countries, the CMEA Standing Common ion on Agriculture is busy at the moment preparing recommendations on the organizational and technological aspects of their use.

Due to the fact that the way mineral fertilizers are used is primarily influenced by the lange and quality of the fertilizer supplies, the CMEA Standing Commission on Agriculture had to formulate the requirements that the range of mineral fertilizers should meet, of which will be said later.

As to the network of iertilizer depots established in the CMEA countries, the following trends can be traced in the way fertilizers are storaged:

- storage at agricultural enterprises;

- storage at central depots; and

- storage both at central and individual farm depots.

The central depote are placed, as a rule, et the so called agrochemical centres, which play a significant role in the CMEA countries. These centres constitute specialised permanent organisations which act either as independent economic entities or are included into inter-farm structure, and are assigned to transport, storage or apply mineral fertilisers. (In countries with larger agricultural entities they can be part of economic entities, which act as specialised teams).

In addition to the tasks named, agrochemical centres also perform work in other fields of chemisation in agriculture. These centres concentrate machinery for fertilizer application, including agricultural aircrafts.

Questions of fertilizer applying machinery were discussed by the CMEA Standing Commission on Agriculture when an international system of machinery was developed, which is the system of requirements that agricultural machines for particular application should meat.

Taking into account that there is a lot of eour and very sour soils in the CMEA countries. and that the use of calcium fertilizers on these soils can be very useful in raizing general soil fertility, and, particularly, in raiseing the effect produced by mineral fertilizers, the CMEA Standing Commission on Agriculture studied the problems of organization, technology and economic aspects of soil liming.

Multiple agricultural research and field experiments in the CMEA countries, whose intensity particularly grow at the turn of the 60ies, show high efficiency of liming manifested in considerable increase in the crop yield on sour soils. The yield surplus due to liming has been registered in relation to practically all agricultural erepsy particularly in relation to legunious plants and mixed crops of leguninous plants and cercals.

The effect of the basic liming or the so called meliorative liming, i.e. when full doses are applied,

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does not wither away for 10 years and more; whereas liming with smaller dozes can insure a continuous effect during 5 years.

The results of economic studies, carried out in all the CMEA countries, show that liming of soil constitutes a highly paying agromeliorative method. The economic effect produced by it is j to b times higher than the original cost of liming. Thus, liming costs can pay off during first two years following it.

On the basis of recommendations made by the CNEA Standing Commission on Agriculture, various economic measures are taken in the CMEA countries which contribute to wider liming of sour soils. In separate countries substantial funds are made available every year for this mealiorative measure. In the CMEA countries where liming is performed on a large seale, specialized organizations have been established for this purpose, or else this task is performed by already menticmed. agrochemical contres. The technical side of applying liming materials in the CMEA countries has been largely solved through phousatic distributica over the fields.

At the turn of the 60-les the CMEA countries started the application of liquid fortilizers. Most widely used were, liquid mitric fortilizers in the form of arhydrous amomia, seustic amomia sudammeniately some countries anhydrous annomia is more widely used, whereas in other it is eductic annomia.

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In 1965 the CMEA Standing Commission on Agriculture summed up the experience in the use of liquid fertilizers and recommended to the CMEA countries to expend the use of nitric and composite fertilizer solutions. These types of fertilizers are perspective for agriculture, because their basic properties (high concentration, content of several nutrient elements and liquid form) meet the requirements that agricultural production expects of mineral fertilizers.

Research results of the tests performed with liquid nitric fartilizers and the experience gained in the CMEA countries testifies to the fact that all forms of the liquid nitric fertilizers are quite equal in their effect to non-liquid nitric fertilizers. The correct use of the ammonia form of fertilizers does not influence negatively upon germination and further development of agricultural crops. The one sided effect of ions of ammonia upon soil con tinues during the vegetative period for a short time as a result of their nitrification. Deep application of liquid nitric fertilizers contributes to more even supply of nitrogen to plants.

In drought-afflicted areas of the CMRA countries the use of Liquid fertilizers proved to be more effective than that of non-liquid mitric fertilizers. At present anhydrous and caustic annomia is used in the CMRA countries to fertilize all agricultural crops, although this application of fertilizers in the CMEA countries has not yet been practices so widely as in some other countries.

However, the processi experience of the CAEA countries in the selection of anydrous and account annonial show that liquid matric fertilizers can constitute greater part of the mitric fertilizers used in those areas where soil/climatic and economic conditions justify their application. Taking into account the larger scale in the use of liquid fertilizers, the CMEA standing Cosmission on Agriculture has worked out appropriate recommendations to the CMEA member-countries.

The large scale ase of liquid Certilizers for whole ereas coupled with the use of modern technical means makes it easier to insure the continuety of supply, rational use of the means of transport, storage and application, which leads to high economic effect. The CMSA Standing Commission on Agriculture paid attention to the fact that it is the prior solution of these questions that contributs to wider use of liquid fertilizers. In order to widen the rational use of liquid festilizers it is necessary to define in each country those areas, where soil/climatic and economic conditions are most favourable for their large scale use. The CMEA countries plan for further development in the production and use of liquid nitric fertilisers in the coming years, and will create necessary technical prerequisites for such development.

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In recent yearsthe CMEA countries conducted large scale work on the study of economic efficiency offered by the use of liquid nitric fertilizers as compared with nonliquid nitric fertilizers. The results of economic analyses shows that the economy of investment offered by the construction of plants to manufacture liquid nitric festilizers cover a higher investment on their use in agriculture.

The production cost of a unit of nutrient substance contained in different forms of nitric fertilizers is 20 to 30% lower than that of non-liquid forms.

The use of caustic ammonia has importance in some CMEA countries over areas which are close to manufacturing plants, where transportation, storage and application costs of the liquid form are lower, than those of processing into non-liquid nitric fertilizers and their further application.

The basis of expansion and higher profit is in the radical change of the entire method of transportation, storage and application, and, particularly, in the existance of necessary technical means and machinery. The practice of the use of liquid nitric fertilizers showed that the greatest effect produced by them is achieved when their application is coupled with various forms of soil cultivation In connection with the growing range of mineral fertilizers and use of liquid nitric fertilizers a question was raised relative to study of the use of urea Relevant experiments in the use of urea were conducted in the CMEA countries. The CMEA Standing Commission on Agriculture discussed the results of those experiments and worked out a number of recommendations.

The purpose of the above research also to study agronomic effect of urea copmared to other nitric fertilizers (amonium and lime-ammonium nitrate), define the conditions of its most effective use for agricultural crops in different soil/climatic zones. Vegetative, field and production experiments were conducted. Their results showed that urea is basically equal in its effect to other nitric fertilizers for most of agricultural crops. In conditions of non-irrigation it is recommended that urea be put into the soil 3-4 cm deep from the surface. The urea is also used as a basic nitric fertilizer for off root fertilization.The CMEA Standing Commission on Agriculture recommended urea also for production of mixed and liquid fertilizers and for use from the aircraft.

In order to intesify further agricultural production the CMEA countries plan a considerable expansion of irrigated land in their perspective. Besides the right choice of agricultural varieties, modern agrotechnology, the intensive use of mineral fertilizers on irrigated areas is of great importance.

Within the framework of international coordination of scientific research in the field of agriculture, conducted by the CMEA Standing Commission on Agriculture, the

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theme "Use of fertilizers in irrigated agriculture" is being developed.

When summing up the results, the CMEA Standing Commission on Agriculture paid attention to the fact that the combined effect produced by mineral fertilizers and irrigation is greater than the sum of each method taken separately. In conditions of irrigation for most agricultural crops on all soils the prime effect is produced by nitrogen, although even a small lack of phosphorus and potash in the nutrition of plants lowers the crop and the quality of products. For irrigated cereals the importance of phosphorus is no smaller than that of nitrogen in the nutrition of plants.

In order to achieve maximum effect in the use of mineral fertilizers it is necessary to maintain an optimum level of irrigation during the vegetation. The method of irrigation substantially influences the effect produced by fertilizers: when irrigation is overhead it is deemed possible to use effectively higher dozes than with other methods of irrigation. When provision of plants with nutrients substances is optimum, water consumption per unit of production are lower, i.e. water is used more effectively.

Any deviation from the optimum in the nutrition of plants leads, as a rule, to lower qualities of the irrigated agricultural crops. Therefore, provided there is an optimum irrigation level and crop varieties are chosen right.

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it is useful to increase the mineral fertilizer dozage.

The CMEA Standing Commission on Agriculture, using the data supplied by the CMEA countries, defined the long term needs of agriculture in mineral fertilizers, both in quality and the range.

The CMEA Standing Commission on Agriculture deems it necessary to pay attention to farther cooperation of the CMEA countries in the maintenance of a high rate of mineral fertilizer consumption, and wider use of highly comentrated and composite fertilizers.

Thus, for example, the share of urea in the consumption of nitric fertilizers in the CMEA countries made up only 1.5% in 1960, whereas it reached 11% in 1965, and in the near future the target is 17 to 18%. The share of the combined nitric fertilizers will reach 50% by 1975, whereas the sum total of concentrated and combined nitric fertilizers will be brought to 90-93%. The share of combined phosphorus fertilizers will increase to 80%. At the same time some CMEA member-countries have completely abondoned the use of simple superphosphate in favour of concentrated superphosphate (double or triple one). The share of combined(potash-containig fertilizers) shall make up around 70%.

In order to determine the needs of agriculture in mineral fertilizers, the CMEA Standing Commission on Agriculture considered methods to determine the balance of basic nutrient substances in soils, and use of this data

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for the purpose of rational application of mineral fetilizers with regard to soil/climatic conditions. The Commission came to a conclusion that determination of the balance of basic nutrient elements in the soil together with other methods enables to determine the needs of agriculture in mineral fertilizers at a known level of crop yield.

At the same time the CMEA Standing Commission on Agriculture recommended that while defining needs in mineral fertilizers, the results of international research in the field of agriculture should be used. This research is coordinated by the CMEA Standing Commission on Agriculture, and its subject is entitled: "Norms and proportions of fertilizers and conditions of their use with regard to soil characteristics and prospects of fertilizer use in the CMEA countries". The basis for the above research was offered by a wide geographical network of field experiments on the use of mineral fertilizer in all the CMEA countries, with different dozages used and theily economic effect defined.

The CMEA Standing Commission on Agriculture recommended to the CMEA countries that while studying the balance of nutrient substances in the soil special attention should be paid to accounting of the debit side of the balance, such as the loss of nutrient substances due to evaporation, washing away by water, water and wind erosion, irreversible and temporary fixation of nutrient substances, loss in the course of the fertilizer use itself. These processes are studied in the countries by different methods, for example, in lisimetric research. The study of this unproductive losses of the debit side of the balance enables to work out ways to decrease those losses of nutrient substances to the minimum. In this connection the Commission recommended to the CMEA countries the following basic venues:

> - improvement of the range of mineral fertilizers with regard to soil/climatic conditions, and improvement of physical and chemical properties of

fortilizers, definition of optimum dozage, times and methods of fertilizer use, conduct of chemical melioration, etc.;

- improvement of agrotechniques (choice of varieties and hybrids of agricultural crops responsive to fertilizers, specification of areas to be fertilised with regard to fertilizer dozage, irrigation and drainage, improvement in the specialization of farms and crop rotation in connection with growing fertilizer dozage, use of growth controls, agricultural pest and diseases control, and control of weeds, etc);
- reduction of loss of the nutrient substances due to washing away, water and wind veresion:

- improvement of technology for use of fertilizers, reduction of losses in transportation, handling, storage, preparation and use;

Although when making a balance of nutrient substances in agriculture one is faced with a number of

difficulties, and even conventions, the method of the balance of nutrient substances presents a certain interest in determination of fertilizer needs in agriculture.

To the credit side of the balance the following sources of nutrient substances in the soil are attributed:

- entry from mineral and organic fertilizers;
- entry from atmospheric precipitation;
- entry resulting from weathering and mineralization in the soil;
- entry of nitrogen by way of biological fixation;

- entry together with seed and planting materials.

When considering the credit side of the balance the properties of soil are taken into account. In all the CMEA countries there is a regular review; with more or less entire territorial coverage, of nutrient substances assimilated from soil. Various forms and organisations of agrochemical service have been established for this purpose.

Since the nitrogen content in all soils of the CMEA countries is low and the use of nitric fertilizers is there fore has high efficiency, optimum dosage for use of nitric fertilizers is determined, as a rule, in the

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CMEA countries not on the basis of the nitrogen balance in the soil, both on the basis of field experiments with nitric fertilize which include to define their economic efficiency. In the CMEA countries there have been developed or are being developed production functions of relations between the dosage of the use of nitric fertilizers and the yield of agricultural crops depending on soil and climate conditions. The development of production functions for basic types of agricultural crops and conditions in the countries can serve as a basis for specific plan on the use of nitric fertilizers.

The necessary initial date for these calculations are furnished in the CMEA countries by the agro-chemical service, particularly, by its geographical network of outlets for conducting field experiments.

At present the CMRA Standing Commission on Agrisulture has started a review of progressive experience of the CMRA countries gained on econo-mathematical models incorpore ting the use of computers intended to define natural and economic conditions for domage of miric fertilizers. These calculations constitute an important condition for developing recommendations on the use of fertilizers on farms. The production functions developed in the countries with regard to gains and costs in fertilizer use by the method of non-linear optimisation constitutes the basis for regional distribution of mineral fertilizers, because

for each dozage of nitric tertilizers an expected increase in the crop yield or gains on all types of a cricultural crops in all conditions of production can be calculated.

In order to establish dozages for phosphorus, potash and magnesium fertilizers in the CMEA countries the above method of nutrient substancesb balance is used, since basicly one has to compensate these elements assimilated by crops or lost (with regard to entry of nutrient substances into coll by other ways beside those entered with fertilizers).

In order to determine the dozage for these fertilizers, there is also a possibility to develop an economo-mathematical model based on the plant requirements in nutrient substances and the study of soil characteristics

Because of the importance of these tasks, which became ripe within the framework of intra-CMAA cooperation and which are bein; solved by joint effort the CMEA Standing Commission on Agriculture attaches great importance to agrochemical service in the CMEA countries and improvemen of its activities.

The agrochemical service was established in the CMEA countries mainly in the 50-ies to put into practice of agricultural chemization scientific acheivements, and provide governing bodies of the countries with neasesery data on the fertilizer needs of the country's soils to be used as a basis for planning of fertilizer production, import or export, etc.

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In all the TMEA intries the activities if the egro-chemical service, perticularly, systematic egrochemical study of soils, became an interstation of acticulture and promoted repid growth of chemication of the egricultural production.

As a rule, the agro-chemical serve of the CMEA countries interporates a network of agrochemical stations, which are under perative management of specialized departments attected to ministries of agriculture and placed under scientific and methodical supervision of research institutes.

The basic task of the agro-chemical service is to study systematically all the agricultural lands of the country with the purpose of lefining basic nutrient substances content, the activity of soll and other agrochemical parameters, and of late also the microelements content. These studies are conducted in the CMEA countries depending on the intensification of production an overage five years. On the basis of soil studies agro-chemical charts and diagrams are worked out for agricultural practice, using which local agroc-chemists define fertilizer requirements end the most for use of fertilizers in relation to this or that prop on certain fields. Recently the CMEA countries started to develop recommendations on the use of fertilizers on separate fields on the basis of econo-mathematical models

incorporating computers installed at agrochemical stations.

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In many of the Cash countries the appropriate service has centralized network of outlets for one deting field experiments with fertilizers. In some De-A countries beside tasks in the use of mineral certilizers, the agrochemical service performs - some other functions, such as fertilizer and liming material control, todder quality control, etc.

A new theme is being developed within the framework of the CNRA Standing Commission on Apricollure, which is entitled: "Testing of minical fortilization particularly, of new combined and concentrated forms, including the definition of economic efficiency of their use". The experiments were conducted in the geographical network of cutlets for field experiments, established by the agrochemical service of the CHEA ecurtries.

A study was conducted of the influence of the type of soil on the process of disintegration of ures, and of the effect of various slowly acting nitric fertilisers of the type of urea condensates with algehydes on the yield of -,,r. ultural crop. It can established that MPK-fertilisers with the urea condensate content when used for winter wheat, especially for varieties which require more nitrogen in the second part of vegetative period, yield better results Varicus testing of combined fertilisers of the HK, NP and Now type tere carried out. It was established that out of the various

forms of phosphorus fertilizers, a particularly object of an anticularly object of a manning polymetaphosphate.

Big work is being conducted now on the development of measures to realize combined, phased for perfections, programme of further extention and improvement of intra-CMEA cooperation and development of the socialist econcmic integration. A considerable part of this programme provides for chemisation of agriculture, including the production and consumption of mineral fertilizers, which is regarded as a basic factor of further intensitiestion of agricultural production.

the CNIA Standing Commission on Approximity the been developing measures on the expansion and despening of

itra-CMRA cooperation in the field of sound field and technological research, while paying particular attention to various aspects in the use of new types of mineral fertilisers, espacially of combined and concentrated type.



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