



## **RAPID SOIL FERTILITY SURVEY & SOIL TESTING INSTITUTE**

Thokar Niaz Baig, Lahore Ph: +92 42 99233581 E-mail: director\_sfri@yahoo.com

No. 5700-021  
Dated Lahore, the

20/06/24

To

1. Executive Director, FMPAC, House No. 3, Street No.34, F-7/1, Islamabad.
2. Chairman, Crop Protection Association, 2-A, Industrial Estate, Multan.
3. Executive Director, CropLife Pakistan Association, Life Plaza No. 125, CCA 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Block-DD Phase-IV, DHA Lahore.

**Subject: Determination of pH Levels in Fertilizer Products**

The Pakistan Standards & Quality Control Authority (PSQCA) and the Government of Punjab, Agriculture Department have established standards for various fertilizer products, mandating the analysis of pH levels alongside other essential parameters; and

2. WHEREAS, licenses have been issued to companies under the Punjab Fertilizers (Control) Order, 1973, subject to the submission of an affidavit affirming compliance with all legal requirements;

3. AND WHEREAS, even though the Government fertilizer testing laboratories had not obtained accreditation, which resulted in the non-routine conduct of pH analysis, thereby creating a lacuna in the enforcement of the standards; and this lack of accreditation hindered the regular testing of pH levels, potentially compromising the quality and efficacy of fertilizer products. The Government fertilizer testing laboratory in D.G Khan has since taken steps to address this issue and has successfully obtained accreditation for the analysis of pH levels, thereby demonstrating its competence in conducting this critical test. Other Government fertilizer testing laboratories are in the process of subcontracting with the accredited laboratory in D.G Khan, in accordance with the requirements of ISO rules, to ensure the accuracy and reliability of pH analysis. This development enables the laboratories to conduct pH testing in compliance with the prescribed standards, thereby strengthening the regulatory framework and ensuring the quality of fertilizer products.

4. NOW, therefore, it is hereby notified that our laboratories are competent to conduct pH evaluations of fertilizer products, along with other required parameters, and companies are obligated to adhere to this parameter as stipulated in their affidavits, failing which may result in compromised product efficacy and exacerbate soil alkalinity issues.

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5. TAKE NOTICE that a grace period of one month, commencing from 20-06-2024 to 19-07-2024, has been granted, as advised by the Assistant Advocate General, Punjab, Multan, vide letter No. 2842/ A.A.G dated 14-06-2024, to enable the settlement of quality fertilizer products in compliance with this parameter, and thereafter, pH testing shall be a regular feature for the evaluation/testing of fertilizer products, and no exceptions shall be entertained. The above said fertilizer associations are requested to give wide circulation to this notice.

  
20/06/24  
Chief Scientist/Deputy Controller  
Fertilizer, Punjab, Lahore

No. 5703-16 /

Dated Lahore, the 20/06/24

Copy is forwarded to:

1. Deputy Registrar (Judl), Lahore High Court, Multan Bench, Multan.
2. Mr. Bashir Ahmad Buzdar, Assistant Advocate General, Punjab, Multan w.r.o his letter No. 2842/ A.A.G dated 14-06-2024.
3. Additional Secretary, Agriculture (TF), Government of the Punjab, Lahore.
4. Chief Agriculture Officer/ Director of Agriculture (Ext), 21-Davis Road, Lahore.
5. The Principal Scientists (SF), Soil & Water Testing Lab for Research, Lahore, Faisalabad, Multan, Bahawalpur, Sargodha, D.G.Khan, Gujranwala and Rawalpindi.
6. The Chief Scientists (SF), Provincial Reference Fertilizer Testing Laboratory, Raiwind.
7. Fertilizer Cell of this office to place this notice on the website of this institute i.e. <https://sfri.punjab.gov.pk>

The Chief Scientist / Principal Scientists of labs are hereby directed to arrange the scope of this parameter in the laboratory under their control and till that time subcontracting, provided in ISO rules may be resorted.

  
20/06/24  
Chief Scientist/Deputy Controller  
Fertilizer, Punjab, Lahore



**OFFICE OF THE ADVOCATE GENERAL, PUNJAB**  
**Lahore High Court Multan Bench Multan.**

Office-061-9200888  
MOST URGENT

To,

The Chief Scientist/Director Soil & Fertility  
Thokar Niaz Baig, Lahore.

NO. 2842 /A.A.G DT. 14-6- /2024.

SUB:- W.P.NO.7611 OF 2024 TITLED AS "PAKISTAN CROP PROTECTION ASSOCIATION VS. GOP, ETC".

That the subject captioned writ petition is pending adjudication before Hon'ble Lahore High Court Multan Bench, Multan. On 13.06.2024 the afore-said case came up for hearing before his lordship Mr. Justice Anwaar Hussain-J. Hon'ble Court after perusing the available record as well as hearing the parties at some length re-listed the case for 25.06.2024 while passing an order as under:-

"Pursuant to notices issued, learned Law Officer seeks permission to submit report, which is taken on record. Copy of the said report is also handed over to learned counsel for the petitioner, who seeks time to peruse the same and file rejoinder, if need be. On the strength of the report, learned Law Officer submits that fertilizers analysis was always to be carried out by taking into account percentage of humic acid and K<sub>2</sub>O alongwith pH value of the fertilizers, however, since Fertilizer Testing Laboratory, D.G. Khan has only obtained accreditation for this parameter now, therefore, the said requirement is being enforced. This in itself raised a are empowered to question as to how the respondents are suddenly start implementing the legal requirement after a gap of 10 years without due intimation to the petitioner side. There is no ready explanation available with the respondent side, therefore, I am inclined to grant interim relief in terms that no adverse action shall be taken against the petitioner, till the next date of hearing".


Accordingly, it further apprised that during the query of the court and arguments it is advised by the office of the undersigned that authorities and department

MKS pl  
9 more orders  
for grace  
period  
4/20  
20/06/24

concerned should made prior intimation to the companies/associations of concern matter regarding the analysis of PH level of fertilizer to access the percentage of humic acid and K2O alongwith PH value, however when the laboratories of the country get the abilities to improve the examination/analysis of the products according to the protocol mentioned in schedule and law should be intimated at least one month prior to start the procedure of protocol for analysis, it is therefore, advised that the concern authority, please, be convey to Pakistan Crop Protection Association and other companies about starting of protocols while giving the grace period to settle the quality of fertilizer after that grace period protocol of analysis including PH value should be carried out and no objection will be considered in this regard after grace period, however final decision be given by the competent court of jurisdiction at final decision of this case.

It is also, also required concerned officer/well conversant with the facts of the writ petition be deputed to attend the Hon'ble Court's proceedings on the next date of hearing at 08:00 AM through the undersigned's office.

This may be taken on **TOP PRIORITY**.

  
**Bashir Ahmad Buzdar**  
Assistant Advocate General, Punjab  
Multan.

\*Syed Irum Dukhari-P.S\*