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## Use of Nanotechnology for Plant Nutrients to Halve Urea Usage and Raise Productivity

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New Delhi: The government has approved the use of nanotechnology for plant nutrients, a decision which is expected to halve the use of urea and increase productivity by 15%. “[The Central Fertiliser Committee](#), the regulatory body of fertiliser products, has approved the usage of nano nitrogen after a year-long field trial.

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“Since the technology is new, we need to ensure that it has no adverse impact on the environment and human health. We will keep a close watch on the results of this product,” he said.

Nano nitrogen is a patent product of IFFCO. It is in liquid form and 500 ml of nano nitrogen is equivalent to a 50 kg bag of urea in its impact.

The consumption of urea in the country has reached about 35 million tonnes, with 70% manufactured in [India](#). The use of urea puts a financial burden on the government, which pays more than 70% subsidy on urea to ensure cheaper fertiliser for farmers.

“Since there will be no subsidy on nano nitrogen, the subsidy burden of the government will also ease with nano nitrogen replacing urea usage. The government pays a subsidy of over 50,000 to urea companies,” said the official. Fertiliser maker IFFCO had launched field trials of nano nitrogen last year across 9,000 sites in the country with the support of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research.

Read the [original article](#) on The Economic Times.