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# Making the Right Fertilizer Choice.

Now that you know the difference between fertilizers, it's time to figure out how to go about selecting the right fertilizer. Most fertilizer distributors sell a large variety of fertilizer products. So, how do you know which one is best for you?

Well you need to know how to read the fertilizer label. Every fertilizer bag must clearly display a label with the brand, grade, guaranteed analysis, name and address of the fertilizer manufacturer/company, directions for use and net weight. Some bags contain additional information such as the size of the granules or size guide number (SGN).

### THE BRAND

The brand can be represented as an actual fertilizer brand like (XCU™, DURATION®, etc.) or as a batch number.

### SGN (SIZE GUIDE NUMBER)

Describes the size of the granules in millimeters times 100 (i.e. a 250 SGN is 2.5mm in average particle size).

### THE GUARANTEED ANALYSIS

This clearly states all nutrients that are being claimed and from which form they are derived (i.e. the percentage of Nitrogen derived from a polymer coated, sulfur coated urea).

### DIRECTIONS FOR USE

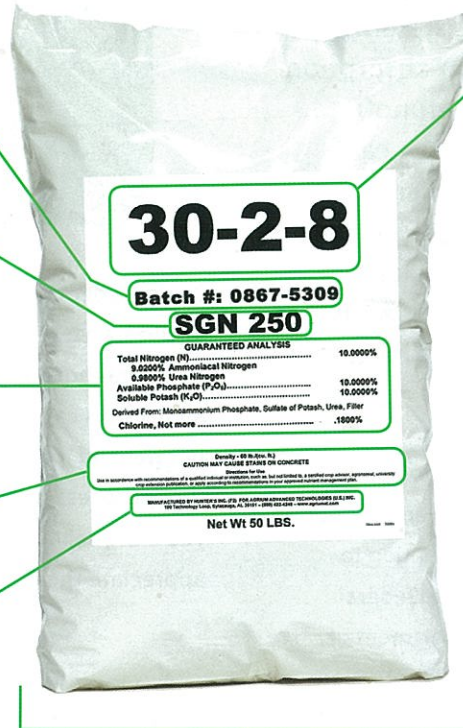
This information will tell you how to best use the product.

### NAME & ADDRESS OF FERTILIZER MANUFACTURER/COMPANY

This information will tell you where the product was produced and what manufacturer/company produced it.

### HOW TO CALCULATE HOW MUCH FERTILIZER YOU NEED.

If you wished to apply a rate of 1 pound of Nitrogen per 1,000 square feet, with this bag of fertilizer, you would need to apply 3.33 pounds of actual product (1.0 pound Nitrogen desired / 0.30 = 3.33). In doing so, you would be applying 0.07 pounds of Phosphate (3.33 x 2%) and 0.27 pounds of Potash (3.33 x 8%).



### THE GRADE

The grade is considered the three numbers boldly displayed on a fertilizer bag that represent the percentages of Nitrogen (N), Phosphorus (P) and Potassium (K).

### THE FIRST NUMBER

Represents Nitrogen. Therefore a fertilizer bag with a 30-2-8 on the label means it contains 30% Nitrogen.

### THE SECOND NUMBER

Represents Phosphorus expressed as Phosphate (P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>), which contains Oxygen.

### THE THIRD NUMBER

The third number represents Potassium expressed as Potash (K<sub>2</sub>O), which also contains Oxygen.