Ask for
BEN FRANKLIN Agricultural Gypsum
from your local dealer.
Or
Call 1-800-621-9529 to request a call from a United States Gypsum Company representative. A representative can provide product specifications and direct you to your nearest local dealer.

United States Gypsum Company
Industrial Gypsum Division
101 South Wacker Drive
Chicago, Illinois 60606-4385

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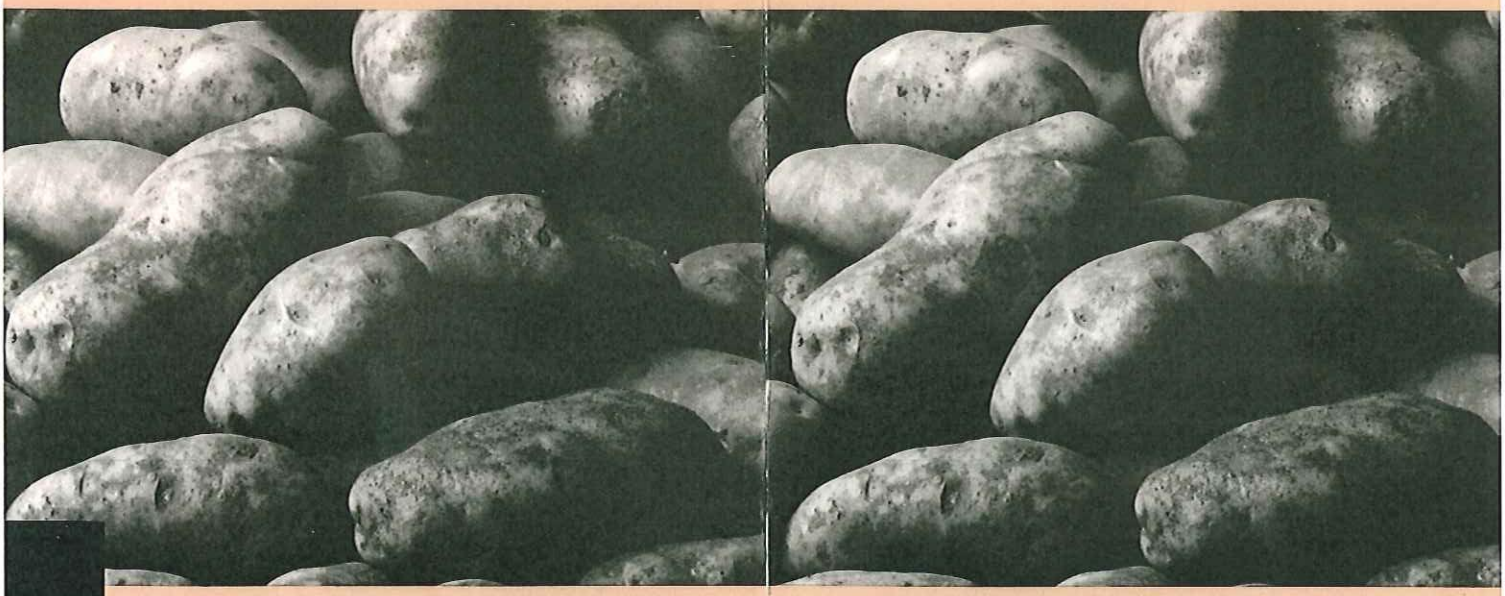
BEN FRANKLIN®

Agricultural Gypsum

Natural Source of Calcium for Potatoes



USG

Need for Calcium in Potatoes

Potatoes have a high calcium requirement. Calcium is important for cell growth and development, cell wall membrane structure and numerous biochemical reactions. Proper tuber growth and development, root penetration and survival of emerging plants are all dependent upon proper calcium nutrition. Calcium is taken by the tubers directly from the soil through root hairs or possibly through the skin. So the calcium must be applied near the tubers and be available throughout the growing season.

Gypsum is a proven, safe source of calcium that helps growers improve tuber quality and size, as well as increase potato yields. It is a natural mineral with a chemical composition of calcium sulfate dihydrate ($CaSO_4 \cdot 2H_2O$). The quarried or mined rock is ground or crushed to convenient sizes for agricultural use.

Benefits of Calcium

Studies of low calcium soils showed that adding gypsum just before or just after planting:

- ☐ *Improves overall quality and size of tuber*
- ☐ *Increases tuber yield on low cation exchange capacity soils*
- ☐ *Increases the percent of US1A tubers; reduces the percent of US1B and cull tubers*
- ☐ *Helps reduce susceptibility to bacterial soft rot*
- ☐ *Reduces calcium deficiency disorders, including internal brown spot*
- ☐ *Amends the adverse effects of excess magnesium and potassium*

Advantages of Gypsum

A proven safe source of calcium readily available to plants, gypsum:

- ☐ *Is 150 times more soluble than limestone*
- ☐ *Has a neutral pH of about 7.0*
- ☐ *Does not buffer the pH of the soil*

Assured Quality and Performance

All agricultural gypsum products from the United States Gypsum Company are tested continuously to assure consistent quality, high purity and guaranteed minimum levels of calcium. BEN FRANKLIN Agricultural Gypsum, fine grind, is especially useful when rapid rates of solubility are desired. USG™ #1 Agricultural Gypsum and BEN FRANKLIN 420™ Landplaster (available in the Southeastern U.S.) have been especially sized to ensure:

- ☐ *Free flow during application*
- ☐ *Even broadcast distribution*
- ☐ *Season-long calcium availability through time-release effect of multisizing*

Recommended Applications*

- ☐ *Preplant broadcast applications—use coarse multisized USG#1 Agricultural Gypsum or BEN FRANKLIN 420 Landplaster.*
- ☐ *Preplant band applications—as above or use BEN FRANKLIN Agricultural Gypsum, fine grind.*

*Application Rates**

Ca Soil Test Level (lbs./acre)	*Add Gypsum (lbs./acre)*
Less than 800	*1000*
800 to 1200	*500*

*Recommended applications and rates are based on studies conducted at the University of Wisconsin.

United States Gypsum provides several gypsum products to serve your growing needs.
Choose from:

- ☐ *BEN FRANKLIN Agricultural Gypsum (fine grind)*
- ☐ *USG #1 Agricultural Gypsum (multisized)*
- ☐ *BEN FRANKLIN 420 Landplaster (multisized)*