

# Saferock Mineral Can Increase Agri Yield by upto 30%

Saferock® Agri is produced by nature over several hundreds of thousands of years through erosion and geological activity resulting in a unique combination of secondary macro elements and micro nutrients forming sedimentary layers at the bottom of the ocean floor. As these deposits were forming they invariably have been through several process such as anaerobic digestion and compression to form the minerals resource we see today.

**S**aferock Minerals Ltd, a U based company, owns the natural mineral resource which has been branded as SafeRock Agri; along with SafeRock Health and SafeRock Feed. Geologists tell us that this totally natural resource was created by the geological action of the continental shelf pushing sedimentary deposits up from the sea bed creating the surface deposits recently discovered in Northern Ireland. The resource, when crushed to a powder provides a unique blend of minerals and nutrients that is 100 percent recoverable with no additives being used or waste being created. We aim to use SafeRock Agri to provide a natural holistic solution to the global crisis of soil degradation.

The Saferock team was in Delhi recently to interact with various private and government organizations exploring how the Saferock minerals could do wonders in an agriculture dominated country like India. SME WORLD discussed with **Colin Downing, Managing Director** and **Bill Avery, Chief Agronomist**, various aspects of the use of the minerals in agriculture, health and animal feed.

## Colin Downing, Managing Director, Saferock Minerals Ltd.

**India is an agriculture based country with very small agriculture land holdings. Do you think the concept of offering subsidies to farmers is good? Are you pressing for such a subsidy on your mineral to promote organic farming?**

The debate over whether subsidies to farmers is good or not is irrelevant in India as they do exist and I don't believe this

will change. Therefore in order for Organic farming to be able to compete on the same level the Government has an obligation to offer similar subsidies to Organic Farmers.

**Since you are targeting India to market your product, have you gone in for testing in India? If yes, how viable it is for Indian farmers?**

We have focussed our marketing via setting up of trial programs with Indian State universities and research centres, so as to provide reputable data for farmers and government extension officers once completed. Again some form of Government directive to the State Universities and Research centres would speed up this process.

**Is Saferock good for GM crops also?**

**Saferock® Agri** is beneficial for all crops including GM types as it uses natural and chemical processes to supply the crops with required nutrients. The more degraded the soil the more of an impact **Saferock® Agri** has through the replacement of degraded levels of micro nutrients and

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Colin Downing, M.D., Saferock Minerals Ltd.

GM crops do have a place in agriculture where viable farming soils are decreasing and urbanisation is increasing, which is limiting the sustainable long term food security of the population. Like nature though we should not rely on one single approach to maximise yields, our soils are the basis for all agricultural food production and this is the primary supplier of food nutrition. **Saferock® Agri** focus lies on building natural soil fertility.

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**What is the relevance of GM crops in a growing economy like India?**

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**Can you explain the source of your product and how it is being processed for final use?**

Geologists inform us that the Saferock Minerals resource was created by the Geological action of the continental shelf pushing sedimentary deposits up from the sea bed creating the surface deposits. Saferock Minerals blasted, primary crushed 3 times by mechanical crushing machines, then screened to a powder. Saferock Minerals are 100% natural with no additives or anything taken out during the manufacturing process.

**How relevant is the viability of**

**SafeRock in a place like India? What cost dynamics? Is it competitive?**

From who's point of view, Saferock Minerals are keen to establish India as one of their agricultural outlets, however we are actively researching other countries. Yes Saferock Minerals is competitive with other similar products.

**Has any study been done which indicates some yield increase when using your product and also reduction in the use of chemical fertilisers?**

Our trials show 15 to 20% increase in yield, resulting in a positive result for the overall cost benefit analysis of the targeted crop. We have primarily focused on normal farming practises + **Saferock® Agri** and have not verified to date the actual fertiliser reduction levels appropriate to each crop and soil situation. However this research is ongoing and proving very positive, so very shortly we will publish these findings to further prove the overall benefits to soil and crop nutrition when using **Saferock® Agri**.

**What would be mode of marketing of your product in India? Ideally we would like to establish a Government backed marketing**

**strategy in India.**

Which Indian region/soil is most suited for safeRock? What regions you are targeting in India? Saferock® Agri has been used in many soil types and acid to alkaline Ph levels, to date it has proved beneficial in all situations.

**Which other countries are being focussed for your product?**

We are currently have sent sample to countries including, Indonesia, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Vietnam, Europe, USA amongst others.

**What is the capacity of your mines? What is the volume of demand you can meet and for how many years?**

The quarry is 1100 feet above sea level and the Geologists inform us that the deposit full depth. Further investigations are under way to confirm the depth through deep drilling. The volume of capacity will reach around 1,000,000 tons per year over the next 5 years, which at present is confirmed for twenty years after at a depth of 3 benches.

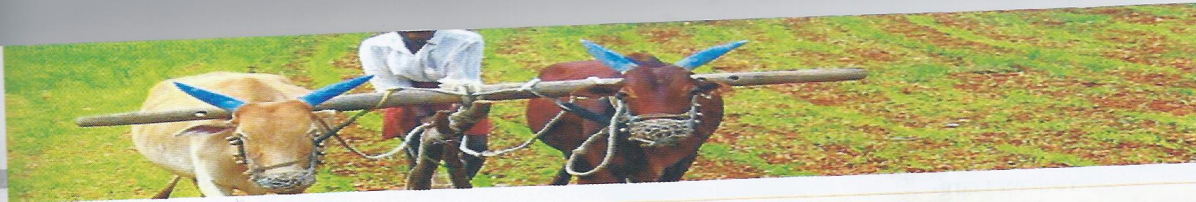
**Bill Avery, Chief Agronomist**

**How different is your product in terms of its nutrients composition which makes it very useful when applied to soil?**

Conventional fertilizers contain mainly the 3 primary macro nutrients which are N, P & K (Nitrogen, Phosphorus & Potassium), which are the nutrients plants require in large amounts. N, P & K are the highest volume nutrients required by plants in commercial farming operations. Quite commonly as farmers design nutrient programs for their crops, they quite often neglect the application of the lesser known micro nutrients to their soils resulting in below normal yields and soil fertility loses.

Saferock® Agri addresses this issue directly with its unique levels of trace elements which are required for agriculture and animal feeds. Crops require all of the soil minerals to reach maximum yields and maintain the soils natural fertility; this is the focus of the Saferock Minerals Company as we work with agriculture globally.





Safe Rock® Agri is a slow release fertiliser because only a very small percentage of the resource is water soluble and the remaining minerals are broken down via organic acids, weathering and biological interactions over time. This non water soluble slow release process also positively addresses the issue of nutrient losses to the environment and contamination of water courses.

University to independently quantify the fertiliser reduction levels which are apparent in our field trials when using Saferock® Agri in combination with a good nutrient program. This research is on track to develop the application rate protocols for reducing current fertiliser application.

Farmers and users will quickly see visual improvement to plants when applied correctly after one week within vegetable crops and 2 within weeks with row crops and plantations.

**The resource is being described as a SLOW RELEASE. Please explain in common parlance its meaning?**

**What are the micro micronutrients in your resource which make it unique compared to similar products if are available elsewhere?**

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The conventional manufactured trace elements or blended products used in agriculture are water soluble and in higher concentration levels than found in Saferock® Agri, but are very mobile in the soil profile resulting in losses through leaching to water tables or streams which is detrimental to the environment.

**As you are aware, the character of soils are very varied in India, which type of soils shall be most suitable to your resource for better results when applied?**

Safe Rock® Agri trace elements have worked well on many crops in soil ph. levels from 5.2 to 8.8 and also in many differing soil types such as those present in Indian agriculture.

It should be noted that there is a possibility that results could be diminished in extremely high soil ph. conditions but we have not encountered this issue so far in agricultural crops.



Bill Avery, Chief Agronomist

**Has any study been done which indicates yield increase when using your product and also how much is the reduction in the use of chemical fertilizers?**

Safe Rock® Agri has carried out several commercial field trials on tomato, wheat, sugar cane and grapes, which have proven when used in combination with a good fertiliser program have produced yield increase of 10% to 30% resulting in a positive Cost Benefit Analysis to the tune of 20% to 30% per hectare.

We have engaged Portsmouth

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