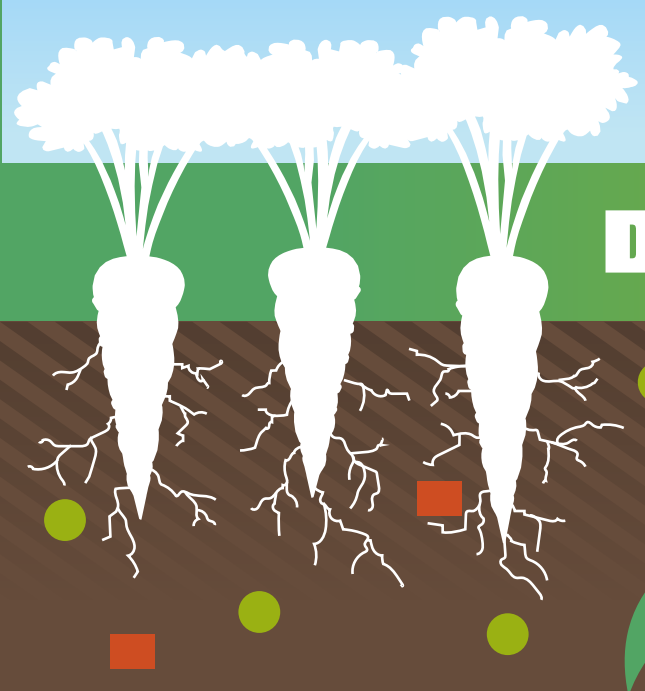
POTASH & PHOSPHATE

GROWING OUR FOOD & OUR ECONOMY



DID YOU KNOW?

PLANT GROWTH

Phosphate and potash are two of the most important elements for plant growth. Soils deficient in these minerals **grow less food and feed fewer people.**

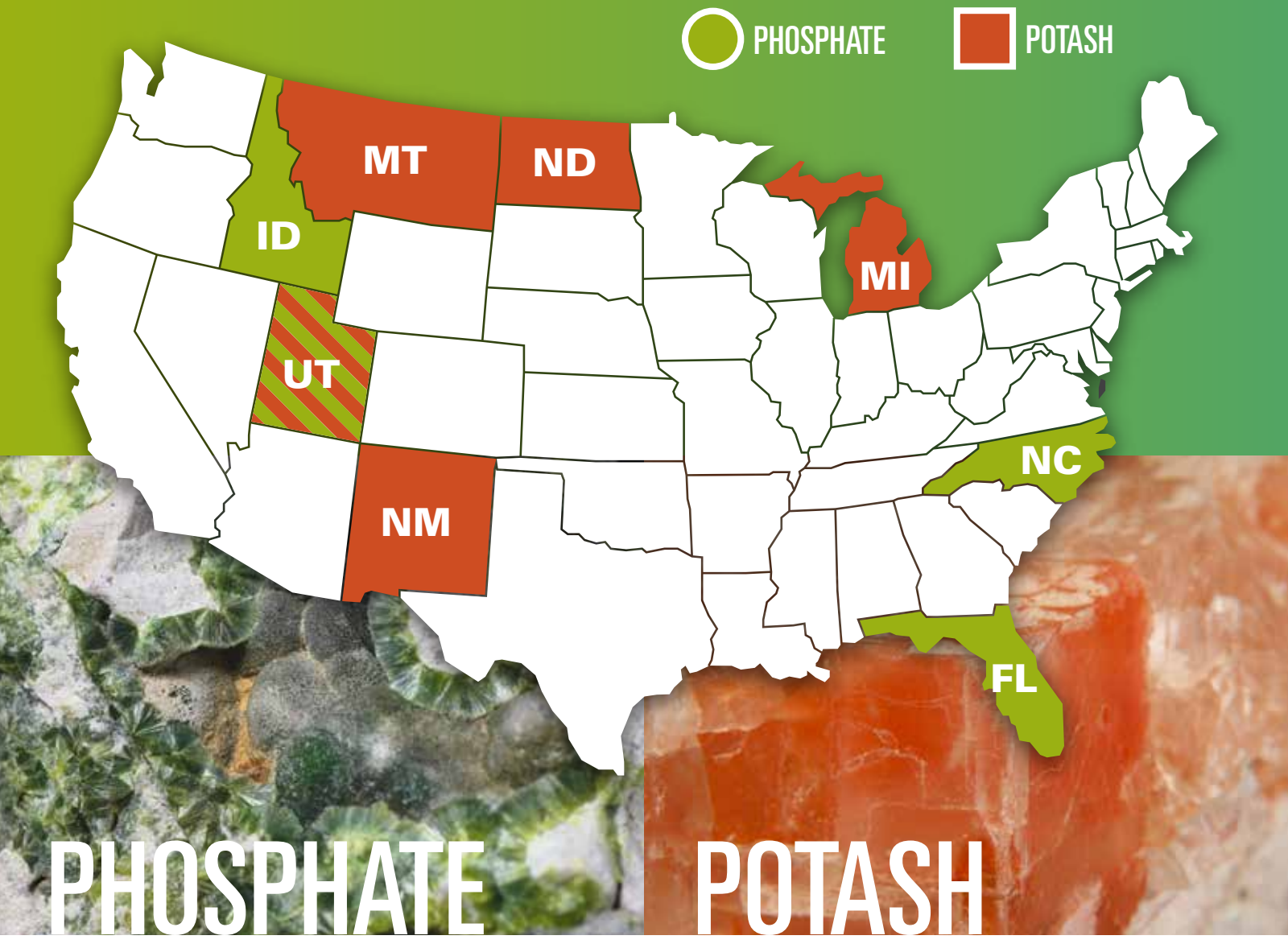
More than 90 percent of phosphate and potash production is used to fertilize soil, increasing crop yields in a sustainable manner.

As food demand outpaces available agricultural land, phosphate and potash will be **critical to feeding the world's growing population.**

MAJOR ECONOMIC DRIVERS

The United States produced **$3.6 billion** worth of phosphate and potash in 2013, supporting nearly **4,000 direct, indirect and induced jobs.** Greater access to these minerals means even more jobs for miners throughout the U.S. and for farmers in America's heartland – and helps keep food affordable.

WHERE ARE THEY FOUND AND HOW ARE THEY USED?



PHOSPHATE

In 2013, the United States was home to about **1.1 billion metric tons** of phosphate rock. It was extracted at **11 mines in four states.**

There are no substitutes for phosphate in agriculture, making this mineral crucial to our food supply.

POTASH

In 2013, domestic potash resources totaled about **7 billion tons**. The United States is home to some of the world's largest potash reserves. In fact, in central Michigan there is a reserve that contains more than **75 million tons of potash.**

Potash is critical for agriculture as its properties improve water retention, disease resistance of food crops and yield nutrient value.

SOURCES

- http://minerals.usgs.gov/minerals/pubs/commodity/potash/mcs-2014-potas.pdf
- http://minerals.usgs.gov/minerals/pubs/commodity/phosphate_rock/mcs-2014-phosp.pdf

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