

**2001 IFA REGIONAL CONFERENCE  
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**RECENT AGRICULTURAL AND FERTILIZER USE  
DEVELOPMENTS IN THAILAND**

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**IFA REGIONAL CONFERENCE FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC  
Ha Noi, Viet Nam**

**“Recent Agricultural and Fertilizer Use Developments in Thailand”**

**Speech of Mr. Dusit Jittanoonta  
National Fertilizer Public Company, Thailand**

**General Information about Thailand**

Similar to many other developing countries in Southeast Asia, agriculture is important sector that contributes substantial income to Thailand. In 1998, the country's GDP was US\$ 104.2 billion. The agricultural GDP and crop GDP were US\$ 13.9 billion and US\$ 7.9 billion, which accounted for 13.3 % and 8 % of the national GDP, respectively. The value of agricultural products exported in the year 2000 was US\$ 13.8 billion approximately, accounting for 22.4% of the total value of the export of the country respectively.

In terms of land utilization and number of population, agriculture reveals more in the national development. Approximately 62 % of the total of 63 million population is involved in agriculture, while 41 % of the total land are farm holding. Only 12 % of the farm and are irrigated. The majority of the irrigated land is located in the central and the northern regions. On average, annual rainfall in Thailand is quite abundant. For example in the year 2000, it ranged from about 1,000 mm in the central region to 4,000 mm. in the southern region. The annual rain days ranged from 110 to 210 days.

In overall, Thailand is an agricultural country. The climatic conditions, especially water supply in the rainy season are suitable for the production of many crops. After 1997 when the national economy collapsed, agricultural sector was not much affected. The Government realized the importance of the agricultural sector in the national economic security. Thus, several strong support initiatives to the agricultural sector were implemented. Substantial amount of country's budget was allocated to the farmer groups and agricultural cooperatives for production loan and agricultural business investment. “World Kitchen” is then the country's slogan Government emerged as the strategic direction toward national economy upturn.

# GENERAL INFORMATION



TOTAL LAND	Mha	51.3
FARM HOLDING LAND	Mha, 2000	20.9
IRRIGATED LAND	Mha, 2000	5.0
FARM SIZE	ha, 2000	3.9
NO. OF FARM	mil. farm, 2000	5.3
TOTAL POPULATION	mil.person,1998	61.2
COUNTRY GDP	bil. US\$,1998	104.2
AGRICULTURAL GDP	bil. US\$,1998	13.9
CROP GDP	bil. US\$,1998	7.9
PER CAPITA INCOME	US\$, 1997	1,273
TOTAL EXPORT	bil. US\$,2000	61.6
AGRICULTURAL EXPORT	bil. US\$,2000	13.8

Source :Office Agri. Economics.

# Prominent Crops Growing Area

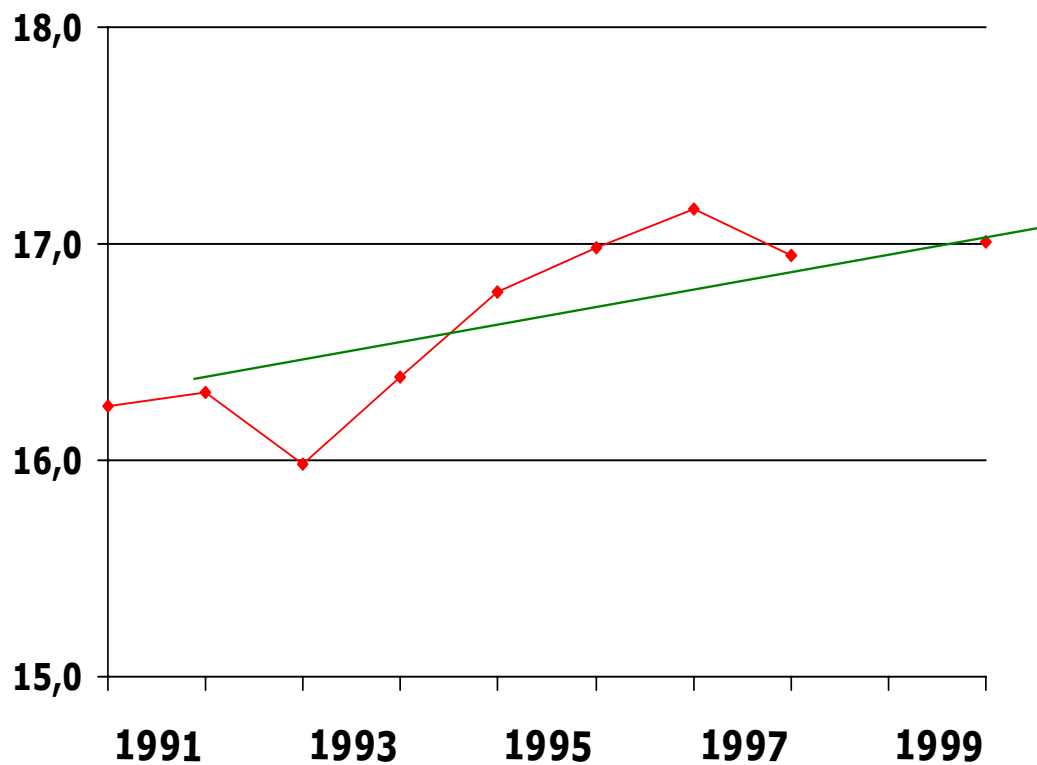
**(Mha)**

<b>1. Rice</b>	<b>10.5</b>
<b>2. Corn</b>	<b>1.3</b>
<b>3. Cassava</b>	<b>1.2</b>
<b>4. Sugarcane</b>	<b>0.9</b>
<b>5. Para Rubber</b>	<b>1.6</b>
<b>6. Oil Palm</b>	<b>0.3</b>
<b>7. Fruit Trees</b>	<b>1.4</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>17.2</b>

**81.3% of Farm  
Holding Land**

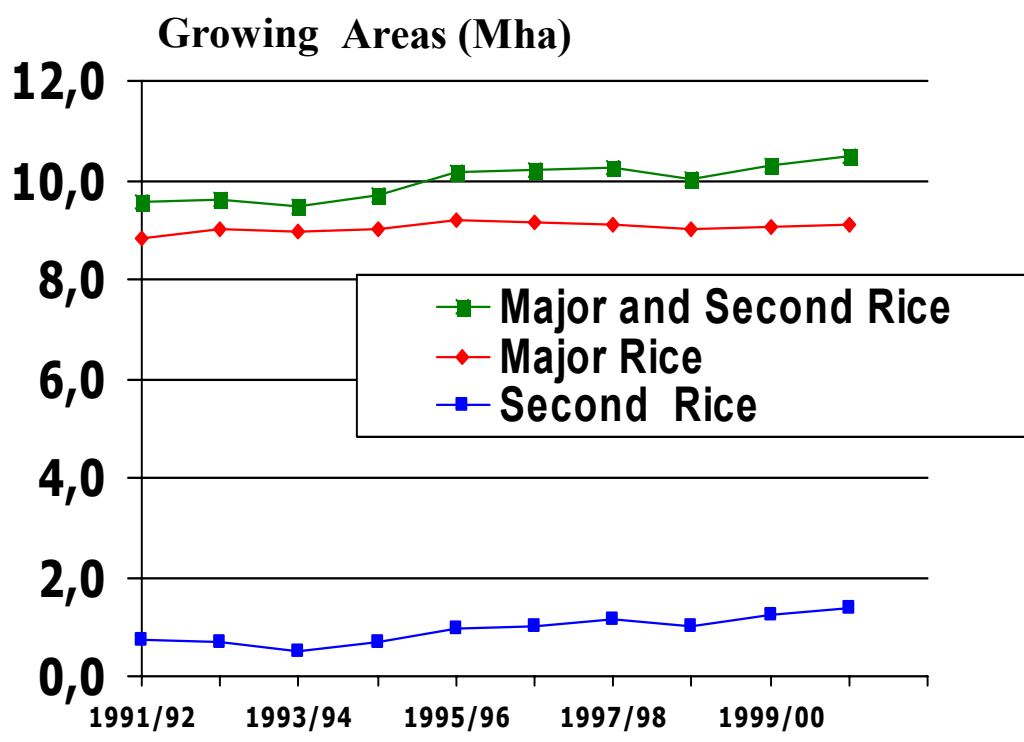
# Total Growing Area of Prominent Crops

**Growing Areas (Mha)**



Source : Office of Agricultural Economics

# Rice Growing Area



Source: Office of Agricultural Economics.

Major Rice 8.83 → 9.11 = +0.28 Mha (3.2 %)

Second Rice 0.72 → 1.39 = +0.67 Mha (93.1 %)

**Total 9.55 → 10.50 = +0.95 Mha (100 %)**

## **Fertilizers Used for Rice**

16-20-0

16-16-8

16-8-8

46-0-0

**Rate of Application 200 kg/ha**

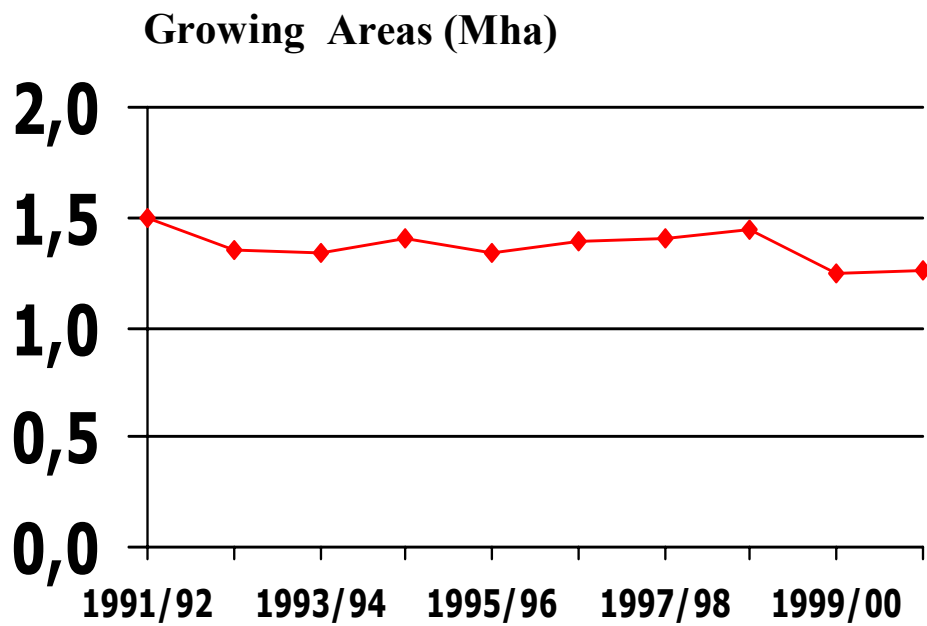
**Total Fertilizer Use : 2.0 Mt**

## Planting Method



# Broadcasting





Source: Office of Agricultural Economics.

**1.50 to 1.26 = - 0.24 Mha (-16.0%)**

**16-20-0**

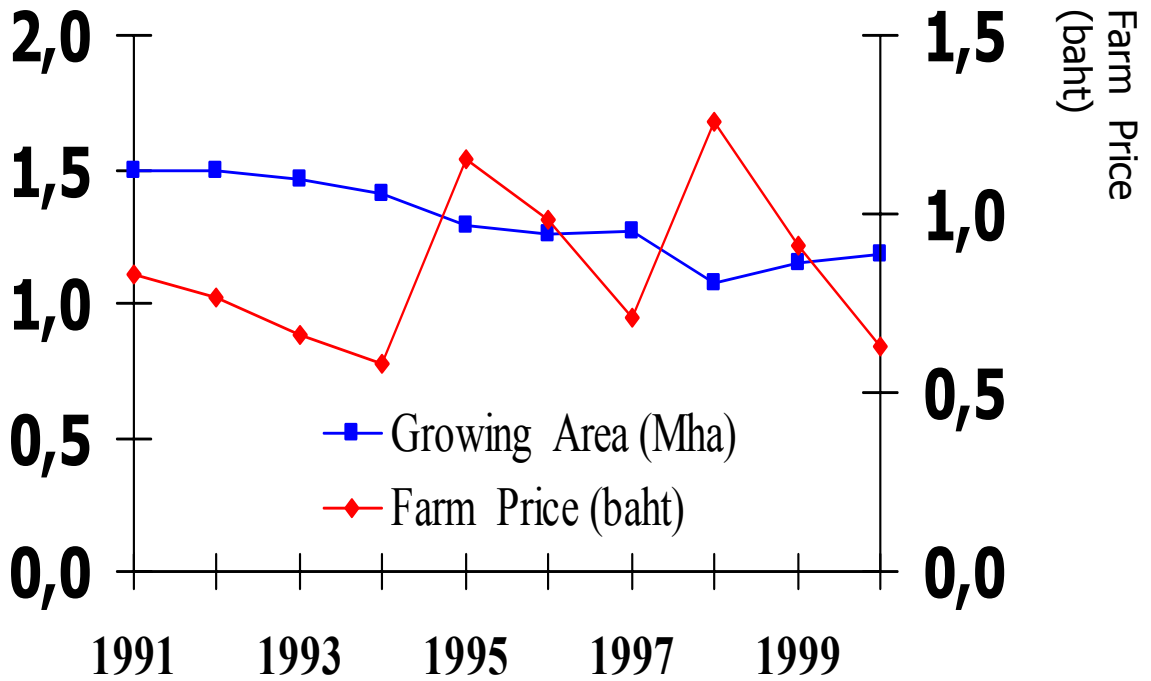
**15-15-15**

**46-0-0**

**Rate of Application : 200 kg/ha**

**Total Fertilizer Use : 0.26 Mt**

# Cassava



Source: Office of Agricultural Economics.

**1.49 to 1.18 = -0.31 Mha -20.8%**

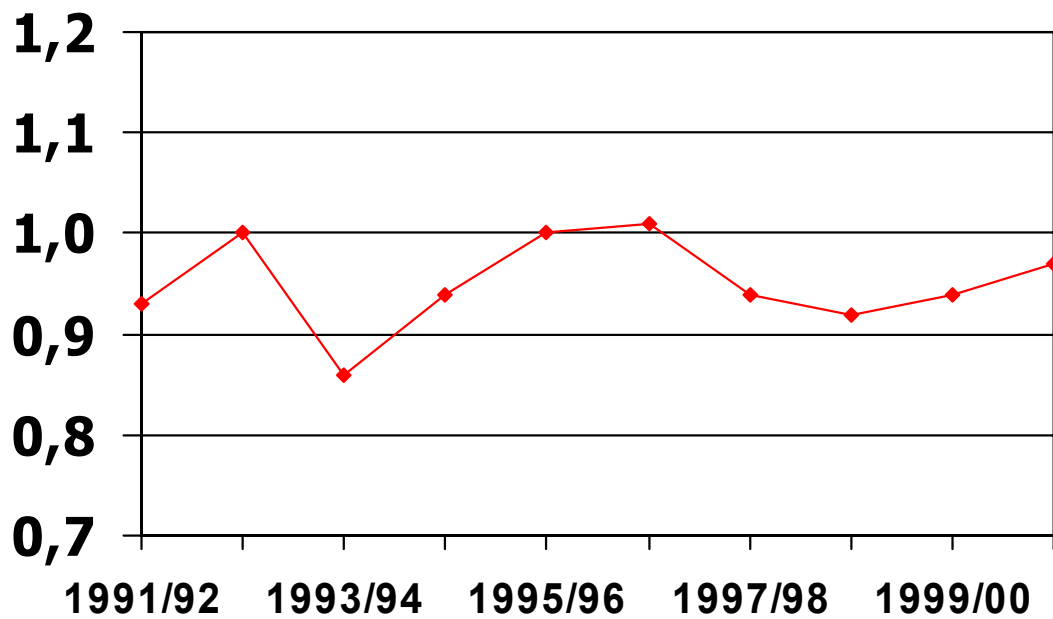
**15-15-15**

**Rate of Application : 160 kg/ha**

**Total Fertilizer Use : 0.20 Mt**

# Sugarcane Sugarcane

Growing Areas (Mha)



Source : Office of Agricultural Economics.

**0.92 to 0.87 = - 0.05 Mha (-5.4%)**

**15-15-15**

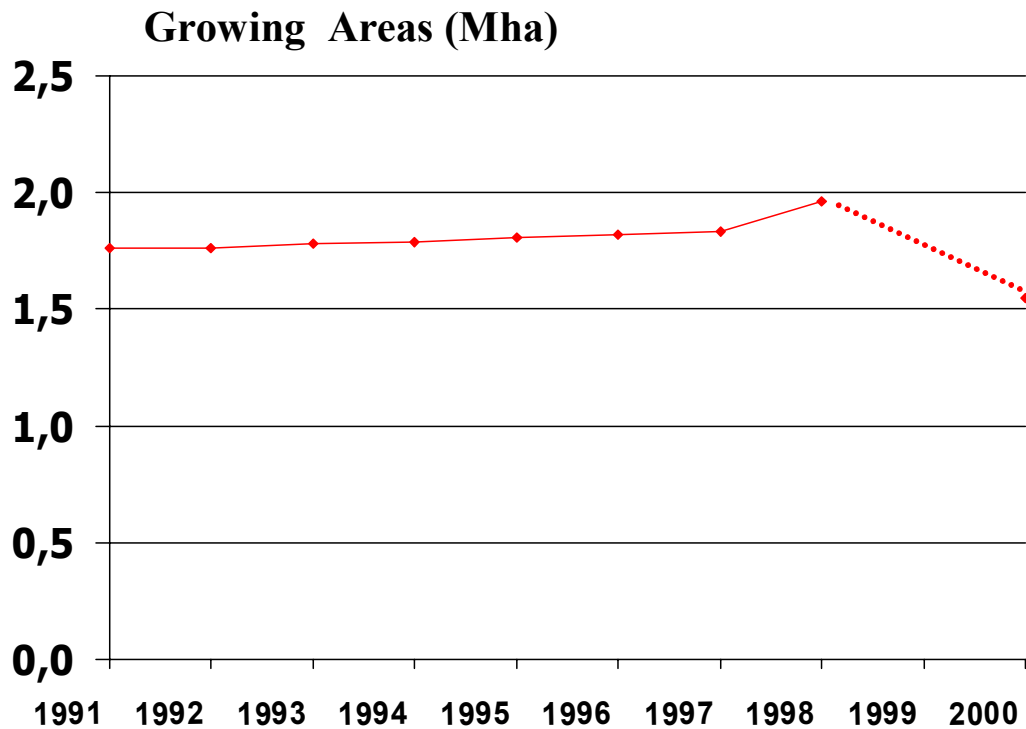
**46-0-0**

**21-0-0**

**Rate of Application : 340 kg/ha**

**Total Fertilizer Use : 0.32 Mt**

# Para Rubber



Source: Rubber Research Institute.

**1.76 to 1.55 = -0.21 Mha (-11.9%)**

**14-4-9**

**18-4-5**

**15-7-18**

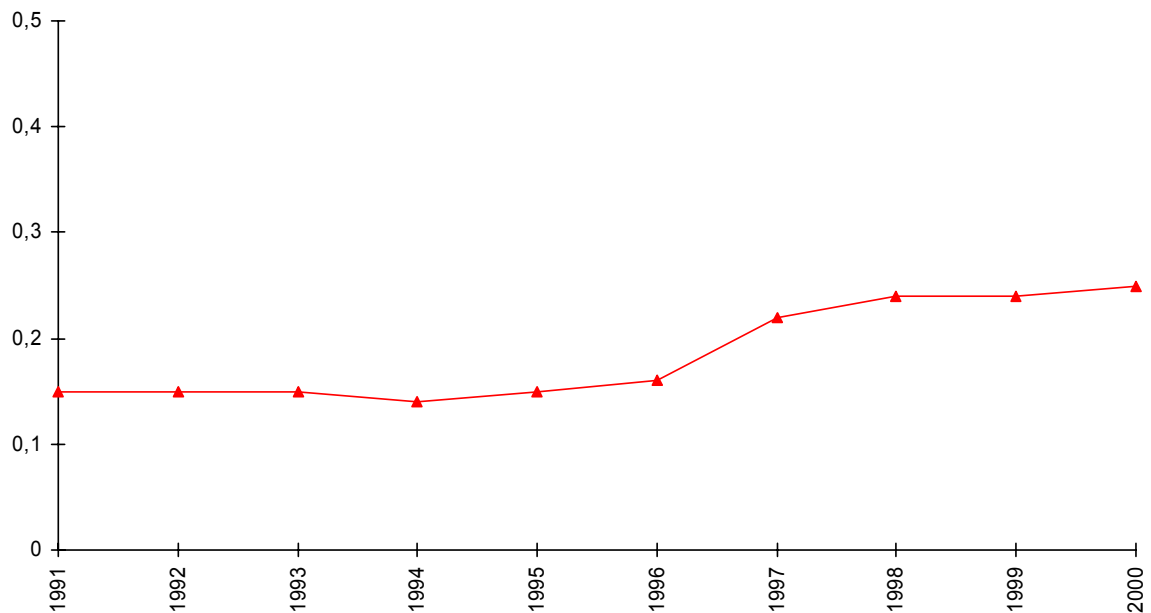
**15-15-15**

**Rate of Application : 160 kg/ha**

**Total Fertilizer Use : 0.32 Mt**

# Oil Palm

## Growing Areas (Mha)



Source : Department of Agricultural Extension.

**0.15 to 0.25 = +0.10 Mha (66.7%)**

**15-15-15**

**21-0-0**

**0-0-60**

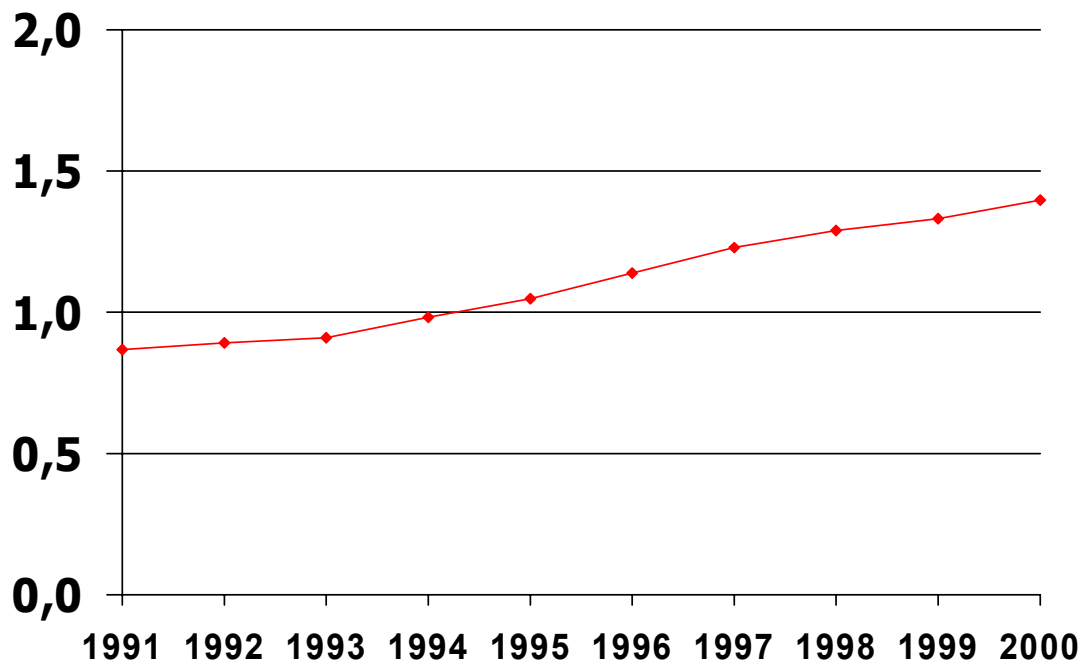
**Phosphate Rock**

**Rate of Application : 480 kg/ha**

**Total Fertilizer Use : 0.12 Mt**

# Fruit Trees

Growing Areas (Mha)



Source : Department of Agricultural Extension.

**0.87 to 1.40 = +0.53 Mha (60.9%)**

**15-15-15      13-13-21      8-24-24**

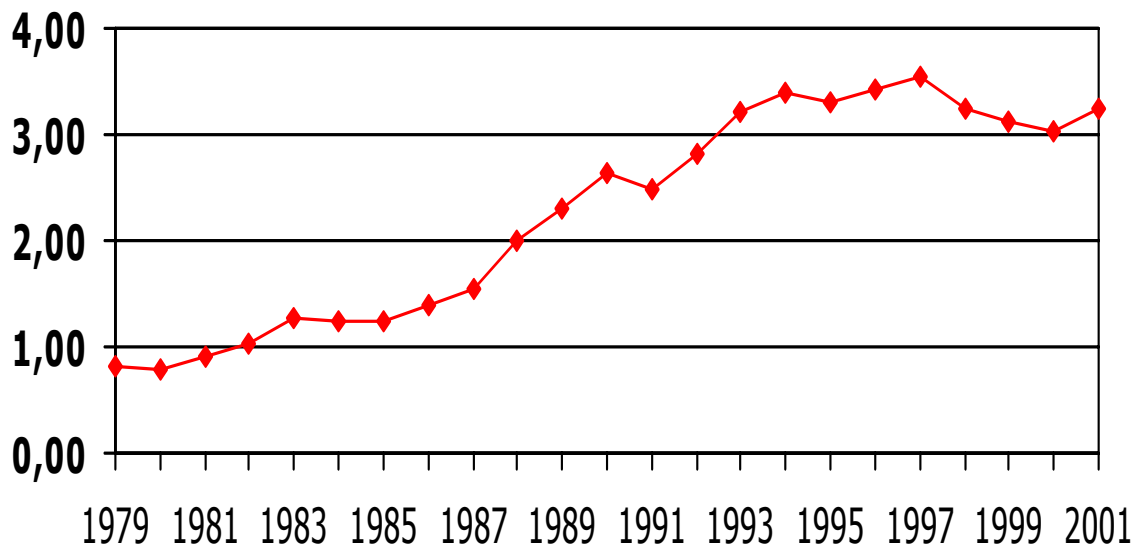
**Rate of Application : 190 kg/ha**

**Total Fertilizer Use : 0.25 Mt**

# Total Fertilizer Consumption

## Fertilizer Consumption

(million tonnes)



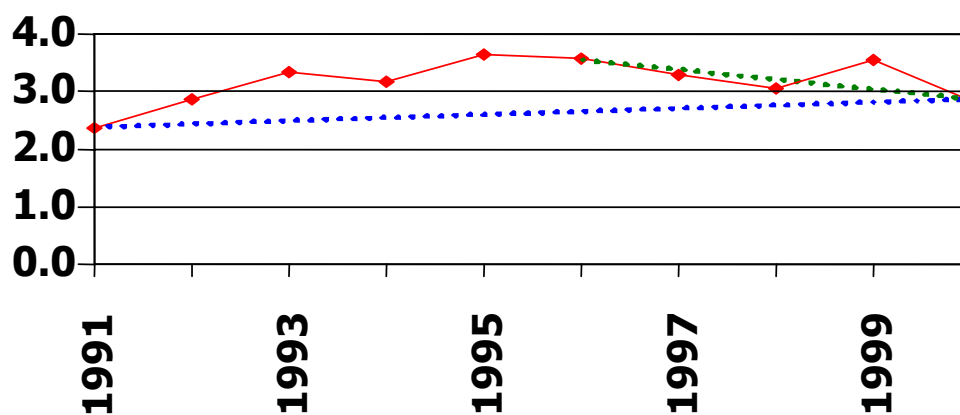
Sources: Office of Agricultural Economics.

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**(1991-2000) 2.49 to 3.04 = +0.55 Mt (22.1%)**

# Total Fertilizer Imports

Imported Quantity  
(million tonnes)



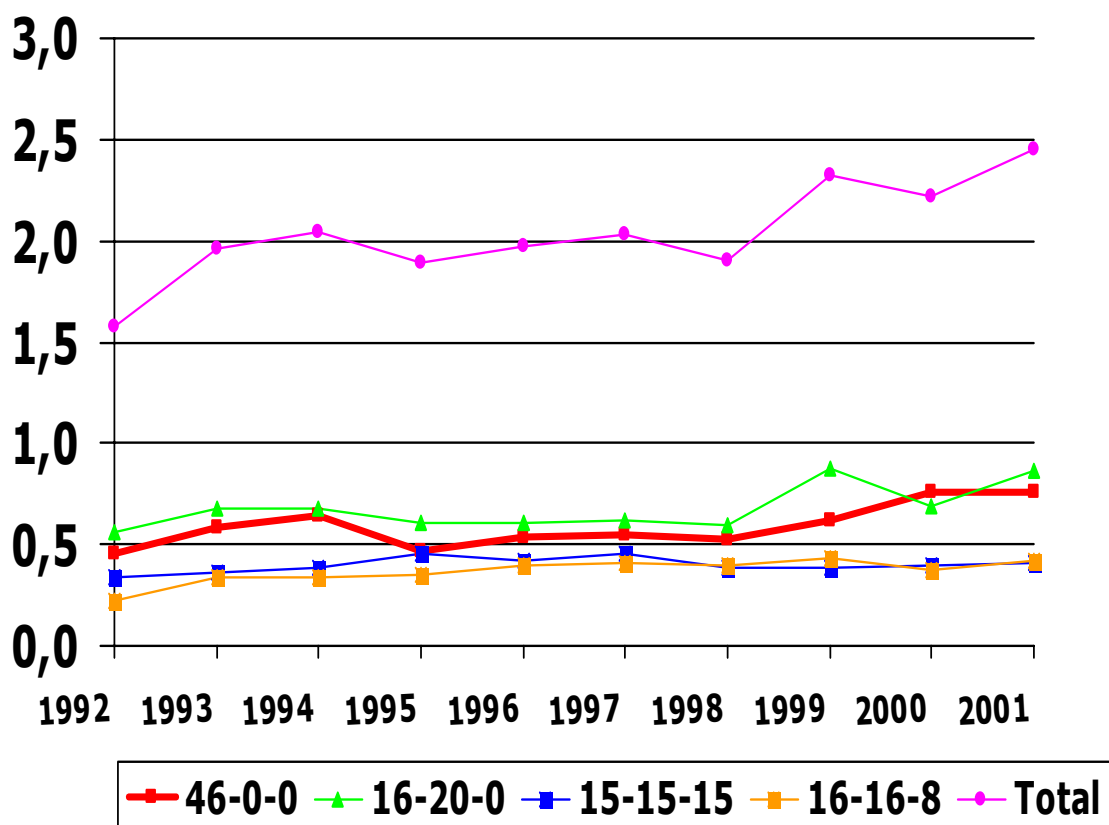
Source: Custom Department.

**(1991-2000) 2.37 to 2.85 = + 0.48 Mt (20.3%)**

**(1996-2000) 3.57 to 2.85 = -0.71 Mt (-19.9%)**

# Prominent Fertilizer Grades Consumed in Thailand

## Fertilizer Consumption (million tonnes)

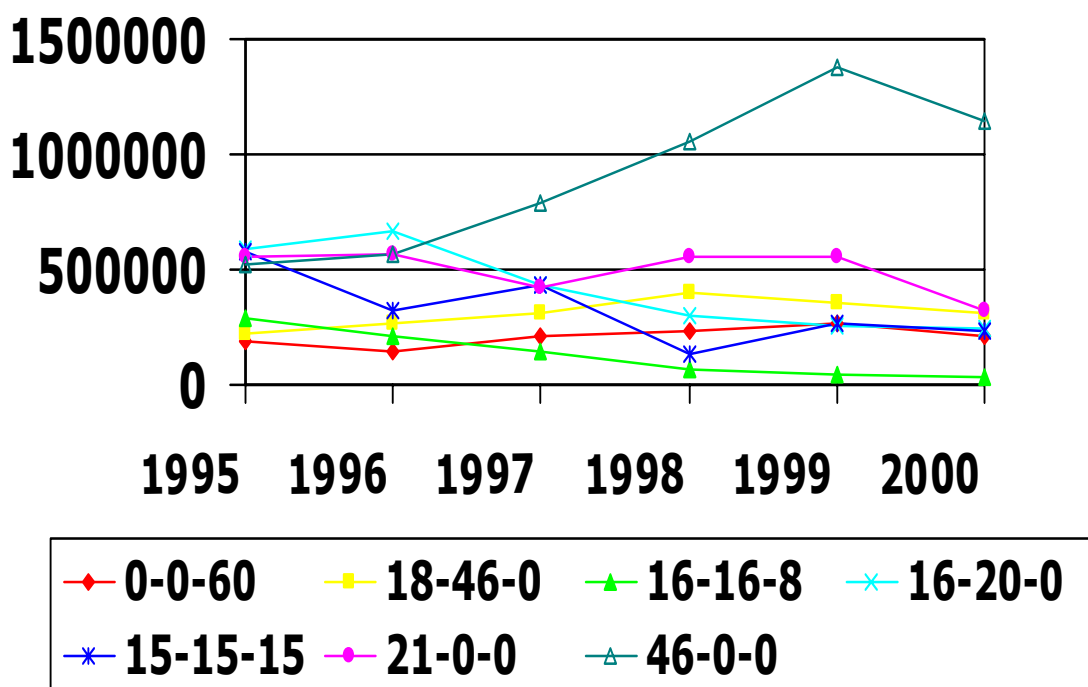


Source: Office of Agricultural Economics.

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## Prominent Fertilizer Grades Imported to Thailand

**Imported Quantity  
(tonnes)**



Source : Custom Department