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**Eti Bakır, Türkiye’s first CE-certified fertilizer producer**

**Eti Bakır Samsun Smelter and Electrolysis Plant qualified for CE certification by fulfilling the necessary competencies in ammonium sulfate fertilizer production at EU standards, making Eti Bakır the first CE-certified ammonium sulfate producer in Türkiye.**

Ammonium sulfate fertilizer for increased agricultural productivity fertilizes the soil with its rich nitrogen and sulfur content to achieve ideal soil cultivation conditions promoting the growth of crops, plants and trees. Eti Bakır Samsun Smelter and Electrolysis Plant, capable to meet more than 50% of Türkiye's need for ammonium sulfate fertilizer which can be as high as 1 million tons a year, has proven the compliance of its ammonium sulfate production with EU standards, thus qualifying for CE certification. Bilal Osman Turan, Chief Engineer for Ammonium Sulphate, and Ayhan Hacıismailoğlu, Laboratory Engineer, received the CE certificate on behalf of Eti Bakır Samsun Plant at a seminar about the EU Fertilizing Products Regulation and CE Certification held at the Ankara Chamber of Commerce.

CE (Conformité Européenne) marking is a major requirement for selling products in EU member states which proves that a product does not pose a risk to human, animal or plant health, to safety or to the environment provided that it is used for its intended purpose. The CE certificate also serves as a passport for products manufactured outside the EU.

**AMMONIUM SULFATE TO BOOST TURKISH AGRICULTURE**

**Asım Akbaş, Deputy General Manager of Eti Bakır,** a company that has set an example of best practice in sustainable production through continuous improvements in quality and environmental safety, said: “Our Samsun plant, Türkiye's only smelter, produces ammonium sulfate fertilizer from sulfuric acid which is a byproduct of copper production. Our annual production capacity of 665 thousand tons meets more than half of Türkiye's ammonium sulfate need. Technical evaluations and analyses by accredited laboratories have proven that our product meets the CE requirements, which serves as a declaration of guarantee on our part as a manufacturer. In addition to using resources effectively and with maximum efficiency, we attach great importance to ensuring that production is carried out safely and in line with international standards.”

Due to reasons such as geographical location, soil structure, climatic conditions and seasonal conditions, agricultural activities in Türkiye can only be carried out in certain periods of the year. Ammonium sulfate fertilizer is widely used in the cultivation of a large variety of crops such as cereals, fruits and vegetables to increase yield. Ammonium sulfate fertilizer, the lifeblood of Turkish agriculture and Turkish farmers, supports crop growth and facilitates phosphorus uptake from the soil.

***EDITOR’S NOTE:***

*Ammonium sulphate fertilizer is a physiological acid fertilizer containing 21% ammonium nitrogen and 24% sulfur. It is also known as 'Sugar Fertilizer' among farmers because it resembles crystal sugar in appearance. Ammonium sulphate fertilizer contains 21% nitrogen (N) in the form of ammonium (NH4) and 24% sulfur (S) in the form of sulphate (SO4) that plants can take up. Since its nitrogen content is in the form of ammonium, it is not washed away from the soil and remains effective for a long time. Its sulfur content in the form of sulfate fully meets the needs of crop. Since it acidifies the soil when dissolved, it increases the uptake of micronutrients and phosphorus in calcareous high pH soils.*