



Pergunte ao Euca Expert / Ask the Euca X Pert

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Perguntas / Questions

Pergunta nº: 980/Question nº: 980

Título: /Title: *Mineral fertilization on Eucalyptus plantations*

Por: / By: **Patric Selin**

E-mail: Patric.Selin@sveaskog.se

Questão: /Question:

Dear Mr. Celso

I got your name from Mr. Joao Borges in Curitiba and I have also visited your website many times. I was placed in Curitiba between 2008-2010 working for a company but unfortunately we never had the chance to meet each other.

Today I am back in Sweden as Senior President Markets for Sveaskog – the biggest forest owner in Sweden. Sveaskog owns roughly 3.3 million hectare of productive forest.

I have 2 questions to you since I couldn't answer them straight forward last Friday when I did a short lecture at an university in south Sweden:

1. How long time can you "use" the soil in a *Eucalyptus* plantation without losing minerals needed for growth?
2. How common is it to use fertilization in *Eucalyptus* plantations in Brazil? Technique to spread and amount of fertilization/ha etc?

I appreciate your support and hope to hear from you soon.

Sincerely, Patric Selin

Resposta por Celso Foelkel: / Answer by Celso Foelkel:

Dear Patric, thanks for your message.

The eucalyptus forests are in general planted in poor soils, that have already been exhausted by previous intensive agriculture or due to eroded pastures. This means that fertilization is a must, in case not done, the forest productivity is substantially reduced.

Considering this fact, nutritional balances are carried out to evaluate the right amounts of fertilizers and limestone to be added (and when) along the forest rotation.

With this forest management, foresters do believe that forest productivity may become sustainable and even increased due to tree breeding.

The charges of fertilizers vary according to the calculated balances of offer, demand and exports of NPK+Ca+Mg and micronutrients.

The fertilizer addition is based also in the number of trees per hectare (spacing), which varies from 1,000 to 1,666.

A good example of fertilizer addition per hectare is just below:

1 - 1,5 tons of limestone

450-500 kg of natural phosphates

150-200 kg of NPK 06-30-06

400-500 kg of NPK 12-00-20

...plus a cocktail of micronutrients.

No matter the additions of fertilizer, when a new forest will be planted in the same site, a new evaluation is required, and the nutritional balance redone.

Hoping to have been clear,

Regards

Celso Foelkel

Outros Comentários: / Other Comments:

Por:/ By: [Patric Selin](#)

E-mail: Patric.Selin@sveaskog.se

Oi Celso Foelkel

Thanks a lot for your support and yes, your answer gave good insight. I understand that 100 % of *Eucalyptus* plantations almost are fertilized.

Thanks again from a Swedish forester,

Ate logo e tchau,

Patric Selin