Global Status of Phosphorus

Arno Rosemarin PhD Senior Research Fellow Stockholm Environment Institute

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Global distribution of commercial phosphate rock reserves

Commercial Reserves P-Rock 2016

Country	Gigatons of P-rock	% of global	
Global	71	100	
Morocco	50	70	
China	3.7	5	
Finland	2.4	3	
Algeria	2.2	3	
Syria	1.8	3	
South Africa	1.5	2)15
Jordan	1.3	2	K, 20
Russia	1.3	2	; GT
USA	1.1	2	2016
Australia	1	1	SGS
Saudi Arabia	0.96	1	Ď



94% in 11 countries

Varying trends in estimates of phosphate rock reserves (megatons)



P-rock production (megatons/yr)



Sharp increase in extraction by China; world level is now 223 megatons US decreasing, peaked in the 80s

Extraction Rate of P-Rock

Country	Extraction in 2015 (megatons)	% of global capacity	Years to depletion at current rate	Years to depletion at FAO's 2.5% annual growth
Global	223		309	87
Morocco	30 (47 by 2017)	13,5	1667	150
<mark>China</mark>	100	44,8	37	<mark>26</mark>
Algeria	1.2	0,5	1833	
Syria	0.75	0,3	2400	
South Africa	2.2	1,0	682	
Jordan	7.5	3,4	173	67
Russia	12.5	5,6	104	51
<mark>USA</mark>	27.6	12,4	40	<mark>27</mark>
Australia	2.6	1,2	385	
Saudi Arabia	3.3	1,5	291	
Peru	4	1,8	205	

USGS 2016

These 5 countries represent 80% of the global capacity. In less than 30 years 57% will be gone leaving mainly Morocco alone to take over (ie much higher growth than 2.5% per yr is required)

P-rock future trends in production



This prognosis shows a global peak at ca 310 megatons by 2025 draining Chinese and US reserves which would almost disappear in 30 years. To prevent this destabilization the US and other countries are presently building up Morocco's capacity. Global population peaks by 2050 stabilizing levels at ca 220 megatons.

EU imports of phosphates



90% of EU phosphate is imported

75% comes from 5 countries

Finland Europe's only mine (2.4 gtons reserves (4% P_2O_5 ; 1 megaton per yr extracted); currently being expanded

Source: Eurostat-Comext Database, CN 2510 1000 and CN 2510 2000 [accessed August 2013]



Phosphate rock since 2014 is on the EU List of Critical Raw Materials



Economic importance

A signal that supply can be disrupted, recycling is necessary and there are no subsitutes



Phosphate Rock Price Trend



market since 2008 was disrupted and "scarcity priced"; now more stable and dropping with oil prices

Consumption of fertilizer in EU-27



Sharp drop due to fall of the Soviet Union. The relative importance of organic sources like manure and sludge are increasing.

P value chain – multiple components to be managed

- Rock phosphorus (apatite)
- Sulfuric acid 5 parts
 H₂SO₄ give 3 parts H₃PO₄
 in the wet extraction
 process
- Phosphorus products (MAP, DAP, SP, etc)
- Agro and food system soil, food and animal feed
- Manure, excreta, solid waste





Global supply chain losses of phosphorus from mine to meal are significant



Phosphorus sustainability to be managed

Reduce

- Improved efficiency in mining and extraction
- Improved fertilizer use and technology
- Less consumption of meat and dairy products

Recycle

- Improved recycling of food & food production wastes, sludge, manure, struvite, etc.
- Economic instruments and flexible fees
 - Large users to pay more tax fees than smaller users



Sewage sludge disposal from urban wastewater treatment 2013 (% total mass)



Biogas plants in Germany 1992–2015



Cadmium levels in P-rock



Challenges surrounding P governance

- Common perception: Food & fertilizer have no limits – just water is limiting
- EU's mammoth agro-subsidy (1 billion Euros/wk) creates false security – now fragile
- No government will lead the dialogue food price increases would be a political disaster
- □ Industry has taken a very low profile
- □ UN is not pro-active (P-rock)
- □ No geopolitical crisis yet like 1972 oil
- Duncan Brown's empty gas tank analogy still prevails – no action until we run out









Elser 2013 2013

Finnson, Swedish Water 2015



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