



## “The Voice of Manitoba Farmers”

203-1700 Ellice Ave. ~ Winnipeg MB ~ R3H 0B1

ph: (204) 697-1140 ~ fax: (204) 697-1109

[kap@kap.mb.ca](mailto:kap@kap.mb.ca) ~ [www.kap.mb.ca](http://www.kap.mb.ca)

### **For immediate release**

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## KAP's Fertilizer Survey Shows P Skyrocket

**Winnipeg** – Keystone Agricultural Producers (KAP) has released the results of its spring fuel and fertilizer survey, which shows that the cost of phosphorus has skyrocketed anywhere from 75% to 96% from the same time last year. Significant price increases were also noted in potash, sulfur, and nitrogen fertilizers. The prices for farm fuels also increased by about one-third from 2007.

Since last April, the average price of dry phosphate has risen from \$616.63 to \$1,210.72. Phosphates (P) are essential for plant growth, photosynthesis and overall health. About 25% of Manitoba's soils are classified as having low or very low P levels, and many other must replace the nutrients used by the previous year's crops. For most farmers, it is an essential input purchase.

“We keep hearing about the skyrocketing price of grains, but we need to remember that this money still isn't real for farmers until the crop is harvested this fall,” says KAP President Ian Wishart. “In the meantime, we have to chase these record prices by paying very steep and very real fertilizer prices.”

Since 2005, KAP has conducted a input price survey every spring to monitor provincial prices for fuel and fertilizer, and to shine a spotlight on the increasing costs of doing business on the farm.

The survey results and comparisons to previous years are attached.

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### **For more information, please contact:**

Ian Wishart, KAP President. Cell: (204) 856-6964.

*Please note: Ian is currently in Ottawa for meetings, but will be available and answering any voice messages.*

Lenore Kowalchuk, KAP Communications. Office: (204) 697-1140. Cell: (204) 792-2661.