History
The original SF Phosphates mine—near Vernal, Utah—was developed by the San Francisco Chemical Company in 1960. Chevron Resources Company purchased the mine in 1981, and in 1984 began construction of the slurry pipeline and the fertilizer manufacturing plant near Rock Springs, Wyoming. Chevron’s plant and pipeline operations were underway by 1986. Spring of 1992 saw the formation of SF Phosphates Limited Company with the purchase of the mine, pipeline, and fertilizer plant in a joint venture between the J.R. Simplot Company and Farmland Industries, Inc. In 2003 the J.R. Simplot Company purchased Farmland Industries’ interest in the operation, renaming it “Simplot Phosphates, LLC.”

Consumer Benefits
Simplot Phosphates, LLC produces high-quality phosphate fertilizer, while maintaining its status as a low-cost leader in the fertilizer industry. Fertilizer helps replace missing soil nutrients, thereby promoting stronger plants. In turn, organic matter is increased, root systems are strengthened and soil is less susceptible to wind and water erosion. When erosion and agricultural tilling are decreased, the threat of contamination to rivers and streams is reduced. Also, by improving the efficiency of food production, the fertilizers produced at Simplot Phosphates, LLC help to bring those foods to your table affordably.

Local Economic Benefits
Annually, the Simplot Phosphates, LLC facilities spend $57 million for a variety of goods and services, for such things as industrial supplies, heavy equipment, and utilities. The facilities pay $1.7 million each year in municipal taxes, and annually channel $38.3 million into the Vernal and Rock Springs economies through employee salaries.

Raw Materials Used
Simplot Phosphates, LLC uses three key raw ingredients in the production of fertilizer: phosphate ore from the Vernal, Utah mine; sulfur, which is a by-product from Wyoming oil fields; and ammonia, which is made from natural gas and delivered to the Rock Springs manufacturing plant.

Products
- Phosphoric Acid (54%)
- Super Phosphoric Acid (68%)
- MAP (Monoammonium Phosphate), a dry, granulated fertilizer
- FSA (Fluorosilicic Acid)

Safety and Environment
Employee safety and compliance with environmental standards are top priorities at Simplot Phosphates, LLC. Both the Vernal and Rock Springs facilities report yearly on-the-job injury rates that are approximately half the national average.

How We Make Fertilizer
The dry-fertilizer storage building at the Rock Springs, Wyoming location holds approximately 80 thousand tons of product. This means it’s large enough for a 280 lane bowling alley or 38 basketball courts!

Simplot Mining & Manufacturing System Overview

Simplot Phosphates, LLC
The name Simplot Phosphates, LLC describes two facilities that work cooperatively to produce phosphate fertilizer.

Phosphate ore is mined 12 miles north of Vernal, Utah, where it is also crushed, washed, finely ground and concentrated. The ore is then mixed with water to form a slurry and shipped 96 miles through a pressurized pipeline to the manufacturing plant five miles south of Rock Springs, Wyoming. Molten sulfur (which is burned in fertilizer production to provide heat, steam, and sulfur dioxide gas) is supplied by various vendors, as is ammonia, the third raw material used in production.

Other facilities in the AgriBusiness Group and the principal products they produce or handle include:

Don Plant–Pocatello, Idaho
- Dry and Liquid Phosphate and Nitrogen Fertilizers
- Feed Phosphates
- Purified Phosphoric Acid

Lathrop, California
- Ammonium Phosphates
- Feed Phosphates
- Ammonium Sulfate
- Ammonium Hydroxide
- Sulfuric Acid

Helm, California
- Liquid Ammonium Nitrates
- Nitric Acids
- Calcium Ammonium Nitrate
- Urea Ammonium Nitrate
- Liquid Ammonium Phosphate

Overton, Nevada
- Silica Sand: AFS grades 55, 60, 70, and 100

Smoky Canyon Idaho-Wyoming Border
- Phosphate Ore

Corporate Information
The AgriBusiness Group is part of the J.R. Simplot Company, a privately held agribusiness company. With facilities throughout the western United States and in Canada, the AgriBusiness Group is focused on meeting the needs of its customers through the environmentally conscious extraction of natural resources, the manufacturing of fertilizers and the distribution of the highest-quality agricultural products. Along with the rest of the J.R. Simplot Company, the employees of the AgriBusiness Group recognize and embrace the responsibilities that fall to a company dedicated to Bringing Earth’s Resources to Life.