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an update on the work & progress at IFDC—An International Center for Soil **Fertility and Agricultural Development**

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IFDC Looks Forward... Our 5-Year Strategy at a Glance

IFDC has developed a new 5-year strategy to better address the global food crisis and the factors that have caused it: rising energy and production costs, population growth, new demand for biofuels, and drought. Ironically, income growth, which has increased meat consumption in emerging economies, is also a factor.

Today's heightened global commitment to food security, poverty alleviation, and agriculture also offers new opportunities for IFDC to have large-scale impact. The new strategy sets forth IFDC's vision of how to best meet new challenges and fulfill our original mandate of focusing on fertilizer issues to improve food security.

The new brochure "IFDC Looks Forward..." describes IFDC's Strategic Framework for 2009-2013. The Framework outlines IFDC's approach to research and development and improving efficiency and productivity across the agricultural value chain.

The Framework describes programs to improve the efficiency and productivity of:

- · Key inputs, including nutrients, fertilizer products, and water.
- · Markets for both inputs and outputs.

The Framework also introduces three IFDC initiatives:

- · Nitrogen Efficiency Initiative.
- Phosphate Efficiency Initiative.
- Africa Productivity Initiative.

rom www.ifdc.org.

DC Strategic Framework brochure can be ordered—

World Fertilizer Prices Drop Dramatically After Soaring to All-Time Highs

World fertilizer prices began dropping dramatically in late 2008 after reaching all-time highs around April.

The price of urea, the world's most common nitrogen fertilizer, rose from about \$280 to \$405 per ton in 2007 and reached \$452 in April 2008. The price then soared to \$815

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Monthly Averages January 2000 - Mid-December 2008 1200 DAP, U.S. Gulf 800 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1

Fertilizer Prices (FOB, bulk)

wed from (Artil M orld fertilistr prices doubled in 2007 and reached all-time highs in April 2008. But prices began dropping dramatically in FOR = free on board (average price, with buyer paying freight and insurance, to destination port).

DAP = diammonium phosphate. MOP = muriate of potas

(IFDC Graph by IFDC—An International Center for Soil Fertility and Agric

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