

Phosphate Rock

Phosphate rock refers to rocks containing about 300 phosphate minerals, usually apatite, which can be commercially exploited, either directly or after processing. It thus also denotes the product obtained from the mining and subsequent metallurgical processing of phosphorus-bearing ores. Phosphate rock – besides organic sources as bone meal and guano – is the only source of phosphorus that is inevitable for modern agriculture. The resources are relatively abundant globally and reserves are significant and sedimentary phosphate deposits occur on every continent; however, current production of phosphate rock is concentrated in a limited number of countries. Approximately 91% of the phosphate rock mined is used to produce mineral fertilisers and animal feed and food additives; the remainder is used to produce elemental phosphorus and other industrial phosphates. The figure below presents the value chain of phosphate rock with its main uses.



โซ่คุณค่าของ Phosphate Rock