**EXERCISE 6. USING FERTILIZERS**

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| *OBJECTIVE***After this exercise the participants will be able to:*** Interpret the label on a bag of commercial fertilizer and apply that type of fertilizer correctly.
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| *EQUIPMENT NEEDED** One label from a bag of commercial fertilizer, preferably one commonly available in the area.
 | *EXPECTED OUTPUT** Group members practice “reading” the label of a bag of fertilizer and consolidate their knowledge on how to apply different types of fertilizers.
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| *TIME*20-30 minutes | *PREPARATION** The facilitator should obtain a label from a locally- available commercial fertilizer and bring it to the meeting (if possible bring several labels from different fertilizers). The facilitator should also remind farmers about the different ways to apply different types of fertilizers before the exercise begins.
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*SUGGESTED PROCEDURE:*

1. Identify a volunteer from among the group who is willing and able to read the label. He or she should read the label aloud for the group.
2. Lead a discussion about the content of the fertilizer. Ask:
	* What does the label say about nutrient content and volume of the fertilizer?
	* What other types of fertilizer have you seen or used?
3. Once the group has correctly identified the contents of the fertilizer, lead a discussion on the different ways in which that fertilizer could be applied, and the pros and cons of each method. The group should then discuss and decide on the most practical and effective way(s) for them to apply that particular fertilizer. If interested, the group can also discuss the application of other fertilizers.

