

## Phosphorus Fact or Fiction Statements (and answer key)

There are .11Kg (.25 pounds) of phosphorus (P) in your body right now.

During an average lifetime, a person will consume 34kg (75 pounds) of phosphorus.

Phosphorus is universally the least abundant of the major chemical elements that make up the “stuff” of living biomass.

Vitamin D is involved in regulating calcium and phosphorus in the human body.

The green revolution (1950s) accelerated agricultural production on Earth by utilizing the geological stores of phosphorus.

Most phosphate deposits on Earth are from igneous rock sources.

Plant-available phosphorus in agriculture soil is usually about 90% of the total amount present at any one time.

A nationwide voluntary ban on phosphorus-based laundry detergent was implemented in the United States in 1994.

Phosphorus pollution is confined to inland surface freshwater lakes and rivers.

The term *peak phosphorus*, describes the point when agriculture soil can longer adsorb or regulate phosphorus flow.

Only a small amount of the phosphorus input to agricultural systems reaches the food we eat, especially in meat production.

One company in China has constructed the world’s largest pig farm, CAFO. On this farm, a single facility can house up to 15,000 pigs.

Two million metric tons (MT) of phosphorus passes through human digestive tracks each year resulting in equal amounts of human wastes.

Globally, about 12% of all food is wasted, spoiled, or thrown away for some reason or another.

The International Plant Nutrition Institute (IPNI) is an international organization that has proposed a 4R program that has been adopted in North America to advance sustainable management of plant nutrition.

## Phosphorus Fact or Fiction Answer Key

There are .11Kg (.25 pounds) of phosphorus (P) in your body right now.	FICTION!
During an average lifetime, a person will consume 34kg (75 pounds) of phosphorus.	FACT!
Phosphorus is universally the least abundant of the major chemical elements that make up the “stuff” of living biomass.	FACT!
Vitamin D is involved in regulating calcium and phosphorus in the human body.	FACT!
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The term <i>peak phosphorus</i> , describes the point when agriculture soil can longer adsorb or regulate phosphorus flow.	FICTION!
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Two million metric tons (MT) of phosphorus passes through human digestive tracks each year resulting in equal amounts of human wastes.	FACT!
Globally, about 12% of all food is wasted, spoiled, or thrown away for some reason or another.	FICTION!
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