

Agricultural Chelates Market - Growth, Trends, Covid-19 Impact, and Forecasts (2023 - 2028)

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Report description:

The agricultural chelates market is projected to register a CAGR of 6.7% during the forecast period 2022-2027.

The COVID-19 pandemic affected all the processes that connect farm production to the final consumer. Various measures were taken by governments in order to stem the virus, including the shutdown of plants, and social distancing, among others. As a result, many chemical plants, including factories manufacturing agricultural chelates, were working with reduced manpower during the pandemic. Hence, as most production plants were operating at lower-than-normal capacity, this resulted in a shortage of supply of raw materials required to produce fertilizers over the short term.

With the growing demand for chelates in hydroponics, research in the development of bio-degradable chelates has accelerated over the years. Many authors have suggested that IDHA, a novel biodegradable agent, could be used as a micronutrient chelating agent in hydroponics and fertigation cultures instead of EDTA. As agriculture evolves worldwide, the usage of hydroponics and fertigation is increasing, particularly in areas with challenging agronomic conditions. The increasing demand for hydroponics is predicted to significantly boost the market for chelating agents in agriculture in the future.

By type, EDTA occupies the largest share in the agricultural chelates market. Its ability to treat harmful lead poisoning in the soil by removing toxins, such as mercury, cadmium, and lead, is driving the growth of EDTA chelates during the forecast period. The fully biodegradable chelate IDHA is expected to witness the fastest growth among agricultural chelates. The rise in emphasis on sustainable approaches in agriculture in Europe and globally is driving the demand for IDHA chelating agents in agriculture.

Agricultural Chelates Market Trends

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Increasing Preference for EDTA in Agriculture

EDTA is one of the most extensively used synthetic chelating agents in agriculture and finds applications in both soil and foliar-applied nutrients. EDTA can also be used for open field fertigation in the case of soils with a pH range of 6.0. Its wide application is a major reason behind it holding the largest share of the market. Also, EDTA chelates are widely preferred over other inorganic sources, as they are effective in the uptake of trace elements like Zn, Mn, Cu, and Fe from the soil to the roots of the plant.

As a micronutrient, zinc is crucial for plant hormone balance and auxin activity and is vital for plants' growth. Organic chelated zinc sources, such as Zn-EDTA (which contains 12% of Zn), are generally considered to be superior to inorganic zinc sources. In the case of corn and bean crops, only half as much as zinc is required if Zn-EDTA chelate fertilizer is the source rather than ZnSO₄. EDTA chelates are comparatively less expensive and easily available compared to other commercial agriculture chelates available in the market. Its ability to treat harmful lead poisoning in the soil by removing toxins, such as mercury, cadmium, and lead, is driving the growth of EDTA chelates during the forecast period.

Asia-Pacific is the Major Regional Market

The Asia-Pacific region has the highest market value for agricultural chelates, majorly led by China, India, and Japan. As the country with the largest population, China has one of the most booming agricultural industries globally. With a rapid increase in population and the increasing demand for food, farmers are forced to grow crops with a higher yield. These factors are increasing the demand for micronutrients and boosting the agricultural chelates market in the country.

India is witnessing an incidence of micronutrient deficiencies, such as Zinc 36.5%, Boron 24.2%, Iron 12.8%, Manganese 7.1%, and Copper 4.2%. This has led to severe losses in the yield and nutritional quality of produce. In line with the nutrient deficiency in the soil and the effectiveness of chelates in combatting it, the demand for chelates is increasing in the country. The Indian market is estimated to grow at a moderate rate. Micronutrients play an essential role in ensuring balanced nutrition for crops, and the lack of these may limit crop growth. Increasing incidences of micronutrient deficiencies in soils is the major factor driving the growth of the agricultural chelates market in the region.

Agricultural Chelates Market Competitor Analysis

The global agricultural chelates market is consolidated in nature. The major players in the market are Yara International ASA, BASF SE, Nouryan, Dow, and Haifa Negev technologies Ltd, among others. These players are following strategies such as the introduction of innovative products and expansions to strengthen their positions in the market.

Additional Benefits:

The market estimate (ME) sheet in Excel format
3 months of analyst support

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