About The Sustainability Consortium (TSC)
Enabling the consumer goods industry to provide more sustainable products

- A multi-stakeholder non-profit organization
- Translate scientific information into business practice
- Mission: to design and implement measurement and reporting systems
  - credible, transparent and scalable, science-based
  - accessible for all producers, retailers, and users of consumer products
- A global organization, with offices in the United States, Europe and China
- >100 Members and 1000s of users worldwide
Why do we need data on nutrients?

• The Sustainability Consortium informs decision makers on product sustainability throughout the entire product life cycle across all sectors.

• Nutrients (N and P) are responsible for environmental hotspots in many product categories (mainly agriculture).

• Communication on sustainability within the supply chain (retail ↔ suppliers) using Key Performance Indicators (preferably quantitative indicators):
  – Progress over time
  – Benchmarking
Which data do we need?

- Indicator requirements:
  - measurable (outcome oriented, preferably quantitative)
  - differentiating
  - actionable

- Indicators are product based
- For agricultural products and nutrients this requires farm data
- Data per crop

- Current indicators for nitrogen and phosphorus:
  - aligned with Stewardship Index for Specialty Crops (SISC)
  - Nitrogen use intensity:
    - kg N / metric tonne of crop harvested
  - Phosphorus use:
    - (kg P added – kg P recommended) / metric tonne of crop harvested
    - difference between P applied and P recommended based on soil P tests
What is currently missing?

Current:
• Recommended phosphorus application based on soil test (or the test result: soil P status) are not registered in record keeping software
• Systems for easy data transfer are lacking (retail supplier ⇔ farm)

Future:
Current indicator is based on agronomic recommendations.
Aim is reduction of eutrophication and resource depletion.
Improved indicators may be adopted, requiring more/other data:
• Eutrophication: risk of P transfer into water bodies
  e.g. Water Quality Index based on rainfall, slope, soil type, soil cover, OM%, tillage, irrigation, conservation practices, fertilization
• Resource depletion: use of recovered P choice of fertilizer types
The Sustainability Consortium® is jointly administered by Arizona State University and University of Arkansas with additional operations at Wageningen University and Nanjing University.