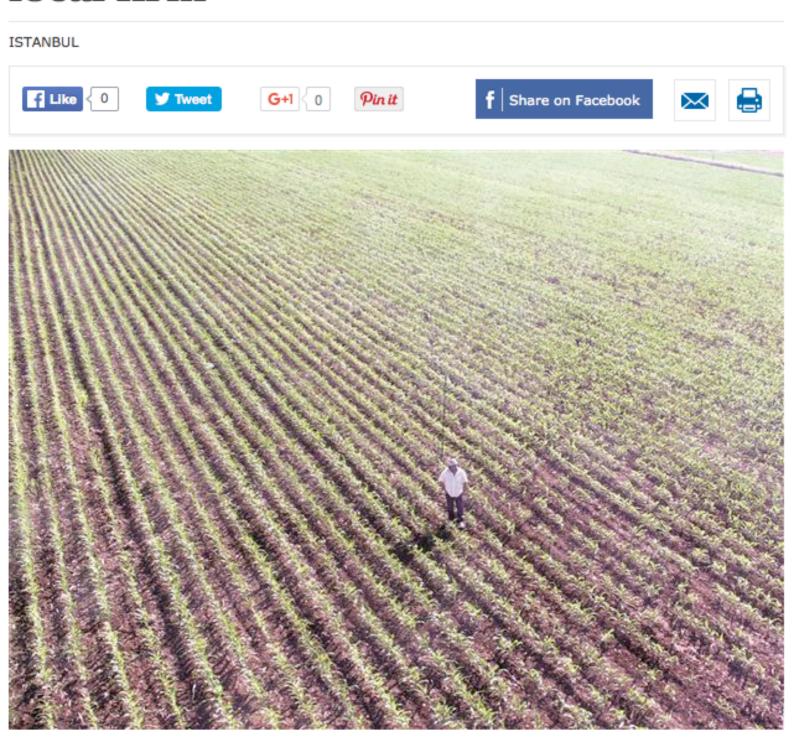
Phosphate giant joins forces with local firm



Moroccan phosphate giant OCP invests in phosphatic fertilizer facility in Turkey.

One of the leading suppliers of phosphate and Morocco's largest industrial company Office Chérifien des Phosphates (OCP) have gone into a partnership with Toros Tarım, one of the biggest agricultural companies in Turkey.

The companies have together founded Black Sea Gübre Ticaret, according to a company statement released June 15. The new partnership will produce phosphatic fertilizer in facilities located in the northern province of Samsun, and will export to Eastern European, Balkan and Central Asian countries.

"We want to extend our activities on the international level. We particularly aim to grow in the global fertilizer industry through regional partnerships," Esin Mete, the chairperson of Toros Tarım and Tekfen Agri-Industry Group chief executive, said after the signing ceremony of the partnership deal. She added that cooperation with the OCP Group was the first step toward realizing this goal.

Toros Tarım constitutes one of the four major businesses of Tekfen Holding, which is also active in contracting, real estate development, manufacturing and trade.

"This enterprise will help us offer services to our customers from a closer location and quicker [than before]," said Mhamed Ibnabdeljalil, Vice President of Sales, Marketing of the OCP Group.

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