Municipal Wastewater To Real Fertilizer! The Unity Fertilizer Solution

Jeffrey C. Burnham, Ph.D.

#### **Overview of Presentation**

- Background
- The Technology
- Product Characteristics
- Health & Safety Issues
- Field Data & Research

#### **The Mission**

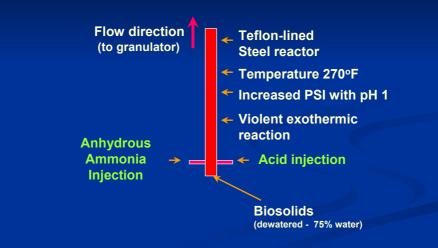
To Manufacture & Market High Value <u>Inorganic</u> Fertilizers with Organic & Micronutrient Components

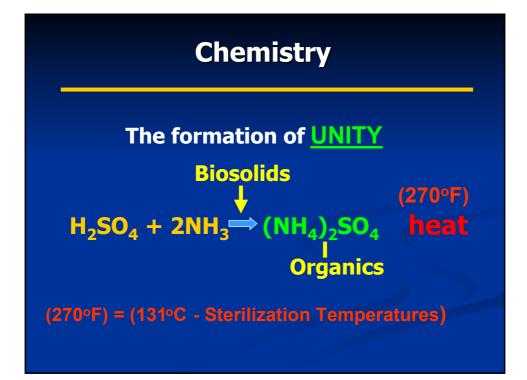
#### **Municipal Trends in Biosolids**

- More
- Beneficial Use Required
- Class A/EQ Required
- Products
- Traditional disposal technologies declining

## **The Unity Technology**

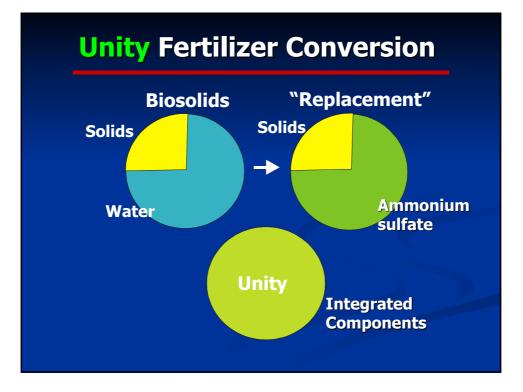
## **Unity "Pipe Cross Reactor"**

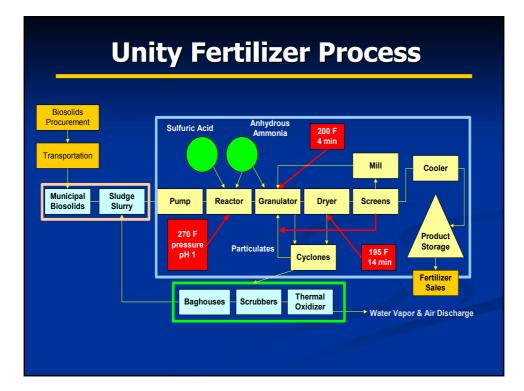












## The Cypress Plant



# **Unity - Product Comparison**

	N-P-K	As	Cd	Pb
Product	Analysis	mg/kg	mg/kg	mg/kg
40 CFR 503 Biosolids Std	NA	41	39	300
Unity	17-1- 0	0.7	0.4	31
Hechinger Great Start-up Fert	18-24-6	na	5	50
Milorganite Natural Fert	6-2-0	na	7	140
Ortho General Plant Food	10-10-10	na	30	50
CA Agri Commodities Survey	46 blends	14	28	530

## **Unity Health & Safety**

- USEPA Class A / EQ Compliant
- No microbial pathogens sterile processing
- Metals significantly below USEPA and USDA requirements and future plans
- Standard fertilizer application rates: pounds per acre — not tons.
- Rigorous Quality Control Program independent certified laboratory

#### **Physical Characteristics**

рН	5.8
% Total Solids	98+%
Mean Size	2.5 mm
Hardness	6 lbs

nity - A	Ammo	<u>nium S</u>	<u>ulfate</u>
Ρ	Κ	S	Organic
1	0	19	15 %
-			Organic
12	0	14	15%
	P 1 + I <u>Ammo</u> P	PK 10 + Micronu Ammonium PK	1 0 19 + Micronutrients <u>Ammonium Phospl</u> P K S

## Unity Fertilizer Marketing Strategy

• Sell in Bulk as Registered Fertilizer

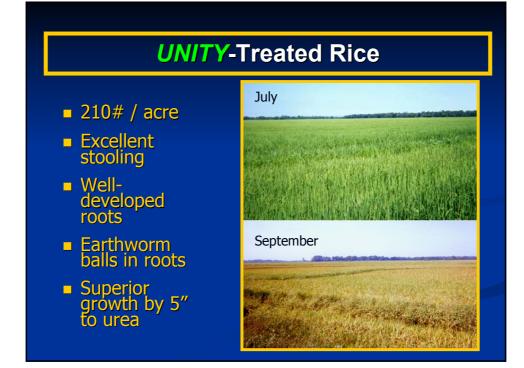
- Unity NS+
- Unity NPS+
- Sell to Distributors

# **Field Studies**

- Citrus
- Corn
- Cotton
- Rice
- Turf & Forage
- Wheat

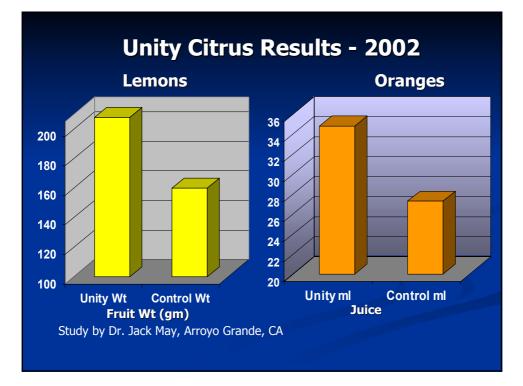
#### Roles for <u>Organics</u> in Inorganic Fertilizer

- Provide nutrient
- Decrease N volatilization
  - Decrease N leaching
  - Positive crop effects



#### Unity Rice Trials at the Univ of Arkansas Stuttgart Ag Experiment Station





#### Continued Unity 2002 Orange Study

Date	Day	Treat ment	Chloro- phyll	Gm/ Fruit	Juice (ml)	Brix
9/14	126	Unity	53.0	192.9	46.4	9.2
11/19	160	Unity	79.5	204.7	68.8	10.6
9/14	126	Urea	51.4	164.8	36.5	8.8
11/19	160	Urea	67.4	166.2	39.1	10.1

## **Unity – Turf Grass Study I**

Marysville, OH

Bluegrass Sod - 2000					
		Days			
14	28	42	56	Wt (g)	
3.3	3.7	1.7	1.3	296	
3.7	4.0	2.3	2.0	316	
4.3	3.7	2.0	2.0	269	
4.0	3.0	2.3	2.0	234	
5.0	4.3	3.3	3.0	476	
1.3	1.0	1.0	1.0	143	
	14 3.3 3.7 4.3 4.0 5.0	14 28   3.3 3.7   3.7 4.0   4.3 3.7   4.0 3.0   5.0 4.3	Days   14 28 42   3.3 3.7 1.7   3.7 4.0 2.3   4.3 3.7 2.0   4.0 3.0 2.3   5.0 4.3 3.3	Days   14 28 42 56   3.3 3.7 1.7 1.3   3.7 4.0 2.3 2.0   4.3 3.7 2.0 2.0   4.0 3.0 2.3 2.0   4.0 3.0 3.3 3.0	

## **Unity – Bermudagrass Study**

#	Treatment	Yield Dry Matter	Crude Protein %
1	Unity 200 #/acre (17-1-0-19)	3,086	19.6
2	Triple 200 #/acre (17-17-17)	2,903	15.2
	002 Lofovotto County		

[2003 Lafayette County, AR]

# **Turf Findings**

- More chlorophyll
- Grass greener
- Retains green longer
- More mass per time

#### Discussion

Wastewater biosolids can be used to make a fertilizer product that:

- is safe and meets regulations.
- is valuable with significant nitrogen & other nutrients.

 contains an organic component that can meet State Ag Registration Requirements.

provides excellent crop results.

