

AAPFCO

Regulatory Update

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AAPFCO

- Association of American Plant Food Control Officials
 - State, Provincial & Federal Regulators from US, US Territories & Canada
- aapfco.org



AAPFCO

▣ UNIFORMITY by CONSENSUS

- promote uniform and effective legislation
- adoption of the most effective and adequate sampling and analytical methods for fertilizer
- develop high standards of fertilizer inspection and enforcement
- promote adequate labeling and safe use of fertilizers
- free exchange of information
- cooperate with members of the industry to promote the safe and effective use of fertilizers and protection of soil and water resources.



AAPFCO Committees

- Bylaws
- Education & Information
- Environmental Affairs
 - By-products & Recycled Materials
 - Nutrient Management
- Best Manufacturing Practices
- Laboratory Services
- Labeling & Definitions
- Life Membership & Memorials
- Long Range Planning
- Magruder Check Sample
- Slow Release
- Seminars
- Uniform Bills
- Uniform Reports



AAPFCO output

- ▣ Terms & definitions
- ▣ Uniform Bill & SUIP
- ▣ Training



Recent Initiatives & Updates

- ❑ Metals Rule Modified
- ❑ Compost Model Bill
- ❑ Beneficial Substances
- ❑ Analytical Methods & AOAC.
- ❑ Preemption of Local Fertilizer Regulation
- ❑ Slow release.
- ❑ Support of Nutrient Management Planning

Flexibility

- The 'Heavy Metals Rule' - SUIP 25
 - Original Policy Final in 2003
 - New information came out of Metals forum (Rufus Chaney, USDA) – foraging animal pathway
 - Outcome - changed Cobalt recommendation & TFI commissioned fresh Risk Assessment & revised (lower) values adopted (Tentative)

A New Part of the Model Bill

- Compost Uniform Bill – culmination of a 10 year effort
 - Definitions went to L&D committee
 - Environmental Committee dealt with claims of benefits & came to mutually acceptable conclusions
 - Lab Committee checked out methods
 - Uniform Bills produced final compost bill.
(actually needed because of industries with to claim nutrients requiring dual registration (soil amendment) in some states.

A New Class of Materials

- Silicon triggered a whole new way to look at things as it is technically not an essential nutrient, but growth is poor without it – hence developed a new definitions 'Beneficial Substance'.
 - Silicon compounds accepted, pending analytical methods.
 - Nickel actually a remedy for past agronomic input – Zinc & other metals

Analytical Methods

- ❑ Analytical & Sampling Methods are a cornerstone of any regulatory system
- ❑ Recent constant restructuring of AOAC
 - Previously the foundation of our methods, but not the only source (AFPC, etc), there has been a drift of AOAC International away from its roots (originally Association Of Agricultural Chemists) as fiscal needs the became preeminent.
 - Attempts to keep ag interests with peer groups of experts & list of priorities, but methods developed by all volunteer groups no longer making it through the system.
 - The metals method of Kane & Hall one of the last.
 - We are now looking at generating our own methods using the same protocols – essentially doing what we have been providing as volunteers to AOAC for years. Sulphur methods.

Methods contd.

- Methods in Process
 - Silicon Products – pursued by industry
 - Sulphur methods – recent need for ‘organic’ sulphur – not analyzed by current methods
 - Slow Release – close to a collaborative study
- International Uniformity

Preemption

- Preemption of Local Fertilizer Regulation – opposition to this is now permanent AAPFCO policy
 - e.g. in Florida - Often driven by niche marketing & PR. Moved to the statewide arena. Then ends up back in AAPFCO court - urban turf definitions adopted tentative



Slow Release

- ▣ Definitions & method development in process in two committees

Support of Nutrient Management Planning

- Proposed Statement of AAPFCO Support
- Assembling List of Authorities
- Upcoming Breaking News Issue – very relevant in light of recent reports on snails & frogs deformities
 - On Environmental Committee Agenda at February Meeting in Tampa, Feb 16-21, 2008



AAPFCO Information

- The Official Publication
 - Details of all Definitions, Policies , Model Bills etc
 - Reports
 - Contact Lists
- Web Site
 - aapfco.org