



CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF
FOOD & AGRICULTURE

A. G. Kawamura, Secretary

March 30, 2010

NOTICE

Base Fertilizing Ingredients

This notice is to clarify laws and regulations regarding base fertilizing ingredients that are used to manufacture or formulate the end fertilizing products.

Base fertilizing ingredients are not subject to fertilizing materials laws and regulations pertaining to product label registration, mill assessments, or tonnage reporting requirements. Base fertilizing ingredients may be sold to another licensee for fertilizing materials manufacturing purposes but not to end users for direct application to crops or soil for the production of food and fiber. However, base fertilizing ingredients must be clearly identified for their content and intended use.

Pursuant to Section 2303 (r) of the California Code of Regulations (CCR), the manufacturer of any base fertilizing ingredient that claims iron, manganese, zinc or phosphates shall provide a guarantee statement that the product does not exceed standards established for arsenic, cadmium and lead. These base fertilizing materials ingredients are subject to sampling for laboratory analysis to assure these products do not exceed heavy metal standards established by the state of California as specified in the CCR, Section 2302.

The California Code of Regulations 2303 (r)(1) specifies that for purposes of the labeling guarantee, base fertilizer ingredient shall be defined as phosphate, zinc, manganese, or iron products utilized singly or as material ingredient in blended or formulated fertilizing material products. Examples of such base fertilizing material ingredients include, but are not limited to, phosphoric acid, monoammonium phosphate, diammonium phosphate, zinc oxide, zinc sulfate, zinc from galvanizer skimmings, zinc from electric arc furnace dust, metallic zinc, refined zinc from the copper pickling process, zinc from circuit board recycling, iron II & III oxide, iron ore deposits, iron from recycling of bailing wire, rust or photographic operations, and manganese oxide.





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Please contact the program manager, Dr. Amadou Ba at (916) 445-0444, should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Asif Maan, Branch Chief II

Feed, Fertilizer, Livestock Drugs, and Egg Regulatory Services Branch

