



CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF
FOOD & AGRICULTURE

Karen Ross, Secretary

June 18, 2012

**NOTICE TO INDUSTRY REGARDING PRODUCTS CONTAINING ORGANIC
REFERENCES**

Dear Fertilizing Materials Licensee:

Implementation of Assembly Bill 856 (AB 856) requires the Department to register and regulate Organic Input Materials (OIM). OIM products must meet standards of the National Organic Program as well as California Fertilizing Laws. Various interpretations of the term “organic” exists in the marketplace. In an effort to ensure accuracy in labeling, clarity of product purpose and compliance with the regulations set forth through AB 856, a disclosure shall be added on product labels which are not registered as OIM, but fit all of the following criteria:

1. not intended for use in organic crop and food production, and
2. utilizes terms or names that could indicate use in organic crop and food production

For products that meet the above criteria, the following disclosure shall be legibly and conspicuously displayed: “NOT FOR USE IN ORGANIC CROP AND FOOD PRODUCTION IN CALIFORNIA.” This disclosure shall be used on all new registrations. For product labels currently registered, it will be required as of January 1, 2014.

If you have any questions, please contact Dale Woods at the number listed below.

Sincerely,

Dale M. Woods, Ph.D.
Senior Environmental Scientist

