



CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF  
FOOD & AGRICULTURE

A. G. Kawamura, Secretary

December 24, 2010

Dear Industry Member:

### **ORGANIC INPUT MATERIAL (OIM) LICENSE AND REGISTRATION**

The California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) Fertilizing Materials Inspection Program (FMIP) will start implementing the provisions of Assembly Bill 856 (AB 856) on January 1, 2012. Any bulk or packaged fertilizing material that is to be used in organic crop and food production will require registration with CDFA as an Organic Input Material, as stipulated in Section 14550.5 of the Food and Agricultural Code (FAC). This includes registration of commercial fertilizers, bulk agricultural minerals and bulk soil amendments for organic crop and food production. Information regarding AB 856 and the Fertilizing Materials Law and Regulations can be found on our website at <http://cdfa.ca.gov/is/flders/fertilizer.html>.

To allow the FMIP registration staff adequate time for OIM product label review, the program is requesting that OIM product label registration applications be submitted between January 1, 2011, and April 30, 2011. Fertilizing material registration is valid for a two-year period from January 1 of each even-numbered year to December 31 of the next odd-numbered year. Refer to Section 14601 of the FAC.

If your company is not currently licensed by CDFA to sell and distribute fertilizing materials, a license must be obtained for each plant and business location. A Fertilizing Materials License is valid for a two-year period from January 1 of each odd-numbered year to December 31 of the next even-numbered year. Refer to Section 14591 of the FAC.

The fertilizing materials license and registration applications can be completed by visiting our Online FFLDERS Database at [http://cdfa.ca.gov/is/apply\\_register.html](http://cdfa.ca.gov/is/apply_register.html) (select Visit the New FFLDERS Database). Enrollment as a new user is required to receive a user identification and password. You can apply for a fertilizing materials license by selecting "Add Fertilizing Materials" under the "LICENSES" heading. The licensing fee is \$100 per license. To apply for label registrations, select "Register Fertilizing Materials" under the "PRODUCT REGISTRATION" heading. The registration fee for OIM is \$500 per product label.



Please submit the following for each OIM label registration application:

1. An 8½ x 11 inch copy of the product labeling
2. Registration fee of \$500
3. Supporting documentation:
  - Complete formula of material (active and inactive ingredients)
  - Complete description of the manufacturing process for each ingredient
  - Complete description of the manufacturing process for the final product
  - Intended use of product
  - Supplier of ingredients
  - Alternate formulation
  - Third party formulated ingredients
  - Any additional information supporting compliance with the National Organic Program Standards
4. Appropriate data (efficacy, MSDS, etc.), if applicable, to support claims

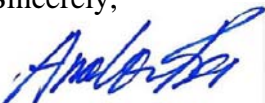
If you are not able to use the online database, we will also accept paper applications by mail. The Fertilizing Materials License Application, Organic Input Material Registration Application and a Licensing, Registration & Labeling Guide are available on our website at [http://cdfa.ca.gov/is/apply\\_register.html](http://cdfa.ca.gov/is/apply_register.html).

We are conducting a one-year preliminary survey for OIM Custom Blends in lieu of label registration. The survey is for the period of January 1, 2011, to December 31, 2011. No registration fee is required for custom blends during this survey period. If your firm is custom blending, submit the survey form at the end of each quarter. The survey form and detailed instructions are available online at [http://cdfa.ca.gov/is/apply\\_register.html](http://cdfa.ca.gov/is/apply_register.html).

In our outreach efforts to assist in the process of obtaining a fertilizing materials license and OIM label registration, a workshop focused on AB 856 implementation has been scheduled for February 2, 2011, at the Stanislaus County Agricultural Center in Modesto, CA. More detailed information regarding this workshop will follow.

If you have any questions, you may contact our staff at (916) 445-0444.

Sincerely,



Amadou Ba  
Branch Chief I  
Fertilizing Materials Inspection Program  
Inspection Services