



CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF  
FOOD & AGRICULTURE

Karen Ross, Secretary

December 15, 2021

**Notice to Fertilizing Material Licensees:  
CDFA to Continue Registration of Ammonia Extracts as Organic Input Material**

This notice concerns registrations of ‘ammonia extracts,’ liquid products containing ammonium derived from natural sources, as Organic Input Material (OIM) with the California Department of Food and Agriculture’s (CDFA) Fertilizing Material Inspection Program (FMIP). The CDFA-FMIP will continue to allow distribution of registered OIM ammonia extract products in California. The CDFA-FMIP will also evaluate new applications for registration of OIM ammonia extract products according to current United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) National Organic Program (NOP) standards.

After internal consultation, CDFA-FMIP is sending this notice to provide clarity to Industry and Certifying Agents in the wake of the recommendation by the National Organic Standards Board, on October 20, 2021, to prohibit ammonia extracts in organic crop production systems.

Going forward, any ruling to put ammonia extracts on the list of prohibited natural, or non-synthetic, materials would be made by USDA-NOP. Such a ruling would be preceded by the rulemaking procedures set forth in the Organic Foods Production Act of 1990. The rulemaking process would include publication in the Federal Register and evaluation of public comments.

If you have any questions, please contact our office at [fertilizer@cdfa.ca.gov](mailto:fertilizer@cdfa.ca.gov) or (916) 900-5022.

Martin Burger, Ph.D.  
Senior Environmental Scientist (Supervisory)  
Fertilizing Materials Inspection Program

