

AAPFCO Environmental Affairs Committee

David Howle, Chair

2005 Annual Meeting

The AAPFCO Environmental Affairs Committee, composed of two Sub-committees, Nutrient Management and By Products and Recycled Materials, met on August 2, 2005 in St Pete Beach, FL.

Nutrient Management Subcommittee

Michael Norman, Vice Chair

Michael Norman, control official from the state of Washington, was introduced as the new vice chair of Environmental Affairs with responsibility for the Nutrient Management Subcommittee. He began the meeting with a review of the NRCS Code 590 Nutrient Management regulations, noting the shift in most states to P-based plans in addition to N-based plans. He also pointed out that the Code 590 requirements are state-specific and that we should become familiar with the specific requirements in our states.

Michael also led a discussion centering around 7 nutrient management issues with the goal of identifying priorities for future subcommittee consideration. The conclusion was that several of these issues were related and could be consolidated and pursued in some detail at future meetings. The issue of establishing preemption of local ordinances relating to fertilizer applications was identified as a primary role for AAPFCO member agencies.

Michael Norman was asked by the subcommittee to represent AAPFCO on the TFI Nutrient Use Task Force.

By Products and Recycled Materials Subcommittee

Larry Whitlock, Vice Chair

Larry Whitlock called the meeting to order and led a brief discussion of the compost claims approved by the committee at the Mid Winter meeting. Certain points were questioned, but no action was taken to amend the claims as submitted to Uniform Bills for inclusion in the Bulk Compost Regulations. Ron Alexander agreed to submit the

references supporting the claims to the Committee Chair for distribution to the subcommittee.

The second item of old business involved a report from Bill Herz from TFI on the review of cobalt limits in SUIP #25. He indicated that the risk assessment used to establish the current cobalt limits in SUIP #25 did not account for the ruminant pathway now known to exist. The recommendation to adjust the Risk Based Concentrations (RBC) for cobalt in SUIP #25 is currently under peer review and will be considered by the subcommittee at the 2006 Mid Winter meeting.

David Howle presented information that had been forwarded to him on two research reports, one involving thallium uptake by plants and the other on potential for prion concentration in biosolids. Since these results were preliminary in nature, they were discussed as information items only.

Larry led a discussion of metals analysis monitoring by states. Those states that have conducted metals analysis were encouraged to forward their information to Bill Hall for inclusion in the survey report that he is preparing. Larry reviewed some of the Texas data and conveyed Bill Hall's assessment from preliminary survey results that there are very few fertilizer samples exceeding the RBC's of SUIP #25.