Coming soon:

AAPFCO Annual meeting 2014
The AAPFCO Annual meeting is being held in Sacramento California this coming July the 28 –30 at the Hyatt Regency Sacramento. The meeting is guaranteed to be informative and productive. The city is filled with good food and drinks, and a rich history. Aside from the meeting there is plenty to do, see, and taste. Our hotel is conveniently located across from the Capitol. The area boosts a variety of boutique shops, eateries, night life and museums.

Administrators’ Seminar
The 27th Administrators’ Seminar will be held in Annapolis, Maryland on Tuesday October 21st through Thursday October 23rd, 2014. The meeting will take place at the Historic Inns of Annapolis. The Administrator’s Seminar is an opportunity for new control officials to learn about AAPFCO’s role within the regulation of plant food issues. It also gives veteran control officials a chance to brush up on their regulating practices, along with sharing some of their knowledge and experiences with the attendees. Hotel and travel information along with the registration form and scholarship application will be available on the AAPFCO website. For more information contact Lance Kunneman, Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry, at lance.kunneman@ag.ok.gov

Welcome!
Welcome to the AAPFCO Insider, your source for information about upcoming events, new members, retirements, meetings, and AAPFCO sponsored events. The Insider is published twice a year following the mid-year and annual meetings.

Remember, this is YOUR newsletter. We only know what’s going on if you tell us. Please send information or pictures you would like to see in the next insider.

Katie Laney
klaney@nmda.nmsu.edu
Updates:

Missouri D bulk fertilizer probes and fertilizer bag sample probes
Probes are available for sale. These are less than what you can purchase thru a catalog or machine shop. The Association purchases in bulk and sell at cost plus packaging and shipping. Total cost will vary depending upon zip code. For more information contact Jamey Johnson at Jamey.Johnson@aspb.ar.gov

“New and Improved Methods of Analysis for Plant Food Materials” Featured as Special Guest Editor Section in AOAC’s Journal May/June Issue
A special collection of analytical method papers on fertilizers, soil amendments, and beneficial substances is now available as open access on the Journal of AOAC INTERNATIONAL’s website. Visit http://ingentaconnect.com/content/aoac/jaoac/pre-prints for 13 fully referred papers in J. AOAC Int.’s May/June 2014 issue.
J. AOAC Int.’s reputation for excellence is based on nearly 100 years of publishing top papers in the analytical field, and these papers, with unrestricted online access, are the culmination of studies undertaken by the AOAC Fertilizer Community’s Method Forum. They promise to be used and referenced repeatedly. The papers cover analytical testing of phosphorus, potassium, sulfur, secondary micronutrients, heavy metals adulterants, slow-release fertilizers, and beneficial substances. Of special note are three Medina et al. papers introducing the first validated analytical methods for slow-release and controlled-release fertilizer products. This long awaited work was completed by Carolina Medina as a fulfillment of her doctoral research under the direction of Jerry Sartain and Tom Óbreza at the University of Florida. Two papers authored by James Bartos et al. and Sharon Webb et al. present validations of ICP methods for metals. ICP is a widely used technology for metal determination, and validated methods for fertilizer materials are in high demand to standardize use of the technology for regulatory decisions. A paper authored by Jean Bernius et al. offers a validation for determination of total sulfur using combustion – a new application for an existing technology.
Two papers propose to extend existing AOAC Methods: Michael Hojjatie and Dean Abrams propose the extension of AOAC 2003.13 for LC determination of biuret, and Webb et al. propose a modification and an extension of 2006.03 to both improve recoveries of some metals and extend the method to additional metals. Soil amendments and beneficial substances are highlighted in addition to fertilizer methods. A collaboration of the International Humic Substance Society and the Humic Products Trade Association yields a soil amendment method for determination of humic and fulvic acids in humic products authored by Richard Lamar et al. (In 2013, Dennis Sebastian et al. published a beneficial substance method for the determination of soluble silicon in nonliquid fertilizer as part of this effort.) Other papers include work undertaken by the International Fertilizer Association on determination of acid-soluble phosphate in internationally traded phosphate fertilizers; work undertaken by the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services and the Florida Fertilizer and Agrochemical Association on the effect of varying particle size on the ability to mix and sample bulk fertilizers; and work authored by Keith Wegner at the Colorado Department of Agriculture on laboratory process improvement.
Many of the methods included in the section will be proposed as international standards.
Special guest edited by Nancy Thiex, Professor Emerita, South Dakota State University, and Agricultural Materials section editor for the Journal. “It is with great excitement that we present these papers,” says Thiex in the section’s introduction. “As a collection, they represent a leap forward with respect to analytical methodology for the discipline.”
With a few exceptions, the work presented in the special collection was undertaken as activities of AOAC’s Methods Forum, which acts as a stakeholder panel for the Fertilizer Subgroup of the Agricultural Inputs Community (previously called Agricultural Materials Community). The Methods Forum is an annual event, held in February following the Association of American Plant Food Control Officials Winter Annual Meeting. At these events, volunteers take on the challenge of establishing methods needs, and then procure a “champion” to work on method development and validation. The volunteers are comprised of scientists from industry, regulatory agencies and laboratories, academia, commercial laboratories, and instrument vendors who discuss how to best meet the need for new or improved fertilizer analytical methods. Validation data are presented, examined, and discussed during the Forums. The work and data review is very much a community effort.

According to Thiex, the Methods Forum was conceived, organized, and driven, in all aspects, by Bill Hall, of The Mosaic Company, who organized and led each of the 13 past annual forums. “His energy and foresight are reflected by the success of the Methods Forums, and how these papers also reflect the work of top analytical scientists.”

As part of this team effort, several entities contributed to the open access rights for most of these manuscripts, including the Association of American Plant Food Control Officials (AAPFCO), the Colorado Department of Agriculture, Elementar Americas, the Florida Fertilizer and Agrochemical Association (FFAA), Harsco, the Magruder Check Sample Program, Potash Corp, Tessenderlo Kerley Incorporated (TKI), The Fertilizer Institute (TFI), The Mosaic Company, and Thornton Laboratories. The Special Guest Editor Section includes the following contributions:

• “Optimization and Validation of an Accelerated Laboratory Extraction Method to Estimate Nitrogen Release Patterns of Slow- and Controlled-Release Fertilizers” by L. Carolina Medina, Jerry B. Sartain, Thomas A. Obreza, William L. Hall, and Nancy J. Thiex
• “Statistical Correlation of the Soil Incubation and the Accelerated Laboratory Extraction Methods to Estimate Nitrogen Release Rates of Slow- and Controlled-Release Fertilizers” by L. Carolina Medina, Jerry Sartain, Thomas Obreza, William L. Hall, and Nancy J. Thiex
• “Determination of Phosphorus and Potassium in Commercial Inorganic Fertilizers by Inductively Coupled Plasma-Optical Emission Spectrometry: Single-Laboratory Validation” by James M. Bartos, Barton L. Boggs, J. Harold Falls, and Sanford A. Siegel
• “Simultaneous Determination of Arsenic, Cadmium, Calcium, Chromium, Cobalt, Copper, Iron, Lead, Magnesium, Manganese, Molybdenum, Nickel, Selenium, and Zinc in Fertilizers by Microwave Acid Digestion and Inductively Coupled Plasma-Optical Emission Spectrometry Detection: Single-Laboratory Validation of a Modification and Extension of AOAC 2006.03” by Sharon Webb, James Bartos, Rhonda Boles, Elaine Hasty, Ethel Thuotte, and Nancy J. Thiex
• “Validation for the Determination of Biuret in Water-Soluble, Urea-Based Commercial Inorganic Fertilizer Materials, Urea Solutions, and Sulfur-Coated Urea Products by Reversed-Phase Liquid Chromatography: Single-Laboratory Validation of an Extension of AOAC Official Method 2003.14” by Michael M. Hojjatie and Dean Abrams
• “A New Standardized Method for Quantification of Humic and Fulvic Acids in Humic Ores and Commercial Products” by Richard T. Lamar, Daniel C. Olk, Lawrence Mayhew, and Paul R. Bloom
• “Determination of Total Sulfur in Fertilizers by High Temperature Combustion: Single-Laboratory Validation” by Jean Bernius, Sabine Kraus, Sandra Hughes, Dominik Margraf, James Bartos and Natalie Newlon, and Hans-Peter Sieper
“Determination of Total Arsenic and Arsenic (III) in Phosphate Fertilizers by Hydride Generation Atomic Absorption Spectrometry After Ultrasound-Assisted Extraction Based on a Control Acid Media” by Hélen Cristine Rezende and Nívia Maria Melo Coelho

“Evaluation of Commonly Used Methods for the Analysis of Acid-Soluble Phosphate in Internationally Traded Inorganic Fertilizers” by William L. Hall and Sanford Siegel

“Testing of Commonly Used Mixing and Sampling Procedures To Evaluate Fertilizer Blends Prepared with Matched and Mismatched Particle Sizes” by William L. Hall, Charles Ramsey, and J. Harold Falls

“Process Improvement for Regulatory Analyses of Custom-Blend Fertilizers” by Keith A. Wegner

“Determination of Kjeldahl Nitrogen in Fertilizers by AOAC Official Method 978.02: Effect of Copper Sulfate as a Catalyst” by Dean Abrams, David Metcalf, and Michael Hojjatie


SUMMARY OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS,
AAPFCO WINTER ANNUAL MEETING 2014 SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

Terms and Definitions Committee

Below are voting items for the 2014 Summer Annual Meeting to be held in Sacramento, CA. Please review reports and agenda’s for the actual definitions of the items below. At this time the terms and definitions committee has not received any new items for discussion at the next committee meeting.

Terms and Definitions recommended to move to official at August 2014 Membership vote

- N-58 Ammonium Ferric Sulfate
- P-38 Superphosphate, Enriched
- Ca-23 Calcium Chloride
- Co-2 Cobalt Sulfate
- T-94 Amino Acids
- T-97 Basalt
- N-60 Urea Ammonium Nitrate Solution (UAN-x)
- T-61 Oilseed Meal
- T-95 Zeolites
- T-96 Herbivore Insect Frass
- T-98# Nitrapyrin [2-chloro-6-(trichloromethyl) pyridine]

Terms and Definitions recommended to remain as tentative at August 2014 Membership vote

- N-52 Kapok Seed Meal - will be deleted once Oilseed meal becomes official
- T-88 Linseed Meal - will be deleted once Oilseed meal becomes official
- T-71 Slow Release – pending SRFC recommendation *
- T-72 Stabilized - pending SRFC recommendation *
- T-84 Enhanced Efficiency Reference Product - pending SRFC recommendation *
- N-57 Ammonium Ferrous Sulfate- See Fe-19
Fe-19 **editorial change, add “also known as Ammonium ferrous sulfate”**

T-93 **Soluble Silicon – pending lab analysis**

N-56 **Calcium Nitrate-Urea – no one had indicated that a definition is needed**

*SRFC approved these definitions to move to official.*

New Terms and Definitions recommended as tentative at August 2014 Membership vote

N-? Feather Meal

N-? Wheat Middlings

N-13 Dried Blood

N-20 Tankage

N-57 **Ammonium Ferrous Sulfate**

T-? Humic Substances

T-? Fulvic Fraction

BSC-? **Hydrophobic Fulvic Acids**

Working Group Terms and Definitions:

Biostimulant

Biochar

**Uniform Bills**

February 18, 2014

The uniform bills committee meet in San Diego California. There were 4 Control Officials, 7 Industry Liaisons and 35 guest present

**Committee Actions:**

**Old Business**

State-by-State Regulation Inconsistencies

- Was re-assigned to a smaller working group.
  - Working group members: Ron Alexander, Vicky Childs, Deb Allen, Rober LaGasse, George Fountas, Tonya Ritsch, Pat Johnson, Katie Laney, and Steve McMurry.

**Committee Member/Liaison Comments and Issues:**

*Sandy Simon with the Scotts Company addressed the committee regarding slow release statement(s) on product labels. The concern... Should two different sources of slow release nitrogen be listed under slow release separately or can a cumulative number of both i.e. polymer coated urea and methylene urea be listed as a total value for the slow release fraction. Should AAPFCO provide guidance for how it should be listed on a label? (Following SUIP 17 and 21)*

Steve McMurry: has no problem seeing it listed as a cumulative number as long as both fractions are listed under the derivation statement.

Both the poly-coated and methylene urea are slow release and can be listed under the % of slowly available nitrogen together.
Environmental Affairs
Winter Meeting Summary
February 17, 2014

The Environmental Affairs Committee met in San Diego, California. Approximately 75 were in attendance, including 11 industry liaisons and 6 state committee members. Ron Alexander, R. Alexander Associates, Inc. gave a presentation on the current state of composting, organics and recycling. He discussed how compost has become a staple of the landscape industry and the importance of a compost technical data sheet and best management practices to provide a consistent product, maintain a level playing field and compare “apples to apples.” The list of AAPFCO approved compost claims is on page 108 of the 2014 Official Publication. States are currently split on whether a feedstock (ingredient) list should be allowed on a label, which creates challenges for companies distributing compost in multiple states.

At the 2013 Annual Meeting, a working group was developed to review the Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) Proposed Rules for Produce Safety and draft comments on behalf of AAPFCO. Biological soil amendments, such as manure or non-fecal animal byproducts are included in the rules. AAPFCO President Ben Jones submitted the working group’s comments to FDA on November 16, 2013. The working group will remain open, as a second comment period on sections of the rules are anticipated this summer.

The Phosphorus Turfgrass Resolution working group shared its draft resolution and reference list with the committee. The purpose of the resolution is to help legislators and interest groups at the state and local level understand that phosphorus restrictions should be based on sound scientific data and research shows healthy turf is most important factor to reduce runoff. The committee and attendees provided comments, such as including the 4R’s in the document. The working group will revise the resolution and have the Committee vote electronically before the Board of Directors so it can be presented to the membership at the July 2014 meeting.

The issue of nutrient overage was discussed with the committee. Recently, a product guaranteeing 10% nitrogen was tested by a state lab and found to have 27% nitrogen. Fertilizers are labeled based on minimum guarantees, AAPFCO does not have investigational allowances for maximums. No one gives nutrients away, but when a product contains over 2 and a half times the guaranteed nutrient, is that an environmental or marketing concern? At this time, the misbranding language in state fertilizer laws is the authority states have to regulate extreme overages.

April Hunt announced that there have been number of changes to the committee member roster and encouraged interested states and industry to join the committee. A motion was made and carried (Delorme/Davidson) to permanently combine the Environmental Affairs subcommittees.

Uniform Reports
February 17, 2014

The Uniform Reports Committee met the morning of February 17, 2014 in San Diego, California. There were approximately 85 attendees. Joe Slater announced that the “Commercial Fertilizers 2012” report is now
available. The report documents consumption by nutrient and by state. Each state will receive two free hard
copies. It is $30/copy for AAPFCO and The Fertilizer Institute (TFI) members and $100/copy for nonmembers.
An electronic data set that compares the 2011 and 2012 data is also available for purchase. An order form is at:

Melinda Giesler, TFI provided an update on the Paperless Fertilizer Tonnage Reporting Project. There is a
website, www.FertTon.org where states, industry and software providers can learn more about the project and
fill out forms to find out more about the implementation initiative. To date, five states (GA, MI, ND, PA, SC)
are accepting electronic data and another 3 states are on the loading dock. Funding has been provided to develop
an online tool for smaller companies to enter data electronically.

“The Paperless Fertilizer Tonnage Reporting project aims to provide cost and time savings to both the states and
the industry by using an industry standardized format, streamlining the reporting process, and utilizing electronic
communication technologies. After nationwide implementation, all industry companies and state fertilizer
control officials will benefit from a uniform reporting system that is faster, less error prone, and more efficient
both in terms of financial and human resources. The pilot project, launched in February 2013 to prove the
concept, has now been successfully completed. The next step for the project is a 3.5 year nationwide initiative
for full implementation.

The project is a collaborative effort among the Association of American Plant Food Control Officials
(AAPFCO), The Fertilizer Institute (TFI), the Agricultural Retailers Association (ARA) and AgGateway.”
www.FertTon.org

Jon Nevins, Lion Software has developed a uDeal Mobile application where smaller companies can enter
tonnage data and generate reports. XML has been added. It is an open source project that runs in Windows,
Mac, Android and iPhone devices. More information is available at www.Lionsoftware.net

**Education and Information Committee**
**February 18, 2014**

Meeting was called to order by Chair Matt Pearson

Motion to approve the agenda made by Mike Crush and 2nd by Jim True. Motion passed.

Motion to approve the minutes made by Katie Laney and 2nd by Don Wolf. Motion passed.

Brett Groves gave a report on the 2 BITS training in 2013 in Baton Rouge, LA. The April training was attended
by 50 inspectors from 14 states and the September training was attended by 40 inspectors from 10 states.
Lance Kunneman, reported that the Fertilizer Seminar in Bosie, ID was attended by 23 AAPFCO members from
19 states. He also discussed a product guide for labeling.
Matt Pearson discussed the AAPFCO website. He requested that we need information from states to put on the
website. Also noted that part of the website is open to the public and there is a secure part for control officials.
The plans are to record presentations from the meetings on the website for those not able to attend.
Wade Foster from TFI gave a presentation on a new video for Laboratory Training that TFI is currently working on producing. There will be 2 videos: 1) “Fertilizer Sample Preparation” and 2) “ICP Best Practices”. Discussion on where these should be posted, TFI website or AAPFCO website. Was recommended that maybe they should be on both websites.

Matt Pearson discussed the List Serv for AAPFCO members. He also discussed the survey results from the annual meeting. Matt also discussed developing a new 1 page tri-fold brochure for new attendees. Jennifer Gornnert from NH and Michael Crush from Maine agreed to help develop this before the summer annual meeting.

Jessica Walsh from Intertek joined the committee as a new member. Committee members present were Matt Pearson, Jim True, Lance Kunneman, Gene Rupp, Katie Lane, Michael Crush, Jennifer Lill, Don Wolf, Wade Foster, Nick Young, and Suzanne Turcotte. There were 22 others in attendance.

Motion to adjourn was made by Katie Laney and 2nd by Michael Crush. Motion passed.

**Best Management Practices (BMP) Committee**

The Best Management Practices (BMP) Committee met on Tuesday, February 18, 2014 with nine members present and twenty-seven guests.

The state BMPs collected by the working group will be added to the AAPFCO website along with the Right Product, Right Time, Right Place, and Right Rate (4Rs) information.

Wade Foster, The Fertilizer Institute, reported no Bulk Blending Workshops have been held since the summer annual meeting.

The Plant Security Sub-Committee also met with five (5) members present. A power point was presented by Debe Allen, Potash Corporation, updating the ammonium nitrate rule which is still in the rule making process. It was reported the Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standards (CFATS) was extended to allow more time for the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to address needed improvements. The status of the Improving Chemical Facility Safety and Security Executive Order was updated including how much sharing of information between the concerned entities should be allowed. The Occupational Safety and Health Association (OSHA) requested comments on the burden associated with the collection of required information for those handling anhydrous ammonia.

Richard Gupton, Agricultural Retailers Association, introduced the voluntary ResponsibleAg program to help fertilizer dealers comply with government regulations. Updates on the rule makings, CFATS, and ResponsibleAG are planned for the summer annual meeting.
The Long Range Planning Committee (LRP) was called to order at 1:00 PM on February 16, 2014. The committee consisted of nine control officials and five industry liaisons in attendance. The agenda for the meeting and the notes from the Summer Annual were approved.

Strategic Plan Highlights

- Improving the new attendee reception
  - Have a committee sign-up sheet available for the new attendees
  - Deb Allen will make sure the new industry attendees are aware of the reception at the TFI Product Quality Meeting
  - Jamey said we have 30 first time attendees this meeting, 11 regulatory and 19 industry.

- Attracting other associations to our meeting
  - Build a pamphlet to hand out about the AAPFCO as we attend other meetings
    - TFI members could also help distribute at meetings they attend

- Becoming the national information resources, voice, and authority on challenges, issues, regulations and nutrient stewardship
  - Still some energy for the state by state regulatory comparisons being done by the Uniform Bills Committee
    - Uniform Bills is looking for the top five issues from the Product Quality Counsel to start the comparisons
  - Appendix C in the new AAPFCO OP (#67) has TFI’s regulatory comparisons

- Improve communication throughout the stakeholder group
  - Discussed the evaluation that Steve Cole completed for the 2013 Summer Annual Meeting
  - Bylaws was charged with creating a way for membership voting to occur at both the Annual and Midyear meetings to speed up the approval process
    - No bylaws need changed but the two meetings should be regarded as Summer and Winter Annual Meetings
  - Need to look at our AAPFCO google group and make sure all the states are represented
    - We need to cull out the emails that are no longer active or appropriate
  - We need to make sure the scheduling of the closed session for control members always includes the lab group

Additional agenda items

- Discussed supporting conference calls during committee meetings that request such
- Developing a reference guide for developing/validating lab methods
- Discussion on the Slow Release Committee and its next steps
Patrick Hart… Who I am is a small town kid raised on a family owned wheat and beans farm in rural North Dakota. I graduated with the 8th highest GPA in my high school class… of 15. I attended the University of Mary and left with a bachelor’s of science in business administration. At the North Dakota Department of Agriculture I oversee the fertilizer tonnage reporting program as an auditor. I am continuing my education and am working towards a Masters in Project Management. I am a proud father of Connor Jay 4.5 years and Cayley Rose 8 months and a happy husband to a wonderful wife Melissa. We have been married for almost 3 years. I enjoy working for the state because I feel as it is an extension of college, meaning we discuss intention of law and rulemaking, intention of people who are out of compliance and we get to educate ourselves in manners that effect the industry. Spare time is spent with Connor on the Missouri River which is a muddy 3 mile four wheeler ride from my house.

Laurel Hamling graduated from CU-Boulder and has two 'children' ages 20 and 18. Her two horses are a bit older than her kids, and are more expensive to feed these days. She enjoys living at the foot of the Rocky Mountains, and tries to get up to at least 11,000 feet a few times each year (in her 4X4 - not on foot because she's not a Boulderite per se!). Laurel was a Feed, Fertilizer, and Weights & Measures inspector for about 5 years. When she grows up and is able to retire, she'd like to take a road trip and watch the whole world go by.
Debbie is the Executive Director of the Coalition on Agricultural Greenhouse Gases (C-AGG), a multi-stakeholder forum focused on incentivizing agricultural opportunities to reduce greenhouse gases emissions and enhance sustainability. She is also the Executive Director and a founding member of the International Biochar Initiative (IBI). IBI supports the research, demonstration, and deployment of sustainable biochar production and utilization systems to combat climate change and enhance the global soil resource. She is also President and Director of DRD Associates LLC, a consulting firm dedicated to strategic support for natural resource conservation and sustainable agriculture and ecosystem service policies, programs, and opportunities for the agricultural sector. Debbie’s work focuses on strategies and solutions for agricultural mitigation of greenhouse gases and agricultural sustainability that mutually benefit the agricultural industry and society.

Debbie previously worked at the White House Council on Environmental Quality as the Director of Legislative Affairs and Agricultural Policy for the White House Climate Change Task Force; and in the U.S. Senate, as a Senior Staff on natural resource and agricultural issues for U.S. Senator Bob Kerrey of Nebraska. She also worked in numerous leadership roles at the U.S. Department of Agriculture, including on multiple bi-national commissions on agricultural science and technology; as the USDA Executive Secretariat for multiple versions of the US Dietary Guidelines for Americans; and on development of the US Food Guide Pyramid. Prior to that,
Debbie worked for the Washington, DC government as a consultant for the Women, Infants, and Children’s (WIC) Supplemental Feeding Program (now known as SNAP); and for various non-profit organizations dedicated to promoting human nutrition research, policies and programs in support of human health. She has graduate degrees in human nutrition, chemistry, and communications.

Jessica Walsh is a Scientific and Regulatory Consultant whose focus includes the critical evaluation and interpretation of scientific literature on toxicology, carcinogenicity, epidemiology, genotoxicity and metabolism. Ms. Walsh specializes in the registration of pesticides, fertilizers, other agricultural chemicals, and chemicals of domestic and commercial relevance in Canada and the U.S. These reports have required critical evaluation and interpretation of scientific literature on chemistry and biochemistry, toxicology, carcinogenicity, epidemiology, and genotoxicity, as well as a strong understanding of the regulatory frameworks that exist for commercial products in North America. This knowledge also applies to assistance in a variety of other work related to safety assessments for food substance applications and preparation of regulatory submissions.

Ms. Walsh is involved in dietary exposure assessments as part of the intake team; she develops models for dietary exposure assessments, as well as review and interpretation of scientific literature.

Ms. Walsh graduated from the University of Guelph, with a B.Sc. in Biomedical Toxicology.

Kyle Lilly. I am the Director of Regulatory and Technical Services at Sustane Natural Fertilizer in Cannon Falls, Minnesota. I cover a wide range of responsibilities related to managing the company’s environmental and regulatory compliance functions including state registrations, permits, and international product registrations and import compliance. My passion is growing plants under the rockiest, roughest, and most challenging conditions.

Kyle Ladenburger is an employee of ENP Turf and Age Old Organics where he handles the registration of their many different and unique products. He is constantly involved in numerous gardening projects and is also a freelance garden writer.
Kathy Campbell is a Thermo Scientific Sales Representative selling Discrete Photometric Analyzers (Galley, Galley Plus, Arena and the Aquakem) for use in the Environmental and Fertilizer markets besides other applications. My territory is the Southeastern US and I am not home very often. I have been involved in using Laboratory instruments both as a Lab Director and as Salesperson for years! I have worked previously for Foss North America and the Buchi Corporation. Married, one daughter and two grandchildren and I reside in Texas.

Timothy Jestness is currently the Phosphate Technical Services Manager for PotashCorp. His responsibilities include the Aurora, NC and White Springs, FL Phosphate plants, the Weeping Water, NE, Marseilles, IL, and Joplin, MO feed plants and the Cincinnati, OH specialty phosphates plant.

Prior to this position, Mr. Jestness was Superintendent of the Phosphoric Acid, Product Distribution and Silicon Tetraflouride departments at the Aurora facility. He began his career in 2008 as the Senior Production Engineer in the Phosphoric Acid Department.

Prior to PotashCorp, Mr. Jestness was Production Manager at the Lafarge Seattle Cement plant and the Mill Manager at Lafarge Silver Grove Wallboard plant.

Mr. Jestness obtained his Bachelor of Science degree from Iowa State University in June of 1990.

Youngest attendee
Ashton Connor, Katie Laney’s son Joined the group for the San Diego Meeting