

Biostimulants and the U.S. Fertilizer Industry

Ed Thomas

Director, Regulatory Affairs

August 1, 2018



Federal/State/Industry Biostimulant Working Group





U.S. Biostimulant Timeline

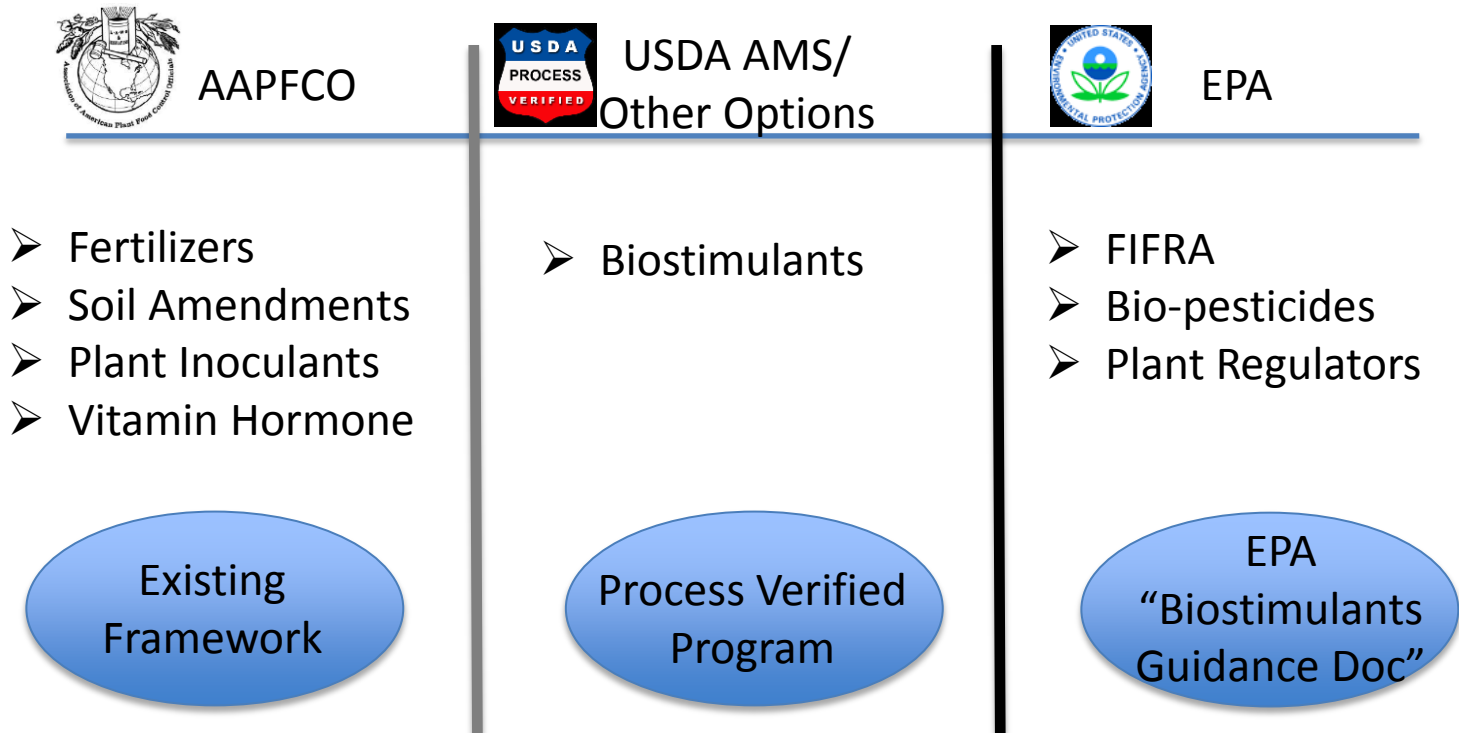
- › May 1, 2018 – Biostimulant Coalition coordinated industry/association meeting with USDA Deputy Administrator Osama El-Lissy
 - USDA staff instructed to form biostimulant working group to develop framework for national registration/certification process
- › June 21, 2018 - U.S. House passed Farm Bill biostimulant language
 - Stipulates biostimulant definition
 - Requires USDA biostimulant study
- › July 18, 2018 – USDA Working Group kick-off meeting
- › Aug/Sep, 2018 – USDA Working Group develops detailed recommended approach for USDA



U.S. Biostimulant Working Group

- Definition
 - › “A substance or micro-organism that, when applied to seeds, plants, or the rhizosphere, stimulates natural processes to enhance or benefit nutrient uptake, nutrient efficiency, tolerance to abiotic stress, crop quality, and yield” (U.S. House Farm Bill)
- Desired Objective
 - › National framework for approving and registering biostimulants at USDA
- Desired Outcomes
 - › Clear process for industry to register and market products
 - › Standards and entity (USDA, 3rd Party, etc) to substantiate claims
 - › Single label requirements
 - › Uniform federal enforcement standard
 - › Global alignment of standards thru ISO

Working Group Concept



Thank You!

Ed Thomas

Director, Regulatory Affairs

Tel: (202) 515-2714 | Email: ethomas@tfi.org

