



# ASSOCIATION of AMERICAN PLANT FOOD CONTROL OFFICIALS, INC.

Office of Secretary, AAPFCO  
Fertilizer/Ag Lime Control Service, Retired  
University of Missouri  
9106 Audrain Rd 395  
Thompson, MO 65285-2204

(573) 303-6364  
[slaterj@missouri.edu](mailto:slaterj@missouri.edu)

## Association of American Plant Food Control Officials (AAPFCO) Board of Directors

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On behalf of our current Board of Directors and members, we wish to thank the Chairpersons, Chiefs, Commissioners, Directors and Secretaries of Agriculture for allowing your staff to attend and participate in meetings and training opportunities for the benefit of AAPFCO and your staff members. AAPFCO recently completed a successful 2018 Summer Annual Meeting (August 1-4) in Fort Lauderdale, FL, that was held in conjunction with the Association of American Feed Control Officials' (AAFCO) Annual Meeting. 175 people attended the AAPFCO August 2018 Meeting. Thirty States were represented by Control Officials.

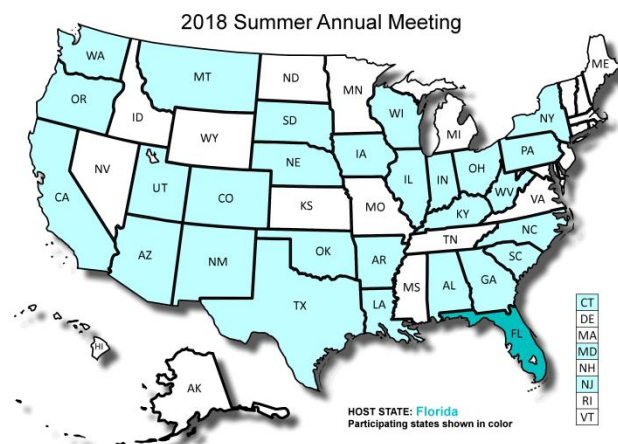
Highlights from the work AAPFCO has discussed and accomplished this past year include:

- Creation of AAPFCO Online and introduction of the electronic official publication in February 2018. This is still a work in progress, but represents the future direction of our association and offers opportunities for better capturing and sharing information.
- The Fertilizer Methods Forum is now officially a subcommittee of the Magruder Committee, with its own budget line item and Working Group members, which will ensure its existence and viability well into the future.
- Approved funding and the hiring of a Postdoc student to review literature regarding Slow and Controlled Release fertilizers to see if an update to Rule 3 (or the "15% Rule") is in order.
- AAPFCO is involved and has representation (Mr. Eddie Simons) on the newly formed Biostimulants Working Group that will advise USDA on these products.
- Supported the addition of Beneficial Substances to the title of ISO-Technical Committee 134, namely Fertilizers, Soil Conditions and Beneficial Substances. This will help assign an ISO committee to deal with international terminology, methodology labeling requirements for items

that may not specifically qualify as fertilizers or soil amendments such as stabilizers, inhibitors, humic and fulvic acids, biostimulants and others.

- Creation of a new Overhead and Incidental Cost Policy.
- Creation of the William L Hall award to recognize members of the Laboratory Community that have made significant achievements, which will be outlined in the next Official Publication.
- Provided a *Labeling Training Exercise* at our Winter Annual meeting. Improper labeling can delay the registration and/or sale of fertilizer products and soil and plant amendments. There are labeling requirements that apply to all states with additional labeling requirements for some states. Industry has asked for more information and training opportunities, so AAPFCO responded with this and future training opportunities.
- Collaborating with industry stakeholders on the Paperless Fertilizer Tonnage Reporting Project. The project aims to provide cost and time savings to both the state and the industry by using an industry standardized format, streamlining the reporting process and utilizing electronic communication technologies.
- Continued to streamline our meeting efficiency by instituting membership voting at both Annual Meetings by Membership at the beginning of each meeting and refined our electronic voting policies to mirror our committee voting policy.
- Providing forums for sharing information on important issues from other state and federal agencies, including Homeland Security, Department of Transportation, and Environmental Protection.
- Utilizing our Memorandum of Understanding with the Tri-Societies: American Society of Agronomy (ASA), Crop Science Society of America (CSSA), and Soil Science Society of America (SSSA) to work in cooperation with the review of new products by directing the manufacturers to their membership for the potential of peer reviewed research and articles concerning the efficacy of new products.
- Identified member states that have not been able to attend meetings and provided a monetary scholarship to assist in securing their participation at our Annual Meetings.

This concludes the AAPFCO 2018 report to NASDA and once again, we thank the states who allowed their employees, our members to attend and participate:



States with first time attendees:

CA, GA, NC, NM, UT and WV.

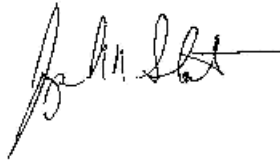
States with first time attendees:

AL, FL, NE, NJ, UT, WV and WI.

We cordially invite you to allow your staff to attend our future meetings and training opportunities:

- Basic Inspector Training Seminar (BITS) (September 25-27, 2018) in Harrisburg, PA.
- Administrator Seminar (October 23-25, 2018) in Palm Springs, CA.
- Winter Annual Meeting (February 8-16, 2019) in Albuquerque, NM.
- Summer Annual Meeting (August 7-10, 2019) in Louisville, KY.
- Additional information regarding these meetings and our association is posted on our website at <http://www.aapfco.org/>

Respectively yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joseph V. Slater", with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Joseph V. Slater,  
Secretary