

Biostimulants

A Path to the U.S. Market?

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Biostimulants – A Unique Category of Agricultural Inputs



Pesticides

Prevent, destroy, repel or mitigate a pest or intended as a plant regulator, defoliant, or desiccant

Insecticide, fungicide, herbicide, plant regulator, defoliant, desiccant

Insecticides: carbamates, neonicotinoids, pyrethroids, microbials, etc.

Industry Recommendation

USDA



EPA

Biostimulants

Substance(s), microorganism(s), or mixtures thereof, when applied to seeds, plants, the rhizosphere, soil or other growth media, act to support a plant's natural nutrition processes independently of the biostimulant's nutrient content, thereby, improving nutrient availability, uptake or use efficiency, tolerance to abiotic stress; and consequent growth, development, quality or yield



Fertilizers

Substance containing one or more recognized plant nutrient(s) used for its plant nutrient content and designed for use or claimed to have value in promoting plant growth, except unmanipulated animal and vegetable manures, marl, lime, limestone, wood ashes and other products exempted by regulation

Macro and micro nutrients

USDA Biostimulant Working Group Charge

SEC. 10111. REPORT ON PLANT BIOSTIMULANTS.

Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit a report...that identifies any potential regulatory, non-regulatory, and legislative recommendations, including..... definitions for plant biostimulant, to ensure....review, approval, uniform national labeling.... of plant biostimulant products....

- **2018 Farm Bill Requires USDA to Provide Response Addressing:**
 - › Regulations
 - › Voluntary Approaches
 - › Uniform National Label
 - › Biostimulant Definition
 - › Any Necessary Legislation

Timeline



May '18:
Industry
Solicits
USDA
Participants

Jul '18: USDA
WG Kickoff
Meeting

Dec '18: Farm
Bill Signed by
President

- Sep '18 –
May'19: WG
Meetings and
Weekly Subgroup
Calls



Mar 27, 2019:
EPA
Biostimulant
Label Guide

Jun '19: Industry
Recommends
Framework for
USDA Report to
Congress

Dec '19: USDA
Report to
Congress

Jul 28, 2019:
EPA Comment
Period Closed



Biostimulant Industry Goals

An improved regulatory process for biostimulant products that will enable an effective & efficient registration & review process to the benefit of all stakeholders.

- ✓ Ability to use the term “biostimulant”
- ✓ Make biostimulant claims
- ✓ Credibility for the industry
- ✓ Clear, consistent, predictable process to market
- ✓ One label for all states
- ✓ Safety assessment
- ✓ Dual uses for active ingredients
- ✓ Global consistency



Industry USDA Recommendations

- **State coordination**
 - › Engage AAPFCO and NASDA to identify “common elements” for a national framework
- **Uniform national legislative framework for biostimulant**
 - › Facilitates interstate commerce with minimum criteria for all states on one label
 - › Clear, consistent and predictable process
- **Robust efficacy framework; Allows only those products with demonstrated claims to gain market access**
- **Implemented in it’s entirety by AAPFCO officials on a state-by-state basis**
- **States may add additional provisions, as necessary**

Timeline



Mar 27, 2019: EPA
Draft Biostimulant
Label Guide

Jul 28, 2019:
EPA Comment
Period Closed

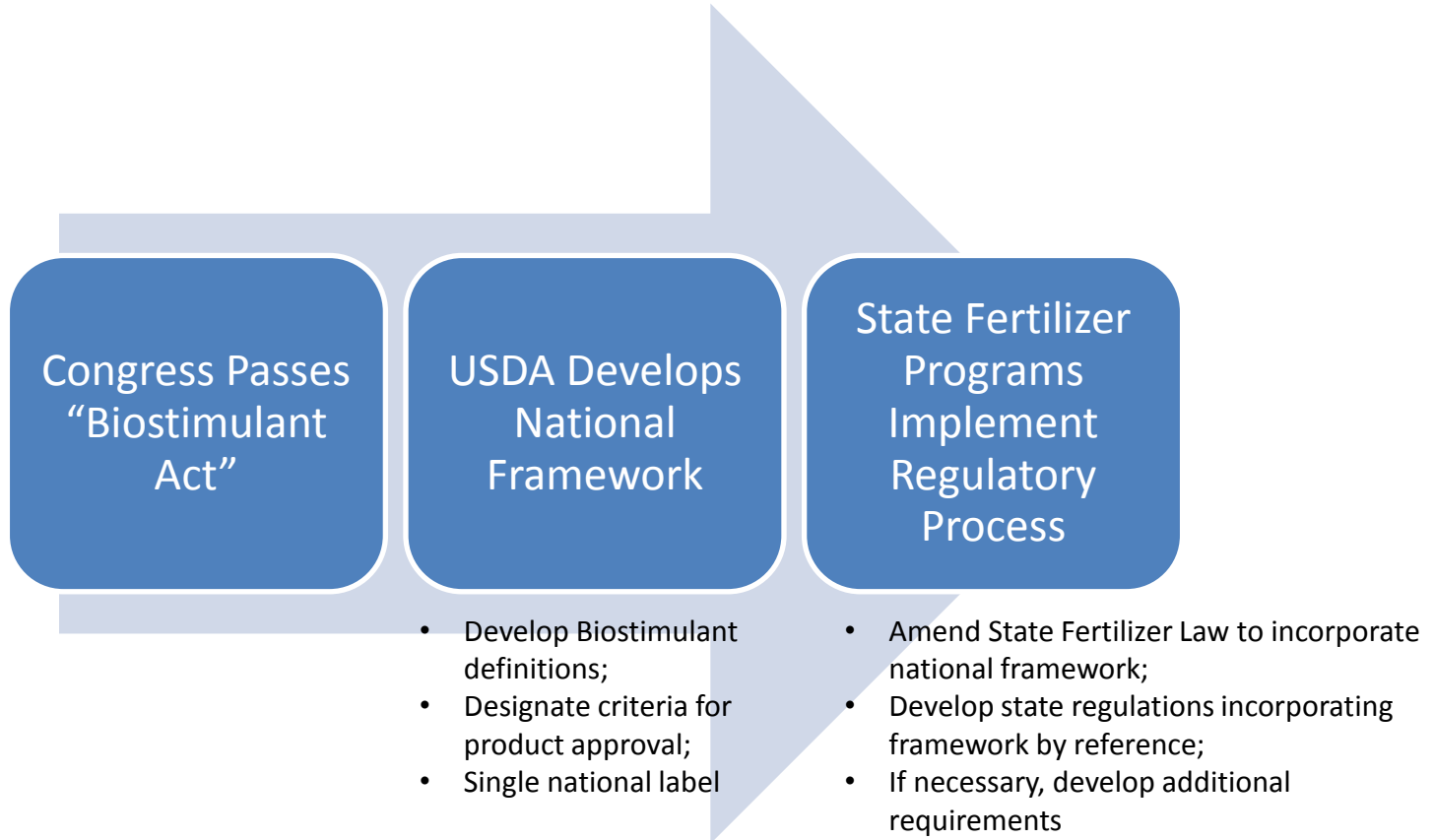
2020: Draft or
Final Guidance



Draft EPA Biostimulant Guide

- **EPA Draft Recommendation:**
 - › Claims based but lists specific substances previously registered under FIFRA
- **Industry Recommendation**
 - › Maintain claims (PR = FIFRA; Biostimulants = AAPFCO)
 - › Delete reference to specific substances
 - › Include microbial biostimulants in “plant inoculant” definition
 - › Guidance defines “nutritional chemicals” as all other non-microbial biostimulants
 - › Coordinate with USDA

Roadmap – National Framework



Thank You!

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