
AAPFCO / TFI Program for Fertilizer Laboratory Accreditation

A Proposal for Consideration by
the [Laboratory](#) Services
Committee
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Benefits to the Regulatory Community

- ❖ **Better choices for third party analysis**
- ❖ **Lower investigational allowances**
- ❖ **Lower violations from responsible manufacturers**

Benefits to Commercial Laboratories

- ❖ **Recognition by demonstrated quality results, not price**
- ❖ **Better standards in the commercial laboratory community**
- ❖ **Differentiation of Environmental Lab quality standards and methods from Fertilizer Lab quality standards and methods**

Benefits to Fertilizer Producers, Blenders, and End Users

- ❖ **Better control of supply chain quality by uniform analysis, resulting in less stop sales, violations, fines, and higher quality production standards.**
- ❖ **The opportunity for lower costs from reduced supply chain interruptions and elimination of lower quality products from unintentional poor analytical results by commercial, industrial, and regulatory laboratories.**

What would comprise a good accreditation program?

- ❖ **Sponsorship and recognition by industry and regulatory officials (TFI and AAPFCO)**
- ❖ **Demonstration of good laboratory practices and consistent acceptable results in the specified analysis.**
- ❖ **Periodic audits to confirm the lab has maintained standards of performance.**

Who should define the Program?

Lab Services Committee, of course!!!

- ❖ **Requires an accreditation manual from Lab Services**
- ❖ **A Quality Manual from the laboratory requesting accreditation**
- ❖ **Participation in a Check Sample Program recognized by TFI and AAPFCO.**
- ❖ **An audit after one year of demonstrated acceptable results in the check sample program for the desired analyze.**

Elements required for moving forward

- ❖ **Approval by AAPFCO and TFI to implement a program.**
- ❖ **An Accreditation Manual which describes the process for accreditation.**
- ❖ **A model Quality Manual for laboratories to follow.**
- ❖ **Participation in an approved check sample program.**