

RECEIVED SEP 3 2002

Source Organic

Phone: 831-462-5870 or 800-625-5661 Fax: 831-476-8002 Internet: www.sourceorganic.com

Albert's
ORGANICS

Source Organic

PO Box 1218

Soquel, CA 95073

19th August 2002

National Organic Standards Board
Attn: Robert Pooler
Agricultural Marketing Specialist
USDA / AMS / TM / NOP
Room 2510-S, Ag Stop 0268
P.O. Box 96456
Washington, DC 20090-6456

To whom it may concern:

As a representative of the largest National Organic Produce Distributor, Albert's Organics, I feel obligated to express my concern with the possible decision to ban sodium nitrate from the list of optional organic production materials. Completely eliminating the use of sodium nitrate will increase crop failure and set the Organic Industry back years in terms of productivity and quality. Sodium nitrate is an important aspect of the organic growing process in the desert regions, especially during the winter months. We strongly urge you not to ban the limited use of sodium nitrate.

Respectfully Yours



Melody L Meyer

National Procurement Director