

MINERAL OIL

Mineral Oil, which is listed under 205.603 synthetic substances allowed for use in organic livestock production for topical and as a lubricant. Should have the annotation changed to add the following: Allowed for internal emergency medical use for only one instance in an animal's lifetime.

Motion: Mineral Oil as a Dust Suppressant. Deferred

Vote tallies

Yea	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Michael, Dave, Jim , Nancy		Becky	George

- All agree SYNTHETIC
- Becky Goldberg abstained. She feels that use should not be restricted to Once in a lifetime.

Background:

- Mineral Oil is already listed 205.603 (b)(4) "for topical use and as a lubricant".
- Petition is for two uses: Livestock emergency medical and as a Dust Suppressant
- Absorption is low, alternatives ineffective. Necessity is rare but unavoidable

Significant Sideline Issue:

- Mineral Oil is a petroleum product. The petitioned use is as an internal medicine, clearly not an organic use.

Summary of Opinion:

- Since bloat and compaction are unavoidable even in the best managed operations and since health and environmental concerns are minimum with these restrictions the committee felt that the farmer should not have to suffer the economic loss of an animal for once in a lifetime treatment.
- The committee feels that by restricting use to Once in a lifetime a clear message is sent that use is for emergency only.
- Information for use as a dust suppressant is not complete enough to make a decision. Request that CFNP reevaluate for this purpose. Committee was reluctant to allow Mineral Oil use on an ongoing basis even at low inclusion rates without very careful evaluation. Alternatives including vegetable oils have not been thoroughly evaluated. CFNP should contact Committee for further instruction.