

**National Organic Standards Board
Crops Committee
2012 Sunset Proposed Recommendation
Lignin sulfonate**

February 15, 2011

List: §205.601 Synthetic substances allowed for use in organic crop production.

- (j) As plant or soil amendments.
 - (4) Lignin sulfonate—chelating agent, dust suppressant, flotation agent.
- (l) As floating agents in postharvest handling.
 - (1) Lignin sulfonate.

Committee Summary

There were concerns during the last round of sunset for this material about its fate in waste water when it is used as a flotation agent. The Crops Committee addressed this concern with an annotation to relist lignin sulfonate on 205.601 (l) with the amended annotation: As floating agents in postharvest handling, subject to wastewater disposal documentation in the Organic Systems Plan to prevent adverse impact to aquatic life. It was also noted that there is a duplicate listing as a flotation agent in (j) As plant or soil amendments, so the Crops Committee is recommending relisting lignin sulfonate as plant or soil amendments with the annotation change: chelating agent, dust suppressant.

Committee Recommendation

1. Relist lignin sulfonate on § 205.601 (l) with the amended annotation: As floating agents in postharvest handling, subject to wastewater disposal documentation in the Organic Systems Plan to prevent adverse impact to aquatic life.
2. Relist lignin sulfonate on § 205.601(j)(4) with the amended annotation: chelating agent, dust suppressant.

Committee Vote

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|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------|------------|-----------|
| 1. Motion: Tina Ellor | Second: John Foster | | | |
| Yes: 5 | No: 0 | Absent: 2 | Abstain: 0 | Recuse: 0 |
| 2. Motion: Tina Ellor | Second: Nick Maravell | | | |
| Yes: 5 | No: 0 | Absent: 2 | Abstain: 0 | Recuse: 0 |