

**Formal Recommendation by the
National Organic Standards Board (NOSB)
to the National Organic Program (NOP)**

Date: April 29, 2011
Subject: Sodium Silicate Sunset
Chair: Tracy Miedema

The NOSB hereby recommends to the NOP the following:

Rulemaking Action X
Guidance Statement
Other

Statement of the Recommendation (Including Recount of Vote):

To relist sodium silicate—for tree fruit and fiber processing, on § 205.601.

Rationale Supporting Recommendation (including consistency with OFPA and NOP):

Public comment on the compatibility with chlorine materials.

NOSB Vote:

Moved: John Foster		Second: Steve DeMuri		
Yes: 13	No: 0	Abstain: 1	Absent: 0	Recusal: 0

**National Organic Standards Board
Crops Committee
2012 Sunset Recommendation
Sodium Silicate**

April 29, 2011

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

- (1) As floating agents in postharvest handling.
- (2) Sodium silicate—for tree fruit and fiber processing.

Committee Summary

The Crops Committee requested but did not receive a Technical Report (TR) on this material prior to its consideration and recommendation on sodium silicate. Without the benefit of the TR and given limited information on the use and essentiality of sodium silicate, as well as the availability of another 601-allowed floating agent for the same purpose, the committee voted unanimously against the continued listing of this chemical, pending receipt of the TR and further technical review.

Prior to the Board meeting, the Crops Committee recommended against the continued listing of sodium silicate —allowed for tree fruit and fiber processing as a floating agent and postharvest handling.

The Crops Committee considered public comment received after the recommendation was adopted and took into account the compatibility of chlorine materials and the incompatibility with chlorine of another 601 floating agent, lignin sulfonate. The committee voted unanimously for the continued listing of this material.

Committee Recommendation

The Crops Committee recommends the continued listing of sodium silicate —allowed for tree fruit and fiber processing as a floating agent and postharvest handling. The motion was to continue the listing of sodium silicate —allowed for tree fruit and fiber processing as a floating agent and postharvest handling.

Committee Vote

Motion: To relist sodium silicate—for tree fruit and fiber processing, on § 205.601.

Motion: Tina Ellor Second: Steve DeMuri

Yes: 7 No: 0 Absent: 0 Abstain: 0 Recuse: 0