

**SUMMARY OF NOSB ACTIONS  
OCTOBER 15-17, 2001  
WASHINGTON, DC**

The National Organic Standards Board meeting of October 15-17, 2001, was attended by 14 of its 15 members. The absent member was Marvin Hollen.

**THE NOSB ACTED ON THE FOLLOWING ITEMS AT ITS OCTOBER 15-17, 2001, MEETING:**

**June 6-7, 2001, Meeting Minutes** - Approved as amended. Jim Riddle moved to approve and Willie Lockeretz seconded the motion. *(14 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstaining)*

**LIVESTOCK COMMITTEE ITEMS**

**Access to Pasture Recommendation** - Approved as amended. Jim Riddle moved to approve and Goldie Caughlan seconded the motion. *(14 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstaining)*

**Antibiotics in Vaccines and Semen Recommendation** - Approved. Dave Carter moved to approve and Kim Burton seconded the motion. *(14 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstaining)*

**Apiculture Task Force Recommendations** - Approved. George Siemon moved to approve and Owusu Bandele seconded the motion. *(13 in favor, 1 opposed, 0 abstaining)*

**MATERIALS COMMITTEE ITEMS**

**Crops Materials**

The following materials were determined to be synthetic and prohibited for use in organic crop production.

**Monocalcium Phosphate** – For the purpose of conserving nitrogen in the compost pile. *(14 synthetic, 0 natural, 0 abstaining; 1 approve, 13 prohibit, 0 abstaining)*

**Calcium Chloride** – Non Brine Process is synthetic and prohibited. *(14 synthetic, 0 natural, 0 abstaining; 0 approve, 14 prohibit, 0 abstaining)*

The following material was determined to be non-synthetic and prohibited, with annotation, for use in organic crop production.

**Calcium Chloride** - Brine Process is natural and prohibited for use except as a foliar spray to treat a physiological disorder associated with calcium uptake. *(1 synthetic, 13 natural, 0 abstaining; 2 approve, 12 prohibit, 0 abstaining)*

The following material has been determined to be synthetic and approved for use in organic crop production.

**Copper Sulfate** – NOSB approved amending the existing National List usage to add “...; only with documented need as an algicide and tadpole shrimp control in aquatic rice systems; not to exceed one application per field per two year interval; used in a manner to minimize accumulation of copper in the soil and water systems.” This material was previously determined to be synthetic. *(10 approve, 3 prohibit, 1 abstaining)*

The NOSB reaffirmed its October 26, 1999, vote to allow the use of ethylene for the post harvest ripening of tropical fruit and degreening. Rosie Koenig moved to reaffirm the vote and Eric Sideman seconded the motion. *(10 in favor, 0 opposed, 4 abstaining)*. The current annotation does not allow for degreening. The recommended amendment to the annotation will be included in the proposed rule to amend the National List.

### **Livestock Materials**

The following Livestock materials have been determined to be synthetic and approved, with annotation, for use in organic livestock production:

**DL-Methionine, DL-Methionine Hydroxy Analog, and DL-Methionine Hydroxy Analog Calcium** – The NOSB determined that these materials are not consistent with organic agriculture but approved them for interim use, until October 21, 2005, by the organic poultry industry to allow the phasing out of their use. *(14 synthetic, 0 natural, 0 abstaining; 14 approve, 0 prohibit, 0 abstaining)*  
The NOSB also voted that if the Office of General Counsel says no to the shorter sunset date, the material remains prohibited and the NOSB will reconsider the material at a future meeting. *(8 in favor, 3 opposed, 3 abstaining)*

### **Processing Materials**

The following materials were determined to be synthetic and approved for use in organic processing:

**Ammonium Hydroxide** – For use as boiler water additive only with removal from the National List October 21, 2005. If the Office of General Counsel says no to the shorter sunset date, the material remains prohibited. *(11 synthetic, 0 natural, 3 abstaining; 10 approve, 1 prohibit, 3 abstaining)*

**Cyclohexamine** – For use as a boiler water additive for packaging sterilization only. *(11 synthetic, 0 natural, 3 abstaining; 8 approve, 3 prohibit, 3 abstaining)*

**Octadecylamine** – For use as a boiler water additive for packaging sterilization only. *(11 synthetic, 0 natural, 3 abstaining; 8 approve, 3 prohibit, 3 abstaining)*

**Postassium Hydroxide** – Approved amending the annotation to read: prohibited for use in lye peeling of fruits and vegetables except when used for peeling peaches during the Individually Quick Frozen (IQF) production process. This material was previously determined to be synthetic. *(14 approve, 0 prohibit, 0 abstaining)*

**Cellulose** – For use in regenerative casings, as an anti-caking agent (non-chlorine bleached) and filtering aid. *(12 synthetic, 0 natural, 2 abstaining; 10 approve, 0 prohibit, 4 abstaining)*

The following materials were determined to be synthetic and prohibited for use in organic processing:

**Morpholine** – The motion, to allow this material for use as a boiler water additive for packaging sterilization only, failed. *(10 synthetic, 0 natural, 4 abstaining; 6 approve, 4 prohibit, 4 abstaining)*

**Sodium Phosphates** – The motion, to amend the current annotation by adding formulated with soymilk or dry soymilk products, failed. The current annotation remains as published in section 205.605(b)(33). This material was previously determined to be synthetic. *(3 approve, 10 prohibit, 1 abstaining)*

The following Processing materials have been deferred until the May 2002 NOSB meeting:

**Diethylaminoethanol**  
**Glycerol Monooleate**

### **PROCESSING COMMITTEE ITEMS**

No action items.

### **CROPS COMMITTEE ITEMS**

**Composting** - The NOSB approved creation of a Compost Task Force to address unresolved compost issues. The task force is expected to recommend additional compost regulations at the NOSB's May 2002 meeting.

**Greenhouse Production Systems Recommendation** - Approved as amended. Jim Riddle moved to approve and Steven Harper seconded the motion. *(13 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstaining, 1 absent)*

**Mushroom Production Recommendation** - Approved as amended. Eric Sideman moved to approve and George Siemon seconded the motion. *(11 in favor, 1 opposed, 1 abstaining, 1 absent)*

## **ACCREDITATION COMMITTEE ITEMS**

**Principles of Organic Production and Handling Recommendation** - Approved. Dave Carter moved to approve and Jim Riddle seconded the motion. *(13 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstaining, 1 absent)*

**Small Farmer Exemption Recommendation** - Approved. Jim Riddle moved to approve and Becky Goldberg seconded the motion. *(13 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstaining, 1 absent)*

**Enclosed in a Container requirement for Exclusion of Handler** - No vote due to withdrawal of the item by the Accreditation Committee.

**Certification of Private Label Products Recommendation** - Approved as amended. Jim Riddle moved to approve and Kim Burton seconded the motion. *(12 in favor, 1 opposed, 0 abstaining, 1 absent)*

## **AQUATIC WORKING GROUP ITEMS**

**Aquatic Animal Task Force Recommendations** - The NOSB accepted the report of the aquatic animal task force and approved the following recommend:

1. No standards be developed for wild caught aquatic animals;
2. Standards be developed for the production of farmed aquatic animals that reflect an innovative approach to organic certification while remaining fully consistent with the statutory requirements of the Organic Foods Production Act; and
3. If standards are developed for farmed aquatic animals, we recommend that the National Organic Program and the National Organic Standards Board use the aquatic animal task force report as guidance.

Eric Sideman moved to approve and Willie Lockeretz seconded the motion. *(14 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstaining)*

## **ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR**

Dave Carter was elected Chairperson.

Jim Riddle was elected Vice-Chairperson.

The position of Secretary will be filled at a later date.

## **THE NEXT NOSB MEETING**

The next NOSB meeting is tentatively scheduled for May 7-9, 2002, in Austin, Texas.