

1 Department of Agriculture

2

3 Adopted Permanent Rules Relating to Soil and Plant Amendment

4 Labeling

5

6 Rules as Adopted

7 1510.0430 AUTHORITY AND PURPOSE.

8 Parts 1510.0430 to 1510.0434 are adopted by the
9 commissioner pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, section 18C.121, to
10 prescribe conditions for the labels and procedures for labeling
11 soil and plant amendments.

12 1510.0431 DEFINITIONS.

13 Subpart 1. Scope. The definitions in this part apply to
14 parts 1510.0430 to 1510.0434. For the purposes of parts
15 1510.0430 to 1510.0434, the terms "brand," "commissioner,"
16 "compost," "fertilizer," "guarantor," "label," "labeling,"
17 "plant amendment," "plant food," "sewage sludge," and "soil
18 amendment" have the meanings given them in Minnesota Statutes,
19 section 18C.005.

20 Subp. 2. Animal manure. "Animal manure" means the excreta
21 of animals together with whatever bedding materials are needed
22 to follow good dairy barn, feedlot, and poultry house practices
23 to maintain proper sanitary conditions.

24 Subp. 3. Inert ingredients. "Inert ingredients" means the
25 ingredients present in soil or plant amendments that are not
26 soil or plant amending ingredients.

27 Subp. 4. Peat. "Peat" means partly decayed vegetable
28 matter of natural occurrence. It is composed chiefly of organic
29 matter that may contain some nitrogen of low activity.

30 Subp. 5. Sphagnum peat moss. "Sphagnum peat moss" means a
31 peat source from a sphagnum moss peat deposit (bog) of which an
32 oven-dried sample would contain a minimum of 66-2/3 percent
33 sphagnum moss fiber by weight. These fibers are stems and
34 leaves of sphagnum that have recognizable fibrous and cellular
35 structure.

1 1510.0432 LABEL REQUIREMENTS.

2 Subpart 1. Information required. A soil or plant
3 amendment offered for sale or sold in this state in bags or
4 other containers must have placed on or affixed to the container
5 the following information:

- 6 A. net weight;
- 7 B. brand name;
- 8 C. guaranteed analysis, which must be in the
9 following format:

10 GUARANTEED ANALYSIS

11 SOIL OR PLANT AMENDMENT INGREDIENTS

12 "Name of Ingredient" ... %

13 (identify and list all)

14 INERT INGREDIENTS

15 "Name of Ingredient" ... %

16 (identify and list all)

17 (1) List the common or usual English name and
18 percentage by weight of each active ingredient, under the
19 heading "SOIL OR PLANT AMENDMENT INGREDIENTS."

20 (2) List the common or usual English name and
21 percentage by weight of each inert ingredient, listed under the
22 heading "INERT INGREDIENTS." The "INERT INGREDIENTS" statement
23 may be deleted from the guaranteed analysis statement if the
24 percentage of inert ingredients is zero.

25 (3) If the product is a microbiological product,
26 a statement of active ingredients in the following format must
27 state the number of viable microorganisms per milliliter for a
28 liquid or the number of viable microorganisms per gram for a dry
29 product:

30 ACTIVE INGREDIENTS

31 (Minimum number) viable (name of organism) per gram or per
32 milliliter.

33 (List each organism separately);

- 34 D. name and address of guarantor;
- 35 E. directions for the soil or plant amendment's use;

1 and

2 F. the soil or plant amendment's purpose or proposed
3 use.

4 Subp. 2. [See repealer.]

5 Subp. 3. [See repealer.]

6 Subp. 3a. Sewage sludge without charge. If sewage sludge
7 is transferred between parties without compensation, a copy of
8 the sewage sludge analysis required by the rules of the
9 Minnesota Pollution Control Agency is sufficient to meet the
10 labeling requirements.

11 Subp. 4. Packaged soil or plant amendments. If packaged
12 soil or plant amendments are offered for sale, the information
13 required in subpart 1 must be in a readable and conspicuous form
14 and must appear:

- 15 A. on the front or back side of the container;
16 B. on the upper one-third of the side of a container;
17 C. on the upper end of the container; or
18 D. printed on a tag affixed to the upper end of the
19 container.

20 Subp. 5. Bulk soil or plant amendments. If bulk soil or
21 plant amendments are offered for sale, the information required
22 in subpart 1, in written or printed form, must be supplied to
23 the purchaser.

24 1510.0433 LABELING AND LABELS.

25 Subpart 1. Labeling and labels. Proposed labeling and
26 labels with directions for use of the soil or plant amendment
27 must be furnished with an application for registration of a soil
28 or plant amendment.

29 Subp. 2. Animal manures. If ingredients are added to
30 animal manure, the ingredients must be specified on the
31 principal label of the container. If the added ingredient
32 exceeds the amount of manure, it must be the first ingredient
33 listed on the principal label and "manure," "cattle manure,"
34 "sheep manure," or a similar term must be in type noticeably
35 smaller than that used for the added ingredient. If the

1 packaging of a product features the picture of a designated
2 animal, manure of that species of animal must comprise more than
3 50 percent of the material in the container.

4 Subp. 3. Environmentally beneficial. A claim that a
5 product is "environmentally beneficial" or a similar claim must
6 be accompanied by a statement of explanation of the rationale
7 for the claim and a list of all ingredients in order to allow
8 the consumer to determine the validity of the statement.

9 Subp. 4. Safety. A statement suggesting that a product is
10 completely safe and nontoxic to humans, animals, or the
11 environment is a misbranding of the product and must not appear
12 on the label.

13 Subp. 5. Name of a soil or plant amendment material. If
14 the name of a soil or plant amendment ingredient is used as part
15 of the brand name of a soil or plant amendment, such as animal
16 manure, peat, sphagnum peat moss, or compost, the soil or plant
17 amendment must be composed entirely of the ingredient named.

18 1510.0434 ENFORCEMENT.

19 The commissioner shall proceed in accordance with Minnesota
20 Statutes, section 18D.305, upon satisfactory evidence that a
21 label or labeling of a soil or plant amendment or sewage sludge
22 does not comply with parts 1510.0430 to 1510.0434.

23 REPEALER. Minnesota Rules, part 1510.0432, subparts 2 and 3,
24 are repealed.