

**National Organic Standards Board
Livestock Subcommittee
Iodine Annotation Change
June 4, 2024**

Summary of Review:

The National Organic Standards Board (NOSB) acknowledges that iodine sanitizers remain necessary to livestock operations as a sanitizer for medical procedures as well as for topical use, particularly as a teat dip for dairy animals. The NOSB has also heard from numerous stakeholders that it is time to ensure that iodine products used on organic farms are free from nonylphenol ethoxylates (NPEs). The Livestock Subcommittee (LS) requested a limited scope technical report (TR) in 2024 to evaluate the availability of NPE-free iodine products and their suitability, the potential for NPEs contained in iodine products to contaminate organic products and the environment, and what detrimental effects may occur should NPEs enter the supply chain or be applied to soil.

At the NOSB's Spring 2024 meeting, the LS requested comments from stakeholders about a potential annotation change to prohibit NPEs in iodine products. Commenters generally expressed support for the phase-out of iodine formulas that contain NPEs. Environmental groups applauded the idea that organic farmers would lead the way in removal of these harmful substances from their organic system plans (OSPs). Certifiers and Materials Review Organizations (MROs) indicated that there are numerous formulations available on the market and approved for use in OSPs that do not contain NPEs. Organic dairy producers indicated support for the additional restriction, as it would better minimize impact to the environment while continuing to provide options for iodine products. Commenters suggested that the annotation prohibiting NPEs include language that clearly prohibits all alkylphenol ethoxylates. LS agrees with these commenters and is proposing an annotation change to prohibit alkylphenol ethoxylates.

Subcommittee Vote:

Motion to amend the listing for iodine at 205.603(a)(16) and 205.603(b)(4) as follows:

Iodine, must be produced without the use of alkylphenol ethoxylates.

Motion by: Nate Lewis

Seconded by: Franklin Quarcoo

Yes: 4 No: 0 Abstain: 0 Recuse: 0 Absent: 1

