

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

**Date:** April 29, 2011

**Subject:** Annotation change to amend 205.601 (j) (4) Lignin sulfonate--to read 'a chelating agent and dust suppressant'.

**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):**

The recommendation is to amend the annotation for lignin sulfonate on 205.601(j)(4), to read "a chelating agent and dust suppressant. The motion passed 14 yes, 0 no.

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

Subsection (j) is Materials for use as Plant or Soil Amendments, and so the specific annotation that includes, in this particular listing, as a flotation aid, that's why it appears to be not applicable, so we opted to get rid of it. Because in the context of being a plant or soil amendment, it is not also a flotation aid.

**Committee Vote:**

|                           |              |                           |                  |                   |
|---------------------------|--------------|---------------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| <b>Moved:</b> John Foster |              | <b>Second:</b> Tina Ellor |                  |                   |
| <b>Yes:</b> 14            | <b>No:</b> 0 | <b>Abstain:</b> 0         | <b>Absent:</b> 0 | <b>Recusal:</b> 0 |

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

**April 29, 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.

**Committee Summary**

In addition to the separate recommendation on the annotation change for this material on § 205.601(l)(1), 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**

Relist lignin sulfonate on § 205.601(j)(4) with the amended annotation: chelating agent, dust suppressant.

**Committee Vote**

Motion: Tina Ellor                      Second: Nick Maravell  
Yes: 5                      No: 0                      Absent: 2                      Abstain: 0                      Recuse: 0