

# The Times (and Fees) They Are a Changin'!

## Oregon Department of Agriculture Fertilizer Program

### Product Registration and Tonnage Reporting News and Notes ~ May 2016

#### **Inspection Fees on Lime Products**

While lime products are not currently subject to inspection fees, historically they have been. In 1953, the inspection fee for lime products was 2¢ per ton. In 1984, the inspection fee was raised to 3¢ a ton. In 2002, the inspection fee for lime products was eliminated. An inspection fee has been re-established at **5¢** per ton for all lime products distributed into Oregon on or after **July 1, 2016**. The first reporting period subject to the new rate is July 1 - December 31, 2016. Tonnage reporting forms reflecting the new rate will be mailed in early December of 2016.

#### **Minimum Inspection Fee**

Effective **July 1, 2016**, all tonnage reporters that distribute less than 33.34 tons of fertilizer, agricultural mineral or agricultural amendment products or less than 300 tons of lime, gypsum or compost products in any six month reporting period must pay a minimum inspection fee of **\$15.00**.

#### **Product Registration Fee Increase**

Since 1969, the Department has been able to maintain the cost of product registration at \$25.00. That's 46+ years at the same price. Unfortunately, rising costs have finally caught up. Effective **July 1, 2016**, the cost of registration for fertilizer, agricultural mineral, agricultural amendment, and lime products will be **\$35.00** per product per calendar year.

#### **Product Evaluation Fee**

Some products require more Departmental time and resources to evaluate than others. To defray the costs of more expensive analytical methods, the Department is adding an evaluation fee of **\$35.00** for products claiming microbial content, and an evaluation fee of **\$35.00** for products guaranteeing hydrophobic fulvic acids. Effective **July 1, 2016**, registration of these products will require both the \$35.00 registration fee and an additional product evaluation fee of \$35.00.

#### **Products Guaranteeing Hydrophobic Fulvic Acids**

The Department will begin accepting registration applications for products that guarantee hydrophobic fulvic acids after **July 1, 2016**. Hydrophobic fulvic acids will be the only acceptable term and guarantee. Products will need to be consistent with the Association of American Plant Food Control Officials (AAPFCO) definition and provide a guarantee based on the accepted analytical method. AAPFCO Official Publication No. 69 defines "hydrophobic fulvic acids" as "the portions of humic substances that are soluble in both alkali and acidic aqueous solutions that are separated from non-humic aqueous substances in the fulvic fraction by selective adsorption onto a nonionic macroporous acrylic ester resin of moderate polarity i.e. DAX-8 resin, at low pH."

In addition, the registration application will need to include a laboratory report showing the total amounts of hydrophobic fulvic acids and sulfur (S). If the product contains any additional ingredients, a blend sheet showing all ingredients in the product will need to be supplied. **Note:** The hydrophobic fulvic acids analysis must be done with the method described in Lamar, et al. 2014. "A new standardized method for quantification of humic and fulvic acids in humic ores and commercial products." Journal of AOAC International. 97(3):721-730.

#### **Questions? Contact:**

**Oregon Department of Agriculture  
Fertilizer Program**

**635 Capitol Street NE ~ Salem, Oregon 97301**

**(503) 986-4635**

**(503) 986-4735 Fax**

**fertilizer-inquiry@oda.state.or.us**

**<http://www.oregon.gov/ODA/programs/Pesticides/Fertilizers/Pages/Fertilizers.aspx>**