

FEED ♦ FERTILIZER ♦ MILK ♦ SEED ♦ SEED TESTING ♦ SOIL TESTING**2001 Poundstone Award**

The Poundstone Award was created to annually honor an outstanding Regulatory Services' staff. Bruce Poundstone was Director of Regulatory Services from 1946 to 1971. He was nationally renowned for his leadership and innovations in the agricultural regulatory arena. Because of his highly respected reputation as a leader in agriculture and at Regulatory Services, the award is named in his honor.

Ellen has worked at the University of Kentucky for 31 years. She began her career at UK in the feed and fertilizer lab in the atomic absorption area conducting mineral analysis. She subsequently transferred to the nitrogen and protein analysis area where technology has changed from the kjeldahl method to high tech nitrogen combustion analysis. She currently operates three nitrogen analyzers to meet the testing demands for the feed and fertilizer programs. Bob Beine, recently retired Coordinator of the Feed and

Fertilizer Laboratory, paid the following tribute to Ellen: "While we pay her for leading the pack with her fast turnaround of accurate data, her greatest value to the lab is her heart and attitude. She is always a calming influence during difficult times, willing and able to listen to problems to make everyone feel better. She brings a cheerfulness and enthusiasm to the Social and Safety Committee, a willingness to work to make life in the department better and more enjoyable. As a member of several personnel search committees, she ensures that the candidate will not only be qualified, but also have the personality and attitude to be a good Regulatory Services employee."

Ellen was honored at a luncheon where she was presented the second annual Poundstone Award. She received a \$300 award and her name has been inscribed on a perpetual plaque on display in the lobby at the Regulatory Services Building.

Eli Miller - Director

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Milk Program Advisory Board

The mission of Regulatory Services' milk program is to ensure fair and accurate marketing of raw farm milk produced or marketed in Kentucky. Our primary function is to monitor "the system" from the time the producer's milk samples and weights are obtained, the milk is delivered, tested in the laboratory, and payments are calculated. A number of the groups participating in Kentucky's dairy industry are licensed and monitored to accomplish these objectives. In addition to our regulatory function, Regulatory Services cooperates with other agencies in educational projects and we provide a number of services to Kentucky dairy producers and processors.

Our mission is to serve everyone involved in Kentucky's dairy industry. To advise us concerning policy and programs necessary to implement the milk program, an advisory board was formed in 1960. In our recent law update, the board was renamed and expanded to include a broader representation of the groups affected by the milk program.

The board, now known as the "Kentucky Milk Handlers Advisory Board", meets at least once annually. The first meeting of the expanded board occurred on November 14, 2001 in Lexington and was very informative. All board members were present and provided their thoughts and

impressions relating to the milk program and the overall status of Kentucky's dairy industry.

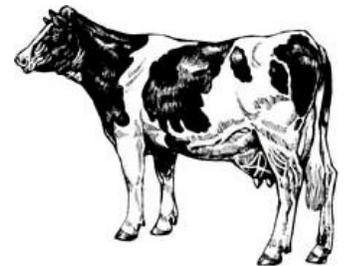
The Advisory Board consists of the following individuals:

Board Chair, Dr. Bill Silvia – Coordinator of the dairy section in the UK Animal Science Department, Kelly Thurman – dairy producer and chair of the dairy committee of the Kentucky Farm Bureau Federation, Dale Marcum – Manager of the Kentucky Milk Safety Branch, dairy producer representatives – Allen Phillips, Dave Robinson, and Billie Williams, dairy processor representatives – Meredith Scales and Jim Sibcy, sampler-weigher representative – Tom Slayback and tester representative – Kelly Wedding.

The Advisory Board is one of the main avenues for the milk program to remain aware of Kentucky's dairy industry needs and concerns.

Advisory Board input assists Regulatory Services in our effort to provide better service to Kentucky's dairy industry. If you have questions or

comments concerning the milk program, feel free to discuss them with members of the Advisory Board or contact Chris Thompson, Coordinator of the Milk Program at (859) 257-2785 or by e-mail at cthompso@uky.edu.



Pictured from left to right are: Chris Thompson, Bill Silvia, Eli Miller, Jim Sibcy, Bob Hickerson, Dale Marcum, Tom Slayback, Meredith Scales, Kelly Thurman, Allen Phillips, Kelly Wedding, Dave Roberts and Billie Williams.

Chris Thompson, Milk Program

Kentucky Quality Dairy Producer Award

Reminder!!!

The Dairy Products Association of Kentucky (DPAK) will present the first Kentucky Quality Dairy Producer Award at the Kentucky State Fair in August. An article about the award and a nomination form were included in the third quarter 2001 issue of Regulatory Services News. All nomination forms are to be mailed to DPAK no later than June 30, 2002. That's just around the corner!



The 2002 award's criteria are to be based on producer information from May 1, 2001 through April 30, 2002. Now is the time to start thinking about who you would like to nominate for this award. Applications can be obtained by contacting Leon Townsend, Executive Director of DPAK, at (502) 695-0253. Be sure to nominate the Kentucky dairy producer who you feel best exemplifies the production of quality milk!

Chris Thompson, Milk Program

Test Results on a Soil Test Report

When you have your soil tested at a laboratory, you receive a soil test report summarizing what the lab found out about the soil sample you submitted. There are two sets of important numbers on the soil test report. One set of numbers is test results for the sample. The second set of numbers is fertilizer recommendations for maximizing the fertility of the soil. This article discusses the set of numbers representing the test results.

It can be quite confusing if soil test reports are compared from one laboratory to another because there are different tests for determining the fertility status of a soil. Having your soil tested is not like having your blood tested for cholesterol. Medical laboratories check cholesterol level in blood with one test. If you are below 200, you are at a low risk of a heart attack. If you are above a test level of

200, you are at a higher risk of a heart attack and you should watch your diet. On the contrary, soils can be more variable than blood. The wide variability of soil has resulted in many different types of soil tests to determine the nutrient content in the soil that is available to plants.

In addition to different types of tests, laboratories report their numbers in varying units. This adds to the confusion of interpreting the numbers. The most common units used are pounds per acre (lbs./acre) and parts per million (PPM). Parts per million multiplied by two equals pounds per acre.

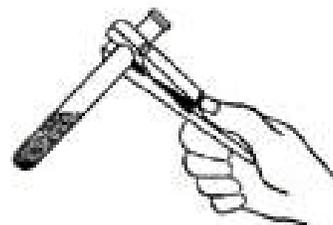
At the University of Kentucky soil test laboratories, the Mehlich III test is used to determine the fertility level of phosphorus and potassium in soils and the numbers are reported in pounds per acre. Other types of tests that may be used at laboratories in and around Kentucky are Mehlich I and Bray I tests. These different tests will provide different numbers because their chemical action of removing plant-available nutrients varies.

Nitrogen is not normally tested in Kentucky soils because most of the nitrogen available to plants is locked up in organic matter and an efficient test for determining this available nitrogen is not available.

Therefore, a soil test laboratory will not usually report a laboratory test result for nitrogen but they will report recommendations for nitrogen fertilizer application based on the crop to be grown and the soil characteristics.

Understanding the meaning behind the soil test result numbers is important for understanding the basis for fertilizer recommendations. Questions regarding a soil test report should be directed to your local University of Kentucky extension agent.

Frank Sikora, Soil Testing Program

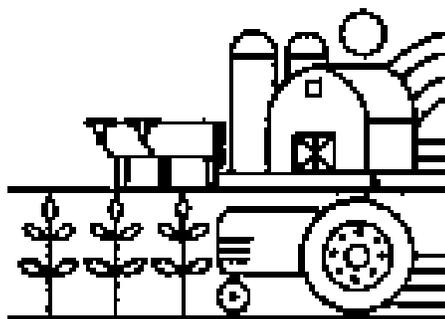


Spring Seed Notes

The spring planting season is upon us as you read this. Most of you are getting ready for your busiest time of the year. Our inspection staff has probably reminded you to check your seedstock to make sure you are prepared for the season. The following checklist may be helpful to you in preparation for the spring season.



- Carryover seed should be checked for the appropriate test date. Seed in Kentucky has a nine-month test date requirement. This is exclusive of the month the seed was tested. Outdated seed must be tested for germination. Uncertified seed must have a total germination of 60%. Certified seed must have germination equal to the Kentucky certification standard for that seed kind, regardless of its origin.
- Carryover stock should be rotated to the front to avoid continually having old stock left over at the end of the season. Maintaining a clean storage area is helpful in avoiding shrink loss due to rodent damage and other sources of damaged seed containers. Seed should be stacked on pallets and moved away from walls to avoid providing a hiding-nesting place for critters. Leaving room between pallets and the wall will help give you enough space to place traps and bait and keep the area clean.
- Check incoming seed stock as it is delivered. Make sure you have received the kind and variety of seed you ordered, and that it is appropriately tagged. Do not receive seed that does not have identification, even if the shipper provides a master tag or seed test with the shipment. Unidentified containers cannot be identified with any accompanying paperwork. Seed delivered to a retail location is required to carry a complete label on each container upon delivery.
- Check your records to make sure you have the appropriate Kentucky permits and registrations for your location. These permits and registrations are annual in Kentucky and you should have them on file. Applications were mailed to all registrants in early December of 2001. All retail seed dealers that sell seed in container sizes of 40 pounds or greater are required to register as a seed dealer.
- If you possess seed stock that is under a stop sale order, the orders should be responded to immediately. Seed under stop sale order cannot be removed from your premises until the violation has been corrected. Methods for correcting violations were covered in the previous newsletter. These orders are issued for the protection of you and your customers. Re-labeling of these seed lots will usually correct the violation.



Your attention to these items will be helpful to having a better spring seed season. If you have questions, please contact our office at (859)-257-7363. We wish you all a good spring.

David Buckingham, Seed Program

**Association of American Plant Food Control Officials
Publication No. 55
Now Available**

Official Publication No. 55 contains the latest model legislation, definitions, and rules for fertilizer, agricultural limestone, anhydrous ammonia, soil conditioners/amendments, chemigation, and horticultural growing media. The updated directory of control officials, summary of the midyear and annual meetings and other activities of the Association in addition to the model legislation are well worth the cost of \$25.

Send your order to:

Dr. Joel Padmore, Treasurer,
NC Dept. Of Agriculture,
4000 Reedy Creek Road,
Raleigh, NC 27607-6468 USA.
Phone:(919) 733-7366
Joel.Padmore@ncmail.net



**Annual Fertilizer
Registration and License
Renewals**

All 2001 fertilizer registrants and licensees have been sent a notice to renew their registrations/licenses for 2002. All 2001 registrations and licenses expired on December 31, 2001. If you have not received your notice, please contact Kenna Johnson at (859) 257-2668 and ask for a copy of your notice. The grace period ended on January 31, 2002.

Tonnage Reporting

We are encouraging all companies who have their tonnage in a computer file to send a copy of the file to us so we can determine if we can use it in our system. Please call (859) 257-2668 and ask for assistance in this effort.

D. L. Terry, Fertilizer Program

Dr. Dan Kirkland Retires

Dr. Dan Kirkland, Coordinator of the Princeton Soil Testing Laboratory, retired from Regulatory Services on January 31, 2002. Dan received his Ph.D. in 1975 from Auburn University. His career with the University of Kentucky began in 1982 when the Soil Testing Laboratory opened at the Research and Education Center in Princeton, Kentucky. Dan oversaw the methods and development of the Princeton Soil Testing Laboratory. He was also a pioneer in the area of electronic transfer of data to the county extension offices. In 1986, Dan and Freddie Higgins, the computer programmer at the Research and Education Center, wrote a soil computer program that allowed the soil lab to send the soil test results with fertilizer and lime recommendations for specific crops to the county extension offices across the state. This allowed clients to receive soil test results with the University of Kentucky lime and fertilizer recommendations in a more timely manner.



Dan has no specific plans after retirement other than enjoying the fishing, gardening and nature in West Kentucky. We wish Dan the best in his retirement years.

Paula Howe, Princeton Soil Laboratory

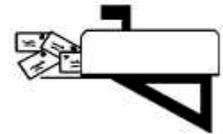
Seed Lab Numbers for 2001

The seed lab performed in excess of 13,500 service tests in 2001. This number is based on the 6,214 service samples we received, which was a 21% increase from the previous year. The most commonly tested crops were Tobacco, Soybean, Wheat and Tall Fescue. In addition, the lab tested 2,692 official samples. The most frequently tested official sample crops were Corn, Soybeans, Tall Fescue and Clovers. For a detailed listing of crops tested, please visit our website: www.rs.uky.edu. The 2001 Service Report is available on the seed testing page.

Concerns about irradiation of mailed seed samples

Irradiation is a very effective means to destroy bacterial cells. Genetic information in the bacterium's cell wall is disrupted causing damage, mutations or death. Unfortunately, cell wall disruption can also occur in seeds exposed to this treatment. As many of you send samples via the mail, you may be concerned about the effects of irradiation, as the treatment could effect seed quality and viability.

Currently, no mail is being irradiated in Kentucky and according to a representative from the Lexington branch of the U.S. Postal Service, our state is not slated as a high priority area. The Postal Service has no immediate plans to install the irradiation equipment in local facilities. However, in anticipation that the equipment may be installed in the future, we have discussed options with the Postal Service to ensure the integrity of our seed samples while following the security policy mandated by U.S. Postal Service and the Office of Homeland Security.



A few items of interest about the irradiation treatments follow:

- ✓ Only mail in Brentwood and Trenton postal facilities was irradiated.
- ✓ Only mail addressed to zip codes of 202XX and 205XX (areas in Washington, D.C.) are currently being irradiated.
- ✓ Mail that has been irradiated is forwarded in a plastic bag with a letter attached advising the addressee that the mail has been exposed to irradiation treatment.
- ✓ No new plans are being developed to irradiate any other mail unless another anthrax or other bio-terrorism agent is discovered.

The American Seed Trade Association is actively involved in discussing the concerns of our industry with the U.S. Postal Service and is committed to keeping members aware of developments that may affect our industry. In addition, ASTA has representatives on the Mailers' Technical Advisory Committee, a group that assesses, monitors and develops policies of this kind with the Postal Service.

Recommendations for seedsmen:

- ✓ Always include a return address on the package. A printed label is best and inclusion of a company logo is also recommended.
- ✓ When possible, seal packages or envelopes so that tampering can be evident.
- ✓ Use a local postal branch so that the package postmark matches the city and state of the return address.

The bottom line is there's no reason to be concerned about sending seed through the mail to our facility. Please continue to send seed as you have in the past, but implement the seedsman recommendations where appropriate. As we learn of new policies or changes to the current procedures, we will pass that information along to you.

Cindy Finneseth, Seed Testing Laboratory

2001 INSPECTION PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

The Division of Regulatory Services is mandated to make regular inspections of commercial feed, fertilizer and seeds offered for sale in Kentucky to achieve compliance with the consumer protection laws the Division administers. Samples of feed, fertilizer and seed are obtained on a regular basis with only seasonal limitations. Milk plants that receive raw farm milk from dairy farmers are also visited on a regular basis to ensure compliance with the Kentucky Farm Milk Handlers Law.



A team of nine inspectors, located strategically across the state, inspect and sample at distributors of agricultural products and two inspectors travel throughout the state and samples specialty products in urban areas. Inspectors visit manufacturing plants, processing facilities, storage warehouses, and retail stores; collect official samples of feed, pet food, fertilizer and seed; prepare feed labels for small firms, check feed formulas for accuracy and offer assistance to clientele in improving their operation to be in compliance with the laws. One inspector is assigned full time to the milk program and beginning in 2001, five of the nine feed, fertilizer, and seed inspectors began milk sampler-weigher inspections at milk plants in the eastern half of the state.

FERTILIZER INSPECTION PROGRAM -

Regulatory Service's inspectors made 1,676 visits to fertilizer distributors and collected 3,555 official samples for laboratory analysis while monitoring the distribution of fertilizer in the state. Over one-half of these samples were bulk custom mixes that go directly to the farm. Samples of fertilizer materials were taken at 65 firms for Size Guide Number determinations to inform dealers if materials were of compatible particle size for mixing.



FEED INSPECTION PROGRAM- Inspectors conducted 2,100 inspections of feed manufacturers and commercial feed dealers. Official samples of 3,820 lots of feed were taken to determine label accuracy by laboratory analysis. Custom mix samples accounted for 225 of the total feed samples. Stop Sales were issued in the field on 20 feed products. Inspectors conducted Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) inspections of two Kentucky feed mills under the FDA-State contract that ensures the safe and effective use of drugs and antibiotics in animal feed. Less stringent GMP inspections were performed on 17 smaller feed mills that mix less stringent drugs and antibiotics and seven non-medicated mills were inspected for Good Manufacturing Practices under the Kentucky Commercial Feed Law. The priority during the last half of 2001 for the feed inspection program was



focused on conducting Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (mad cow disease) inspections for prohibited animal by-products. Regulatory Services entered into a contract with FDA to conduct BSE Rules

Compliance inspections at 145 feed firms prior to July 1, 2002. By the end of the year, 127 inspections, or approximately 90% of the assigned inspections on the FDA contract, were completed by the inspection staff.

SEED INSPECTION PROGRAM - Inspectors made 1,742 official visits to seed processors, distributors and dealers in 2001 and collected 2,682 official samples to verify seed lots for label accuracy by laboratory analysis. During the course of their routine inspections, the inspection staff issued 100 Stop Sales on seed lots. Most of these Stop Sales were for out of test date lots of seeds.

MILK INSPECTION PROGRAM - To ensure fair and accurate marketing of raw farm milk, inspectors made 313 visits to raw milk receiving plants and conducted 773 sampler-weigher inspections. During these inspections, 6,982 producer milk samples were obtained for laboratory analysis of milk components for comparison purposes.

Fred Herald, Inspection Program

REGULATORY SERVICES NEWS



UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY

Regulatory Services News is published quarterly for the milk, feed, fertilizer and seed regulatory programs and the seed and soil testing programs. It is provided free to persons interested in these programs.

Editor: Chris Thompson

Design and Artwork: Nell Manuel

The College of Agriculture is an Equal Opportunity Organization.

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