

Regulatory Services News

Feed – Fertilizer – Milk – Seed – Seed Testing – Soil Testing

Second Quarter 2003

Regulatory Services thanks Sue Stone for more than 25 years of service to the Division

On May 5, Sue Stone, an employee of Regulatory Services for 24 years, 7 months, retired. Sue began her career at UK as secretary for the seed program. Later, she moved to a position in our Division's data processing section. She was most recently responsible for maintaining the financial records of receipts for the each program, mailing and receiving tonnage reports and managing the daily processing of computer reports. Even though her responsibilities were quite complicated, she somehow managed to keep everything in order. Sue always had a smile and a friendly greeting for everyone. Her positive attitude was reflected in the reliable, accurate and efficient manner in which she performed her duties. Even though Sue made sure her work was done, she still managed to be friendly with everyone and always

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Sue Stone

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Director

Eli Miller
cemiller@uky.edu

Feed Program

Steve Traylor - Coordinator
straylor@uky.edu

Fertilizer Program

David Terry - Coordinator
dterry@uky.edu

Inspection Program

Steve McMurry
smcmurry@uky.edu

Feed-Fertilizer Laboratory

Mel Bryant - Coordinator
mbryant@uky.edu

Milk Program

Chris Thompson - Coordinator
cthompso@uky.edu

Seed Regulatory Program

David Buckingham - Coordinator
dbucking@uky.edu

Seed Testing Laboratory

Cindy Finneseth - Coordinator
cfinnese@uky.edu

Soil Testing Program

Frank Sikora - Coordinator
fsikora@uky.edu

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took time talk with people who stopped by her office. She received the 1st Poundstone Award for the most outstanding employee in 2001.

Sue grew up in Salyersville, Kentucky, where she and her brother sang in eastern Kentucky churches while her father, Kash Salyer played guitar. Sue married Cecil Stone in 1960 and had two boys, Mark and Todd. Sue started college the same year Todd began the first grade. She attended Ashland Community College and received an associate degree in business management in 1969.

Sue has been the 'Heart of Regulatory Services' and she will be sorely missed.

Tony Benge, Information Technology Program

2003 Kentucky Feed Bulletin

The 2003 Kentucky Commercial Feed Bulletin is being finalized for publication. The printed version should be available on June 15th. The bulletin provides valuable information to the regulated industry and consumers on the status of Kentucky's feed industry and compliance with the Kentucky Commercial Feed Law. The publication is sent to the county extension agents, veterinarians, livestock producers, and registered feed manufacturers and dealers. The bulletins for a three-year period can be found on the feed program's web site. If you do not receive a copy of the Bulletin by mail and desire to obtain a copy, please contact this office at 859-257-2785.

Steve Traylor, Feed Regulatory Program

The Division of Regulatory Services Announces New Inspector Coordinator

On March 1, 2003, Steve McMurry assumed responsibilities as Inspection Program Coordinator. He succeeds Fred Herald who recently retired.

Steve is a graduate of the Agronomy Department at the University of Kentucky. He also earned an M.S. in Plant and Soil Science from UK.

Steve has served as an inspector in the Louisville Area for the past five years. Steve, his wife Kelley, and two children will be moving to the Lexington area shortly. He is looking forward to the challenges of his new position.



Fertilizer Labeling Tips
or
How to Succeed in Drafting an Acceptable Fertilizer Label

The Kentucky Fertilizer Law is basically a 'Labeling' law. Most all other requirements of the law flow from the label. **It must be clear. It must be accurate. It must follow a very specific format.** Here are a few tips on how to do it! There will be more later.

1. Start with the Guaranteed Analysis

The "Guaranteed Analysis" statement shall be in the following format:

GUARANTEED ANALYSIS	
Total Nitrogen (N).....	_____ %
Available Phosphate (P ₂ O ₅).....	_____ %
Soluble Potash (K ₂ O).....	_____ %

Notes:

- a. If one of the guarantees is zero then it is deleted. You do not guarantee a zero (0) percentage
- b. The guarantees must be whole numbers unless the fertilizer is a material, such as ammonium nitrate when you could guarantee nitrogen at 33.5% N.
- c. The guarantee for phosphorus is now:
Available Phosphate, not Available Phosphoric Acid as it was several years ago.

2. If the form of Nitrogen is guaranteed, the format for making the guarantees is as shown

When the Total Nitrogen (N) guarantee is broken down into various forms, the percentage figure shall **precede** the form name and the components shall add up to the total, for example:

Total Nitrogen(N).....	10%
2% Nitrate Nitrogen	
3% Ammoniacal Nitrogen	
5% Water Insoluble Nitrogen	

Notes:

- a. The order of the forms of nitrogen is not fixed so they can be in any order.
- b. The sum of the forms do not necessary have to add up to the total.

3. What is the Grade?

The grade which is the percentage of total N, available phosphate (P₂O₅) and soluble potash (K₂O) must appear with the brand name and must be stated in whole numbers.

In the labeling of mixed fertilizer, the grade numerals (%N - %P₂O₅ - %K₂O) shall be associated with

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Testing Earthworm Castings

Many individuals in Kentucky are culturing earthworms. The waste from the worms produces a rich compost material. The UK Soil Testing Laboratory in Lexington can test the material as an animal waste or greenhouse media. Testing the material as an animal waste provides the total concentration of nutrients as lbs per ton of N, P₂O₅, K₂O, Ca, Mg, Zn, Cu, Mn, and Fe. Percent moisture content is also provided in this test. Testing the material as greenhouse media provides pH, conductivity, NO₃-N, P, K, Ca, and Mg. The nutrients in the greenhouse media test are determined in water exposed to the media. Therefore, the test results are soluble nutrients that dissolve from the media and are readily available to plant roots.

With an animal waste test, a report is sent from our lab that contains the test results on the nutrient concentrations. With a greenhouse media test, a report is sent from our lab containing test results and another report is sent by Bob Anderson (UK Horticulture Dept., phone: 859-257-4721) that contains test results and recommendations. The cost for an animal waste test is normally \$20. Currently animal waste testing is free until June 30th due to a grant supporting this testing. The cost for a greenhouse media test is \$9. Both tests require about a quart of material. You can use zip lock bags to store the material or the normal soil test bags. Sample information forms that need to be submitted with the samples can be found at <http://soils.rs.uky.edu/SAMPLE1.HTM>. Make sure to label the sample bags the same as what is on the sample information forms.

The test that is decided on depends on the ultimate use of the material. If the material is going to be land applied or bagged and used as

compost for home gardens, the animal waste test would be the preferred test. The client can have the material tested for personal use to know how much fertilizer nutrients are present. Be careful when interpreting the test results and remember the concentration of nutrients are in units of lbs/ton and not percent. You can not take the numbers from the report and directly consider that as a fertilizer grade. The material can not be sold with any claims to its nutrient content unless it is registered as a fertilizer. Selling it as a soil conditioner does not require registering the material as a fertilizer. Dave Terry is the University of Kentucky's coordinator in overseeing the state's fertilizer law and can be contacted concerning fertilizer registration (phone: 859-257-2785). Monroe Rasnake (phone: 859-257-9503 ext 206) is the University of Kentucky's specialist on the agronomic aspects of utilizing manure as fertilizer and can be contacted with questions on using the material for this purpose.

If the material is going to be used as a part of a mix in creating greenhouse potting media, the test that should be performed is the greenhouse media test. Straight worm castings will be too concentrated in salt and nutrients to be used directly as a potting media. Depending on the test results, recommendations will be made on how much of the worm castings to mix with other material to create greenhouse media. The final mixture can also be tested for determining its suitability as greenhouse media. Bob Anderson is the University of Kentucky's specialist on greenhouse media and can be contacted with questions on the use of the material for this purpose.

Frank Sikora, Soil Testing Program

Feed Program Webpage Updated

During the last several months, the feed program web site has been redesigned. The Feed Program home page includes the pages for the Kentucky Commercial Feed Law and Regulations, feed staff information page, Kentucky Commercial Feed Bulletins, regulatory forms, regulatory publications, current issues, feed labels and links. The Feed Program web page has been updated to include policy statements, mycotoxin information, quality assurance documents, along with labeling requirements in the regulatory publications section. Forms can be found for registration and tonnage reporting requirements in the regulatory forms section along with a tonnage reporting exempt list.

The feed program web page can be accessed through the Division's main web page located at <http://www.rs.uky.edu/>. Additional updates planned for the future include medicated and custom mix labeling and up-to-date regulatory articles. If you have any questions or suggestions, please feel free to contact me.

Steve Traylor, Feed Regulatory Program

2002 Annual Seed Inspection Report

The Seed Regulatory Program publishes and distributes an annual report each year. This year's annual report is currently at the printer and will be distributed to all registered dealers and conditioners as well as all permitted seedsmen during the month of May. This report represents the results of analysis of official seed samples for 2002, a five year cumulative record of analysis of official samples by seedsmen, and field issued stop sale activities of our field inspection staff.

The annual report is already posted on our website at www.rs.uky.edu. This is the first year the report has been posted on the website. To access the report on the internet, go to our web page at the above address, click on seed and then click on publications. You will see an explanation of Table 1, Table 2 and Table 3. Click on "Table 1" to view the contents of that table. The other two tables can be viewed by following the same steps. If you wish, you can also view last year's report in the same manner, as it is also included on our web page.

Table 1 is a five year cumulative report of all samples taken and the number found to be mislabeled as a result of laboratory analysis. Table 2 is a summary of analysis of official samples taken during 2002 which were found to be mislabeled after laboratory analysis. Table 3 is a summary of field issued stop sales issued by members of our inspection staff during routine inspection of seed stock being offered for sale across the state. You will note that most of the field issued stop sales were issued because the seed lots were noted to be offered for sale with an expired test date. The seed dealer is responsible for maintaining the test date of a seed lot.

This publication is possible because of the efforts of a number of people who are listed on page 3 of the publication. Their cumulative effort is reported in this publication and the individual contribution that each person has made to the administration of our seed regulatory and testing program is valuable to the total program. A special acknowledgement to Cindy Finneseth, our Seed Testing Coordinator, who compiled the data you are able to view.

David Buckingham -- Seed Regulatory Program

MILK PROGRAM LICENSE RENEWALS

Licenses issued by Regulatory Services' milk program expire on June 30 each year. All licensees including milk handlers, laboratories, transfer stations, testers, and sampler-weighers should receive a renewal notice and application in early June. If you do not receive a renewal notice by June 15, 2003, contact our office to request an application. Applications may also be obtained on our website at www.rs.uky.edu.

LICENSE TO SAMPLE AND WEIGH FARM MILK IN KENTUCKY	License # 10
Issued To: John M. Doe 123 Main Street Anywhere, KY 40000	
Date of Birth: 12/1/65	Height: 6' 3" Weight: 165
Sex: M	Eyes: Hazel Hair: Brown
Issue Date:	Expires:

To expedite the renewal process, be sure to submit your completed application to Regulatory Services as soon as possible. *License fees for renewals that are past due are subject to a penalty fee.* To avoid this late penalty, it is important to submit your application and fee to Regulatory Services promptly.

If you have any questions regarding the license renewal process, feel free to contact Chris Thompson at (859) 257-2785 or by e-mail at cthompso@uky.edu.

Chris Thompson, Milk Program Coordinator

2003 Spring Soybean Update

Due to concerns in the state about low quality soybeans this spring, the Seed Lab has been closely monitoring official samples submitted by our inspectors. We have tested 100 lots at this time and the average germination for all these soybean samples is 92%. We have tested lots from seven different states and the average germination by origin are as follows:

Kentucky	(37 lots)	90%
Arkansas	(6 lots)	87%
Illinois	(34 lots)	94%
Indiana	(9 lots)	97%
Missouri	(11 lots)	93%
Ohio	(2 lots)	93%
Virginia	(1 lot)	89%

No soybean lots have been put under stop sale order this spring for not meeting the minimum germination as guaranteed on the label.

Cindy Finneseth, Seed Testing Coordinator

Fertilizer labeling, cont. from pg. 3

the brand name and shall appear in a conspicuous place on the label. No other numerals that are misleading are allowed as part of the brand or grade.

Notes:

- a. The grade is a set of three numbers and three numbers only. You may not add any other numbers to the grade representing any other guarantee.
- b. The grade must reflect the guarantees for N, P₂O₅, and K₂O.

4. When other plant nutrients in addition to N, P, or K are guaranteed, they must be listed in columnar form immediately below the primary nutrient guarantees

The order must be Ca, Mg and S (secondary nutrients in alphabetical order) followed by the micro-nutrients in alphabetical order. Nutrients are listed only if there are guarantees. For example, to guarantee Ca, B and Zn they would follow the Soluble Potash guarantee and the order would be as follows:

Soluble Potash (K ₂ O).....	_____	%
Calcium (Ca).....	_____	%
Boron (B).....	_____	%
Zinc (Zn).....	_____	%

5. Maximum Chlorine Guarantee for Tobacco Fertilizers

All fertilizers sold for or represented for use on field crop tobacco, shall, in addition to the other guarantees, state a maximum chlorine guarantee not to exceed fifty (50) pounds chlorine per acre (equivalent to 100 pounds of muriate of potash per acre) in the following format:

Chlorine (Cl), Maximum 50 lb./acre

Notes:

- (a) The maximum chlorine guarantee shall be prominently and conspicuously displayed on the label.
- (b) The invoice, shipping ticket, or bag label shall:
 - (i) State the rate of application expressed as pounds or tons of the blended fertilizer per acre;
 - (ii) State clearly that the fertilizer is for use on tobacco; and
 - (iii) Give directions for use to include a maximum application rate so that no more than 50 pounds of chlorine is applied per acre.
- (c) A maximum chlorine guarantee is not required on fertilizers for tobacco plant beds.

In the next issue I will discuss how to label fertilizers with slow release claims.

D. L. Terry, Fertilizer Regulatory Program

UK UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY
College of Agriculture

Division of Regulatory Services
103 Regulatory Services Building
Lexington, KY 40546-0275
859-257-2785
www.ca.uky.edu

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Editor: Cindy Finneseth.

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Division of Regulatory Services
College of Agriculture
University of Kentucky
103 Regulatory Services Building
Lexington, KY 40546-0275

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