

AAPFCO Application for Consideration as a Plant Biostimulant

The Association of American Plant Food Control Officials' (AAPFCO) Biostimulant Committee was established to develop comprehensive plant biostimulant standards supported by both the industry and state control officials. The standards include recognizing plant biostimulant ingredients and definitions, a model bill, standardized label formatting, efficacy data guidelines, and appropriate laboratory methods.

The Approval Process

Proposed ingredients and definitions must be submitted to the Chairman of the Biostimulant Committee on the plant biostimulant application form available at www.aapfco.org or the AAPFCO Online (www.aapfco.mocaworks.com). If minimum criteria are met, the application and all supporting documentation are forwarded to the Biostimulant Method Subcommittee for evaluation.

If approved by the Chairman and Subcommittee the proposal will be placed on the next Biostimulant Committee meeting agenda. If the Committee votes to move the proposal forward in "tentative" status, it will be sent to the AAPFCO Board of Directors for discussion and vote. If the Board vote is positive, it will be placed on the list of voting items for consideration by the general membership at the following AAPFCO Conference.

For Consideration as a Plant Biostimulant, the Following Information is Requested:

1. Complete a **Plant Biostimulant Application Form** (page 3). Applicant completes and provides the proposal to the Biostimulant Committee Chairman using forms available on www.aapfco.org or the AAPFCO Online (www.aapfco.mocaworks.com). After review to ensure the minimum criteria are met, the Chairman will forward the application and supporting documentation to the Biostimulant Method Subcommittee for further review.
2. Submission requirements:
 - a. Submitter's name, title, email address, and the name of the submitting firm
 - b. Name of ingredient (e.g. "seaweed extract," "humic acid," genus/species of novel microorganism, etc.)
 - c. Label claim(s) for ingredient (i.e. "reduces abiotic stress," "improves plant growth," "enhances fruit quality," etc.)
 - d. Proposed definition
 - e. Method of analysis for the ingredient
 - i. The method must include safety, fitness-for-purpose, matrix, accuracy, repeatability, selectivity, practicality and environmental impact.
 - ii. Method validation using AOAC or other criteria may be required.
 - f. Supporting documentation, including efficacy data or references to peer-reviewed research citations that substantiate ingredient claims.
 - i. Please refer to "AAPFCO GUIDELINES FOR SUBSTANTIATION OF PRODUCT EFFICACY CLAIMS" relating to the generation and submission of this documentation. (available at the websites listed above)
 - ii. Mode of action may be required if the proposed claims may be from other ingredient components (i.e. nutrients).

3. The Biostimulant Chair will request additional material if minimum application criteria are not met. Acceptance or rejection of supporting documentation is at the discretion of the Biostimulant Committee. If minimum criteria are met, the Chair will forward the proposal to the appropriate subcommittee and/or technical review workgroup. The method of analysis may also be sent to the Laboratory Services Committee for additional review.
4. The Biostimulant Chairman will place the proposal on the next Biostimulant Committee meeting agenda, if subcommittee and/or workgroup evaluations are favorable.
5. If the Biostimulant Committee vote is favorable, the proposed ingredient and definition is forwarded to the AAPFCO Board of Directors (BOD) for consideration to be moved to tentative status. If the BOD vote is positive, it is placed on the list of voting items for consideration by the general membership at the next AAPFCO annual meeting.
6. If the proposal is approved by general membership, it becomes tentative and is published in the next printing of AAPFCO's Official Publication.
7. At the subsequent AAPFCO Summer or Winter Annual Conference, the tentative proposal may be recommended to the Board by the Biostimulant Committee for consideration as "official". The Board will then discuss and vote if the proposal will move to official status.
8. If the proposal approved as "official" by vote of the Board, the AAPFCO membership will vote whether or not to finalize the official status.

BIOSTIMULANT COMMITTEE
PLANT BIOSTIMULANT APPLICATION FORM

Submission Date:

Name / Title:

Email Address:

Submitting Firm:

Name of Ingredient:

Label claim(s) for ingredient:

(Efficacy Data [and/or research citations] must be submitted to substantiate label claims as a plant biostimulant)

Ingredient's Proposed Definition:

(If already recognized within AAPFCO's Official Publication, please cite the term number [i.e. N-72, PMP-9, T-51...])

Lab Method:

(Submit complete lab method or reference established lab method in addition to this form.)

Applicable Research Citations, if available:

Can this material be posted to the secure areas of AAPFCO Online and AAPFCO website? *(For control officials only.)*

Yes

No

Can this material be posted on AAPFCO Online and the AAPFCO website for public access?

Yes

No