



# RULE-MAKING ORDER

(RCW 34.05.360)

CR-103 (7/10/97)

Agency: Agriculture

- Permanent Rule
- Emergency Rule
- Expedited Adoption
- Expedited Repeal

(1) Date of adoption: 3-31-99

(2) Purpose: The proposed language requires the disclosure of a maximum application rate on fertilizer registration application forms for all commercial fertilizers that contain application rates on their labels so that the department can clearly determine if the commercial fertilizer meets the Washington standards for metals.

(3) Citation of existing rules affected by this order:

Repealed:  
 Amended: 16-200-695, 16-200-705, 16-200-7061  
 Suspended:

(4) Statutory authority for adoption: RCW 15.54.325 and 15.54.800

Other Authority:

**PERMANENT RULE ONLY (Including EXPEDITED ADOPTION)**

Adopted under notice filed as WSR 99-04-093 on 2/3/99 (date).  
 Describe any changes other than editing from proposed to adopted version: None.

**EMERGENCY RULE ONLY**

Under RCW 34.05.350 the agency for good cause finds:

- (a) That immediate adoption, amendment, or repeal of a rule is necessary for the preservation of the public health, safety, or general welfare, and that observing the time requirements of notice and opportunity to comment upon adoption of a permanent rule would be contrary to the public interest.
- (b) That state or federal law or federal rule or a federal deadline for state receipt of federal funds requires immediate adoption of a rule.

Reasons for this finding:

**EXPEDITED REPEAL ONLY**

Under Preproposal Statement of Inquiry filed as WSR \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_ (date)

(5.3) Any other findings required by other provisions of law as precondition to adoption or effectiveness of rule?:

- Yes     No    If Yes, explain:

(6) Effective date of rule:

**Permanent Rules  
or Expedited Repeal**

**Emergency Rules**

- 31 days after filing
- Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_\*
- Immediately
- Later (specify)

\*(If less than 31 days after filing, specific finding in 5.3 under RCW 34.05.380(3) is required)

Name (Type or Print)  
James M. Jesernig

Signature  
*Mary G. Martin* Acting for

Title  
Director      Date  
March 31, 1999

CODE REVISER USE ONLY

CODE REVISER OFFICE  
STATE OF WASHINGTON  
FILED

MAR 31 1999

TIME 1:52 AM  
99-08-037 (P)

**Note: If any category is left blank, it will be calculated as zero.  
No descriptive text.**

Count by whole WAC sections only, from the WAC number through the history note.  
A section may be counted in more than one category.

**The number of sections adopted in order to comply with:**

<b>Federal statute:</b>	New	Amended	Repealed
<b>Federal rules or standards:</b>	New	Amended	Repealed
<b>Recently enacted state statutes:</b>	New	Amended <u>3</u>	Repealed

**The number of sections adopted at the request of nongovernmental entity:**

New	Amended	Repealed
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**The number of sections adopted in the agency's own initiative:**

New	Amended <u>3</u>	Repealed
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**The number of sections adopted in order to clarify, streamline, or reform agency procedures:**

New	Amended <u>3</u>	Repealed
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**The number of sections adopted using:**

<b>Negotiated rule making:</b>	New	Amended	Repealed
<b>Pilot rule making:</b>	New	Amended	Repealed
<b>Other alternative rule making:</b>	New	Amended <u>3</u>	Repealed

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 99-02-035, filed 12/30/98, effective 1/31/99)

**WAC 16-200-695 Definitions.** The definitions set forth in this section shall apply throughout this chapter unless context otherwise requires:

(1) "Organic" means a material containing carbon and one or more elements (other than hydrogen and oxygen) essential for plant growth. When the term "organic" is utilized in the label or labeling of any commercial fertilizer, it shall be qualified as either "synthetic organic" or "natural organic," with the percentage of each specified.

(2) "Natural organic" means a material derived from either plant or animal products containing carbon and one or more elements (other than hydrogen and oxygen) essential for plant growth.

(3) "Synthetic organic" means a material that is manufactured chemically (by synthesis) from its elements and other chemicals, containing carbon and one or more elements (other than hydrogen and oxygen) essential for plant growth.

(4) "Unit" means one percent (by weight) of a ton.

(5) "AOAC" means the association of official analytical chemists.

(6) "Commercial fertilizer" means a substance containing one or more recognized plant nutrients and that is used for its plant nutrient content or that is designated for use or claimed to have value in promoting plant growth, and shall include limes, gypsum, and manipulated animal and vegetable manures. It does not include unmanipulated animal and vegetable manures, organic waste-derived material, and other products exempted by the department by rule.

(7) "Fertigation" means a method of applying commercial fertilizers with irrigation water to fertilize land or plants.

(8) "Fertilizer component" means a commercial fertilizer ingredient containing one or more recognized plant nutrients which is incorporated in the commercial fertilizer for its plant nutrient value.

(9) "Maximum acceptable cumulative metals additions to soil" means the amount of total metals that can be added to soil over a forty-five-year period of time without exceeding the Canadian standards which have been adopted in RCW 15.54.800(3) as Washington standards for metals.

(10) "Organic waste-derived material" means grass clippings, leaves, weeds, bark, plantings, prunings, and other vegetative wastes, uncontaminated wood waste from logging and milling operations, food wastes, food processing wastes, and materials derived from these wastes through composting. "Organic waste-derived material" does not include products that include biosolids.

(11) "Maximum application rate" means the maximum amount of commercial fertilizer expressed by weight (such as: pounds, ounces, kilograms, or milligrams) or volume (such as: gallons, quarts, fluid ounces, liters, or milliliters) to be applied to an area of a specified size (such as: acres, square feet, hectares, or square meters) in a period of time stated in years.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 99-02-035, filed 12/20/98, effective 1/31/99)

**WAC 16-200-705 Purpose.** The following sections concerning the protection of ground water, labeling requirements and examination of fertilizer minerals and limes (WAC 16-200-708 through 16-200-742) are established in this chapter under the authority of the Commercial Fertilizer Act, chapter 15.54 RCW.

This chapter also describes the requirements for registration of commercial fertilizers, including the information which must be submitted as part of the registration application, the sample preparation and analysis methods which must be used, the maximum application use rates the department will use to determine whether a commercial fertilizer may be registered, the Washington standards for metals (in pounds per acre per year), and the acts which are unlawful under this chapter.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 99-02-035, filed 12/30/98, effective 1/31/99)

**WAC 16-200-7061 What information must I include with my registration application concerning total metals and application rates?** (1) You are required to submit the following metals information with your registration application:

(a) Total concentration of each metal in each commercial fertilizer reported in parts per million (PPM) which is equivalent to milligrams of metal per kilogram of fertilizer (mg/kg), or micrograms per gram;

(b) Copy of the laboratory report on total metals analysis;

(c) Method of analysis;

(d) Method of sample preparation; and

(e) Minimum detection limits for each method used.

(2) The department may request quality assurance and quality control documentation for analytical procedures and/or for the laboratory which performed the analyses.

(3) The analytical data and maximum application rate will be used to determine if a commercial fertilizer meets or exceeds the Washington standards for metals.

(4) For all commercial fertilizers that have application rates on their labels, the maximum application rate shall be disclosed for each commercial fertilizer on the registration application form.