



Canadian Food
Inspection Agency

Agence canadienne
d'inspection des aliments

Modernized *Fertilizers Regulations:* Labelling and record keeping

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Canada 

Labelling


- Every person who packages or causes to be packaged a fertilizer or supplement or who imports a packaged product **MUST** ensure that the package is labelled in accordance with the Regulations.
- The information on the label must be consistent with the information provided and evaluated as part of the registration (for registered products).
- Must not have printed on it any incorrect or misleading information or symbol (identity of the product, its composition, safety and directions for use).
- All the information required by the Regulations are to appear on the label conspicuously, legibly and indelibly **in English and in French**, with both versions being of equal prominence and in close proximity to each other.
- No changes may be made to the **label**, chemical composition or ingredients in a product that would impact its identity as a fertilizer or supplement, its safety, or its use, unless the registration is first amended accordingly.

Package includes a sack, bag, barrel, case or any other container in which fertilizers or supplements are placed or packed;



Fertilizers and Supplements

Fertilizers (other than customer-formula fertilizers) and supplements require:

- Name and address of the manufacturer or the registrant (or the person who packaged or caused the product to be packaged for exempt products)
- Name of the fertilizer or supplement
- Registration number (if registered)
- Directions for use (except seeds and growing media)
- The weight of the fertilizer or supplement (volume may also be included, but weight is mandatory)
- Applicable precautionary statements 
- Guaranteed analysis
- The lot number of the fertilizer or supplement
- In the case of a product in which the active ingredient may deteriorate, the date beyond which the supplement is not intended for use

If the product contains *prohibited material*:

- (i) feeding the fertilizer or supplement to cattle, sheep, deer or other ruminants is prohibited and punishable under the *Health of Animals Act*,
- (ii) the fertilizer or supplement is not to be used on pasture land or other grazing areas for ruminants,
- (iii) the fertilizer or supplement is not to be ingested, and
- (iv) a person must wash their hands after they use the fertilizer or supplement

Label demonstrating exemption (option A)

- If the product consist of a mixture of fertilizers and/or supplements that are either registered for that purpose or exempt from registration, the final product's label must contain:
 - the registration number of each ingredient that is a registered product;
 - the term of any Primary Fertilizer or Supplement Materials from the List of Materials; and
 - any other information that demonstrates the fertilizer or supplement is exempt (for example, sources of nutrients that do not appear on the List of Materials but that are not produced by or derived from a living organism)
- This information may be presented as an active ingredient derivation statement which lists all relevant terms from the List of Materials, *Fertilizers Act* registration numbers and/or all other exempt sources for nutrients. When provided, this information should appear directly below the guaranteed analysis

Record Keeping for mixtures (Option B)

The mandatory labelling of exempt ingredients in the mixtures **can be replaced by:**

- A statement that the product contains registered or exempt ingredients
- The requisite information being maintained in records

NOTE: The record keeping option is NOT available for seeds or growing media treated with registered fertilizers or supplement

WHAT NEEDS TO APPEAR IN THE RECORD?

- Registration numbers of all registered fertilizers and supplements in the mixture;
- Terms of exempt materials as they appear on the *List of Materials*;
- Any other information to substantiate that the product is exempt;
- Any other information that the person has that relates to **product safety**



Record keeping

WHO NEEDS TO KEEP THE RECORD?

- The person who packaged the mixture or caused it to be packaged or who imported it
- The persons must keep the records in either official language (in English or in French) at their place of business in Canada or if they do not have one, at another location in Canada, **and** inform the CFIA where the records are located by submitting the following information to the CFIA through the PASO email address or by mail:
 - Product name
 - Responsible party
 - Location (address) where the record is located

HOW LONG DOES THE RECORD NEED TO BE MAINTAINED?

- The records must be maintained for at least 5 years from the day the product was last imported, packaged or sold.

A **document** is defined in the *Fertilizers Act* as anything on which information that is capable of being understood by a person, or read by a computer or any device, is recorded or marked

Labelling – safety

Any precautionary statement that is necessary to mitigate a risk of harm to human, animal or plant health or the environment

If any person requests a document in English or in French that lists the ingredients that are contained in a fertilizer or supplement that present a risk of harm to the health of ANY human or animal that do not appear on the label the document shall be provided by:

- a) the person who packaged it or caused to be packaged, or
- b) the person who caused it to be imported

What does that mean?

This provision is intended to protect consumers that are immunocompromised, hypersensitive or allergic from exposure risks that would result in adverse health reactions



Precautionary statements

Precautionary statement requirements based on active ingredients in the fertilizer or supplement product.

Active ingredient	Precautionary statement requirement
viable microorganisms	label may require cautionary statements and/or recommend personal protective equipment, in order to minimize dermal/respiratory sensitization/irritation potential.
supplemental metal (such as cobalt)	"Caution: this fertilizer contains (specify name of the supplemental metal) and should be used only as recommended. It may prove harmful when misused."
Boron, copper, iron, manganese, molybdenum or zinc	"Caution: this fertilizer contains (specify name of micronutrient) and should be used only as recommended. It may prove harmful when misused."
Boron content greater than or equal to 0.3% of the final product	"May damage fertility or the unborn child".

Precautionary statements (cont'd)

Precautionary statement requirement for specific materials which may be included in/as fertilizer or supplements

Fertilizer or supplement is or contains	Precautionary statement requirement
Priority allergens: peanuts, tree nuts, sesame seeds, milk, eggs, fish, crustaceans and molluscs, soy, wheat and triticale, sulphites and mustard.	"Caution: this product contains (list all allergens). Adverse reactions may occur in sensitive persons. If skin contact occurs, wash with soap and water. Wear dust mask and protective gloves. If allergic reaction occurs, seek medical attention".
Prohibited material as defined in subsection 162(1) of the <i>Health of Animals Regulations</i>	statements indicating that: <ul style="list-style-type: none">•feeding the fertilizer or supplement to cattle, sheep, deer or other ruminants is prohibited and punishable under the <i>Health of Animals Act</i>•the fertilizer or supplement is not to be used on pasture land or other grazing areas for ruminants•the fertilizer or supplement is not to be ingested, and•a person must wash their hands after they use the fertilizer or supplement

Guaranteed analysis

- The **minimum** amount of total Nitrogen, available phosphoric acid and soluble potash expressed in % (N-P-K)
- An untreated phosphatic fertilizer the minimum amount of total phosphoric acid and the minimum amount of available phosphoric acid, expressed in %
- The **minimum** amount of each secondary nutrient (Ca, Mg, S) expressed in % on elemental basis
- Micronutrients: The **actual** amount of each - (Boron (B), Chlorine(Cl), Copper (Cu), Iron (Fe), Manganese (Mn), Molybdenum (Mb), Zinc (Zn) expressed in % on elemental basis
- Fertilizers and supplements represented to contain organic matter: the amount of organic matter (%) and the moisture content (%)
- The amount of any other ingredient (%)
- The concentration of a pesticide expressed in accordance with the *Pest Control Products Regulations*

If the active ingredient is present in a concentration of less than 0.001% the guaranteed analysis may instead indicate its concentration, on a per gram basis, using another unit of measure.

Guaranteed analysis

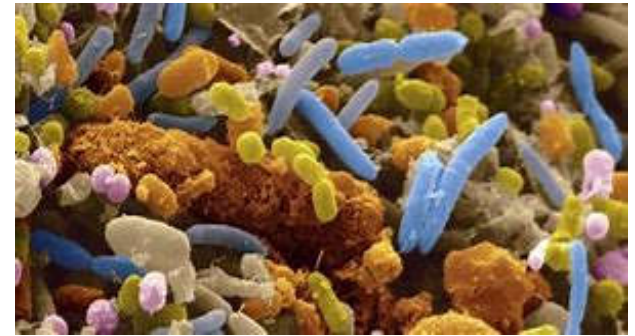
Microbial supplements:

- The genus and species of the active microorganism(s)
- The number of viable cells/gram
- For each microorganism that is not a viable cell: another descriptor of the concentration of the microorganism on a per gram basis
- In case of **microbial consortia**: a descriptor of the concentration of viable microorganisms on per gram basis

pH adjusters:

- The amount of Ca and Mg if any expressed in % on elemental basis
- The neutralizing value (% of the acid neutralizing capacity of CaCO_3)
- Range of particle sizes of solid materials

Acidifiers: acidifying value (% of neutralizing capacity of HCl)



Microbial consortium means a complex community of microorganisms that is taken from a single natural environment and whose composition is **maintained without further manipulation**

Directions for use

- For a fertilizer, the directions for use must include 1 of the following:
 - complete recommendations, including the intended crop type, the rate, the frequency, and the timing of application; or
 - if the product is intended only for use in blended/formulated fertilizer, a statement such as "Only for Use in Blended Fertilizers" is included on the label; or
 - a statement indicating that the user should seek the advice of the county agricultural representative or a professional agricultural consultant
- Additionally, for all products that contain micronutrients intended to treat a specific nutrient deficiency, a statement must also appear on the label indicating that the product should be used on the basis of a soil and/or tissue analysis.
- For a supplement, the complete directions for use are to appear on the product label and include:
 - the intended plant/crop type,
 - application rate and frequency of application
 - the timing of use; and if applicable
 - dilution instructions

Customer-formula fertilizers

Without a pesticide or micronutrient	With a pesticide or micronutrient
Name and address of the manufacturer of the fertilizer and the name of the person who is to use the fertilizer	Name and address of the manufacturer of the fertilizer and the name and address of the person who is to use the fertilizer
Precautionary statements	Precautionary statements
Lot number	Lot number
Guaranteed analysis	Guaranteed analysis
Weight of the lot or shipment	Weight of the fertilizer
	The name and amount of each active ingredients of any pesticide expressed in %
	Directions for use (if the fertilizer contains a pesticide)

Products containing only peat, peat moss, sphagnum moss, coconut coir, tree bark, perlite, or vermiculite

As they are defined on the **List of Materials** and any combination of these materials shall be labelled with:

- Statement indicating which of these materials are present and **their proportions**
- Name and Address of the person who packaged the product or caused it to be packaged
- Name of the fertilizer or supplement
- Volume or weight of the fertilizer or supplement
- Lot number
- Precautionary statement(s) if applicable

Sample Label: Fertilizer produced by or derived from a living organism

Fathom Five fish fertilizer 2-2-1

Guaranteed minimum analysis

Total nitrogen (N)

2%

Available phosphoric acid (P₂O₅)

2%

Total phosphoric acid 5%

Soluble potash (K₂O)

1%

Directions for use: apply to any crop, once per week, from beginning of May until end of June at a rate of 1 L/hectare

Caution: this product contains fish. Adverse reactions may occur in sensitive persons. If skin contact occurs, wash with soap and water.

Wear dust mask protective gloves. If allergic reaction occurs, seek medical attention.

May cause skin irritation with prolonged exposure.

Goggles are recommended to avoid contact with eyes.

Keep out of reach of children.

Registration Number xxxxxxxF *Fertilizers Act*

Lot #: 12345

Manufactured by ABC Fertilizer Company

123 Main Street

Ottawa, Ontario

B2W 2R5

Net weight: 10 kg (10 litre)

Expiry date:

Engrais de poisson Fathom Five 2-2-1

Analyse minimale garantie

Azote total (N)

2 %

Acide phosphorique assimilable (P₂O₅)

2 %

Acide phosphorique total 5 %

Potasse soluble (K₂O)

1 %

Mode d'emploi

S'utilise sur toutes les cultures, 1 fois par semaine, du début mai à la fin juin, à la dose d'un (1) L/hectare

Avertissement

Ce produit contient du poisson. Des effets indésirables peuvent se produire chez les personnes sensibles. En cas de contact avec la peau, laver avec du savon et de l'eau.

Porter un masque antipoussière et des gants de protection. En cas de réaction allergique, consulter un médecin.

L'exposition prolongée peut provoquer une irritation de la peau.

Il est recommandé de porter des lunettes de protection pour éviter tout contact avec les yeux.

Garder hors de la portée des enfants.

Numéro d'enregistrement xxxxxxxF *Loi sur les engrais*

No de lot : 12345

Fabriqué par Engrais ABC

123, rue Principale

Ottawa (Ontario)

B2W 2R5

Poids net : 10 kg (10 litres)

Date de péremption :

More Information:

- [T-4-130](#): Labeling requirements for fertilizers and supplements
- [T-4-131](#): Record keeping requirements under the *Fertilizers Act and Regulations*

Additional questions:

cfia.fertilizermodernization-modernisationengrais.acia@canada.ca

