

4 September 2024

Original: English

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## **Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade**

## **NOTIFICATION**

The following notification is being circulated in accordance with Article 10.6

1. Notifying Member: NORWAY

If applicable, name of local government involved (Article 3.2 and 7.2):

2. Agency responsible:

The Norwegian Food Safety Authority

Name and address (including telephone and fax numbers, email and website addresses, if available) of agency or authority designated to handle comments regarding the notification shall be indicated if different from above:

- 3. Notified under Article 2.9.2 [X], 2.10.1 [ ], 5.6.2 [ ], 5.7.1 [ ], 3.2 [ ], 7.2 [ ], other:
- 4. Products covered (HS or CCCN where applicable, otherwise national tariff heading. ICS numbers may be provided in addition, where applicable): Fertilising products of organic origin and certain inorganic fertilising products
- **Title, number of pages and language(s) of the notified document:** Draft regulations concerning the manufacture, placing on the market and import of fertilising products of organic origin and certain inorganic fertilising products (Fertilising Products Regulations); (27 page(s), in English), (27 page(s), in Norwegian)
- **Description of content:** The Norwegian Food Safety Authority has proposed a new regulation concerning the production and marketing of fertilising products. It provides rules for safe fertiliser production and is adapted to changes that have taken place in the marked regarding increased interest in the use of waste and by-products in the production of fertilisers.

The proposal introduces the following amendments:

## SPS-measures

- The requirements for hygienisation and stabilisation are clarified, and the indicator organism thermotolerant coliform bacteria is changed to E. coli.
- A limit value has been added for arsenic.
- The table of raw materials and raw material categories that can be used in fertiliser production has been updated (appendix 1) and a new system with applications for the use of other types of raw materials that are not listed in the table is being introduced.

## TBT-measures

- The registration obligation changes from a requirement for product registration to a requirement for business registration.
- Labelling requirements that earlier were included in a standard are now in the regulation.

- Both organic and inorganic biostimulants are covered by the new regulation, and they are more clearly distinguished from pesticides.
- There is a new paragraph concerning products traded under the agreement of mutual recognition in the EEA.
- **7. Objective and rationale, including the nature of urgent problems where applicable:** The objective of the proposal is to meet the increased interest in the use of different types of waste and by-products in fertilisers, while also ensuring a higher level of protection of human health and the environment. The current regulation is outdated and not adapted to the challenges we see today. Change is needed to facilitate long-term safeguarding of topsoil. Furthermore, there is a need to facilitate the circular economy with good utilisation of waste and by-product resources without unnecessary or disproportionate burdens being imposed on the industry. We also emphasise that the regulation should not be an obstacle to innovation, and that it should be technology neutral.; Consumer information, labelling; Protection of animal or plant life or health
- 8. Relevant documents:

Regulations 4 July 2003 No. 951 on fertilisers etc. of organic origin. Available in Norwegian.

Draft regulations on the storage and use of fertiliser etc. Available in Norwegian. Relevant sections available in English.

9. Proposed date of adoption: 1 January 2025

Proposed date of entry into force: 1 January 2025

- **10. Final date for comments:** 60 days from notification
- 11. Texts available from: National enquiry point [ ] or address, telephone and fax numbers and email and website addresses, if available, of other body:

Agency responsible:

Norwegian Food Safety Authority

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https://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2024/TBT/NOR/24 05807 00 e.pdf