



NEWS RELEASE

Regulatory project provides value to Canadian farmers and industry

OTTAWA, Ontario, November 27, 2008 – The efforts of the Canadian Fertilizer Products Forum over the past two years have helped improve the regulatory system for fertilizers and supplements to the benefit of agricultural producers and industry stakeholders.

“The Canadian regulatory system provides a strong foundation for the fertilizer and supplement industries founded on a science-based approach for all products,” said Clyde Graham, Executive Director of the Canadian Fertilizer Products Forum (CFPF). “The CFPF was launched because while the system worked, there was still room for improvement. The result of this project has been positive for both farmers and industry.”

“The CFPF was able to make improvements to the current system to ensure that farmers have better access to a variety of high-quality fertilizers and supplements in a timely fashion,” said Wendy Omvlee, member of the CFPF Executive, a farmer and representative of the Canadian Federation of Agriculture. “We still have work to do and will continue working toward additional regulatory improvements in the coming months.”

Peter McCann, Chair of the CFPF and representative of Plant Inoculants Canada explains the benefit to industry: “Companies that introduce innovative products to the Canadian market need assurances that the registration process conducted by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency is done in a timely manner. The CFPF worked closely with the regulators to improve the registration process. The result has been an incentive for companies to introduce and keep important fertilizer and supplements for farmers in Canada.”

The CFPF was launched in the fall of 2006 to provide a forum for stakeholder input into the regulatory process for fertilizers and supplements. The CFPF brings together producer groups, industry representatives, nongovernmental organizations and regulatory officials from across the country to provide recommendations to improve the regulatory system.

Full funding for this project was provided by Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada through the Advancing Canadian Agriculture and Agri-Food (ACAAF) Program.

The CFPPF is winding down its government funded project work and will submit its final report to Agriculture Canada in January, 2009. The CFPPF will continue at a reduced level of activity. The Canadian Fertilizer Institute has committed to maintain the website and member database, assist with updates to members, organize several Executive Committee meetings per year and assist in organizing an annual conference. CFPPF members have agreed to continue the valuable work of the CFPPF and will build on the substantial gains and synergies that have been made.

The CFPPF recognizes that fertilizers and supplements are the most important crop input. Agricultural producers in Canada spend about \$3 billion on fertilizers and supplements per year, more than on pesticides, seeds, fuel, or any other crop inputs.

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Please visit the website for more project information at: www.cfpf-fcpf.ca.

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Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC) is pleased to participate in the production of this publication. AAFC is committed to working with our industry partners and the Canadian Fertilizer Products Forum to increase public awareness of the importance of the agriculture and agri-food industry to Canada. Opinions expressed in this document are those of the Canadian Fertilizer Products Forum and are not necessarily those of the Department.