



POLICY REPORT: BIOSTIMULANTS STATUS & ANNUAL MEETING RECAP

ANSWERING THE CALL FOR INNOVATION THROUGH BIOSTIMULANTS

BIOSTIMULANTS TIMELINE

DEMANDS INCREASE. REGULATIONS TANGLE.

Demand for biostimulants and their environmental benefits increase, but with rapid industry growth, how to use and label them becomes unclear.

2018 FARM BILL PASSES. WORK IS AUTHORIZED.

A Farm Bill outlining the needs of both industry and states with options for regulatory approaches is passed, thanks to input from NASDA.

STATE & INDUSTRY IDEAS COMBINED.

Together, NASDA and industry groups develop a detailed plan recommending how to regulate biostimulants in a way that best serves farmers in all states.

NASDA GATHERS INSIGHT.

NASDA convenes governmental and industry groups to learn the needs of a biostimulants regulatory process that ensures clarity and access to the products.

RECOMMENDATIONS GIVEN. SECRETARY REVIEWS.

NASDA delivered its recommendations to USDA in

August 2019. We now await the Secretary's review and establishment of a new regulatory process.

BIOSTIMULANTS DEFINED

The 2018 Farm Bill defines biostimulants as “a **substance or microorganism** that, when applied to seeds, plants, or the rhizosphere, **stimulates natural processes to enhance** or benefit **nutrient uptake**, nutrient efficiency, **tolerance to abiotic stress**, or crop **quality and yield**.”

OR IN OTHER WORDS:

Farming inputs that stimulate and enhance the natural growth of plants (such as never before used microorganisms).

AREN'T INPUTS LIKE THESE ALREADY REGULATED?

Yes and no. All products used for farming are regulated, however, to meet the demand for additional environmentally sustainable tools, biostimulants have emerged. **This entirely new category of tools needs tailored regulations**, instead of an outdated framework that dubs the products as either pesticides or fertilizers.

OUTREACH & TEAMWORK

SENT **COMMENTS TO EPA** ON BIOSTIMULANTS DEFINITION

ORGANIZED **TWO WORKSHOPS** WITH **40+ STAKEHOLDERS** IN TOTAL ATTENDANCE

INVOLVED **10 PARTNERS** IN BIOSTIMULANTS WORK

THREE AFFILIATES ENGAGED IN WORKSHOPS

20+ GROUP CALLS WITH INDUSTRY, STATES & AGENCIES

WHAT'S NEXT?

Currently, NASDA's suggested plan for a brand-new biostimulants regulatory process that best benefits farmers, state governments and industry has been submitted to the U.S. Department of Agriculture. NASDA awaits for Secretary Perdue's feedback and an official action plan from the USDA. We look forward to this next step and continuing work with the USDA. As always, NASDA remains involved with state fertilizer and pesticide officials to answer biostimulant questions and connect states with technical experts.

NASDA ANNUAL MEETING RECAP

At the 2019 NASDA Annual Meeting, NASDA members met to elect new board members, vote on new policy, learn about New Mexico agriculture and discuss current agricultural and food issues.

2019-2020 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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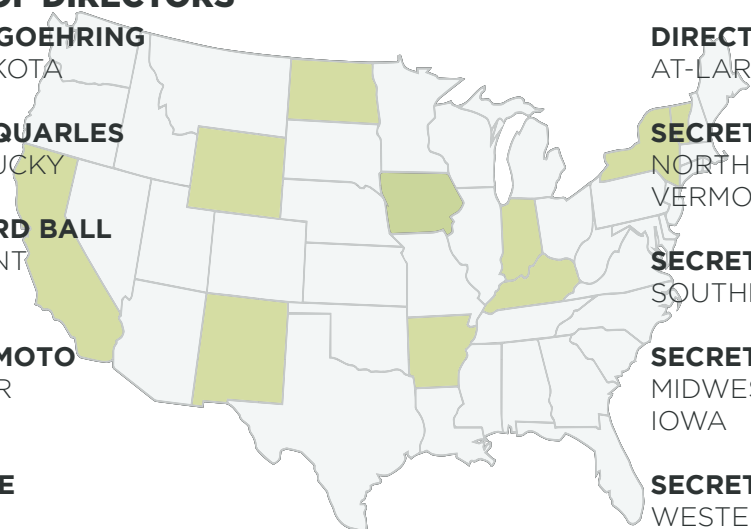
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POLICY MADE

NASDA members voted to accept **policy actions on 17 different issues**. The biggest policy adoptions, however, are NASDA's brand-new policies on **food waste** and **climate resiliency**.



“NASDA supports efforts to improve coordination and communication amongst federal, state and municipal stakeholders to use resources more efficiently and effectively to address food waste.”



“NASDA encourages the collaboration of governments, corporations and philanthropic communities with state departments of agriculture and local communities to further the establishment and expansion of voluntary, incentive-based climate smart agricultural programs.”

LEARN MORE ON NASDA'S POLICY ACTIONS:
nasda.org/2019-annual-meeting-post-meeting-documents

VISIBILITY RAISED

NASDA saw **record press and social media engagement** as a result of the conference. With speakers from USDA and FDA, groundbreaking policy work and 43 members in attendance, the annual meeting was something to be talked about.

30+ ARTICLES PUBLISHED ON ANNUAL MEETING WORK

SEVEN MEMBERS QUOTED IN LOCAL & NATIONAL MEDIA

10 PRESS RELEASES ISSUED ON MEETING WORK

94.5K TWITTER IMPRESSIONS AND 1.7K ENGAGEMENTS

SEE MORE:
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NASDA EXTENDS A GREAT THANK YOU TO OUR PARTNERS, WHOSE SUPPORT MAKES OUR WORK AND ACHIEVEMENTS POSSIBLE.



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