

**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT**

**PESTICIDE AND PLANT PEST MANAGEMENT DIVISION**

**REGULATION NO. 634. COMMERCIAL FERTILIZERS**

By authority conferred on the director of the department of agriculture and rural development by section 8516 of the natural resources and environmental protection act, 1994 PA 451, MCL 324.8516)

**R 285.634.1 Fertilizers for agricultural crop production; specialty fertilizers micronutrient content.**

Rule 1. Plant nutrients in addition to nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium when mentioned in any form or manner must be guaranteed. Guarantees must be made on the elemental basis. Sources of the elements guaranteed, and proof of availability must be provided to the director upon request. Except guarantees for those water-soluble nutrients labeled for hydroponic or continuous liquid feed programs, and guarantees for potting soils and lawn soils, the minimum percentages that will be accepted for registration or licensing, or both, are as follows:

Element	Percent
Calcium (Ca)	1.0000
Magnesium (Mg)	0.5000
Sulfur (S)	1.0000
Boron (B)	0.0200
Chlorine (Cl)	0.1000
Cobalt (Co)	0.0005
Copper (Cu)	0.0500
Iron (Fe)	0.1000
Manganese (Mn)	0.0500
Molybdenum (Mo)	0.0005
Sodium (Na)	0.1000
Zinc (Zn)	0.0500

History: 1979 AC; 2022 MR 5, Eff. Mar. 14, 2022.

**R 285.634.2 Rescinded.**

History: 1979 AC; 2022 MR 5, Eff. Mar. 14, 2022.

**R 285.634.3 Placement of micronutrient guarantees on label.**

Rule 3. Only the guarantees or claims for the plant nutrients listed in R 285.634.1 will be accepted. Proposed labels and directions for the use of the fertilizer must be furnished with the application for license or registration, or both, upon request. Any of the elements listed in R 285.634.1 that are guaranteed must appear in the order listed and must immediately follow guarantees for the primary nutrients of nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium, if present.

History: 1979 AC; 2022 MR 5, Eff. Mar. 14, 2022.

**R 285.634.4 Slowly available plant nutrients.**

Rule 4. (1) A fertilizer label shall not bear a statement that connotes or implies the presence of a slowly available plant nutrient, unless the nutrient is identified.

(2) When a fertilizer label implies or connotes that the nitrogen is slowly available through the use of words such as "organic," "organic nitrogen," "ureaform," "long lasting," or similar terms, the guaranteed analysis shall indicate the percentage of water insoluble nitrogen. This

requirement shall not apply to manipulated animal and composted vegetable materials distributed as such and not mixed with other materials. The label shall not bear a reference to slowly available nitrogen when water insoluble nitrogen is less than 15% of the total nitrogen.

(3) The term "coated--slow release" may be accepted as descriptive of products and shall be allowed on labeling when the manufacturer can provide acceptable data substantiating the claim.

History: 1979 AC.

**R 285.634.5 Specialty fertilizer labeling format.**

Rule 5. The following information, if not appearing on the face or display side of a container in a readable and conspicuous form, shall occupy at least the upper third of a side of the container and shall be considered the label:

(a) Net weight.

(b) Brand name and grade.

(c) Guaranteed analysis:

Total nitrogen (N) \_\_\_\_\_ %  
\_\_\_\_\_ % Ammoniacal nitrogen (if claimed)  
\_\_\_\_\_ % Nitrate nitrogen (if claimed)  
\_\_\_\_\_ % Water insoluble nitrogen (required when  
terms described in R 285.634.4 are used)  
Available phosphoric acid (P205) \_\_\_\_\_ %  
Soluble potash (K20) \_\_\_\_\_ %  
Additional plant nutrients

(d) Sources of nutrients when shown.

(e) Potential acidity or basicity in terms of calcium carbonate equivalent per ton (if claimed).

(f) Name and address of the registrant.

History: 1979 AC.

**R 285.634.6 Soil conditioners.**

Rule 6. A registration shall not be issued for a product that represents itself by label or supplemental material, leaflets, or advertising to improve the physical nature of the soil by altering the soil structure, by making soil nutrients more available, or otherwise enhancing the soil media resulting in beneficial crop response, unless the manufacturer or distributor of the product can provide scientifically acceptable data from experimentation which give reasonable assurance that such benefits as claimed can be expected to occur and are of definitive benefit to plant growth.

History: 1979 AC.

**R 285.634.7 Tonnage reporting.**

Rule 7. Tonnage reports and fee payment must be on a form provided by the director of the department must be for the annual period of January 1 to December 31. The reports must cover all fertilizers, soil conditioners, and peat products sold for application in this state.

History: 1979 AC; 2022 MR 5, Eff. Mar. 14, 2022.

**R 285.634.8 Rescission.**

Rule 8. Regulation No. 200, being R 285.200 of the Michigan Administrative Code and appearing on pages 3108 to 3111 of the 1964-65 Annual Supplements to the Code, is rescinded.

History: 1979 AC.