

FALL 2021 NOSB MEETING: AT-A-GLANCE LIST OF SUBCOMMITTEE VOTES

The fall 2021 National Organic Standards Board (NOSB) Meeting will be held October 19-21 via live online webinar. The [Meeting Agenda](#) and [Meeting Packet](#) are available. The deadline to [submit written comments](#) and/or [sign up for oral comments](#) is **Sept 30th** at midnight Eastern. The full Board will vote on the proposals at the meeting. Check out [OTA's NOSB Meeting Webpage](#) to download a full summary of the Meeting Packet and all proposals and discussion items.

PROPOSALS

TOPIC	SUBCOMMITTEE VOTE
Climate Change Letter to USDA about importance of organic agriculture as a climate solution	Motion to adopt the proposal: 7 Yes , 0 No.
Chitosan (CROPS) – petition to allow chitosan (from seafood shells) as plant disease control	To classify as synthetic: 8 Yes , 0 No. To allow at §205.601(j) for disease control: 4 Yes, 4 No.
Biochar (CROPS) – petition to allow cow manure derived biochar as a soil amendment	To classify as nonsynthetic: 8 Yes , 0 No. To add exemption “unless derived as part of the production of biochar from pyrolysis of cow manure” to the prohibition of manure ash at §205.602: 5 Yes, 3 No.
Ammonia Extract (CROPS) – petition to prohibit nonsynthetic ammonia extract fertilizer	To classify as nonsynthetic: 8 Yes , 0 No. To prohibit at §205.602: “Stripped Ammonia – created by separating, isolating and/or capturing ammonia or ammonium from an agricultural feedstock or other natural source using methods such as, but not limited to, steam stripping, pressurized air, heat, condensation, and/or distillation.” 8 Yes , 0 No. To prohibit at §205.602: “Concentrated Ammonia – contains greater than 3% ammoniacal nitrogen and the total nitrogen content is predominately (i.e., >50%) in the ammonia or ammonium form.” 7 Yes, 1 No. To add at §205.203(f): “Nitrogen products with a C:N ratio of 3:1 or less, including those that are components of a blended fertilizer formulation, are limited to a cumulative total use of 20% of crop needs.” 7 Yes, 1 No.
Kasugamycin (CROPS) – petition to allow kasugamycin (antibiotic) for fire blight control	To classify as synthetic: 8 Yes , 0 No. To allow at §205.601(j) for disease control: 0 Yes, 8 No.
Hydronium (CROPS) – petition to allow it (sulfuric acid + calcium hydroxide) as a manure processing aid	To classify as synthetic: 8 Yes , 0 No. To allow at §205.601(j) as processing aid: 0 Yes, 8 No.
Carbon Dioxide (CROPS) – petition to allow as pH adjuster of irrigation water sources	To classify as synthetic: 7 Yes , 0 No, 1 Absent. To allow at §205.601: 7 Yes , 0 No, 1 Absent.
Lithothamnion (CROPS) – proposal to classify as nonagricultural and not eligible for wild crop certification	To classify as a nonagricultural: 8 Yes , 0 No. <i>Lithothamnion</i> does not meet wild crop criteria and is not eligible to be certified to the wild crop standard: 8 Yes , 0 No.
Biodegradable Biobased Mulch (CROPS) – proposal to allow biodegradable mulches that are 80% biobased	To add “at least 80%” biobased content to the definition of biodegradable biobased mulch film at §205.2: 7 Yes, 1 No.
Sodium Nitrate (CROPS) – proposal to reinstate the restricted listing of sodium nitrate fertilizer	To reinstate the listing of sodium nitrate at §205.602(g) as prohibited unless use is restricted to no more than 20 percent of the crop’s total nitrogen requirement: 8 Yes , 0 No.
Zein (HANDLING) – petition to allow zein (corn protein) as food coating on organic foods	To classify as nonsynthetic: 7 Yes , 0 No. To allow at §205.605(a) only for use in nutraceuticals or pharmaceuticals as a micro encapsulation acting as a moisture barrier and taste masker: 4 Yes, 3 No.

TOPIC	SUBCOMMITTEE VOTE
Fish Oil (HANDLING) – proposal to restrict sources of fish oil to minimize environmental harm	To add an additional restriction to the listing of fish oil at §205.606: “Sourced from fishing industry by-product only and certified as sustainable against a third-party certification that is International Social and Environmental Accreditation and Labeling (ISEAL) Code Compliant or Global Seafood Sustainability Initiative (GSSI) recognized.” 6 Yes , 0 No, 1 Absent.
Research Priorities – NOSB’s annual list of research priorities for organic food and agriculture	Motion to adopt the proposal: 6 Yes , 0 No.

SUNSET REVIEWS

MATERIAL	SUBCOMMITTEE VOTE
Copper sulfate (CROPS) – algicide and tadpole shrimp control in aquatic rice systems	6 to relist, 2 to remove
Oxone gas (CROPS) – irrigation system cleaner	6 to relist , 0 to remove, 2 absent
Peracetic acid (CROPS) – disinfectant, disease control	8 to relist , 0 to remove
EPA List 3 Inerts (CROPS) – passive pheromone dispensers	7 to relist, 1 to remove
Chlorine materials (CROPS) – sanitizer, disinfectant	8 to relist , 0 to remove
Magnesium oxide (CROPS) – viscosity control in humates	8 to relist , 0 to remove
Calcium chloride (CROPS) – foliar spray for physiological disorders	8 to relist , 0 to remove
Rotenone (CROPS) – prohibited	8 to relist , 0 to remove
Agar-Agar (HANDLING) – gelling agent, emulsifier, thickener	7 to relist , 0 to remove
Animal enzymes (HANDLING) – catalysis for biological processes, e.g. cheesemaking	7 to relist , 0 to remove
Calcium sulfate (HANDLING) – tofu coagulant	6 to relist , 0 to remove, 1 absent
Carrageenan (HANDLING) – gelling agent, emulsifier, thickener	1 to relist, 5 to remove , 1 absent
Glucono delta-lactone (HANDLING) – tofu coagulant	5 to relist , 0 to remove, 2 absent
Tartaric acid (HANDLING) – acidulant	5 to relist , 0 to remove, 2 absent
Cellulose (HANDLING) – regenerative casings, anti-caking agent, filtering aid	6 to relist , 0 to remove, 1 absent
Chlorine materials (HANDLING) – sanitizer, disinfectant	6 to relist , 0 to remove, 1 absent
Potassium hydroxide (HANDLING) – pH adjuster	5 to relist , 0 to remove, 2 absent
Silicon dioxide (HANDLING) – defoamer	6 to relist , 0 to remove, 1 absent
Potassium lactate (HANDLING) – antimicrobial agent, pH regulator	7 to relist , 0 to remove
Sodium lactate (HANDLING) – antimicrobial agent, pH regulator	7 to relist , 0 to remove
Activated charcoal (LIVESTOCK) – adsorbent	3 to relist , 0 to remove, 2 absent
Calcium borogluconate (LIVESTOCK) – milk fever treatment	3 to relist , 0 to remove, 2 absent
Calcium propionate (LIVESTOCK) – milk fever treatment	4 to relist , 0 to remove, 1 absent
Chlorine materials (LIVESTOCK) – sanitizer, disinfectant	4 to relist , 0 to remove, 1 absent
Kaolin pectin (LIVESTOCK) – adsorbent, antidiarrheal, and gut protectant	4 to relist , 0 to remove, 1 absent
Mineral oil (LIVESTOCK) – intestinal compaction treatment	3 to relist , 0 to remove, 2 absent
Nutritive supplements (LIVESTOCK) – injectable vitamins and minerals	4 to relist , 0 to remove, 1 absent
Propylene glycol (LIVESTOCK) – ketosis treatment	4 to relist , 0 to remove, 1 absent
Acidified sodium chloride (LIVESTOCK) – teat dip	3 to relist , 0 to remove, 2 absent
Zinc sulfate (LIVESTOCK) – hoof treatment	3 to relist , 0 to remove, 2 absent

DISCUSSION DOCUMENTS (No Vote)

- **Oversight improvements to deter fraud** – discussion about modernizing organic traceability technology
- **Excluded Methods** – discussion about emerging technologies to be classified as excluded methods (prohibited)
- **Public Comment Process** – discussion about the format of providing public oral comments for NOSB meeting