

Organic Fertilizer Products

Prepared by Curtis Swift, Ph.D.
Colorado State University Extension

Introduction:



To be certified as an organic product the producer must use materials that are certified organic under the USDA [National Organic Program](#). Certification is by an organization such as the Organic Materials Review Institute (OMRI). ORMI Listed – or approved – products

have the  label.

The term "organic" is supposed to be used only by certified producers, but does not guarantee the product is legitimately organic. Growers selling under \$5,000 a year, must still comply and submit to a records audit **if requested**, but do not have to formally apply for organic certification.

In Colorado the organic certifying agency is the Colorado Department of Agriculture. The producer must list all materials in their organic system plan and have that plan approved by the certifying agent prior to their use. In cases such as corn gluten, a weed control option and nitrogen fertilizer, in order to be approved as an organic product, it must be from non-GMO corn.

Organic Fertilizer Products & their Nutrient Content (N,P,K)

Material	Nitrogen	Phosphorus	Potassium
Activated Sludge	6		
Alfalfa Meal	2-3	0.5-2	2-3
Azomite ^{1[1]} b	.15	0.13	5.2
Bat Guano	1-10	4-25	1
Corn Gluten	9	1	0
Cotton Seed	6-7	2-2.5	1-2
Feather Meal	7-16	0	0
Fish Meal	8-9	7	0
Fish bone meal	7	7	0

^{1[1]} Soil pH needs to be 6.5 or lower.

Grape Pomace	1	0	0
Kelp Meal	1-5	.2-1.3	2.8-10
Blood Meal	11-15	0	0
Coffee Grounds	2	.3	.2
Peanut shells	3.6	.7	.45
Teas grounds	4	1	1
Commercial Bone Meal ^{2[2]}	2-3	11-20	.5
Fish Emulsion	4-5	.4-2	.4-2
Soybean meal	7	.5	2.3

^{2[2]} Needs acid soil to break down.