



Fertilizers
Last updated in January 2012
Latest Developments
<p>Overall assessment of fertilizers developments and impact on golf in Q4 2011:</p> <p>In Q4 2011, the European Commission announced that it is preparing for the revision of the Fertilizers Regulation. The revision will assess new products on the EU market and if they should be regulated under the Regulation. The European Commission is currently working on a study to support the revision of the Regulation. The study aims at collecting information on the EU fertilizers market and at developing and assessing a set of policy options in terms of their possible impacts on human health and environment, as well as economic and social impacts. Also in the first months of 2012, the Council (Member States) working group on fertilizers will start meeting to prepare for the revision.</p>
Impact for golf management
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Affect the range of fertilizers available, but also ensure that all fertilizers on the EU market will be compatible for environment and health.
Background
<p>The European Union gathers all rules applying to fertilizers into a single piece of legislation in order to ensure the uniform application of a package of very technical provisions.</p> <p>The EU has rules relating to the placing of fertilizers on the market, i.e. the conditions for designating "EC fertilizers", as well as the provisions regarding their labeling and packaging.</p> <p>All types of fertiliser in Annex I which comply with the provisions of this regulation may bear the words "EC fertiliser". The list of the various types of fertilizers authorised on the European market may be extended. In order to be listed, the manufacturer must apply to the competent authority in their country and constitute a technical file on the characteristics of the fertiliser. Applications are then sent to the Commission, which accepts or rejects the manufacturer's application.</p> <p>All fertilizers bearing the words "EC fertiliser" may circulate freely on the European market. Member States may not prohibit or limit their placing on the market unless they consider that the fertiliser in question represents a danger for health or a risk to the environment. In such cases, the product is temporarily withdrawn from the market until a study is carried out at European level to ascertain whether the risk is well founded.</p> <p>A type of fertiliser shall only bear the words "EC fertiliser" if:</p>



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- it has no adverse effect on the health of humans, animals, plants or the environment under normal conditions of use;
 - it is effective;
 - relevant sampling and analysis methods are being provided.
- Annex I of the Regulation also establishes minimum nutrient content required for each type of fertiliser (nitrogen content, phosphorus content, etc.).

The Regulation lays down a certain number of compulsory statements which must appear on the packaging and labels of fertilizers. In particular, these include the marking "EC fertiliser", details relating to the description of nutrients or micro-nutrients, information about the manufacturer and, if applicable, details of blends. Some optional information is also recommended, such as specific directions for the use, storage and handling of the fertiliser.

Links

European Commission DG Enterprise –Pesticides

<http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/sectors/chemicals/documents/specific-chemicals/fertilizers/>

EU Regulation concerning fertilisers

<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2011:043:0001:0008:en:PDF>