

# REVISIONS TO SC FERTILIZER LAW EFFECTIVE JULY 4, 2002

## REGULATORY & PUBLIC SERVICE PROGRAMS

### DEPARTMENT OF FERTILIZER & SEED CERTIFICATION SERVICES

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**Purpose** - To increase the safety and security of South Carolinians by creating a category of **Restricted Fertilizers** that are deemed by the SC Crop Pest Commission to pose an unreasonable threat to public safety, and by allowing for monitoring of the distribution of these fertilizers in South Carolina.

- The single-nutrient fertilizers, ammonium nitrate (34%), urea (45%) and anhydrous ammonia, are currently the only fertilizers to be restricted. Use of these materials in blends, e.g. 10-10-10, will **not** be restricted.
- Monitoring the distribution of restricted fertilizers is accomplished through establishment of two permitting categories:
  - **General Fertilizer Permit** – Required for individuals or companies who sell fertilizers in packages greater than 40 pounds and that are **not** restricted fertilizers. There is **no fee** for this permit.
  - **Restricted Fertilizer Permit** – Required for individuals or companies wishing to sell **restricted fertilizers** in any quantity. There will be an annual fee of \$250 for this permit unless the distributor is a SC Fertilizer Registrant. The requirement for a Restricted Fertilizer Permit can be avoided by selling readily available alternatives to restricted fertilizers containing nitrogen from other sources, e.g., calcium nitrate, sodium nitrate, etc., which are not as readily converted to explosives.
- **Record keeping requirements** for sales of **restricted fertilizers** will simply involve recording the purchaser's drivers license number on the invoice or other record of sales, and maintaining this record on site and available for inspection for two years. Farm workers, familiar to the Restricted Fertilizer Permit holder can purchase for the farmer by recording the farmer's drivers license at the beginning of the season. No other records or reports are necessary. Application will be a simple form for all permit holders, perhaps even a post card reply for General Permit applications. Current fertilizer registrants will only be asked to check a new block on their annual license renewal application.

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