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NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION

NOTICE 3085 OF 2025

Application for derogation for the use of Boron in fertilizer products in South Africa

This notice serves to inform the public of an administrative action being taken in relation to the approval of an essential micro-nutrient in fertilizer formulations under the Fertilizer, Farm Feeds, Agricultural Remedies and Stock Remedies Act (Act No. 36 of 1947).

The fertilizer Association of Southern Africa (FERTASA) hereby informs the public of their intention to submit an application for derogation for the continued use of boric acid products, as applies to all registered fertilizer products in South Africa.

FERTILIZER ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHERN AFRICA	WEBSITE	GOVERNMENT GAZETTE AND NOTICE NO.
Representing the fertilizer industry in South Africa	www.fertasa.co.za	Details to be included once we have published the Notification in Government Gazette

Boron is internationally recognized as an essential micro-nutrient for the growth of all plants (and most organisms). Without the inclusion of Boron-containing products in a soil-fertility programme, growth and yield would be seriously compromised with devastating ramifications.

The functions that it performs cannot be substituted by any other chemical substance. However, according to the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals, Boron has been identified as a substance of concern in the Reproductive Toxicity category 1B.

As per the “Derogation Guideline for Fertilizers”, FERTASA, on behalf of the fertilizer industry in South Africa, had a Toxicology Risk Assessment conducted for the continued usage of Boron as for all other fertilizers regulated by Act No. 36 of 1947. The Risk Assessment was conducted by INFOTOX (Pty) Ltd, who concluded that there were insignificant health risks associated with Boron-containing fertilizer products and as a result, no additional precautionary statements are required on the labelling of such fertilizer products.

More information on the proposed application and administrative procedure can be obtained from the Government Gazette or by contacting:

Mr. David Motloi

Head of Administration: Fertilizer, Farm Feeds, Agricultural Remedies and Stock Remedies Act, 1947 (Act No. 36 of 1947).

Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development

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Office hours 08:00 – 16:00 (excluding weekends and public holidays).

Interested parties must submit comments or objections in relation to this application within 30 days of the publication of this notice. Comments received after this date might not be considered.

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