

INTRODUCTION

The Office of Plant Industry Services in the Division of Consumer Protection has the responsibility of ensuring that fertilizer and agricultural liming materials distributed in Virginia are properly labeled, registered and meet the labelers guarantee. The Fertilizer and Agricultural Liming Materials Laws provide for the collection and testing of samples of regulated materials and for assessments for variance from guarantee on deficient lots. When it is possible to identify the purchaser of the deficient material, the assessment is paid to that purchaser. These laws protect the consumer and enhance fair competition between manufacturers in the marketplace, as well as provide the basis for service to other State agencies.

During the 2024-25 fiscal year (FY = July 1 - June 30), a total of 799,465 tons of fertilizer products were reported sold. This is a decrease of 42,913 tons or 5% below the 2023-2024 reported tonnage of 842,378 tons. This number excludes lime; but includes gypsum, soil amendments and horticultural growing media. Farm use tonnage for 2024-2025 was 549,957 tons which is a decrease of 25,411 tons or 4% below the farm use tonnage for 2023-2024 of 575,368. Non-farm use tonnage for 2024-2025 was 249,508 tons which is a decrease of 17,501 tons or 6% below the 2023-2024 reported tonnage of 267,009.

The suppliers of agricultural liming material reported 370.108 tons sold during the 2024-2025 fiscal year. This is a decrease of 151.069 tons or 29% below fiscal year 2023-2024 reported tonnage of 521.177.