

# OFFICE OF THE TEXAS STATE CHEMIST

Texas Feed and Fertilizer Control Service • Agricultural Analytical Service

445 Agronomy Road • College Station, TX 77843-2114

Mailing Address  
P. O. Box 3160  
College Station, TX 77841-3160

Tel. (979) 845 1121  
Fax. (979) 845 1389  
<http://otsc.tamu.edu>

March 19, 2020

TO: Department of Public Safety, National Guard, and local law enforcement personnel

FROM: Timothy J Herrman, State Chemist and Director, Office of the Texas State Chemist

SUBJECT: Essential Service and Critical Infrastructure – Agricultural Inputs, Outputs, and Services

The Texas Feed and Fertilizer Control Service of the Office of the Texas State Chemist recognizes that agricultural inputs for animal and crop production are deemed as essential services and are vital to public health and welfare by the United States Federal Emergency Management Agency. This includes products and services regulated by the Texas Feed and Fertilizer Control Service of the Office of the Texas State Chemist. We are committed to serving the public by helping ensure agricultural inputs are available through a safe, reliable, and consistent market chain as well as the transporters that deliver these inputs which are all part of an essential service and critical infrastructure in Texas.

The above statements align with Presidential Policy Directive/PPD-21 Food and Agriculture; Critical Infrastructure Security – Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA); and Emergencies Services Function ESF-11 Agriculture and Natural Resources Annex in the Texas Governor's Emergency Response Plan.

As State Chemist and Director, I recognize that it is imperative that agricultural inputs, outputs, and services move freely within the state and between states. OTSC is committed to helping keep the market chain open to serve the public under their authority within the Texas Commercial Feed and Fertilizer Control Acts and rules. We also recognize the essential service provided by agriculture workers per a letter by the Texas Agriculture Commissioner of the Texas Department of Agriculture.

Please feel free to contact our agency with questions and concerns at the numbers below.



Timothy J Herrman Ph.D.  
State Chemist and Director, Office of the Texas State Chemist  
Agency: 979 845-1121  
Personal Cell: 979 219-8611