Letter Addressed to NH3 Grower Customer or inserted in company newsletter

The Illinois Department of Agriculture (IDOA) now requires all growers or grower farm operators who transport or apply anhydrous ammonia, or otherwise maintain anhydrous ammonia equipment, to be certified to understand the properties of ammonia, to become competent in safe operating practices, and to take appropriate actions in the event of a leak or an emergency. Initial certification shall be achieved no later than **April 1, 2022**.

**Training applies to those individuals who transport or handle anhydrous ammonia:**

• Farmers/Growers

• Farm Employees

• Family Members

• Others that help

• Out of State Farmers/Growers who apply anhydrous ammonia in Illinois

Growers are not required to be certified to **purchase** anhydrous ammonia; one reason for this is because some farmers, farm managers and landlords who purchase anhydrous ammonia do not directly handle or apply it.

There is **no cost** for the training and growers and grower farm operators have untilApril 1, 2022to be initially certified, and then must participate in refresher training every three years.

**Types of Training Offered:**

**Online at:** [**https://onenet.illinois.gov/page.aspx?item=128037**](https://onenet.illinois.gov/page.aspx?item=128037) **or**

 **In-Person Training**: As COVID restrictions lessen, opportunities for classroom training will become available. Watch for opportunities for training events taught by IDOA approved trainers. (Use this space to promote an in-person training session at your location if you so desire or explain when you plan to begin offering training at our company);

**NOTE:** Both in-person & online training should take approximately 60-75 minutes.

So that we can make this a seamless transition with no disruption of service, we ask that you please provide us, as soon as practical, with a copy of your ammonia training certificate so we can maintain a copy for our files. We will need a copy of the training certificates for you, along with all family members or others who may transport, apply or otherwise work with anhydrous ammonia on your behalf.

Although the final compliance date for grower ammonia training is April 1, 2022, we encourage you to become certified as soon as practical, and preferably before the fall 2021 ammonia season, to help demonstrate the industry’s commitment to the safety and stewardship of anhydrous ammonia use in Illinois.

The Illinois Corn Growers Association, Illinois Farm Bureau, Illinois Soybean Association and the Illinois Fertilizer & Chemical Association all support this grower safety & certification program.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

ABC Fertilizer

Bloomington, IL