

August 1998

NCWM Adopts L&R's Recommendations on Diesel Fuel

The NCWM adopted new labeling requirements for Premium Diesel Fuel that will go into effect on January 1, 2000. The new requirements will mean that sellers will have to deliver fuel that meets at least two of the five properties associated with premium fuels. The five properties include energy content, Cetane, fuel injector cleanliness, low temperature operability, and thermal stability. Sellers will have to provide this information on the dispenser so consumers understand the fuel properties for which they are paying a higher price.

Committee Chairman Karl Angell, Jr., commended Randy Jennings, TN, Chairman of the Petroleum Subcommittee, and Roger Leisenring, Jr., Texaco, as well as the other members of the Premium Diesel Working Group for developing the recommendations and for their informative presentation on the proposal at the Annual Meeting.

The NCWM also made several changes to NIST Handbook 133 and Handbook 130 including:

- allowing additional Maximum Allowable Variations (MAVs) for bark mulch and soils sold by volume (e.g., 1 MAV is now permitted for every 12 bags in the sample);
- revising the tare procedures in NIST Handbook 133 so that inspectors may continue to use "Unused Dry Tare" when verifying the net weight of packages of meat and poultry in retail stores.
- adopting new test procedures for determining the basis weight of paper and the volume of packaged firewood.