



Product Stability and Compatibility

"Quality is not what happens when what you do matches your intentions. It is what happens when what you do matches your customers' expectations." Guaspari

Presented by Jesse Voss

Quality Assurance - Specialty Liquids

The Andersons



Product Stability and Compatibility



➤ Stability

- Major issues affecting stability - Extremes
 - Hot Summer Storage
 - Freezing Cold Winter Storage
- Formulate the problem out
- Reduce inventory of vulnerable products during extreme periods
 - 10-34-0 in Summer
 - 6-24-6 D in Winter
- Ship vulnerable products closer to time of use
- Understand the effects of extreme storage conditions on received product

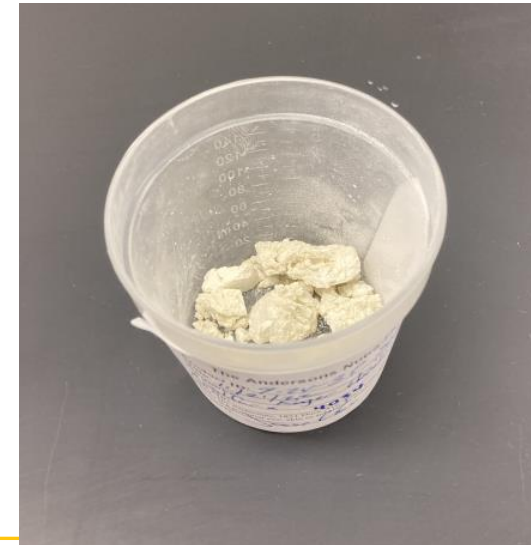
➤ Compatibility



- If done right, compatibility can be formulated out
- Jar test is always recommended



Compatibility

- Differentiation – Makes formulation tricky
 - Stringent process for product development
- Reduced passes - Humic Acid compatibility with Capture LFR
- SRN (triazone) compatibility with Polyphosphate
- Non chelated micronutrient compatibility with Ortho and Pyrophosphate



The Andersons  MS Wheat Mix 

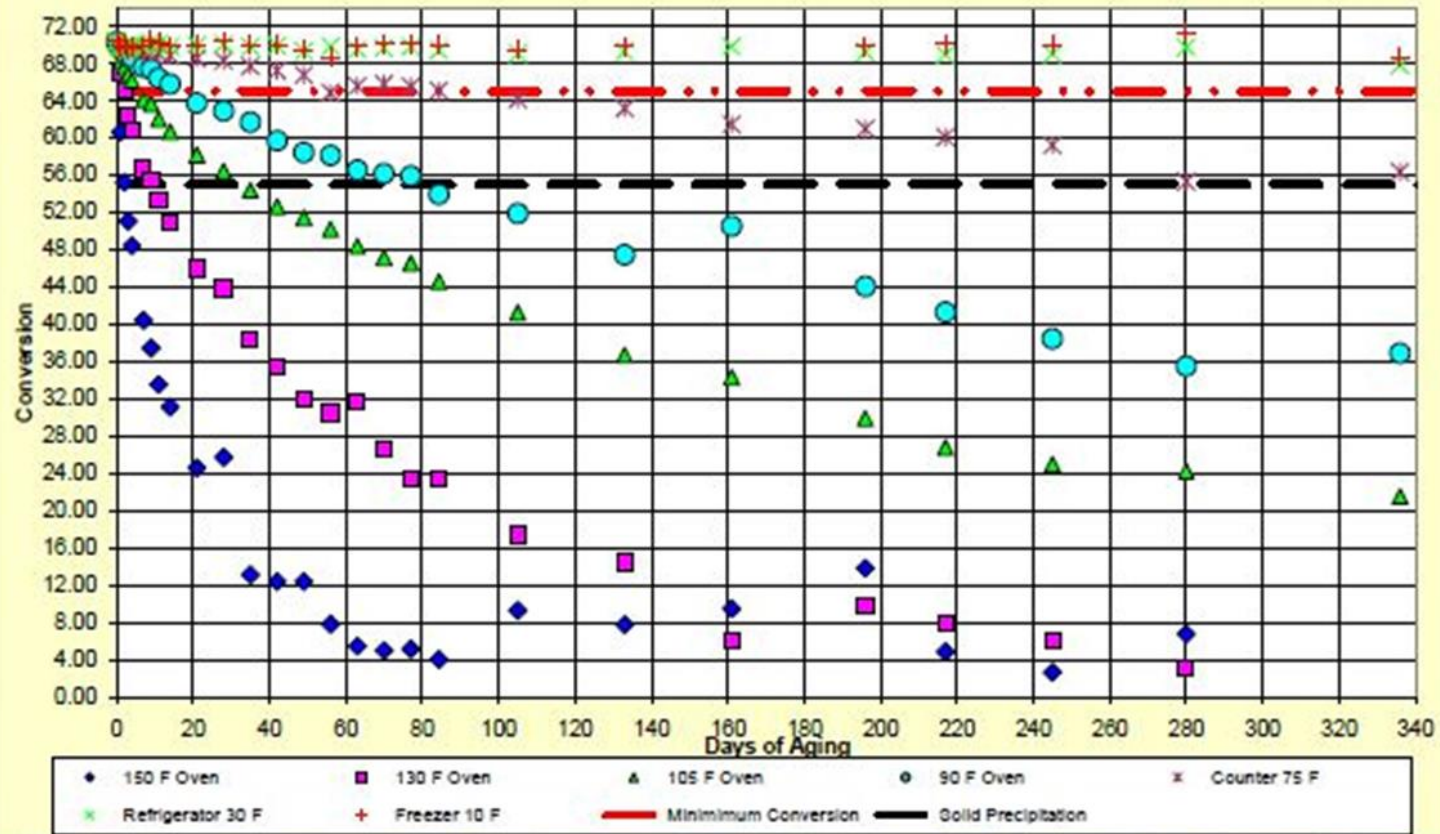
The Andersons™

Extreme Heat



Impact of Temperature on Conversion Level

11-37-0 Aging Test



Johnny
Walkers



Extreme Cold

- Seeing increased gallons shipped in the fall to be stored over winter
 - Market driven
- 80/20 and 100% Ortho products are most vulnerable
- Extreme Cold weather
 - Storage – Steel Tank
 - Shipment – Stainless Trailer

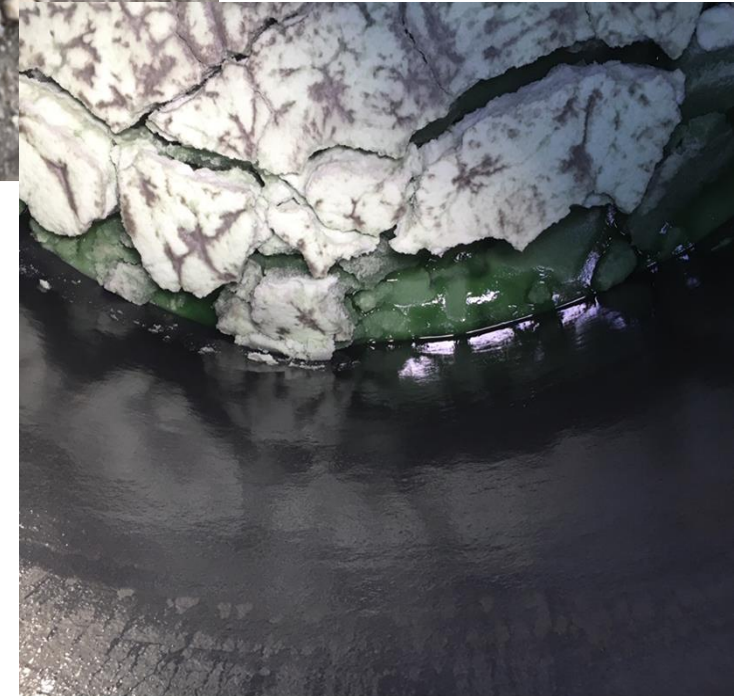


Salt out Material



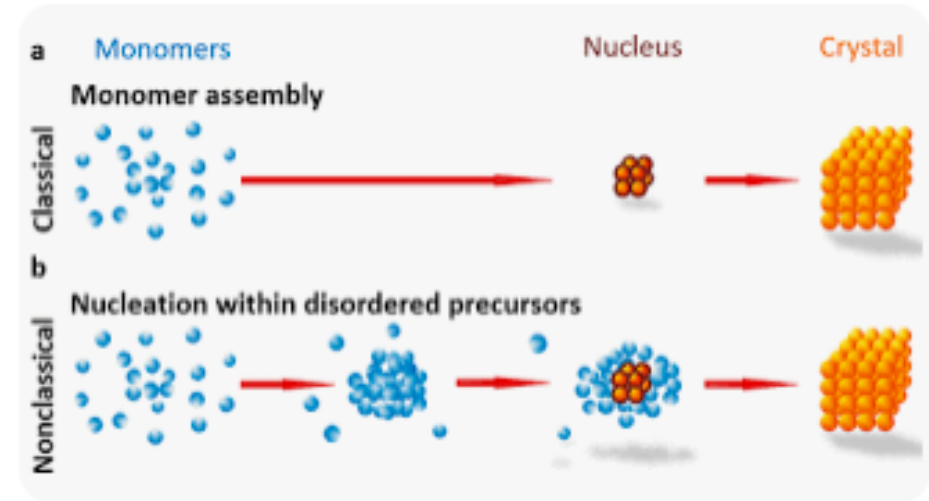
Product Analysis

- As-is analysis
 - N = 13.68%
 - P2O5 = 42.64%
 - K2O = 1.85%
 - Boron = 0.006%
 - Copper = 0.0142%
 - Iron = 0.211%
 - Manganese = 0.0354%
 - Zinc = 0.225%
- DAP Analysis
 - 18-46-0 (dry)

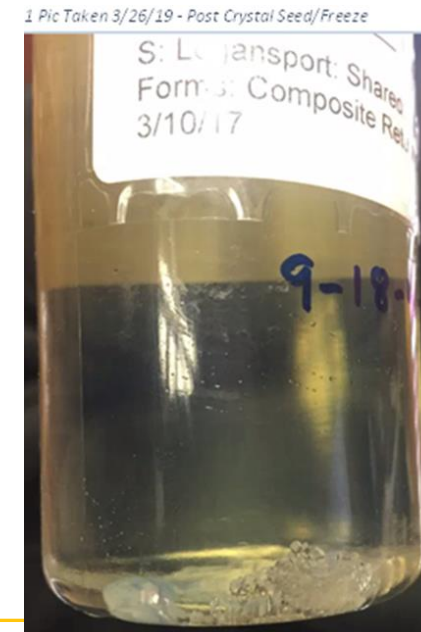


Nucleation

- Product can seem to be stable in cold extremes in very clean containers
- Presence of crystals in a tank can cause nucleation
- Reduces the stability of the overall product
- Clean tanks are extremely important for product stability



ACS Publications - American Chemical Society



Phase Separation



- Water freezes and rises to the top
- Salt solution concentrates
- Sometimes crystals can then form in the concentrated salt solution and fall to the bottom



Product Handling

- Handling product at temps below the SOT (salt out temperature)
 - Does not allow crystals to go back into solution
 - Aggressive agitation and heat are required



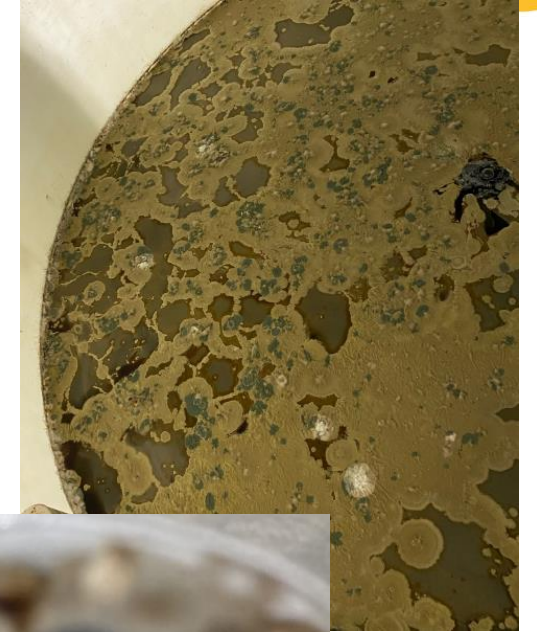
Production Correction

- Monopotassium Phosphate (MKP) formation at Low pH



New Challenges...Mold

- Increased carbon additives
 - Fulvic
 - Humic
- Product Carryover
 - Water condensation in tank tops leads to a thin water layer on top of product.
 - Prime environment for mold growth.



Product Handling and Storage Guidelines



NOTICE: READ GUIDELINES PRIOR TO FILLING TANKS FOR OVERWINTER STORAGE

RECEIVING AND STORAGE

- ✓ Empty and sanitize tanks, pumps and pipes prior to receiving product to reduce the possibility of contaminants.
- ✓ Ensure tank lids are in place and secure.
- ✓ If applicable, place caps on open pipe/hose ends.
- ✓ Store low-salt liquid fertilizers in high-volume, flat bottom tanks during winter months.
- ✓ Utilize the full volume of the tank to store product to minimize internal condensation.
- ✓ Remove all liquid from isolated pipes and pumps after receiving product to avoid product freezing in the winter and expanding/breaking pipes, valves, flanges and pumps.
- ✗ **DON'T** blend low-salt fertilizers with other products to ensure the highest quality blend.
- ✗ **DON'T** use shared lines and pumps to avoid cross-contamination

SPRING HANDLING: RECIRCULATION & FILTRATION

- ✓ Aggressive recirculation/agitation must be completed prior to removing product from tank.
 - ✓ Recirculation/agitation can be initiated when product temperature is above the labeled salt-out temperature. 30 minutes is recommended for every 500 gallons of product. In all instances, longer is better.
- An ice plug may be present at the top of the tank at the time of recirculation where water has come out of solution and froze. Aggressive recirculation/agitation will aid in reconstituting the water and any salt-out material back into solution.
- ✓ Filter product prior to use.

➤ In-depth guidelines available

➤ <https://andersonsplantnutrition.com/agriculture/resources/tank-guidelines>

