Agricultural based products and Complex Chlorides/Minerals We did a ton of lab testing....what does it all mean?



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Why did we do this?

- Agro-based products are becoming more commonly used in snow and ice control operations.
- Most commonly as additives.
- Past studies and anecdotal evidence have shown that these products improve:
 - > Deicing and/or anti-icing performance (They can, but it is not as simple as
 - Reduce the corrosion (True)
 Reduce environmental impacts (Did not look at this)
- The "modes of action" by which agro-based products provide benefits is poorly understood



yes or no across the board)

Here is what we did...

- Literature review
- Survey
- Systematic laboratory investigation:
 - Lowering the freezing point of water
 - Improving ice melting capacity
 - > Weakening of ice bond to pavement
 - Reducing the corrosiveness to metals
 - > Improving the product longevity on the road surface,
 - Preventing ice formation or refreeze prevention,
 - ➤ and Assessing the influence of the absorbance of sunlight.



What did we learn from the Literature Review.....

- The main composition of agro-based products:
 - desugared beet molasses,
 - corn by-products,
 - cheese brewing by-products,
 - beer brewing by-products,
 - succinate salts,
 - urea,
 - and starch.
- These products are either used alone or as additives with other winter maintenance chemicals to improve performance and/or to reduce corrosion and environmental impacts.



Literature Review contd

 But...at this time limited research has been performed to examine the modes of action by which these products help in improving performance and reducing negative impacts on highway infrastructure and the environment.



What did we learn from the survey

 Some respondents preferred using non-chloride agro-based products at low temperatures (below 20°F).



- Longevity on the road surface (or the *residual effect*) was one of the observed benefits of using agro-based products.
- Improved performance at low temps and reduced material usage were common benefits observed by survey respondents when using CCM based products.
- Limited research has been conducted by survey respondents on agro-based and CCM based products.



Products Selected for Testing

- **Category A:** solid complex chlorides/minerals (CCM) based products were used as-received for testing purposes.
 - Product A1 Ice Slicer[®];
 - Product A2 Thawrox®
- **Category B**: Liquid agro-based deicers which were prepared by mixing the vendor-provided concentrates with a 23.3 wt. % NaCl aqueous solution, at either 70:30 or 80:20 volume ratio, depending on the vendor specification.
 - Product B1 Beet 55[®];
 - − Product B2 BoostTM SB;
 - Product B3 Snow Melt[®];
 - Product B4 Geomelt[®] 55
- **Category C**: Liquid agro-based deicers which were used as-received from the manufacturer for testing purposes.
 - − Product C1 ApogeeTM;
 - − Product C2 BoostTM CCB;
 - Product C3 Ice Ban[®] 305;
 - Product C4 ThermaPoint IB 7/93



Product Name	Manufacturer	Major Components	% Added to salt brine*	Description	Reference	Chloride Cond	entration from Mohr's chemical titration method
Ice Slicer®	Redmond Minerals, Inc	NaCl: 90-98%; Trace amounts of MgCl ₂ , KCl, CaCl ₂	As-Received	Blend of complex chlorides	MSDS	58.90%	Reagent grade NaCl, features a
Thawrox®	North American Salt Company	NaCl: 60-100%; Thawrox Treated Salt Liquid Additive: 1-5%	As-Received	Thawrox treated rock salt	MSDS	59.60%	theoretical Cl content of 60.7%.
Beet 55	Smith Fertilizer and Grain	NaCl: 17.2%	30 (70% salt brine)	Beet based product	PNS Qualified product list: Category A3	0.25 M	
Boost TM SB	America West	NaCl: 18.8%; CaCl ₂ : 2.3%	20 (80% salt brine)	organic agricultural by- product with salt brine	PNS Qualified product list: Category A2	0.62 M	
Snow Melt®	Smith Fertilizer and Grain	Glycerin:15 - 20%; Polyether Polymer: 10 - 20%; Sodium Lactate: 4 - 10%; Sorbitol: 2-4%; Sodium Formate: 1 - 4%; 1, 2 - Butanedoil: 1 - 4%	30 (70% salt brine)	Corn based product	MSDS	0.05 M	
Geomelt® 55	SNI Solutions	NaCl: 18.1%	30 (70% salt brine)	Beet based product	PNS Qualified product list: Category A3	0.55 M	Note: For 23.3% NaCl reagent grade would feature Cl content of 3.99 M
Ародее™	Envirotech Services, Inc.	Glycerin: % unknown (Proprietary)		Glycerin based product	MSDS	1.05 M	
Boost [™] CCB	America West	organic ag by-product: % unknown CaCl ₂ : % unknown (Proprietary)	As-Received	organic agricultural by- product with CaCl ₂	MSDS	0.62 M	
Ice Ban [®] 305	GMCO	Ice Ban Concentrate: 10 - 20%; MgCl ₂ (30% Solution): 80 - 90%	As-Received	Corn based product	MSDS	1.11 M	
ThermaPoint IB 7/93	Millennium Roads, Inc	CaCl ₂ : 93% ; OBFE (Organic based performance enhancer (Proprietary))": 7%		Other (Lignin based)	MSDS	0.73 M	



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Results – Laboratory Testing

Lowering the freezing point of water



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Lowering the freezing point of water



The eutectic curve shows...

CCM based products

<u>Do not significantly</u> reduce the freezing point of water compared to NaCl.

Lowering the freezing point of water



The eutectic curve shows..

 Liquid agro-based products blended with 23.3% salt brine
 Significantly lowered the freezing point of water compared to NaCl.



Lowering the freezing point of water



The eutectic curve shows..

 Agro-based products (as-received)
 significantly lowered
 the freezing point of
 water compared to
 NaCl.

Do these products aid in lower the freezing point of water?

- CCM no, but this make sense
- Agro-based products, yes they do.



Results – Laboratory Testing

Improve ice melting capacity







Ice Melting Test Results



Ice Melting Test Results





Ice Melting Test Results



Summary Table – DSC, Eutectic Curve, Ice Melting

		Characteristic Temperature Peak		Enthalpy of fusion (J/g)		Eutectic Curve		Ice Melt		
D	0.11.10.1	1 (T)			COL	Eutectic	Eutectic	60 min @ 25°F	60 min @ 15°F	60 min @ 5°F
Product	Original State	Average (°F)	COV	COV Average	cov	Temperature °F	Concentratio n (wt.%)	(ml/g for solid, ml/ml for liquid)		
Product A1	Solid	28	20%	162.2	8%	-6.61	27%	7.15	4.46	1.53
Product A2	Solid	22.9	1%	89.4	4%	-6.70	25%	7.23	4.16	*
Product B1	Liquid	24.8	3%	138.7	3%	-18.64	27%	2.62	1.49	-
Product B2	Liquid	30.4	42%	156.1	7%	-17.86	24%	2.44	1.36	
Product B3	Liquid	25.4	4%	136.1	6%	-9.52	26%	3.16	1.90	12
Product B4	Liquid	28.1	23%	176.1	4%	-15.43	27%	2.49	1.53	1.14
Product C1	Liquid	16.2	2%	120.9	6%	< 45	as-received	4.48	2.81	1.58
Product C2	Liquid	6.1	6%	124.6	4%	< 45	As Received	3.85	3.11	736
Product C3	Liquid	8.9	4%	161.1	10%	< 45	As Received	2.96	2.50	180
Product C4	Liquid	6.4	5%	131.5	6%	< 45	As Received	3.18	2.39	1.58
NaCl (reagent)	Solid	23.5	2%	197.7	3%	-6.34	23%	-	3.90	-
Rock salt	Solid	-	-	-	-	-	-	6.99	3.55	1.72
Salt Brine (Rock 23.3 wt%)	Liquid	-	-	-	-	-	-	2.64	1.55	1.10

Do these products aid in improving ice melting capacity?

- CCM, at colder temperatures
- Agro-based blended with salt brine, only one product did (B3).
- Agro-based as received, yes.
 - Additionally, as received agro-based products exhibit significantly lower characteristic temperature.



When considering the lower freezing of Agro-based products but also the small ice melting capacity...What is going on.

- Agro-based products may act as ice crystal nucleation point inhibitors, delaying the formation of ice compared to salt brine.
 - Cryoprotectants are substances that prevent ice nucleation.
 - The agro-based products significantly reduce the freezing point of water, therefore could act as cyroprotectants, delaying the freezing point of water.



Improved the ice melting capacity

- CCM based products
 - $-\,$ produced more ice melt than the NaCl at 15°F
- Liquid agro-based products blended with 23.3% salt brine
 - did not produce more ice melt than salt brine (NaCl, liquid) alone at 25°F, 15°F and 5°F.
- Agro-based products (as-received)
 - Produced more ice melt than salt brine.
- Agro-based products exhibit significantly lower characteristic temperature.
 - This suggests that the amount of thermal energy corresponding to the aqueous brine solution's liquid/solid phase transition is reduced by the addition of agro-based by-products; making the agro-based by-products mixed with brine more difficult to freeze than salt brine alone.
- Agro-based products acted as freezing point depressants (or cryoprotectants).



Weakening of ice bond to pavement





Video of Trafficking





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For CCM products is was slightly easier to plow snow off the pavement.





For agro-based products blended with salt brine it was significantly easier to plow snow off the pavement.





For agro-based products as recieved it was significantly easier to plow snow off the pavement.







Do these products aid in weakening the bond between the ice and pavement more than salt?

- CCM, slightly
- Agro-based, yes



Weakening of ice bond to pavement

Product	Concentration	Temperature	Viscosity (mm²/s)	Specific Gravity	
Product B4		68°F	2.4	1.20	
	70% salt brine and 30% agro- based concentrate	25°F	5.5	1.21	
		15°F	7.3	1.21	
		5°F	9.2	1.21	
Product C1	As-received	68°F	23.0	1.22	
		25°F	102.9	1.23	
		15°F	169.4	1.24	
		5°F	283.1	1.24	
Product C4	As-received	68°F	9.2	1.33	
		25°F	16.4	1.33	
		15°F	21.8	1.34	
		5°F	25.5	1.34	
Salt Brine	23%.wt of Rock salt	68°F	1.5	1.17	
		25°F	2.8	1.18	
		15°F	4.1	1.19	
		5°F	4.6	1.19	

Agro-based products have a higher viscosity than salt brine.

Weakening of ice bond to pavement

The addition of agro-based products to salt brine **increased** the overall **viscosity** of the products.

So what does this mean...

Agro-based products with higher viscosity than salt brine may have slower grain boundary penetration than the salt brine with lower viscosity.

Products with higher viscosity may have more product remain on the pavement surface (residual effect) resulting in reduction in bond strength between ice and pavement surface.



Improving product longevity on the pavement



General trend of increased shear strength required to plow the snow off the pavement with time.







Where is the product?





1. Collected snow from the pavement surface.

2. Measured the amount of product in the snow.

3. Compared amount of product wicked up into the snow pack vs. amount remaining on the pavement surface.















Do these products aid in improving product longevity on the pavement?

- Agro-based products tend to stay on the road surface longer than salt brine.
- Longevity of the product on the road surface depends on the amount of product dissolved into the snow before each cycle of plowing.


Prevention of ice formation/refreezing





Prevention of ice formation/refreezing



Do these products aid in prevention of ice formation/refreezing?

 Agro-based products appear to aid in reducing ice formation, or maintain friction with only a small decrease over time with trafficking.



Absorbance of sunlight















Is the performance of these products affected by UV or sunlight exposure?

- Ice melting capacity of these products significantly increased with exposure to UV light.
- At colder temperatures, darker colored agrobased products had higher ice melting capacity than lighter color agro-based products and salt brine.



Results - Corrosion





Results - Corrosion

Deicer	Original state	PNS Dipping Test		Electrochemical Test		
		Average Corrosion Rate (MPY)	Percentage Corrosion Rate (%)	E _{corr} (mV, SCE)	I _{corr} (μΑ/cm²)	Average Corrosion Rate (MPY)
3% Product A1	Solid	50.5	82.0	-683.0	7.2	32.8
3% Product A2	Solid	46.2	74.1	-709.0	8.3	37.8
3% Product B1	Liquid	42.8	80.2	-508.0	5.4	24.6
3% Product B2	Liquid	15.1	30.8	-656.0	8.5	38.8
3% Product B3	Liquid	20.3	34.0	-704.0	7.6	34.7
3% Product B4	Liquid	29.5	52.9	-638.0	11.3	51.5
3% Product C1	Liquid	16.8	31.2	-556.0	6.3	28.7
3% Product C2	Liquid	18.1	38.7	-521.0	4.5	20.5
3% Product C3	Liquid	21.2	45.4	-685.0	8.9	40.6
3% Product C4	Liquid	14.3	30.6	-524.0	5.5	26.2
3% NaCl	Solid	56.3	100	-751.0	12.8	58.4
DI Water	Liquid	5.0	0	-	-	-



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Do these products aid in reducing corrosion?

- The PNS dipping test revealed that the CCM deicers feature slightly lower corrosivity to carbon steel than solid 3% NaCl control.
- Agro-based products (except product B1) feature much lower corrosivity to carbon steel than the controls.



Best Practices – Identified Issues with Agro-based Products

- Road slickness has been reported
 - avoid over application which may cause this.
- Clogging of spray equipment
 - Flush system with water between use of various products, agitate or stir products periodically if stored for long periods.
- Bacterial growth
 - Some products have inhibitors to prevent this, products may have a shelf life, and proper long term storage may be needed (no sun exposure, cool temperatures, periodic mixing, etc.)
- Attractant to wildlife on roadways
 - Additional research is needed to confirm this.



Available Resources/Outcomes

- Best Practices Manual
- Final Report and Webinar Presentation
- Summary Video

www.clearroads.org

(http://clearroads.org/project/understandingthe-effectiveness-of-non-chlorine-liquidagricultural-by-products-and-solid-complexchloridemineral-products-used-in-snow-and-icecontrol-operations/)





Questions?

Laura Fay laura.fay1@montana.edu

406.600.5777



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