WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A composition comprising a first compound that comprises a first mineral coupled to a first amino acid, wherein the first compound is coated with a slow release coating.

2. The composition of claim 1, wherein:

the first mineral is selected from the group consisting of zinc, copper, selenium, manganese, chromium, and iron.

3. The composition of claim 1, wherein the first amino acid is selected from the group consisting of L-alanine, L-arginine, L-asparagine, L-aspartic acid, L-cysteine, L-glutamic acid, L-glutamine, L-glycine, L-histidine, L-isoleucine, L-leucine, L-lysine, L-methionine, L-phenylalanine, L-proline, L-serine, L-threonine, L-tryptophan, L-tyrosine, and L-valine.

4. The composition of claim 1, wherein the first amino acid is selected from the group consisting of L-glycine and L-aspartic acid.

5. The composition of claim 1, wherein the slow release coating comprises sodium alginate, stearic acid, carbomer copolymer, shellac, hypromellose, carboxymethylcellulose sodium, carrageenan, cellaburate, ethylcellulose, glyceryl monooleate, pregelatinized modified starch, glyceryl monostearate, guar gum, hydroxypropyl betadex, hydroxypropyl cellulose, polyethylene oxide, polyvinyl acetate dispersion, pregelatinized starch, xanthan gum, alginic acid, locust bean gum, hydrogenated vegetable oil, monoglycerides, diglycerides, or any combination thereof.

6. The composition of claim 1,

wherein the first compound is selected from the group consisting of:

a zinc-amino acid,

a copper-amino acid,

a selenium-amino acid,

a manganese-amino acid,

a chromium-amino acid, and

an iron-amino acid.

7. The composition of claim 1, further comprising one or more of vitamin A, vitamin C, vitamin D, vitamin E, vitamin K, thiamin, riboflavin, niacin, vitamin B6, folate, vitamin B12, biotin, pantothenic acid, and phosphorous.

8. The composition of claim 1, further comprising a second compound that comprises a second mineral coupled to a second amino acid, wherein the second mineral is different from the first mineral, and wherein the second compound is not coated with a slow release coating.

9. The composition of claim 8, wherein the second mineral is selected from the group consisting of magnesium, calcium, boron, iodine, potassium, and molybdenum.

10. The composition of claim 8, wherein:

the first amino acid and the second amino acid are selected from the group consisting of L-alanine, L-arginine, L-asparagine, L-aspartic acid, L-cysteine, L-glutamic acid, L-glutamine, L-glycine, L-histidine, L-isoleucine, L-leucine, L-lysine, L-methionine, L-phenylalanine, L-proline, L-serine, L-threonine, L-tryptophan, L-tyrosine, and L-valine.

11. The composition of claim 8, wherein the first amino acid and the second amino acid are selected from the group consisting of L-glycine and L-aspartic acid.

12. The composition of claim 8, wherein the first amino acid and the second amino acid are the same.

13. The composition of claim 8, wherein the first amino acid and the second amino acid are different.

14. The composition of claim 8,

wherein the first compound is selected from the group consisting of:

a zinc-amino acid,

a copper-amino acid,

a selenium-amino acid,

a manganese-amino acid,

a chromium-amino acid, and

an iron-amino acid,

and wherein the second compound is selected from the group consisting of:

a calcium-amino acid,

an iodine-amino acid,

a magnesium-amino acid,

a potassium-amino acid,

a molybdenum-amino acid, and

a boron-amino acid.

15. The composition of claim 8, further comprising one or more of vitamin A, vitamin C, vitamin D, vitamin E, vitamin K, thiamin, riboflavin, niacin, vitamin B6, folate, vitamin B12, biotin, pantothenic acid, and phosphorous.

16. The composition of any one of claims 1 to 7, further comprising a first polysaccharide, wherein the first compound is combined with the first polysaccharide,

optionally wherein the first polysaccharide is selected from the group consisting of cellulose, polyhexoses, polypentoses, polydextrose, starch, polygalactan, polymannan, chitin, chitosan, chondroitin, polyfructose, inulin, pectin, and derivatives thereof.

17. The composition of any one of claims 8 to 15, further comprising a first polysaccharide and a second polysaccharide, wherein the first compound is combined with the first polysaccharide, and wherein the second compound is combined with the second polysaccharide,

optionally wherein the first polysaccharide and the second polysaccharide are selected from the group consisting of cellulose, polyhexoses, polypentoses, polydextrose,

starch, polygalactan, polymannan, chitin, chitosan, chondroitin, polyfructose, inulin, pectin, and derivatives thereof.

18. A method for making a coated mineral-amino acid compound, wherein the method comprises:

dry-blending a combination of (a) one or more mineral-amino acid compounds having a particle size smaller than about 80 mesh with (b) a slow release coating material;

granulating the dry-blended combination to generate a granulated material; and

drying the granulated material.

19. The method of claim 18, wherein the drying comprises using a fluid bed dryer.

20. The method of claim 18, further comprising wet milling the granulated material to reduce the particle size of the material to 10 mesh or smaller.

21. A method for making a coated mineral-amino acid compound, wherein the method comprises:

dry-blending one or more mineral-amino acid compounds having a particle size smaller than about 80 mesh in a fluid bed;

granulating the dry-blended compounds in the fluid bed; and

adding a slow release coating material to the mineral-amino acid compounds during the dry-blending step, during the granulating step, or during the dry-blending step and the granulating step.

22. The method of claim 21, wherein the method further comprises drying the granulated material.

23. The method of claim 21, wherein the fluid bed is in a top spray configuration.

24. The method of claim 21, wherein the fluid bed is in a bottom spray configuration.