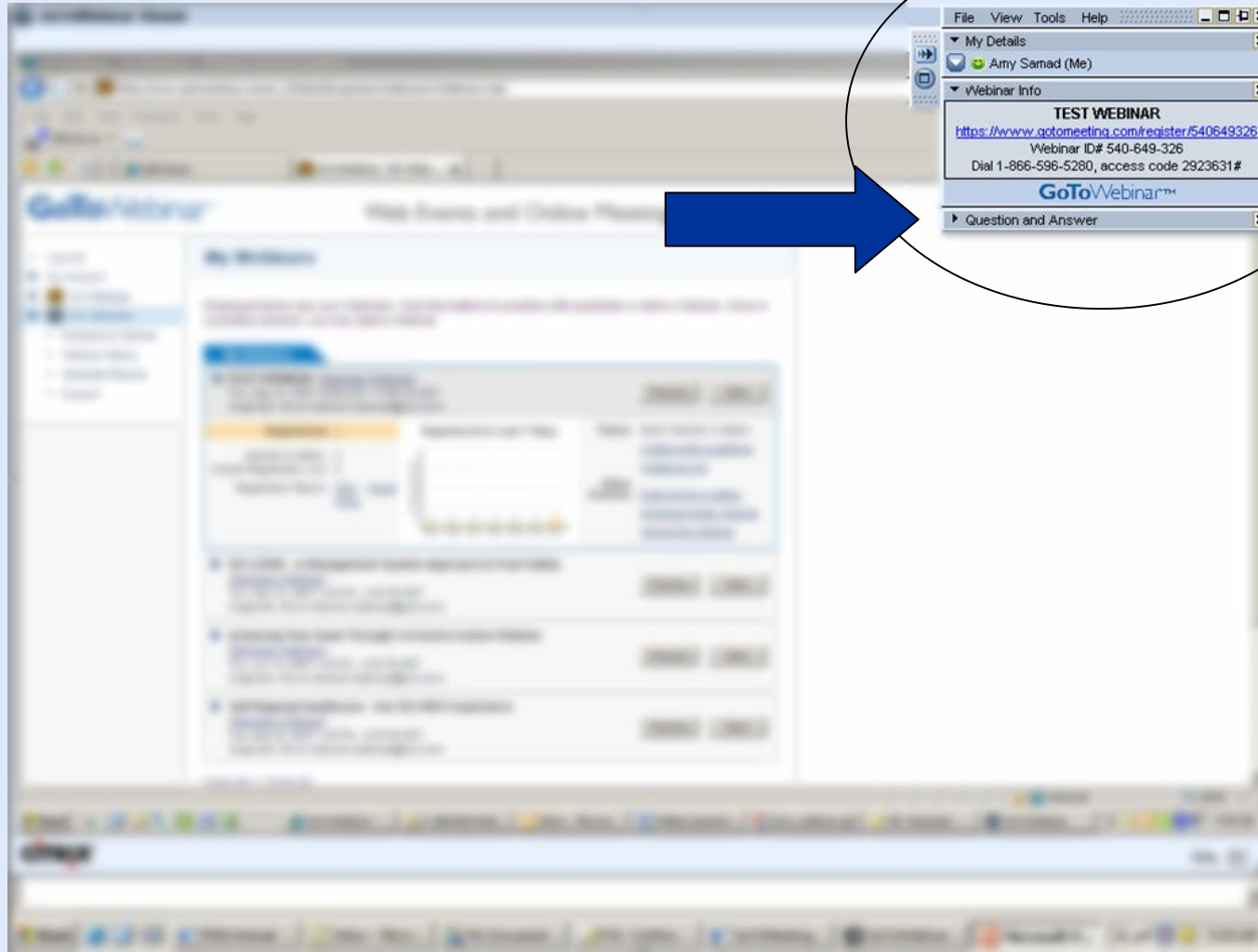


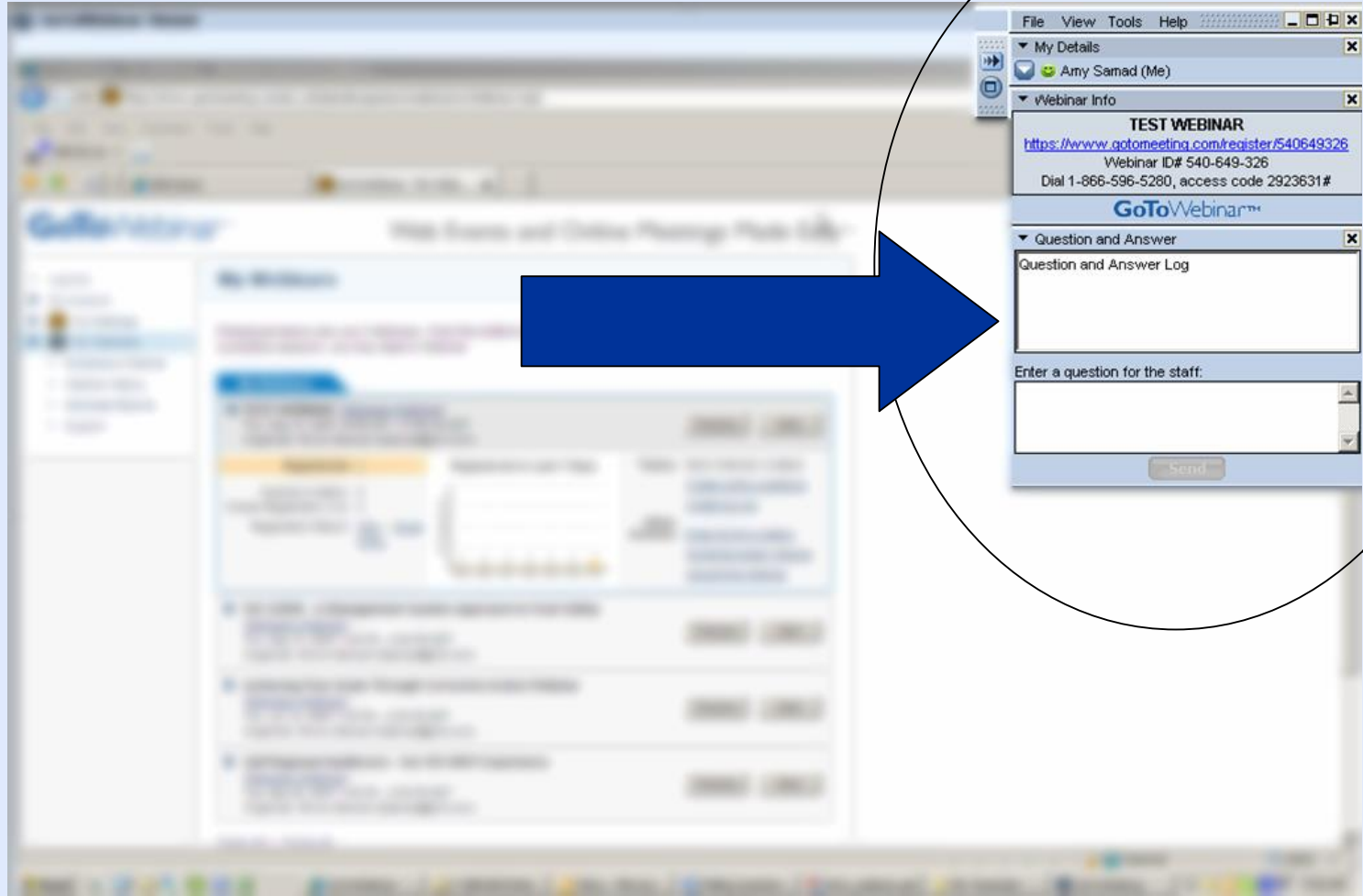


Rachel Winter
PJRFSI Organic Program
Manager



**Let's Talk
Organic!**





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Webinar Info

TEST WEBINAR

<https://www.gotomeeting.com/register/540649326>

Webinar ID# 540-649-326

Dial 1-866-596-5280, access code 2923631#

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Question and Answer

Question and Answer Log

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Rachel Winter

PJRF SI Organic Program
Manager



PJRF SI – Your Partner for Food Safety

LET'S TALK ORGANIC!

Perry Johnson Registrars Food Safety, Inc.



OVERVIEW – “LET’S TALK”

1

Let’s talk about how to navigate the CFR and what is available for resources

2

Let’s talk about an Organic System Plan (OSP)

3

Let’s talk about the three-year rule.

4

Let’s talk about next steps to become certified.



HOW IS THE “NOP”

The NOP is the National Organic Program (NOP) . They are responsible for

1. Rules & regulations for the scopes
2. Maintaining a Handbook that includes guidance, instructions, policy memos, and other documents that communicate the organic standards.



NOP VS USDA

The NOP has authority from the USDA to

- Have regulatory oversight
- Accredited organic certifying agents
- Take appropriate legal action to enforce the organic standards and thus protect the integrity



CFR

Let's talk about how to navigate the CFR and what is available for resources.

<https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-7/subtitle-B/chapter-I/subchapter-M/part-205>



TERMS

ANNUAL SEED
BUFFER ZONE
COMPOST
CROP---
INERT INGREDIENT
HANDLING

§ 205.2 Terms defined.

Accreditation. A determination made by the Secretary that authorizes a private, foreign, or State entity to conduct certification activities as a certifying agent under this part.

Act. The Organic Foods Production Act of 1990, as amended ([7 U.S.C. 6501 et seq.](#)).

Action level. The limit at or above which the Food and Drug Administration will take legal action against a product to remove it from the market. Action levels are based on unavoidability of the poisonous or deleterious substances and do not represent permissible levels of contamination where it is avoidable.

Administrator. The Administrator for the Agricultural Marketing Service, United States Department of Agriculture, or the representative to whom authority has been delegated to act in the stead of the Administrator.

Agricultural inputs. All substances or materials used in the production or handling of organic agricultural products.

Agricultural product. Any agricultural commodity or product, whether raw or processed, including any commodity or product derived from livestock, that is marketed in the United States for human or livestock consumption.

Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS). The Agricultural Marketing Service of the United States Department of Agriculture.

Allowed synthetic. A substance that is included on the National List of synthetic substances allowed for use in organic production or handling.

AMDUCA. The Animal Medicinal Drug Use Clarification Act of 1994 (Pub. L. 103-396).

Animal drug. Any drug as defined in section 201 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, as amended ([21 U.S.C. 321](#)), that is intended for use in livestock, including any drug intended for use in livestock feed but not including such livestock feed.

Annual seedling. A plant grown from seed that will complete its life cycle or produce a harvestable yield within the same crop year or season in which it was planted.

Area of operation. The types of operations: crops, livestock, wild-crop harvesting or handling, or any combination thereof that a certifying agent may be accredited to certify under this part.

Audit trail. Documentation that is sufficient to determine the source, transfer of ownership, and transportation of any agricultural product labeled as "100 percent organic," the organic ingredients of any agricultural product labeled as "organic" or "made with organic (specified ingredients)" or the organic ingredients of any agricultural product containing less than 70 percent organic ingredients identified as organic in an ingredients statement.



WHO IS EXEMPT FROM CERTIFICATION

205.100 & 205.101

1. If a handling operation has a total gross annual organic sales under \$5,000, they are exempted from certification and submitting an organic system plan
 1. Must follow Organic Production and Handling Requirements
 2. Must follow labeling regulations
2. A retail operation that does not do additional processing to organic products and sells the items.
3. A handling operation that handles 70% or less organic ingredients but still complies with commingling regulations and label guidelines.
4. A handling operation only handles organic ingredients on the information panel but still complies with commingling regulations and label guidelines.



WHO IS EXCLUDED FROM CERTIFICATION 205.100 & 205.101

1. If the organic product is being kept in its original packaging and/ or not additionally processed.
 - Commingling and contamination is still required.
2. If a portion of a retail food establishment that processes, on the premises of the retail food establishment, products that were previously labeled as “100 percent organic,” “organic,” or “made with organic is excluded from the requirements in this part
 - Must follow 205.310 & 205.272

CROP REGULATIONS



205.201 to 205.602

Organic production and handling system

Land requirements

Soil Fertility and Crop Nutrients Management Practice Standard

Seed and Planting Stock Practices


Crop rotation practice standard

Crop, pest, weed, and disease management practice standards₁₃

LABELING REGULATIONS





205.300--

[HTTPS://WWW.AMS.USDA.GOV/SITES/DEFAULT/FILES/MEDIA/ORGANICLABELSEXPLAINED.PNG](https://www.ams.usda.gov/sites/default/files/media/organiclabelsexplained.png)



ORGANIC LABELS EXPLAINED

Organic products are labeled according to the percentage of organic ingredients they have. This chart shows what to expect from different labels.

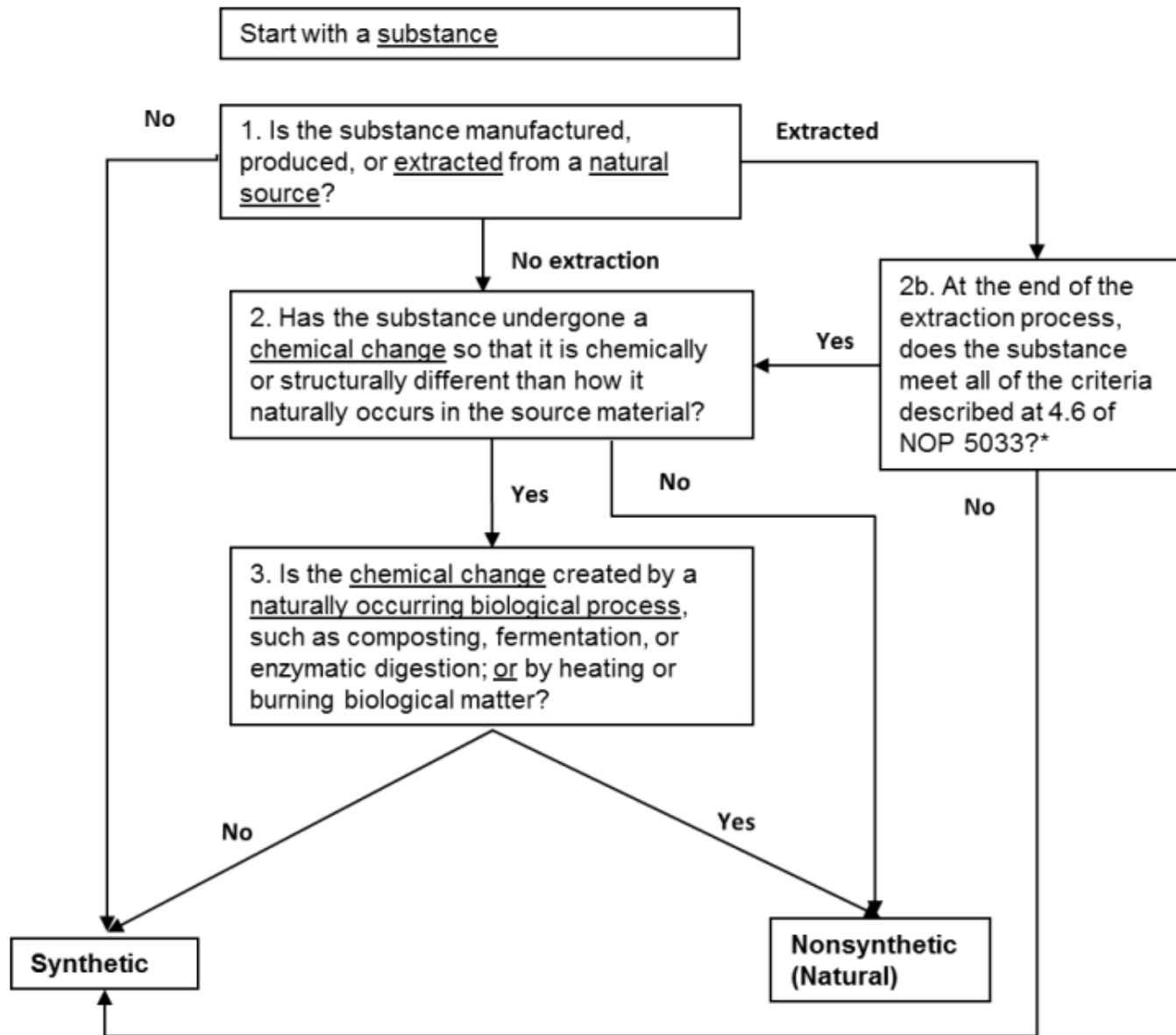
| 100% Organic  | Organic  | Made with Organic  | Organic Ingredients  |
|---|--|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Organic seal allowed ✓ 100% certified organic ingredients and processing aids ✓ No GMOs ✓ All ingredients comply with National List of Allowed and Prohibited Substances ✓ Certification required | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Organic seal allowed ✓ 95 % certified organic ingredients ✓ No GMOs ✓ Non-organic ingredients comply with National List ✓ Certification required | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✗ Organic seal NOT allowed; Must specify which ingredients are organic ✓ At least 70% certified organic ingredients ✓ No GMOs ✓ Non-organic ingredients comply with National List ✓ Certification required | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✗ Organic seal NOT allowed; Product can't be described as "organic" ✗ No specific % certified organic ✗ May contain GMOs ✗ Compliance with National List not required ✗ Certification NOT required |

Learn more about organic labels at www.ams.usda.gov/organic

Agricultural Marketing Service, April 2018
USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

Decision Tree for Classification of Materials as Synthetic or Nonsynthetic

Underlined terms defined on page 2



REFER TO 5033-1 FOR
DECISION TREE

ALLOWED SYNTHETIC

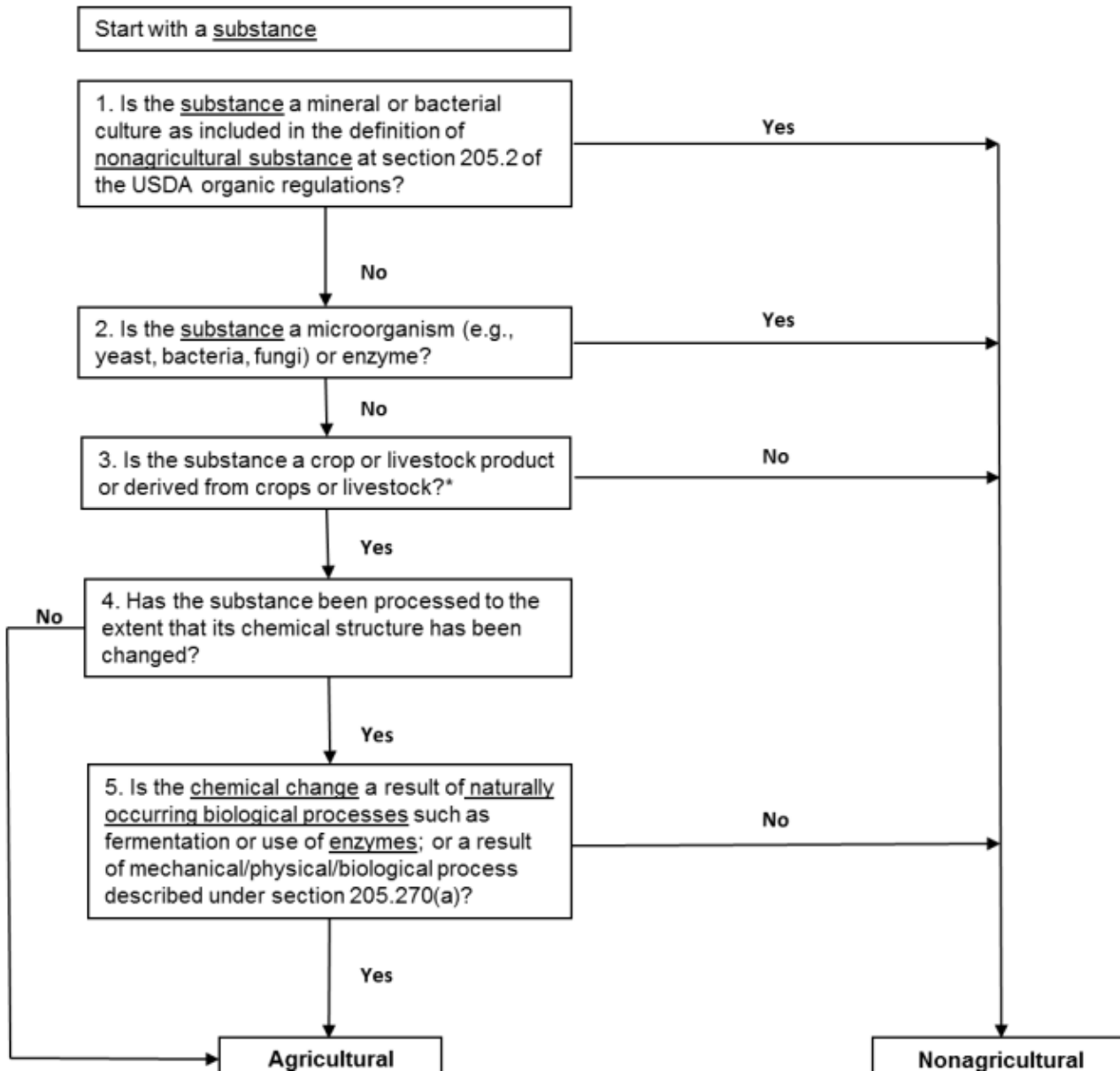
A substance that is included on the National List of synthetic substances allowed for use in organic production or handling.

NON-SYNTHETIC

A substance that is derived from mineral, plant, or animal matter and does not undergo a synthetic process as defined in section 6502(21) of the Act ([7 U.S.C. 6502\(21\)](#)). For the purposes of this part, non-synthetic is used as a synonym for natural as the term is used in the Act.

Guidance

Decision Tree for Classification of Agricultural and Nonagricultural Materials for Organic Livestock Production or Handling



REFER TO 5033-02 DECISION TREE

AGRICULTURAL INPUT

All substances or materials used in the production or handling of organic agricultural products.

NONAGRICULTURAL SUBSTANCE

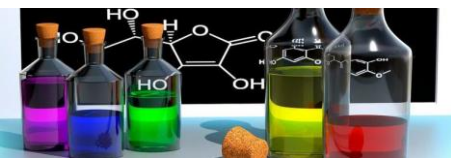
A substance that is not a product of agriculture, such as a mineral or a bacterial culture, that is used as an ingredient in an agricultural product. For the purposes of this part, a nonagricultural ingredient also includes any substance, such as gums, citric acid, or pectin, that is extracted from, isolated from, or a fraction of an agricultural product so that the identity of the agricultural product is unrecognizable in the extract, isolate, or fraction.

CROP SYNTHETICS & NON-SYNTHETIC



205.602

Non-synthetic substances prohibited for use in organic crop production.



205.601

Synthetic substances allowed for use in organic crop production.

<https://www.ams.usda.gov/sites/default/files/media/NOP-5034-1.pdf>



Guidance Materials for Organic Crop Production

es included in the guidance, Materials for Organic Crop Production, NOP 5034-1, guide industry regarding materials for use in organic production. The tables include materials w idered nonsynthetic (natural), and are not required to be included on the National List.

e of materials is consistent with the National List, and does not include materials which a ed under the USDA organic regulations.

le of materials is not part of the National List, although it also includes materials on the N is table is not exhaustive. There may be nonsynthetic (natural) materials which are not in idance, but which meet the requirements for use in organic production and handling. Pro always check with their certifying agent regarding the use of any materials prior to their u

ditional information on this document, please refer to NOP 5034.

Acid *Nonsynthetic*

y oxidative or anaerobic fermentation.
ns that contain less than 8% acetic acid
egar. See also, [Vinegar](#).

ce: 7 CFR 205.105

Nonsynthetic

lled “agar-agar.” See also, [Aquatic Plant](#)
s.

ce: 7 CFR 205.105

Alcohol *Nonsyn*

Ethanol made by fermentation is permitted
without restriction. For synthetic alcohol, s
[Ethanol](#) or [Isopropanol](#).

Reference: 7 CFR 205.105

Alfalfa Meal or Pellets *Nonsyn*

Pelletization process must not involve prob
materials.

Reference: 7 CFR 205.203(c)(3)

USDA SEAL

Before downloading a copy of the USDA Organic Seal (referred to as the "USDA Organic Seal") please read the [USDA Organic Seal Specifications as Found in the National Organic Program Regulations.](#)

- [Four Color Organic Seal: JPG](#)
- [Four Color Organic Seal: GIF](#)
- [Four Color Organic Seal: AI \(Adobe Illustrator\)](#)
- [Four Color Organic Seal: EPS \(Encapsulated PostScript\)](#)
- [Black and White Organic Seal: GIF](#)
- [Black and White Organic Seal: AI \(Adobe Illustrator\)](#)
- [Black and White Organic Seal: EPS \(Encapsulated PostScript\)](#)

Organic Seal Pantone Matching System (PMS) Colors

GET YOUR USDA SEAL
FROM WEBSITE

<https://www.ams.usda.gov/rules-regulations/organic/organic-seal>

Organic Seal Pantone
Matching System (PMS) Colors

Green = PMS 348

Brown = PMS 175

NATIONAL ORGANIC PROGRAM HANDBOOK: GUIDANCE AND INSTRUCTIONS FOR ACCREDITED CERTIFYING AGENTS AND CERTIFIED OPERATIONS

https://www.ams.usda.gov/sites/default/files/media/Program%20Handbk_TOC.pdf

1 / 7 | - 100% + | [] [] crop

National Organic Program Handbook: Guidance and Instructions for Accredited Certifying Agents and Certified Operations

| Title | Document | Date |
|---|----------|-----------|
| Manual del Programa Nacional Orgánico (NOP Handbook in Spanish) | | 9/16/2015 |
| Introduction | | 3/9/2011 |
| NOP Organization Chart and Stakeholder Map | NOP 1001 | 5/28/2020 |

| Section A. Standards | Document | Date |
|--|------------|-----------|
| Processed Animal Manure in Organic Crop Production | NOP 5006 | 7/22/2011 |
| Reassessed Inert Ingredients Notice to Petitioners | NOP 5008 | 7/22/2011 |
| Approval of Liquid Fertilizers for Use in Organic Production | NOP 5012 | 7/22/2011 |
| Certification of Organic Yeast | NOP 5014 | 7/22/2011 |
| Dry Matter Intake Information for Access to Pasture | | |
| Calculating Dry Matter Intake from Pasture | NOP 5017-1 | 7/22/2011 |
| Dry Matter Demand Tables for Classes of Dairy Cattle | NOP 5017-2 | 7/22/2011 |
| Dry Matter Demand Tables for Classes of Beef Cattle | NOP 5017-3 | 7/22/2011 |



Organic System Plan

WHAT DOES OSP STAND FOR ?

Organic System Plan

DO I NEED AN OSP?

Yes. See exceptions and exclusions

HOW DO I GET AN OSP

When you decided to move forward, we provided an OSP to complete.



Organic System Plan

WHAT IS IN THE OSP?

A agreement between the certifier and applicant provided information about procedures, how procedures are monitored, list of substances to be used in production, reviews procedures of commingling & contamination

INFO ABOUT OSP

The next year after certification you will update your OSP & other documentation as your operation changes.

A landscape of rolling green hills under a sunset sky. The hills are covered in lush green grass, and the sky is a mix of orange, yellow, and red. The text "Organic System Plan" is overlaid on the upper part of the image.

Organic System Plan

CAN I UPDATE MY OSP OR ADD ITEMS TO MY CERTIFICATION IN THE MIDDLE OF THE YEAR

Yes! Notify myself the Organic Program Manager.

I have updated my OSP.

Notify, myself, the Organic Program Manager if changes could affect organic compliances.

HOW FREQUENTLY ARE YOU CERTIFIED ORGANIC

Annually

WHAT IS THE THREE-YEAR RULE

The soil must not have prohibited substance applied for 3 years. Think about 205.601 and 205.602.



Look at 205.601 Non-synthetic substances prohibited for use in organic crop production.



Look at 205.602 Synthetic substances allowed for use in organic crop production.



Is this a “Big 3” 205.105

An affidavit is required.



A CERTIFIED OPERATION HAS
HAD NO PROHIBITED
SUBSTANCES APPLIED ON A
FIELD FOR 26 MONTHS.
HARVEST WILL NOT BEGIN IN 10
MONTHS. IS THIS ACCEPTABLE?

YES! Because this is 3
years that prohibited
substance have not been
applied.



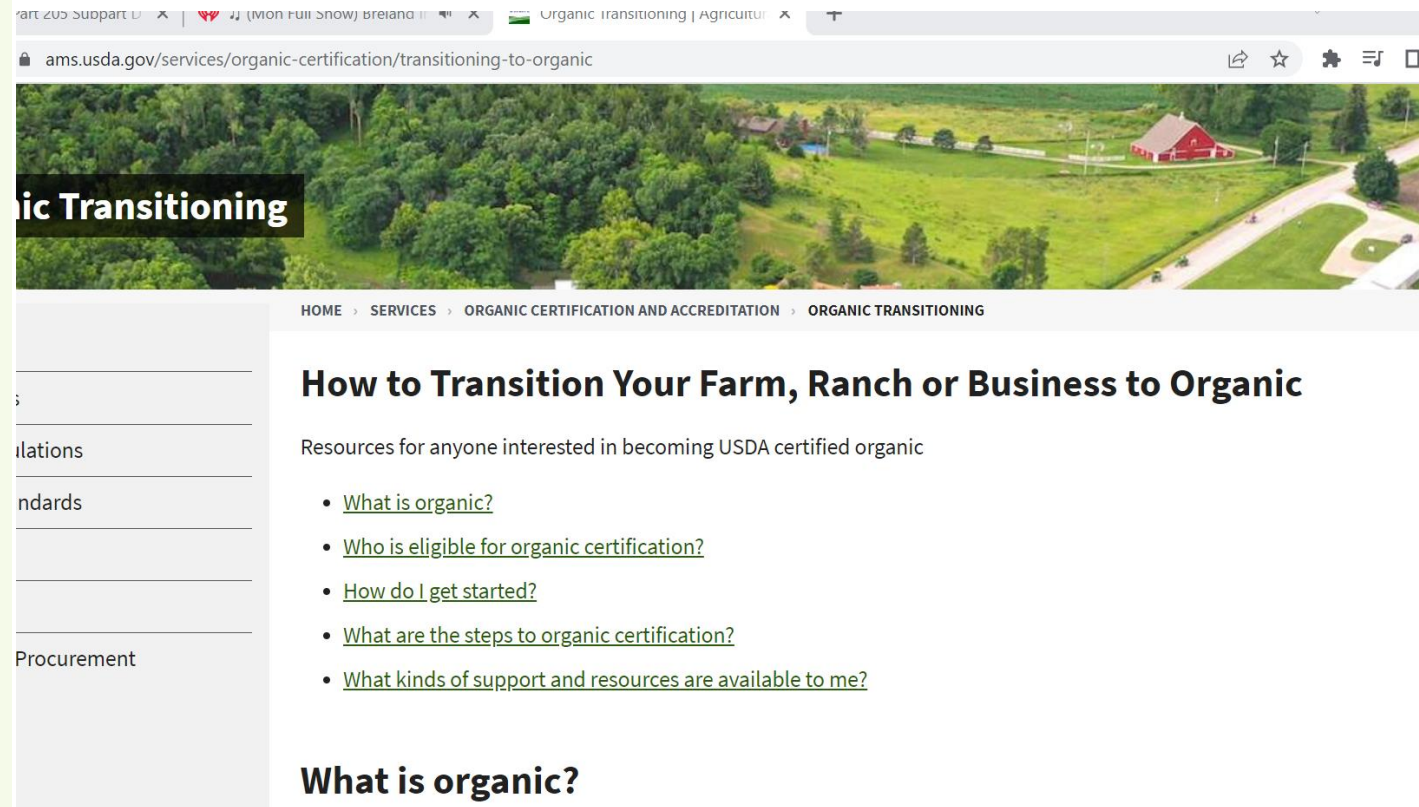


Organic Transition Initiative

Before crops can be certified organic, farmers must carefully manage their land without using prohibited inputs like synthetic pesticides for 36 months. During this transition period and during the first years after certification, farmers often face many technical and market challenges. The [Organic Transition Initiative was announced on August 22, 2022](#) as a \$300 million multi-agency USDA effort to support this transition and build and strengthen organic markets. USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service, Natural Resources Conservation Service and Risk Management Agency each have a major role in the Organic Transition Initiative.

HOW, WHAT
WHERE WHY
ETC.

<https://www.ams.usda.gov/services/organic-certification/transitioning-to-organic>



The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL [ams.usda.gov/services/organic-certification/transitioning-to-organic](https://www.ams.usda.gov/services/organic-certification/transitioning-to-organic). The page features a large header image of a farm with a red barn and green fields. Below the image, the text 'Organic Transitioning' is displayed in a dark box. A breadcrumb trail reads: HOME > SERVICES > ORGANIC CERTIFICATION AND ACCREDITATION > ORGANIC TRANSITIONING. The main heading is 'How to Transition Your Farm, Ranch or Business to Organic'. Below this, it states 'Resources for anyone interested in becoming USDA certified organic' and lists five links: 'What is organic?', 'Who is eligible for organic certification?', 'How do I get started?', 'What are the steps to organic certification?', and 'What kinds of support and resources are available to me?'. The section 'What is organic?' is partially visible at the bottom.

Additional Resources

- [Fact Sheet: What is Organic?](#)
- [Guide for Organic Crop Producers](#)
- [Guide for Organic Livestock Producers](#)
- [Guide for Organic Processors](#)
- [Guide to Organic Certification](#)

IS ORGANIC FOR
ME?

<https://www.ams.usda.gov/services/organic-certification/is-it-an-option>

<https://www.usda.gov/topics/organic>

Questions

- **Are You a Farmer, Rancher, or Handler?**

Training Modules

[Organic 101 \(PDF\), fundamentals of organic agriculture \(approximately 30 min.\)](#)

[Organic 201 \(PDF\), standards, certification, and enforcement \(30 min.\)](#)

| About Organic Certification | Technical Training & Financial Resources | Data and Research |
|--|--|---|
| Becoming an Accredited Certifier | Certification Cost Share | Economic Research |
| Database of Organic Farms and Businesses | Conservation Assistance | Market Reports: Price, Movement, and Demand |
| Factsheets: Learn the Basics | Crop Insurance | Organic Economic and Market Information |
| Getting Certified Organic | Extension Resources: eOrganic[®] | Organic Production Surveys |
| Is Organic an Option for Me? | Financial Resources for Farmers and Ranchers | Organic Research, Education, and Extension Programs |
| Organic Labeling | Get Training and Transition Assistance | Research Grant Opportunities |
| USDA Organic Standards | Organic and Transitional Education and Certification Program | Trade and Organic |
| | Sound and Sensible Tools: Videos, Tip Sheets, and Guides | |

TRANSITIONING TO ORGANIC

<https://www.ams.usda.gov/sites/default/files/media/Transition%20to%20Organic%20Factsheet.pdf>

Transition to Organic Factsheet.pdf

72% 77%

Additional Information

NOP's *Is Organic an Option for Me* webpage (www.ams.usda.gov/organicinfo) contains a wealth of resources on making the transition to organic production and handling, including:

- **Guide to Organic Certification** — Provides an overview of the organic certification process and additional resources for prospective organic farms and businesses.
- **Guide for Organic Crop Producers** — Provides more in-depth information for those interested in transitioning to organic crop production.
- **Guide for Organic Livestock Producers** — Supplements the Guide for Organic Crop Producers with additional information on raising organic livestock.
- **Guide for Organic Processors** — Provides information on organic regulations and certification for processors and handlers.
- **Is Organic and Option for Me? Brochure** — Provides an introduction to organic standards and certification, including frequently asked questions and available USDA resources.

In addition, NOP has developed a series of factsheets covering a variety of topics related to organic production and certification, including:

- About the National Organic Program
- Introduction to Organic Practices
- Labeling Organic Products
- Organic Labeling at Farmers Markets
- USDA Oversight of Organic Products
- How to File a Complaint about Violations of the Organic Standards
- What is Organic Certification?
- Do I Need To Be Certified Organic?
- The Organic Certification Cost Share Program
- The National Organic Standards Board
- Organic Processing and Handling Standards

These factsheets along with many others from the USDA



United States Department of Agriculture



Making the Transition to Organic Production and Handling

Adopting organic conservation practices can help producers and handlers access new customers and markets as well as comply with regulatory policy. However, making the transition to organic production and handling takes both time and planning. Implementing an organic system requires a tactful approach to successfully carry out common agricultural activities, such as managing pests, building soil health, and improving livestock

After completing the transition, producers and processors must get certified. This requires preparing an Organic System Plan (OSP), submitting it to a USDA-accredited certifier, and having an onsite inspection. Initial certification can take three to six months. Maintaining certification status through annual inspections is a key part of the organic regulations.



NEXT STEPS

1. Apply to become certified
2. Receive a quote
3. Pay fee
4. PJRFSI will send documentation to complete
5. Organic Review
6. Organic Inspection
7. Final Review
8. Certification

~ Typically Takes 3-6 months



QUESTIONS?

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