

The Organic Trade Association (OTA)  
The membership-based business association for the organic industry in North America.  
413.774.7511

Web site: [www.ota.com](http://www.ota.com)

**HowToGoOrganic.com** is the OTA's new "Pathway to Organic," an online collection of existing resources for anyone exploring how to go organic. The resource, designed to help cultivate the growth of organic agriculture, contains information specifically for producers and processors in addition to a North American Directory, a Regional Guide and a listing of key resources.

#### Virginia Organic Program

For more information on organic certification in Virginia, directory of producers and processors, resources and the latest Virginia organic updates.  
804.382.0909

Web site: [www.vdacs.virginia.gov/marketing/organic.shtml](http://www.vdacs.virginia.gov/marketing/organic.shtml)

### ORGANIC SUPPLIES

#### Cargill Animal Nutrition/Nature Smart Organics

Certified organic grains, blended feed, consulting  
407 Blueberry Hill Road, Scottsville, VA 24590  
Pete Jensen, 434.591.0147

#### Countryside Natural Products

Certified organic seed, grain, feed (bulk and mini-bulk), soil amendments and related products  
1688 Jefferson Hwy., Ste. 104, Fishersville, VA 22939  
888.699.7088; Fax: 540.946.8534

Web site: [www.countrysidenatural.com](http://www.countrysidenatural.com)

#### Kreamer Feeds

Certified organic feeds (bulk and bagged)  
P.O. Box 38, Route 522 N., Kreamer, PA 17833  
800.767.4537 or 570.374.8148

Web site: [www.organicfeeds.com](http://www.organicfeeds.com)

#### Lancaster Agricultural Products

Seed, soil amendments, fertilizers, animal health products  
340 Beechdale Road, Bird-in-Hand, PA 17505  
717.295.9100

E-mail: [lancasterag1@verizon.net](mailto:lancasterag1@verizon.net)

#### LR Seeds LLC

Certified organic and conventional forage seeds and custom blends  
2334 Harness Shop Road  
Dayton, VA 22821  
877.434.7333; 540.879.2922



#### McGeary Grains

Certified organic grains, feed, fertilizer; flour  
P.O. Box 299, Lancaster, PA 17608-0299  
800.624.3279

Web site: [www.mcgearyorganics.com](http://www.mcgearyorganics.com)

#### Rockingham Cooperative

Bulk certified organic grain and feed ingredients, organic fertilizers and organic feed grade molasses  
102 Grace Street, Harrisonburg, VA 22801  
877.434.1217, 540.434.3850; Fax: 540.434.1217  
E-mail: [klturner@rockinghamcooperative.com](mailto:klturner@rockinghamcooperative.com)

#### Southern Exposure Seed Exchange

Certified organic seed (many tested in VA), garden supplies

1259 Indian Creek Road, Mineral, VA 23117

540.894.0595; Fax: 540.894.9481

E-mail: [gardens@southernexposure.com](mailto:gardens@southernexposure.com)

Web site: [www.southernexposure.com](http://www.southernexposure.com)

#### Seven Springs Farm

Organic seeds, fertilizers, animal supplements, pest management products and grower's supplies  
426 Jerry Lane NE, Check, VA 24072  
540.651.3228

E-mail: [7springs@swva.net](mailto:7springs@swva.net)

Web site: [www.7springsfarm.com](http://www.7springsfarm.com)

#### Southern States Front Royal

Supplier of Nature's Best Organic Feeds and organic seeds and fertilizers  
50 Water Street, Front Royal, VA 22630  
800.248.2053

Web site: [www.frontroyalcoop.com](http://www.frontroyalcoop.com)

### CERTIFIED ORGANIC LIVESTOCK PROCESSORS IN VIRGINIA

#### Fauquier's Finest Country Butcher Shop

Certified organic (for primal cuts). Processing organic and conventional beef, pork, lamb, goat

11746 Ag Industrial Drive, Bealeton, VA 22712

540.439.7227, 540.439.7228; Fax: 540.429.3227

Web site: [www.fauquier finest.com](http://www.fauquier finest.com)

#### Gore's Processing

Certified organic and humane. Processing organic and conventional beef, pork and lamb

12526 South Middle Road, Edinburg, VA 22824

540.984.8138; Fax: 540.984.8139

#### New Market Poultry

Organic poultry processing, certified organic for broilers  
145 E Old Cross Road, New Market, VA 22844

540.740.4260

Donna Glick

David Whitehouse



VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT  
OF AGRICULTURE AND  
CONSUMER SERVICES

#### Division of Marketing

102 Governor St. • Richmond, VA 23219

[www.vdacs.virginia.gov](http://www.vdacs.virginia.gov)

# VIRGINIA ORGANIC CERTIFICATION RESOURCE GUIDE





## ORGANIC CERTIFICATION OVERVIEW

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) requires that anyone who produces, processes or handles organic agricultural products must be certified by a USDA-accredited certifier in order to sell, label or represent their products as organic. To become certified,

an organic producer, processor or handler must develop, implement and maintain an organic system plan. Once an organic system plan is approved by a certification agency, an organic inspector is assigned to perform an on-site evaluation of the organic operation. Then, based on review of the organic system plan, inspection report and related documents, the certifier will determine whether the operation meets the requirements of organic certification. A certified operation must update its organic system plan and be inspected annually.

There is an exemption from USDA requirements for producers making less than \$5,000 gross annual income from organic sales, but they must comply with organic production, handling, labeling and record-keeping requirements, may not sell their product as ingredients for use in someone else's certified organic product and must be available for spot inspections.

Organic certification is not a guarantee of the quality or purity of the product. Rather, it is evidence of the operation's adherence to a prescribed system of agriculture and food production.

### So what specifically does this mean for the producer?

- Organic producers use cover crops, green manures, animal manures and crop rotations to fertilize the soil, maximize biological activity and maintain long-term soil health. Chemical fertilizers are not allowed in organic production.
- Organic producers use biological controls, crop rotations and allowable inputs to manage weeds, disease and insects. Chemical pesticides and herbicides are not allowed in organic production.
- Organic producers emphasize biodiversity crop production of the whole agricultural system. Mono cropping is not allowed in organic production.

- Organic producers manage livestock by using rotational grazing with an emphasis on mixed forages and access to the outdoors suitable to the species, its stage of life and the environment. Livestock confinement is not allowed in organic production.
- Organic producers manage animals with an eye towards prevention of disease and use of natural treatments. Antibiotics, hormones and most conventional medications are not allowed in organic production. Vaccinations are allowed.
- Many chemical or synthetic inputs or treatments may not be allowed in organic production.

### What does this mean for processors/manufacturers who want to get their business certified organic?

- Processors who wish to be certified organic must use certified organic ingredients and also obtain organic certification on the facility used to manufacture the product.
- The percentage of organic ingredients in their product will determine what kinds of organic labeling they may utilize.
- Processors must assure the certification agency that the manufacturing facility protects the organic integrity of the product as it moves throughout the facility.

## 5 STEPS TO ORGANIC CERTIFICATION

1. Choose a USDA-accredited organic certifier
2. Submit an application for review by the certifier
3. Schedule an on-site inspection
4. Allow time for inspector to submit report
5. Receive certifier's decision

## ORGANIC STANDARDS

### National Organic Program (NOP)

Develops, implements and administers organic standards for farm/crop, livestock and processing, the national list of allowed synthetic and prohibited natural materials, accredited certifiers, questions and answers and more. USDA-AMS-TMP  
1400 Independence Avenue, SW, #4008-South Bldg.  
Washington, DC 20250-0020  
202.720.3252; Fax: 202.205.7808  
E-mail: [NOPAQSS@usda.gov](mailto:NOPAQSS@usda.gov)  
Web site: [www.ams.usda.gov/nop](http://www.ams.usda.gov/nop)

## PRODUCT LISTS ALLOWABLE FOR USE IN ORGANIC PRODUCTION



**Organic Materials Review Institute (OMRI)**  
Publishes and disseminates generic and specific (brand name) lists of materials allowed and prohibited for use in the production, processing and handling of organic food and fiber.  
P.O. Box 11558  
Eugene, Oregon 97440  
541.343.7600  
Fax: 541.343.8971  
E-mail: [info@omri.org](mailto:info@omri.org)  
Web site: [www.omri.org](http://www.omri.org)

## CERTIFIERS SERVICING VIRGINIA

(May not be a complete list)

**PCO (Pennsylvania Certified Organic)**  
106 School Street, Ste. 201, Spring Mills, PA 16875  
814.422.0251; Fax: 814.422.0255  
E-mail: [pco@paorganic.org](mailto:pco@paorganic.org)  
Web site: [www.paorganic.org](http://www.paorganic.org)

**OT (Oregon Tilth)**  
470 Lancaster Drive NE, Salem, Oregon 97301  
503.378.0690; Fax: 503.378.0809  
E-mail: [organic@tilth.org](mailto:organic@tilth.org)  
Web site: [www.tilth.org](http://www.tilth.org)

**OEFFA (Ohio Ecological Food and Farm Assn.)**  
41 Crowell Road, Columbus, Ohio 43214  
614.421.2022; Fax: 614.421.2011  
E-mail: [oeffa@oeffa.org](mailto:oeffa@oeffa.org)  
Web site: [www.oeffa.org](http://www.oeffa.org)

**QAI (Quality Assurance International - California)**  
9191 Town Centre Drive, Ste. 510  
San Diego, California 92122  
858.792.3531; Fax: 858.792.8665  
E-mail: [qai@qai-inc.com](mailto:qai@qai-inc.com)  
Web site: [www.qai-inc.com](http://www.qai-inc.com)

**GOA (Global Organic Alliance - Ohio)**  
P.O. Box 530  
3185 Township Road 179, Bellefontaine, Ohio 43311-0530  
937.593.1232; Fax: 937.593.9507  
E-mail: [globalorganicalliance@hughes.net](mailto:globalorganicalliance@hughes.net)  
Web site: [www.goa-online.org/contact.html](http://www.goa-online.org/contact.html)

**SCS (Stellar Certification Services - Oregon)**  
Demeter Association, Inc.  
Post Office Box 1390, Philomath, Oregon 97370  
541.929.7148  
E-mail: [info@demeter-usa.org](mailto:info@demeter-usa.org)

**ICO (Indiana Certified Organic)**  
8364 S. SR. 39, Clayton, Indiana 46118  
317.539.4317; Fax: 317.539.2739  
E-mail: [icollc@earthlink.net](mailto:icollc@earthlink.net)  
Web site: [www.indianacertifiedorganic.com](http://www.indianacertifiedorganic.com)

**QCS (Quality Certification Services - Florida)**  
P.O. Box 12311, Gainesville, Florida 32604  
352.377.0133; Fax: 352.377.8363  
E-mail: [qcs@qcsinfo.org](mailto:qcs@qcsinfo.org)  
Web site: [www.qcsinfo.org](http://www.qcsinfo.org)

**OCIA (Organic Crop Improvement Association)**  
1340 North Cotner Boulevard  
Lincoln, Nebraska 68505-1838  
402.477.2323; Fax: 402.477.4325  
E-mail: [info@ocia.org](mailto:info@ocia.org)  
Web site: [www.ocia.org](http://www.ocia.org)

## ORGANIC RESOURCES

### The New Farm

Organic Web site with articles on organic production methods, certification information and comparison of certification companies  
Web site: [www.newfarm.org](http://www.newfarm.org)

### National Sustainable Agriculture Information Service (ATTRA)

The national sustainable farming information center provides information and other technical assistance to farmers, ranchers, extension agents, educators.  
800.346.9140  
Web site: [www.attra.ncat.org](http://www.attra.ncat.org)

