



Organic Program

- Washington State Dept. of Agriculture-



Who We Are

- USDA Accredited Organic Certifier
- Input Material Review Organization
- Technical Assistance Provider

Your Partner in Ensuring Organic Integrity!



What do we do?


Provide access to the organic market and ensure the integrity of the organic label through:

- certification of producers and handlers,
- registration of inputs for use in organic production,
- and technical assistance on the USDA organic regulations.

- 1,164 certified businesses
- 1,040 registered products
- Website, Sound & Sensible Videos, Newsletters

Numbers include pending certifications and registrations.

Organic Poultry Update



- Certification Process
- Standards
- Proposed Changes
 - Methionine
 - Proposed Rule on Organic Livestock & Poultry Practices
- How to be involved in the process

Jason Pentzer
Livestock Lead
WSDA Organic Program

Certification Process

<http://agr.wa.gov/foodanimal/organic/OrgVideos.aspx#steps>



```

    graph TD
      A[Producer or handler adopts organic practices; submits application (including OSP) and fees to certifying agent] --> B[Certifying agent reviews applications to verify the information is sufficient and practices comply with USDA organic regulations]
      B --> C[Inspector conducts an on-site inspection of the applicant's operation]
      C --> D[Certifying agent reviews the application and the inspector's report to determine if the applicant complies with the USDA organic regulations]
      D --> E[Certifying agent issues organic certificate]
      E --> F[Producer or handler provides annual update to certifying agent]
      F --> G[Certifying agent reviews annual update to verify that it is complete and the practices comply with USDA organic regulations.]
      G --> B
      subgraph Continuing_Certification
        F
        G
      end
    
```

Interested in Organic Certification?

Online resources for new and existing clients:

- Videos – English and Spanish
- Fee Calculator
- Certification Guides
- Factsheets
- Approved input lists
- Recordkeeping templates


Coming Soon – Spanish translated web pages, factsheets, and forms!






Organic Poultry Requirements
WSDA Organic Program

Organic Poultry Requirements




- Organic System Plan
 - describes practices & frequency with which they will be performed.
 - agreed to by the operation and the certifier. [205.201]
- Records
 - auditable & adapted to the operation. [205.103]
- Organic management of birds from 2nd day of life [205.236]

Organic Feed Requirements

Allowed in poultry feed:

- All agricultural products in feed must be organic [205.237]
- Vitamins and minerals allowed per FDA and AAFCO
- DL-Methionine (four specific CAS #s)




Not Allowed:

- Slaughter by-products
- Antibiotics
- Ionophores
- Other synthetics not listed at 205.603(d) such as L-Methionine & Taurine

Methionine – April 2015 NOSB Mtg

<p>Current Rule (in effect since 10/2/12): maximum levels of synthetic methionine per ton of feed: Laying and broiler chickens—2 pounds; turkeys and all other poultry—3 pounds.</p>	<p><u>Recommendation:</u> maximum average pounds per ton of 100% synthetic methionine in the diet over the life of the flock: Laying chickens – 2 pounds; Broiler chickens – 2.5 pounds; Turkeys and all other poultry – 3 pounds.</p>
---	--

Federal Rule Making & Guidance

<p>National Organic Standards Board (NOSB)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluates materials for inclusion on the National List • Recommends rule making action for NOP to finalize and administer 		<p>National Organic Program (NOP)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Publishes final rules, issues guidance, ensures adequate enforcement • Evaluates certifiers through accreditation process
--	---	---

How to get involved



NOSB meets twice a year. Submit written comments or sign up to make oral comments approximately 6 weeks before each meeting. Meetings are free and open to the public.

Farmers appear to be under-represented in the public comment process and the NOSB values farmer's comments very highly.

November 16-18th 2016 in St. Louis
April 19-21st 2017 in Denver
www.ams.usda.gov/nosb

How to get involved

- Livestock Subcommittee's #1 Research Priority: [Evaluation of Methionine in the Context of a Systems Approach in Organic Poultry Production](#)
- [Bi-monthly meeting notes posted online](#) this year suggested possibly there will be another working group or task force on methionine.

Your knowledge and expertise is important to share

USDA Organic Program - Nov. 2016

Living Conditions – Current Requirements



- Year round access to the outdoors, shade, shelter, exercise areas, fresh air, clean water and direct sunlight suitable to their stage of life
- Temporary confinement is allowed
 - Inclement weather
 - Stage of life
 - To protect health, safety and well being
- Continuous confinement indoors is prohibited [205.239]

http://www.ams.usda.gov/sites/default/files/media/NO-PM-11-12_ConfinementofPoultry.pdf

USDA Organic Program - Nov. 2016

Livestock and Poultry Practices Proposed Rule

- <https://www.ams.usda.gov/rules-regulations/organic-livestock-and-poultry-practices>

USDA Organic Program - Nov. 2016

Proposed Indoor Stocking Density

Maximum indoor stocking density

- Broilers, turkeys and other poultry type breeds –5.0 lbs/ft²
- Pullets –3.0 lbs/ft²
- Layers:
 - Pasture systems –4.5 lbs/ft²
 - Aviary systems –4.5 lbs/ft²
 - Slatted/mesh flooring –3.7 lbs/ft²
 - Floor litter systems –3.0 lbs/ft²
- Set to current industry practices based on 3rdparty animal welfare certification programs (Per NOP 4/15/16 Webinar)

USDA Organic Program - Nov. 2016

Proposed Outdoor Stocking Density

Maximum outdoor stocking density

- Broilers, turkeys and other poultry type breeds –5.0 lbs/ft²
- Pullets –3.0 lbs/ft²
- Layers –2.25 lbs/ft²

Roughly equivalent to 2 outdoor footprints per layer house.

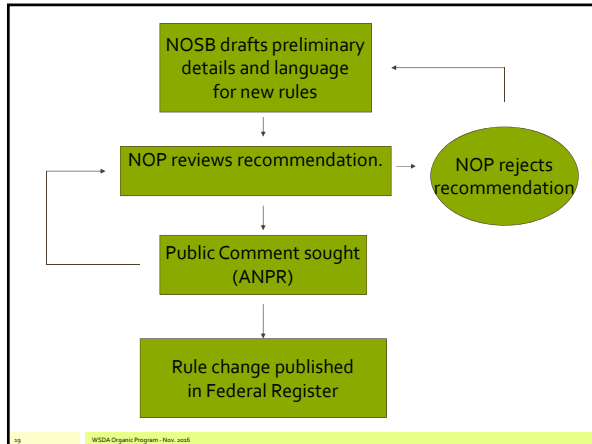
(Per NOP 4/15/16 Webinar)

USDA Organic Program - Nov. 2016

Proposed Poultry Housing Requirements

- Natural light sufficient to easily read on sunny days
- Supplemental artificial light up to 16 hours per day
- Min. 30% solid floor area, with sufficient litter available for dust baths
- Doors spaced to encourage access to outdoors
- Monthly ammonia testing
 - 25 ppm is the upper limit
 - 10 ppm triggers actions to reduce

USDA Organic Program - Nov. 2016



From NOP's 4/15/16 Webinar

Very different "access to the outdoors"

Both are certified organic.

Implementation Plan

Final Rule Published

Year 1
All provisions *except* avian outdoor space must be implemented.

Year 3
New organic operations must comply with all provisions to obtain certification.

Year 5
All certified operations must comply with all provisions.

USDA ORGANIC

USDA Agricultural Marketing Service | National Organic Program 37

WSDA Organic Program

4/18/16

5/19/16

Get the most out of your certification & remember that technical assistance is part of our mission. USDA wants to hear from you! 6,675 comments submitted. WSDA Organic Program wants to hear from you too!

Sign up for the NOP Insider

<https://www.ams.usda.gov/about-ams/programs-offices/national-organic-program>

How do you contact us?

We work as a team to assist the agency and public. Contact our main line with questions, complaints, or referrals:

(360) 902-1805
 organic@agr.wa.gov
<http://agr.wa.gov/FoodAnimal/Organic/>