

LIVESTOCK CERTIFICATION TIPS

Notify CCOF before changing your operation in any way.

Changes may include new locations, feed suppliers, feed rations, health care materials, confinement activities, equipment, cleaning protocols, record keeping, etc. Submit Organic System Plan (OSP) updates before inspection, and make a copy for your records. Find OSP forms at www.ccof.org/documents. (NOP § 205.400)



Always seek approval & update your OSP prior to use of new materials.

All health care materials, feed additives, and feed supplements must be approved by CCOF and included on your OSP Materials List. Remember to keep your OSP Materials List current. To add materials to your list, follow the step-by-step instructions in our Materials Guide at www.ccof.org/documents.

Ensure compliance of all feed, supplements, and additives.

All feed supplement and feed additives must be included on your OSP Materials List. All agricultural ingredients, including carriers like molasses, must be certified organic. Any land used for grazing must also be certified organic. Make sure you maintain certificates for all pastures, feeds, supplements, and additives. (NOP § 205.237)



Keep complete records of activities and transactions on the farm

Necessary information may include feed harvest records, feed purchase records, feeding records, grazing records, health care treatments, vaccination records, confinement records, birth records, cull records, sales and purchase records, production records, cleaning records, etc. Find sample record keeping forms at www.ccof.org/documents. (NOP § 205.103)



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Document Dry Matter Intake using our easy electronic forms.

Make sure that you document the seasonal changes in rations for all classes and types of animals. Use your own forms or use the CCOF Dry Matter Intake worksheets, online at www.ccof.org/documents, which will auto-calculate the % *Dry Matter from Pasture* per ration and average the dry matter intake over the course of the grazing season. The electronic worksheets will do the math for you! (NOP § 205.237)



Maximize grazing time for all animals.

To ensure that you are providing your animals with as much pasture as possible, and meeting the minimum 30% *Dry Matter Intake* from pasture during the grazing season requirement, make sure you provide as many grazing opportunities as possible for your animals. When grass is available for grazing, daily grazing is required. (NOP § 205.239(a))

Only confine animals when absolutely necessary.

Allowed reasons for temporary confinement are limited. Be sure that any temporary confinement from the outdoors or from pasture is for an allowed reason listed in your Organic System Plan. Always document the reason for, and the duration of, the confinement. (NOP § 205.239)

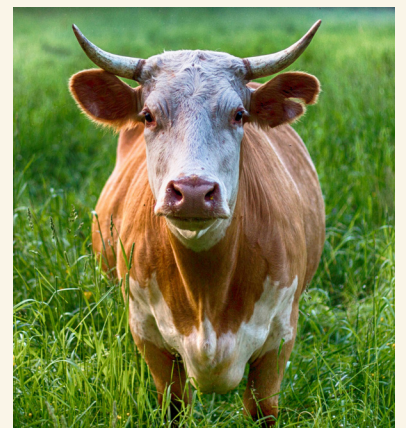


Understand the difference between transitioned and last-third animals.

Only animals that are organic from the last third of gestation, and never treated with synthetic dewormers may be sold as organic slaughter animals. If you are planning to sell any of your animals for slaughter, make sure that these animals meet the special requirements for slaughter stock. (NOP § 205.236)

Ensure CCOF approval prior to sourcing new animals for your herd.

Per the Origin of Livestock Final Rule, effective April 5, 2023, only new operations to livestock certification may transition animals to begin their herd before they are certified. If an operation has ever been certified for livestock production, all new animals brought into the herd must be organic from their last third of gestation. Records must be maintained to account for which animals have been transitioned, which have been raised organically since their last third of gestation, and which have been raised organically since their last third of gestation but were treated with synthetic parasiticides and thus are no longer eligible for organic slaughter. (NOP § 205.236)



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