

Advancing Business Excellence

Organic Certification





Organic Certification ensures maintaining the integrity of organic food and processed products from planting to consumption.

Organic Certification: Healthy Food Processes from Field to Fork

Certification of organic products is essential — to meet industry requirements and to enhance your market advantage. Every day consumers have more dietary choices, and with that choice comes the need for clear and competitive market positioning to ensure your product

Organic Certification providing wholesome, healthy choices while protecting the environment worldwide

receives proper exposure. Organic Certification continues the tradition of providing families with wholesome organic food, and in the process takes your organization to a higher

level of commitment that is revolutionizing how food is processed from field to fork.

Organic farming means more than just absence of synthetic fertilizers, pesticides and pharmaceuticals in production practices.

Industry principles include:

- Protect the environment, minimize pollution and optimize biological productivity;
- Replenish and maintain long-term soil fertility by promoting optimal conditions for soil biological activity;
- Maintain biodiversity within the farm and its surroundings, and protect and develop plant and wildlife habitat;
- Provide attentive, ethical care that meets livestock health and behavioral requirements; and
- Maintain the integrity of organic food and processed products from planting through consumption.



Look to QMI for Registration to These and Other ISO and Industry Standards:

ISO 9001
 ISO/TS 16949
 AS9100-Series
 ISO 14001
 OHSAS 18001
 ANSI/AIHI Z10
 CAN/CSA Z1000
 RC14001®
 RCMS®
 CAN/CSA Z809
 SFI
 Integrated Management Systems
 ISO 13485 (CMDCAS)
 ISO 22000
 HACCP
 Organic Certification
 and other standards

Rely on QMI's Organic Knowledge and Experience

With so much at stake, it's important to work with the right certifier, and QMI Organic is an accredited certifying agent. Our trained inspectors and certification committee are experts in the organic industry, offering certification for crops, wild crops, livestock and handling operations.

Choose QMI Organic for certification services with the highest levels of professionalism, integrity, and recognition. Our inspectors have years of experience in certification, enabling them to precisely interpret certification regulations and guide you smoothly through the certification process. Each inspector is supported by dedicated QMI service teams, providing personal service to answer your questions at each new step in the process.

QMI Organic customers are presented with a certification scheme that is specifically tailored to meet their needs. This allows us to customize certification services so that your inspection covers exactly the applicable areas of your operation, thus providing you with certification costs and timelines that work for your organization.

Operations that QMI Organic has certified include:

- Farm and range land
- Forage
- Livestock
- Poultry
- Dairy
- Horticulture
- Seed cleaning
- Processing plants



The Certification Process

Not only will we provide you with expert certification services, but we'll guide you through the entire process to make sure you understand each step of your certification journey. A sample certification path includes:

- **Choose Your Certifier:** Complete QMI Organic's "Request for Quotation" and together we'll create a certification plan that meets your timelines and certification criteria.
- **Documentation Review:** Prior to your initial inspection, QMI Organic will conduct a detailed review of your application documents. This review is used to determine whether your application appears to comply or may be able to comply with the applicable organic standard requirements. If there are deficiencies in the application documents you will be given the

opportunity to clarify areas of concern before your initial on-site inspection is conducted.

- **Initial On-Site Inspection:** An initial on-site inspection will be conducted at each production unit, facility and/or site that produces or handles organic products. QMI Organic will provide a full inspection report, including results for any samples taken by an inspector.
- **Certification:** After review that your reports and samples have met organic principles, QMI Organic will grant certification. If any areas of non-compliance are detected during the inspection, the organization will have time to correct problems and submit supporting documentation.
- **Ongoing Inspections:** Each year, the certified operation will undergo an on-site inspection to continue certification status.



Additional Food Safety Programs to Enhance Your Organic Operations

ISO 22000: Food Safety Management System

The ISO 22000 standard provides a framework for your organization's food safety management systems. It's applicable to all organizations in the food supply chain, including crop production, processing, distribution and related operations. Overall, ISO 22000 creates an effective framework for food safety management, communication along the food supply chain and control of food safety hazards.

HACCP

A HACCP program can be implemented for control of physical, biological and chemical risks throughout your operations. The plan helps assure regulating authorities and customers that you are taking every reasonable precaution to ensure food safety. It also helps you reduce contamination-related food losses and improve the design of new food products.



Organic practices recognize that a healthy & vibrant soils and ecosystems significantly benefit crops, livestock and ultimately the consumer.

First Class Customer Service

We take pride in maintaining a personal, customer service approach. The entire QMI customer service team – sales, inspection, operations, marketing and other support staff – will guide you through the certification process to ensure you understand each new step. As your certification partner, we look forward to answering your questions so that you get as much value as possible from your certification.

To Learn More...

QMI, North America's largest management systems registrar, has been a leader in management systems registration since the advent of the standards and registration movement. Since 1984, QMI has certified nearly 12,000 organizations across a broad range of industries, helping organizations obtain not only their certification, but also achieve real and lasting improvement in their operations.

QMI Organic is a division of QMI Management Systems Registration. To arrange a consultation, or to learn more about specialized QMI services for your industry, call the number for your area listed below. Visit QMI online at www.qmi.com to request a proposal, ask an expert, or download newsletters, industry updates and more.



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