Your One Stop for Organic Certification in the World Market of Organic Food

How to get yourself Organic Certified as per International Standards (NPOP, NOP, EEC-834/2007)

Guidelines for Integrated Crop and Animal Husbandry Production

OneCert = Value

Disclaimer: These Guidelines are made for developing basic understanding only, Cannot be used or referred as standard reference. For the standard reference please refer to applicable standards.

OneCert Asia Agri Certification (P) Ltd.
H-08, Mansarover Industrial Area, Mansarover,
Jaipur – 30 20 20, Rajasthan, India
Phone No. +91 141 6541882 & Fax No: +91 141 2395481
E-mail: info@onecertasia.in; Website: www.onecertasia.in
OneCert is a nationally and internationally operating Organic Certification agency accredited by APEDA under National Program for Organic Production (NPOP-India). OneCert Asia is a branch of OneCert Inc, USA. OneCert was formed to provide understandable, affordable and efficient certification by certifying simultaneously to the India-NPOP, US-NOP, European Union-EU 834/2007, in one certification fees. This ensures adherence to the highest possible standards as well as providing the clients with certification for all the major world markets of Organic produce. The name OneCert and logo are recognized internationally as a symbol of high integrity and quality. OneCert Certification team has experience and expertise in food production, processing, transportation, distribution and animal husbandry. OneCert ensures all the support, within the permitted limits, to its customers.

What is Organic Certification?

Organic Certification is the procedure for verifying that the products conform to certain standards. In case of Organic Products, it is primarily the acknowledgement that the products have been produced according to the applicable Organic Crop and Animal Husbandry standards.

Why Organic Certification?

1. Organic certification helps in building trust between consumers and Organic farmers.
2. The certification mark ‘Organic’ is the only means to differentiate between certified Organic and conventional foods.
3. Labels and certification marks help a consumer to recognise trustworthy Organic products easily.
4. Organic certification and the logo are important marketing tools.
5. Organic certification helps in getting comparatively a better price.
The Certification Process

The Certification process of OneCert is divided into 5 steps:

STEP-1:- Registration and Application:-
For obtaining Organic Certification the first step is to be registered with OneCert Asia who in turn will provide you with an application packet. The packet contains Application form, Agreement, Organic Crop & Livestock farm plan, Field history sheet, Farm Product & Inventory list. In Organic Crop & Livestock farm plan information about Record keeping, Production detail, detail of Input Use (for fertility, pest and disease management), Preventive measures, and the methods used for prevention of contamination and commingling are required. While submitting the Organic Crop & Livestock farm plan one must attach the Facility Map, Soil and Water test, Product label presently in use or to be used in future.

STEP-2:- Application Review:-
Once your complete application is received, we will review the same on the basis of applicable standards. If any incomplete information/non compliance if found or any additional information is needed, we will contact you. Once required information is gathered or non compliance is over, an on site audit is planned on a mutually agreed date and time.

This reviewing of application usually takes about a couple of days based on the information provided by applicant.

STEP-3:- Inspection:-
On the prescribed date a trained Organic Inspector, familiar with your type of operation will reach your facility. The Inspector will thoroughly examine each method Production and documents of your operation and facility for the verification of your plan in an accurate description of Organic standard compliance. During an exit interview he will summarize his findings and asks for any additional information, if required. Inspection normally takes half a day to 3 days depending upon the complexity of operations.
STEP-4:- Secondary Review:-
After submission of the inspector’s report, it is reviewed to evaluate compliance with the applicable standards. During the Secondary Review if more information is required we will contact you. After the receipt of report from the inspector, the Secondary Review generally takes 2-4 days.

STEP-5:- Certification Decision
After completion of the Secondary Review, the file is sent for the final decision where it takes 1-2 weeks. After receiving the final decision you will receive your Organic Certificate along with a covering letter citing the conditions for awarding certificate. The Organic Certificate contains name of your company, address, category of certification and list of certified Organic product. The entire Certification Process may take about 4-12 weeks depending upon documents and co-operation provided.

Basic Requirements for Crop and Livestock Organic Certification

1. **Choice of Crop and Livestock for Organic Certification:**
   Organic seed, planting material and Organic livestock must only be used for Organic production of Integrated Crop and Animal Husbandry Production operation. When certified source is not available conventional sources can be used. Use of genetically engineered seeds, pollens, transgenic plants and animals are not allowed. If required, breeder stock may be brought from a non Organic operation at any time.

2. **Duration of the Conversion Period:**
   For Integrated Crop and Animal Husbandry Production full conversion period of 36 months must be completed. Conversion period for dairy & egg production, this period shall not be less than 30 days. Depending upon the past use of land and environment conditions conversion period for Crop Production may be extended. Where all standards *de facto* have been meting for several years, the condition of conversion period can be waived off.
3. **Maintenance of Organic Management:**

Converted land and animal should not get switched back and forth between Organic and Conventional Managements. To maintain the Organic integrity between Organic and conventional production operation, a buffer zone or natural barrier must be maintained.

4. **Soil Fertility, Pest, Disease Management of crops and Health Management of Livestock:**

To maintain the soil fertility operator can use on and off farm manures (as allowed in appendix – I [NPOP], § 205.601[NOP]). Crop Rotation, Cover Crop etc. Pest and disease must be managed through preventive, sanitation and biological methods. Livestock should be provided Organic fodder, ration, sufficient free space, natural light, access to roughage, air and water so that they may express their natural behavior. Use of prohibited materials and excluded methods are not allowed.

5. **Documentation:**

Operator should maintain records concerning the input application, production, storage etc. and for Animal Husbandry he should have sufficient records to preserve identity, source and amount of feeds, supplements, all treatments and medication, breeding and origin of livestock.

Above mentioned details are the required information’s in brief about for the Organic Certification of Integrated Crop and Animal Husbandry Production Operation for more details please visit our website [www.onecertasia.in](http://www.onecertasia.in).

**Cost of Organic Certification by OneCert:-**

OneCert is formed to provide understandable, affordable and efficient certification simultaneously for the India-NPOP, US-NOP, and European Union-EU 834/2007 standards in One Certification fees i.e. One Certification fee for ALL. The fees may vary depending upon the time required for different activities such as processing of application, review/s, inspection/s, report writing, decision making etc. Fees of an Organic Crop & Livestock operation depend upon:
1. Total land holding applied for Organic Certification.
2. No. of products applied for Organic Certification.
3. Intensity of the operation.
4. No. of Operation sites or Offices.
5. Size of operation.
6. Complexity of operation.
7. Records maintained and information provided.
8. Support provided by applicant.
9. No. of man days are required

The Fees for the different categories of Operators may be within in the range of Rs.10,000/- to Rs.1,00,000/-. For more details please write to OneCert Asia Office with brief description of your operations.

**Time taken by OneCert Asia for Organic Certification**

The complete certification process may take 4 to 12 weeks depending upon the providence of information and support by the applicant.

**Benefits of Organic Certification by OneCert Asia**

1. OneCert Organic Certification services are understandable, affordable and efficient.
2. We provide NPOP-India, NOP-USDA and EU 834/2007 Certifications all in one single fee.
3. A team of young, energetic and experienced inspectors, having excellent knowledge of different types of operations is deputed.
4. OneCert Logo is recognized internationally as a symbol of very high integrity and quality.
5. Customer services and other supports to the clients are par excellence.
6. Requirements of the entire major international standards have been summarized in the OneCert International standards.
7. Fully understanding the values and importance of Transaction Certificates, these certificates are released within 24 hrs. of receiving the required documents.
8. Neither hidden costs nor confusing statements.

Complaint & Appeal

Under the provisions of OneCert Certification Procedure (OCA-111) any decision taken in respect of granting withholding, renewal, suspension or cancellation of certification under the NPOP, NOP & EEC 834/2007 can be appealed against. An operator may also lodge the complaint.

For the Procedure and Guidelines for making an appeal and complaints, contact

Sandeep Bhargava  
Chief Executive Officer  
OneCert Asia Agri Certification (P) Ltd.  
H-08, Mansarovar Industrial Area, Mansarovar,  
Jaipur – 30 20 20, Rajasthan, India  
Phone No. +91 141 6541882 & Fax No: +91 141 2395481  
E-mail: info@onecertasia.in; Website: www.onecertasia.in