

BLUEBERRY FARM PLAN

Who fills out this form? All farmers who are applying for certification of low bush blueberries.

Use additional sheets if necessary. You must submit farm maps and field history sheets with this form. Attach all other supporting documents (soil, pH tests, landholder affidavits etc.). This form can only be used for certifying low bush blueberries. If a question does not apply to your farming operation, please write n/a. If you are certifying crops other than blueberries please complete the organic farm plan. Renewal forms in 2013 will rely on the information you submit this year, making the process easier to complete.

SECTION I: GENERAL INFORMATION

1.1. (a) How many organic blueberry acres do you own?

(b) How many organic blueberry acres do you manage that you do not own?

(c) What is the total acreage of organic blueberries to be harvested this season?

1.2. Have all organic acres that you manage been free of synthetic fertilizers and pesticides for the past 3 years?

Yes No If NO, what products were used and what was the date of application?

1.3. Have you managed all blueberry fields for 3 or more years? Yes No

If NO, you must submit signed statements from the previous manager stating the use of the land and all inputs applied during the previous 3 years.

1.4. (a) How many pounds of organic blueberries did you harvest last year?

(b) How many pounds of organic blueberries do you estimate that you will harvest this year?

SECTION II: SOIL & CROP FERTILITY MANAGEMENT

2.1. What are your soil types. List in order of predominance.

2.2. Have you performed any soil pH or soil nutrient tests, or leaf sampling on your blueberry fields?

Yes No. If YES, please state which test you conducted and the date when you last conducted the test:

2.3. What are your major soil deficiencies and excesses (Ca, P, Mg, pH, etc.)?

2.4. How else do you monitor the health of the blueberry fields?

Name _____

2.5. How do you manipulate the crop environment/landscape to favor crop production and discourage pests?

2.6. What fertility amendments have been applied to your blueberry fields in the past 3 years or what are you planning on applying?

2.7. Are you actively managing your fields to lower the soil pH? Yes No If YES, do you add any of the following substances to your fields? Please supply the information requested in the adjacent columns. Write "N/A" if you do not apply that particular substance.

<u>Substance</u>	<u>Material Applied</u>	<u>Brand Name if applicable</u>	<u>Amount/acre</u>
Mulches			
Peat moss			
Sulfur			
Cotton/Seed Meal(s)			
Other: _____			

2.8. (a) Do you burn fields ? Yes No If YES, please answer the following questions:

(b) Why do you burn your fields?

(c) Please explain method of burning (include inputs used (such as straw, propane etc.)):

(d) Do you conduct the burning? Yes No If NO, who does? Please provide name and address:

SECTION III: ROTATION

3.1. Do you rotate your crop cycle, i.e. cropping vs. pruning?

SECTION IV: PEST & DISEASE MANAGEMENT

Problems & Management Techniques

What kinds of land management and cultural practices do you use to deal with disease, weeds, insects and other animal pests? Please do not list pesticides as your method on this page. We ask you to list the products you turn to as a last resort in Question 4.7.

4.1. What crop diseases (fungal, bacterial, viral) do you have and how do you manage them?

Crop Diseases	Management

4.2. What kinds of weeds do you have and how do you manage them?

Weeds	Management

4.3. What kinds of insect or other invertebrate pests do you have and how do you manage them?

Insects	Management

Name _____

4.4. a) Pollination- Do you take steps to ensure crop pollination? Yes No If YES, what do you use for pollination?

b) If you use honey bees, do you rent honey bee colonies? If YES, from who? Please provide name and address:

4.5. Do you manage your fields to promote beneficial insects?

4.6. What kinds of wildlife pests do you have and how do you manage them?

Wildlife	Management

Products Used in Managing Pests & Diseases in Crops

4.7. If you use any fungicide, pesticide, repellent or other substance to control any of the problems from the previous page, please complete the table below: NOT APPLICABLE

<u>Problem</u>	<u>Control Product</u>	<u>Describe how product is used</u>
Disease, weed, insect, rodent, other (specify)	Include brand name, specific formulation, EPA number	Typical rate of application? How often?

4.8. Do you use any Crop Production Aids such as sticker and spreading agents, pH adjusters etc?

Yes No If YES, please list:

SECTION V. MAINTAINING ORGANIC INTERGRITY

5.1. Blueberry land

- (a) Do you manage/own conventional/transitional blueberry fields? Yes No
- (b) If YES, what prohibited materials or methods are being used on conventional crops?

- (c) If YES, what procedures will/do you use to prevent the commingling of conventional, organic and transitional crops? Include how you identify and separate allowed and prohibited materials.

- (d) If you sell both organic and conventional blueberries how do you let customers know the difference?

5.2. Contamination

(a) Identify all potential point and non-point sources of chemical and biological contamination that **could** affect your organic blueberries.

Check all that apply:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural chemical drift & runoff (i.e., prohibited materials applications) | <input type="checkbox"/> Flooding |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Power-line management | <input type="checkbox"/> Treated lumber |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Frontage on roads | <input type="checkbox"/> Transgenic or GE crops |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial area | <input type="checkbox"/> No sources of contamination evident |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Waste storage | <input type="checkbox"/> Other_____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Irrigation water | |

- (b) If you identified any potential sources, please describe nature of contamination below. Identify source(s). If possible, provide the name and address of potential source.

- (c) Describe distances, buffers width, type of buffer, and efforts undertaken to reduce the risk of contamination (buffers should also be identified on your field maps):

- (d) If keeping buffers, please describe how the boundaries of organic and buffer zones collection areas are marked or otherwise indicated to harvesters (tree lines, streams, signs etc.):

Name _____

(e) Do you harvest buffer zones? Yes No If yes, please explain what is done with the collected harvest and how you prevent commingling with organic berries.

5.3. Equipment

(a) List all equipment and machines (yours or hired) that are used on your organic blueberries as well as on conventionally grown crops (yours or some other farmer's) or that are used in some other capacity that is inconsistent with organic production methods. Examples of equipment include mowers, tractors, sprayers, winnowers, etc.

(b) Describe how the equipment is cleaned and what steps are taken to safeguard the organic integrity of your organic product.

Please have an equipment clean out log ready for inspection

(c) Did you buy any used equipment? How was it cleaned prior to use on organic land?

(d) How is equipment stored after the season?

5.4. Blueberry harvest

(a) How are organic crops harvested? (mechanical, by hand, other)

(b) Do you contract the harvesting of your crops to others? Yes No.

If YES, please explain?

(c) What type of containers are organic crops harvested into? (Bulk trucks, cardboard boxes, waxed boxes, plastic bins etc?)

(d) Are the harvest containers:

- New
- Used for organic crops only
- Cleaned before use
- Other, namely _____

5.5. Post harvest handling

(a) How do you prepare products for market? (winnowing, washing etc)

(b) If you package, and/or refrigerate blueberries, describe how and where these activities take place. If blueberries are taken off the farm for packaging/refrigeration, provide the name and location of the facility.

(c) Do you use new or used packaging material?

(d) List all materials used for cleaning equipment and facilities.

(e) Describe how organic products are transported to market.

(f) How is produce labeled? Enclose examples of all your product labels.

If you freeze blueberries, or otherwise process blueberries, please make sure to complete an on-farm processor supplement.

SECTION VI RECORDS

6.1. During your inspection, one of our inspectors will examine all records related to your farm operation in order to verify compliance with organic standards. Describe all records you maintain to show your operation meets the organic standard.

6.2. Will you retain your audit trail records for five years? Yes No

6.3. NOP regulations require that your recordkeeping system be adopted to your business, and fully disclose all activities and transactions of your operation. Please describe any plans you have to change/improve your record keeping system.

Name _____

SECTION VII NATURAL RESOURCES

7.1. What conservation practices are used on your farm?

7.2. Are you part of any programs that assist you in managing on-farm natural resources?

Signature of Producer _____ Date _____

Signature of Producer _____ Date _____