

MOFGA CERTIFICATION SERVICES LLC
INTENT TO TRANSITION TO AN ORGANIC DAIRY

KW010612

- You must complete and return this form *before* the start of the 12-month organic conversion. Your transition year starts after we accept your form, on the mutually agreed upon “Transition Start Date”.
- Please make a copy of this form and keep it for your future reference.
- If you do not hear from MOFGA Certification Services LLC (MCS) within 5 days after you mail this form, please call 568-4142.

NAME OF FARMER(S): _____

FARM NAME: _____

PHONE: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

TOWN: _____

STATE: _____

ZIP: _____

EMAIL: _____

- 1) Requested transition Start Date: _____ (month/day/yr) Office approved? _____ (initial)
- a) Do you have a copy of our 2012 Organic Certification Practice Manual? Yes No.
 - b) Have you read the Practice Manual, including the National Organic Standards (Appendix 1)? Yes No.
 - c) Do you understand the standards for organic dairy production? Yes No.
 - d) If you have questions about the standards for organic dairy production, please list them below, or call the MCS office.
- 2) Do you own the herd for which you seek certification? Yes No.
- a) If yes, for how long?
 - b) If you do not own the herd, please explain who does and what your role is:
- 3) Do you intend to transition your: Whole Herd Young stock only Land only (buy organic herd)
- 4) Antibiotics, most hormones, and many synthetic medications are not permitted in organic livestock production. Animals in a dairy herd that is transitioning to organic must be free from all such treatments for 12 months in order to be eligible for certification. Please answer the questions on the next page.

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- a) When was the last time you used “dry treatment” or antibiotics for any other purpose in your herd (including in feed ration, i.e.: rumensin®, monensin)?
- b) When is the last time that you used hormones to synchronize breeding (e.g.: GnRH, Lutelase, CIDR®), or for any other reason (e.g.: oxytocin for milk let-down)? Please describe most recent use.
- c) What other health care products do you currently use on your farm?
- d) What is your overall approach to dealing with herd health?
- 5) Dairy herds transitioning to organic after June 12, 2010 must meet the requirements of the pasture rule with no implementation period. Additionally, organic standards require your animals to have access the outdoors, fresh air, and exercise appropriate to their stage of production and seasonal conditions.
- a) What types of year-round **daily** access to the outdoors do animals over 6 months of age have on your farm?
- b) Organic ruminants must be managed daily on pasture for the entire grazing season in your farm’s geographical location, which can be no less than 120 days. How many days is a typical grazing season on your farm?
- c) All ruminants must obtain a minimum of 30% of their dry matter intake (DMI) from pasture, averaged over the entire grazing season. Have you done DMI calculations for your grazing system? Yes No.
- i) If yes, does each management group over the age 6 months meet the 30% requirement?
- ii) Stocking rate (# of animals/# of grazing acres)
- 6) How many mature milking animals (including dry cows) are in your herd at the present time? _____.
- a) On average, how many do you milk in summer? _____ in winter? _____
- b) What is your estimated total annual production of milk per cow? _____ lbs/year
- 7) Do you raise your own replacement animals? Yes No.
- a) If not, who does? (Name and address of farm)

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b) Please describe how they are raised (i.e.: access to the outdoors, feed, pasturing, etc.)

8) Record keeping is required for all organic dairy operations. Which of the following types of records are currently in use on your farm:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> DHI | <input type="checkbox"/> Ration records |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Breeding and calving records | <input type="checkbox"/> DMI calculations |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Identification of animals in your herd | <input type="checkbox"/> Vet visits |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Health care practices and treatments | <input type="checkbox"/> Receipts for input purchases |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Documentation of purchases, sales, or culling | <input type="checkbox"/> Field crop harvests |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Outdoor access/temporary confinement | <input type="checkbox"/> Field inputs |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pasture | <input type="checkbox"/> Equipment clean-out logs |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Other. Please describe. |

9) Have you identified a market for your milk? Yes No.

a) If yes, what is it?

b) When do you plan to start shipping/marketing organic milk or other dairy products?
 _____(month/day/year)

10) What are your reasons for becoming certified organic?

11) In order for land to be eligible for certification, it must have been free from prohibited substances (e.g., synthetic fertilizers, herbicides, GMO's...) for at least 36 months.

a) When was the last time you used a synthetic fertilizer, pesticide or herbicide on any land that you use to produce feed (including pasture) for your dairy herd? _____(month/day/year)

b) Please identify any other materials from off the farm (e.g.: ash, lime) that you apply to your land, and give the date of last application.

Material	Source/Manufacturer	Date of last application

c) Have you used genetically engineered (GE) corn seed or forage crop seed? Yes No.

i) If yes, what was the date of the last planting? _____(month/day/year)

ii) Are any GE crops currently growing, in storage, or in use on your farm? Yes No.

Please List:

12) Different parts of your farm operation may become eligible for certification at different times.

a) How many crop production acres under your control are immediately eligible for organic certification?

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b) How many crop production acres under your control are in transition (managed organically, but not yet free from application of prohibited substances for 36 months)?

13) Describe how you currently manage your crop land:

- a) How many acres do you use for grazing?
- b) How many acres do you use to produce hay or other forage crops?
- c) Do you reseed pasture or hay land? Yes No
- d) Do you grow your own corn or grain crops for livestock feed? Yes No. If yes, how many acres?

14) Not all farm suppliers distribute or sell products that will be allowed in organic production. What will be your source(s) of organic grains, supplements, medicines, and other inputs for your farm? Please list below.

Grains:

Supplements:

Forages:

Health care products:

Fertility inputs:

- **By signing and submitting this form, you understand that MCS has in no way granted certification or guaranteed that certification will be granted at some future date.**
- **The purpose of this form is to identify you as a dairy farm that is transitioning to become certified organic under the National Organic Program Standards. This form allows us to begin the process of verifying compliance with the Standards in anticipation of the receipt of your application for certification, which is due on or before the 6th month of your transition year.**
- **MCS will arrange to have a livestock inspector visit your farm during the first four months of the transition year. The inspector will perform an inspection of your operation and record keeping systems. An inspection report for transitioning dairies will be submitted by the inspector and a copy will be sent to you, along with a list of any corrective actions that we feel need to take place.**
- **In order to be considered an applicant for certification, MCS must receive a full certification application, with all the appropriate certification fees, before or during the 6th month of the transition year. Failure to do this may delay the date by which we can grant certification.**

I, _____, have answered all the questions in this form truthfully and accurately and I have read the above paragraph and understand my responsibilities.

Please sign: _____ Date: _____