



Farm Organic System Plan

Please complete this form in its entirety. Please also ensure that you attach the Farm Organic System Plan Annual Update – New Applicant. Sign this form and attach supporting documentation as specified in Section 7. Any incomplete information may lead to a delay in certification. Use additional sheets if necessary. Mark any sections that do not apply to your operation as “Not Applicable.” Contact your Chapter Administrator or the Humboldt office, if you have any questions regarding the completion of this form.

This form is confidential when completed.

SECTION 1: General Information

Operation Name:			Operator Number:		
↑ The Operation Name must be a person, and a person means an individual, a corporation, an association, or an organization recognized as a legal entity. This name goes on the certificate.					
Other Name(s):					
↑ Other Name(s) may be another name by which the certificate holder is commonly known in the marketplace or the name the holder commonly does business under. This name may be added on the certificate but must clearly be referred to as “doing business as” or “DBA.” Leave blank if you don’t have any.					
Contact Person’s Name:					
Secondary Contact Person’s Name (if applicable):					
PHYSICAL INSPECTION LOCATION INFORMATION			CONTACT INFORMATION		
Address:			Mailing Address:		
City:	Province:	Postal Code:	City:	Province:	Postal Code:
Phone 1:	Phone 2:		Phone 1:	Phone 2:	
Cell:	Fax:	Cell:		Fax:	
E-mail Address:			E-mail Address:		
Web Site:			Web Site:		
Please provide directions to the inspection location(s) and indicate when you are available to contact:					

Updated by: _____ on _____
 (Initials) (Date)

1. Have you ever previously applied for organic certification by TCO Cert or another Certification Body? Yes No
 If yes, please list the name of the Certification Body, year(s) of application, outcome of application:

2. Are you taking over previously certified organic land? Yes No
 If yes, please attach the completed and signed Prior Land Use Affidavit **AND** the previous Certification and Addendum documents for this land.

3. Are you currently certified and transferring to TCO Cert from another Certification Body? Yes No
If transferring to TCO Cert from another Certification Body, a Letter of Good Standing from the Sending CB is required.

SECTION 2: Soil and Crop Fertility Management

Soil management including crop rotation, must actively build soil fertility, manage plant nutrients, protect natural resources, and prevent soil erosion. All fertility inputs must be verified for compliance to the Standards prior to use. The operator must monitor fertility practices and procedures to verify that the organic plan is effectively implemented. Plant and animal materials (manure, compost, and non-composted plant materials) must be managed so that they do not contribute to contamination of crops, soil, and water by plant nutrients, pathogenic organisms, heavy metals, or residues of prohibited substances.

A. GENERAL INFORMATION:

1. What are the major components of your soil and crop fertility plan?

<input type="checkbox"/> crop rotation	<input type="checkbox"/> inter-planting	<input type="checkbox"/> green manure plow-down/cover crops
<input type="checkbox"/> summer fallow	<input type="checkbox"/> sub-soiling	<input type="checkbox"/> incorporation or crop residues
<input type="checkbox"/> compost	<input type="checkbox"/> on-farm manure	<input type="checkbox"/> off-farm manure
<input type="checkbox"/> soil amendments	<input type="checkbox"/> side dressing	<input type="checkbox"/> foliar fertilizers
<input type="checkbox"/> biodynamic preparations	<input type="checkbox"/> soil inoculants	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify):

2. What are your soil nutrient deficiencies?

3. How do you monitor the effectiveness of your fertility management program?

<input type="checkbox"/> soil testing	<input type="checkbox"/> microbiological testing	<input type="checkbox"/> companion crop yields
<input type="checkbox"/> tissue testing	<input type="checkbox"/> observation of soil	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify):
<input type="checkbox"/> crop quality testing	<input type="checkbox"/> observation of crop health	

Attach copies of available test results.

4. Do you burn crop residues? Yes No
 If yes, please describe what materials are burned and why.

5. If off-farm inputs are used, please describe the attempts that were made to improve soil fertility, weed control and/or pest control through natural means (rotation, on-farm inputs, etc.) first.

Updated by: _____ on _____
 (Initials) (Date)

D. NATURAL RESOURCES: *The COR Standards require that production practices must maintain or improve the natural resources of the operation, including soil and water quality. Practices must minimize erosion. Irrigation water should not contaminate organic crops with prohibited materials. Methods to conserve water usage should be part of the irrigation plan.*

SOIL CONSERVATION

1. Do you have any soil erosion problems? Yes No
 If yes, please indicate fields and nature of the problem(s).

2. What conservation practices are used? None

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Terraces | <input type="checkbox"/> Permanent waterways | <input type="checkbox"/> Riparian management |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Contour farming | <input type="checkbox"/> Windbreaks | <input type="checkbox"/> Undersowing/interplanting |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Strip cropping | <input type="checkbox"/> Firebreaks | <input type="checkbox"/> Maintain wildlife habitat |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation tillage | <input type="checkbox"/> Tree lines | <input type="checkbox"/> Wildlife habitat conservation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Winter cover crops | <input type="checkbox"/> Retention ponds | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify): |

WATER USE

3. In what ways is water used in your operation? Not Applicable

- | | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Irrigation | <input type="checkbox"/> Livestock | <input type="checkbox"/> Foliar sprays |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Washing crops | <input type="checkbox"/> Greenhouse | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify): |

4. Source of water:

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> On-site well(s) | <input type="checkbox"/> River/creek/pond | <input type="checkbox"/> Irrigation district |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Spring | <input type="checkbox"/> Municipal/county | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify): |

5. Type of irrigation system: None

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Drip irrigation | <input type="checkbox"/> Center pivot |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Micro-spray | <input type="checkbox"/> Underground |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Flood | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify): |

6. What input products are applied through the irrigation system, either to organic or non-organic fields? None

7. What products do you use to clean irrigation lines/nozzles? None

Updated by: _____ on _____
 (Initials) (Date)

8. Is the system shared with another operator? Yes No
 Not Applicable

If yes, what products do they use?

9. Is the system flushed, and the flushes documented between conventional and organic use if prohibited materials are used? Yes No
 Not Applicable

WATER QUALITY

10. What practices are used to protect water resources?

Fencing livestock from waterways Scheduled use of water to conserve its use
 Tensiometer/monitoring Other (specify):
 Laser leveling/land forming

11. What water contamination problems do you experience (why and where)? None

12. Describe your efforts to minimize water contamination problems listed above. Not Applicable

Updated by: _____ on _____
 (Initials) (Date)

SECTION 3: Crop Management

Standards require a crop rotation plan that maximizes soil organic matter content, prevents weed, pest, and disease problems, and manages deficient or excess plant nutrients. Your crop rotation may include sod, cover crops, green manure crops, and catch crops. Cultural practices, such as the selection of plant species and varieties adapted to site-specific conditions, should be used to enhance crop health.

- All weed, pest and disease control inputs used or intended for use during the current year and used in the previous three years must be listed on your Field History Sheets.
- Name of the product and date of last use of a prohibited substance must be shown in field histories.

A. CROP ROTATION:

1. What are the main crop rotations that are used in your operation? (For example: corn, soybeans, alfalfa 2 years, repeat)

Please describe all general rotations used:

B. WEED MANAGEMENT PLAN:

1. What are your problem weeds?

2. What weed control methods do you use?

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Crop rotation | <input type="checkbox"/> Mowing | <input type="checkbox"/> Smother crops – appropriate species |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Field preparation | <input type="checkbox"/> Livestock grazing | <input type="checkbox"/> Corn gluten |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Delayed seeding | <input type="checkbox"/> Flame weeding | <input type="checkbox"/> Soap-based herbicide |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Monitoring soil temperature | <input type="checkbox"/> Steam weeding | <input type="checkbox"/> Use of fast emerging varieties or other |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Soil sterilization | <input type="checkbox"/> Electrical | <input type="checkbox"/> Sprayer application of herbicide |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mechanical cultivation | <input type="checkbox"/> Black fallow | <input type="checkbox"/> Prevention of weed seed set |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Use of hand tools | <input type="checkbox"/> Non-synthetic mulch | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify): |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hand weeding | <input type="checkbox"/> Synthetic mulch | |

3. Do you keep a record of how often you utilize these weed control methods, including dates and fields? Yes No

4. If you use plastic or other synthetic mulches, is the mulch removed at the end of the growing harvest season? Yes No
 Not Applicable

If no, what is the reason?

5. If you use newspaper or other recycled paper for mulch, do you use paper with glossy or colored inks? Yes No
 Not Applicable

Updated by: _____ on _____
(Initials) (Date)

C. PEST MANAGEMENT PLAN:

1. What are your problem insect pests? None

2. What strategies do you use to control pest damage to crops? None

<input type="checkbox"/> Crop rotation	<input type="checkbox"/> Physical barriers	<input type="checkbox"/> Limited use of prohibited products
<input type="checkbox"/> Timing of planting	<input type="checkbox"/> Physical removal	<input type="checkbox"/> Selection of appropriate plant species/varieties
<input type="checkbox"/> Companion planting	<input type="checkbox"/> Traps	<input type="checkbox"/> Development of habitat for natural enemies
<input type="checkbox"/> Frog ponds	<input type="checkbox"/> Lures	<input type="checkbox"/> Release of predators/parasites of pest species
<input type="checkbox"/> Bat houses	<input type="checkbox"/> Insect repellents	<input type="checkbox"/> Integrated Pest Management
<input type="checkbox"/> Bird houses	<input type="checkbox"/> Use of allowed products	<input type="checkbox"/> Use of restricted products
<input type="checkbox"/> Hand picking	<input type="checkbox"/> Animal repellents	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify):
<input type="checkbox"/> Trap crops	<input type="checkbox"/> Monitoring	

3. Do you keep a record of how often you use these pest control methods, i.e., dates when you scout fields or apply inputs to a specific field or crop? Yes No

D. DISEASE MANAGEMENT PLAN:

1. What are your problem crop diseases? None

2. What disease prevention strategies do you use? None

<input type="checkbox"/> Field Sanitation	<input type="checkbox"/> Solarization	<input type="checkbox"/> Limited use of prohibited products
<input type="checkbox"/> Crop rotation	<input type="checkbox"/> Companion planting	<input type="checkbox"/> Selection of appropriate plant species/varieties
<input type="checkbox"/> Plant spacing	<input type="checkbox"/> Compost/tea use	<input type="checkbox"/> Sprayer application of fungicide
<input type="checkbox"/> Vector management	<input type="checkbox"/> Use of allowed materials	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify):
<input type="checkbox"/> Soil balancing	<input type="checkbox"/> Use of restricted materials	

3. Were any of the weed/pest/disease control inputs applied to your land part of a disease control program imposed by a local or governmental agency and/or used for scientific tests approved by a proper authority? Yes* No
If yes, please identify issues, fields, and inputs:

*** Please submit a letter from your Rural Municipality or other authority that outlines the mandating of the weed/pest/disease program.**

Updated by: _____ on _____
(Initials) (Date)

SECTION 4: Maintenance of Organic Integrity

A. ADJOINING LAND USE: *Standards and regulations require that organic harvest areas have distinct boundaries and buffer zones to prevent the unintended application of a prohibited substance or contact with a prohibited substance that is applied to adjoining land not under organic management. Adjoining land includes cropland, pastures, residential property, fallow land, etc. Buffer areas may change annually, depending on the contamination potential from adjoining land uses. If crops within the required buffer zone are harvested, records must be maintained demonstrating storage and disposition as non-organic crop.*
Please be sure to identify all buffer areas on all field maps.

1. Are you familiar with the uses of the land adjoining your organic fields and do you watch for potential problems? Yes No

2. What types of buffer zones (crop, tree lines, grass strips, etc.) do you maintain around your organic fields?

3. Are your buffers a minimum of 8 meters/28 feet as required by the COR standards? Yes No

4. How are buffers managed (plowed down, let stand, harvested/baled, etc.)?

5. Is there any potential for unintended contamination from run-off or waterways? Yes No
 If yes, please specify in which fields (and mark on your field maps).

6. Which of the following additional safeguards are used to prevent unintended contamination? None

Written notification to:

<input type="checkbox"/> Government/highway departments	<input type="checkbox"/> Drainage commissions
<input type="checkbox"/> Electric companies	<input type="checkbox"/> Farm Service office
<input type="checkbox"/> Aerial spray companies/airports	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify):
<input type="checkbox"/> "No Spray" signs along roadsides that adjoin organic fields	

7. Do any fields or portions of fields flood frequently (more than once every 10 years)? Yes No
 If yes, please list field numbers:

B. EQUIPMENT: *To prevent commingling and contamination, all equipment used in organic crop production must be free of non-organic crop residues and prohibited materials. Equipment used for both organic and non-organic farming (including equipment used to harvest buffer zones) must be cleaned prior to use on organic fields or crops. Records documenting the cleaning of equipment must be maintained.*

1. Are clean-out logs kept for all equipment (including custom equipment) that is used for both organic and non-organic crop production? Yes No

Equipment is only used on organic fields/crops (not used in buffers/non-organic fields, nor to handle non-organic seed)

2. Is your equipment maintained so that fuel, oil and hydraulic fluid do not leak? Yes No

Updated by: _____ on _____
(Initials) (Date)

3. a. Could any equipment you use have been contaminated by previous uses? Yes No
 If yes, describe the issue and the measures taken to ensure that the risk of contamination was addressed and note if measures were documented:

b. If used equipment was purchased, was a thorough clean-down performed and documented? Yes No

C. HARVEST: *The COR Standards require that containers, bins, and packaging materials must not contain synthetic fungicides, preservatives, or fumigants. All reusable containers must be thoroughly cleaned and pose no risk of contamination prior to use.*

1. Describe your harvesting methods and the steps taken to protect organic crops from commingling and contamination during harvest.

2. What kind of harvest records are kept to document harvest dates, amounts, etc.? Please describe.

3. What types of handling units are used for harvesting?

Gravity wagons/boxes PVC plastics* Other (specify):
 Truck boxes Wooden totes
 Cardboard/waxed boxes Plastic containers*

*** Please submit food grade documentation for containers and plastics which must verify food grade status, no treatments and no use of nanotechnology.**

4. Are the handling units indicated above new or used? New Used
 If they are used, what did they contain prior to organic use?

5. Are the containers used for organic crops only? Yes No
 If no, are they cleaned, and the cleaning documented prior to organic use? Yes No

Updated by: _____ on _____
 (Initials) (Date)

D. POST-HARVEST HANDLING: *The COR Standards require that post-harvest handling procedures do not commingle organic products with non-organic crops and prevent contact with prohibited materials.* Not Applicable

1. Indicate which post-harvest handling procedures and equipment are used:

On-Farm

- Grain Cleaning
- Grain Drying
- Other, please specify:

Mobile On-Farm Custom Services: Please specify the name of the Custom Service Provider.

- Grain Cleaner:
- Grain Dryer:

2. Are you using the **services of an Off-farm Custom Service Provider** for Grain Cleaning, Grain Drying, Storage, etc.?

Yes No

If yes, please complete Question 8 in Section 4 (“Maintaining Organic Integrity”) of the “Farm Organic System Annual Update”.

2. If on-farm cleaning, is either the post-harvest area or equipment used for both organic and non-organic products?

Yes No

If yes, describe measures taken to prevent commingling and contamination and the documentation that is maintained:

3. Please describe all equipment sanitation and maintenance practices used:

4. Is documentation of the sanitation and maintenance maintained?

Yes No

5. Check types of packaging material used:

- | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> None (bulk sales, no packaging) | <input type="checkbox"/> Metal | <input type="checkbox"/> Natural fiber |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Paper | <input type="checkbox"/> Foil | <input type="checkbox"/> Synthetic fiber |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cardboard | <input type="checkbox"/> Plastic | <input type="checkbox"/> Tote sacks (plastic lined or unlined) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wood | <input type="checkbox"/> PVC plastics | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify): |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Glass | <input type="checkbox"/> Waxed paper | |

6. If the product is to be sold as a food product (i.e., food-grade soybeans), is packaging documented as food-grade status?

Yes* No

*** Please submit food grade documentation for containers and plastics which must verify food grade status, no treatments and no use of nanotechnology.**

7. In what form are finished products shipped?

Updated by: _____ on _____
(Initials) (Date)

8. Has packaging been treated with any substance that could lead to contamination problems for your organic products? Yes No
 If yes, please list substances:

E. CROP STORAGE: Operators must keep organic and non-organic crops in separate storage units and prevent commingling and contamination. Storage records must be maintained and kept current. No organic crop storage
 Identify all storage units (including any space rented, not under your ownership). If needed, insert lines (for the fillable form) or attach additional sheets.

STORAGE ID #	ON-SITE OR OFF-SITE (If off-site, note location)	TYPE OF STORAGE (bin, pole building, wagon, stackyard, barn, totes, etc.)	CAPACITY	ORGANIC ONLY (OO), CONVENTIONAL (CO), or NOT DEDICATED (ND)

1. Do you use the same storage units (bins, granary, gravity boxes, etc.) for organic and non-organic (incl. buffer and transitional) crops? Yes No
 If yes,
 i. is it stored in bulk? Yes No
 ii. How do you segregate crops to avoid commingling in storage?

2. Are storage units clearly labeled? Yes No

3. If you are storing any GE products, are your bins used for organic products clearly identified and labeled as organic? Yes No Not Applicable
 If no, please explain:

Updated by: _____ on _____
 (Initials) (Date)

4. a. How are storage units cleaned to ensure that units are free from non-organic residues/prohibited material prior to storage of organic crops?

b. Storage unit cleaning recorded?

Yes No

5. How do you prevent/control insect and/or rodent pests in crop storage areas?

No pest problems

If products/inputs are used, please list these on the "Farm Organic System Plan Annual Update" and attach labels for each product.

F. TRANSPORTATION

1. a. Describe how organic products are transported (truck, rail; bulk, covered with tarp, closed totes, sealed container, etc.):

b. What documentation is used to accompany your organic products during transport?

BOL Invoice Other:

2. What steps are taken to protect the integrity of organic products during transport?

Dedicated organic only Inspecting transport units prior to loading Use of Off-Farm Transportation Cleaning Affidavits

Cleaning transport units prior to loading Letter/contract with transport company stating organic requirements Other (specify):

SECTION 5: Record Keeping System

The Canadian Organic Standards require that records disclose all activities and transactions of the operation, be maintained for 5 years, demonstrate compliance with the applicable Standards and be available for review. Certification standards also require that records be sufficient to allow for organic products to be tracked from sale to the field/location where they were produced/harvested.

1. How long do you keep your records?

2. If complaints are made against your operation, do you record the complaints in a Complaint Log?

Yes No
 No complaints were made

3. Which of the following records do you keep for organic production?

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Field maps | <input type="checkbox"/> Field history for previous three years |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Field activity log(s) | <input type="checkbox"/> Copy of Organic System Plan |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Documentation of organic seedlings | <input type="checkbox"/> Compost production records |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Documentation of attempts to source organic seeds and/or planting stock | <input type="checkbox"/> Documentation of previous land use for rented and/or newly purchased land |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sales records (purchase order, contract, invoice, cash receipts, cash receipt journal, sales journal, etc.) | <input type="checkbox"/> Input records for soil amendments, seeds, manure, foliar sprays and pest control products (including all labels) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Storage records that show storage location, storage identification, field numbers, amounts stored, and cleaning activities | <input type="checkbox"/> Harvest records that show field numbers, date of harvest and harvest amounts (including custom harvest records) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Equipment cleaning records | <input type="checkbox"/> Clean transport records |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Monitoring records (soil tests, tissue tests, water tests, quality tests, observations) | <input type="checkbox"/> Shipping records (scale ticket, dump station ticket, bill of lading) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify): | |

Updated by: _____ on _____
(Initials) (Date)

4. Which of the following records do you keep for conventional production? Not Applicable

Field maps Paid labour records Harvest records
 Field history sheets Storage records Shipping records
 Input records Sales records Other (specify):

These records must also be available at the time of inspection

5. Are labels/tags used for any of your organic products? Yes No

Please submit a sample of each type of label/tags used and a completed TCO Cert Label Approval Request form for review and approval prior to use.

6. If a lot numbering system is used, please provide a sample and describe what each component means:

SECTION 6: Additional Comments

Please provide any additional comments or information pertinent to this Organic System Plan.

SECTION 7: Affirmation

I affirm that all statements made in this application are true, correct, and complete.

Signature of Operator Date (M/D/Y)

Please maintain copies of this Organic System Plan and other supporting documents as part of your record keeping system. Submit completed form, including the Farm Organic System Plan Annual Update, fees and supporting documents to your Chapter Administrator or a TCO Cert Certification Coordinator (Direct Associates).

I have attached the following required documents (with name on each page):

Completed, signed, and dated Operator Licensing Agreement
 Documents from previous certifier (if other than TCO Cert)

Updated by: _____ on _____
(Initials) (Date)