



CCOF

Organic Certification Trade Association Education & Outreach Political Advocacy

RE: Options affected by cessation of CCIA organic certification operations.

Dear CCIA Certified Organic Operation,

Thank you for your contributions to organic food and farming. CCOF welcomes your efforts and wants to minimize the negative effects on your business of CCIA's recent revocation of National Organic Program (NOP) certifier accreditation. Fortunately, the NOP has indicated that affected operations may transfer their certification to another certifier without an undue burden.

CCOF is providing the following process to assist you and ensure your ongoing compliance and ability to market organic products. This process will ensure that you don't experience an interruption in your organic activities while ensuring the highest level of recognition for your products and certification.

Steps to successfully transfer your organic certification to CCOF:

1. Provide a completed CCOF organic services application and application fee.
2. Complete a notice of certification transfer and provide it to CCOF via fax at: (831)-423-4528 or mail at:
CCOF Certification Services
Attn: Certification Director
2155 Delaware Ave., Suite 150
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Please request that all relevant CCIA certification information is transferred to CCOF as soon as possible.

3. Provide all available application and other documentation from your CCIA certification including your organic system plan (application), inspection reports, and CCIA certificates etc.
4. Provide copies of all current labels and written plans to modify labels to identify CCOF.
5. Once received, CCOF will review your CCIA certification information and provide approvals for new labels, as applicable. In the past, the NOP has made it clear that all use of labels identifying a revoked certifier must cease by as soon as possible after the revocation. Compliant labels identifying CCIA may be utilized during a transition period to another certifier but new labels identifying CCOF must be utilized as soon as reasonably possible.
6. Upon payment of certification fees CCOF will issue certification. You will then be recognized as a CCOF Certified operation in good standing.
7. You may then utilize your new approved labels.
8. **Complete CCOF's organic certification application, Organic System Plan, and undergo a 2009 inspection as soon as possible.** Complete applications are available from CCOF and online at www.ccof.org. A maximum time period of 6 months may be allowed to complete process. Therefore, a complete application should be submitted within 45 days to ensure inspection before 2009 spring and summer production. Operations that do not complete an application and undergo inspection within a reasonable time period may not be allowed to remain in the CCOF certification program.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jake Lewin".

Jake Lewin
Certification Services Director
jake@ccof.org
831-423-2263 Ext. 21
Fax: 831-423-4528



CCOF CERTIFICATION APPLICATION

To apply for certification please send a completed Application Form,
Organic System Plan and application fee to:
CCOF • 2155 Delaware Ave., Suite 150 • Santa Cruz, CA 95060

- ▶ CCOF can only process complete applications. CCOF recommends beginning the application process with sufficient time before certification is required to allow for the necessary inspection and review process. While in some cases certification can be provided in a very short time frame, providing up to twelve weeks is recommended. Expedited services are available. More information is available at www.ccof.org or by contacting CCOF.
- ▶ Please keep a copy of the completed application and organic system plan for your records.
- ▶ For your convenience, an E-form version of this section/document is available online at www.ccof.org/osp.php
- ▶ A non-refundable application fee of \$275 due at the time of application.
 - Application fee enclosed
 - Credit card payment included on next page.

A. APPLICATION INFORMATION

1) Business Name: _____
DBA: _____

2) Business Information:
 Sole Proprietorship. Owner's Name: _____
 Partnership. Owner's names: _____
 Corporation –OR– LLC. State of incorporation: _____ Name of owners, or officers and their titles: _____

Others (describe): _____

Mailing Address: _____ City: _____
State/Province: _____ Zip/Postal Code: _____ Country: _____
Phone: _____ Ext: _____ Fax: _____
Email: _____ Website: _____

3) Certification services requested
 Organic –USDA National Organic Program (NOP) CCOF Global Market Access Program (requires NOP
Base certification required for all organic certification applicants. base certification). Necessary for direct or indirect sales to
European, Asian, and some other export markets.

Please indicate any foreign markets you export to directly or indirectly (as an ingredient or through brokers/traders etc).
 Japan Europe United Kingdom Canada Korea Other: _____
 Quebec Israel Switzerland

4) When do you anticipate the need for certification? _____

5) Please provide information for CCOF to provide an annual fee estimate upon application.
Current or expected gross organic sales (next 12 months): _____

For **handlers/processors/private labelers and other non-farm businesses ONLY**. Current or expected cost of organic ingredients/products (next 12 months): _____

CCOF will estimate and invoice your annual fee based on the information provided above and collected at the initial and subsequent inspections. Please refer to CCOF Manual One for annual fee information. Annual fees must be paid prior to issuance of certification.

6) Has this operation ever:
a) Had your certification suspended or revoked? No Yes

b) Withdrawn from certification with outstanding non-compliances or conditions? No Yes

c) Withdrawn your application for certification with outstanding non-compliances or conditions? No Yes

If you answered "Yes" to a, b or c above, please list the years and agencies, attach a copy of all relevant letter(s) and a description of all corrective actions:

Year(s): _____ Certifier(s): _____ Letters Attached



CCOF CERTIFICATION APPLICATION

Operation Name: _____ Date: _____

B. CERTIFICATION AFFIDAVIT

► The following must be signed by the owner(s) of the business seeking certification, or the person authorized to act in the corporation's behalf. By signing this document:

1. I (we) agree to comply with all State and applicable organic production and handling regulations as described in the final rule issued by the United States Department of Agriculture Agricultural Marketing Service (regulations or 7 CFR Part 205). I (we) agree to comply with all CCOF standards and policies including CCOF Global Market Access (GMA) program when applicable.
2. I (we) also agree to establish, implement, and update annually an Organic System Plan that will be submitted to CCOF.
3. I (we) will permit on-site inspections with complete access to the production or handling aspects of the operation, including non-certified production areas, structures, or offices by CCOF. These inspections may be announced or unannounced at the discretion of CCOF or as required by the Administrator for the Agricultural Marketing Service, United States Department of Agriculture, or the state organic program's governing state official.
4. I (we) will maintain all records applicable to the organic operation for not less than five (5) years beyond their creation.
5. I (we) will allow authorized representatives of CCOF, or of the Secretary of Agriculture, or of the state organic program's governing state official and/or private accreditation bodies access to these records under normal business hours for review and copying to determine compliance with the Act and regulations.
6. I understand CCOF will be responsible for decisions relating to its granting, maintaining, extending, suspending and withdrawing of certification, and may use subcontractors for inspecting, testing and other technical services, as necessary.
7. I (we) will submit to CCOF any applicable fees as described on the most current fee schedule.
8. I (we) will immediately notify CCOF concerning any application, including drift, of a prohibited substance to any field, production unit, site, facility, livestock, or product that is part of an operation.
9. I (we) will immediately notify CCOF of any change in our certified operation or portion of it that may affect its compliance with the Act or regulations.
10. I (we) agree to use the CCOF name and seal(s) only in accordance with CCOF standards and will cease all use of CCOF's name and seal upon notice by CCOF. Any use of CCOF's names or marks, without the express consent of CCOF, is strictly prohibited and constitutes an infringement of CCOF's rights. CCOF shall be entitled to its reasonable attorney's fees and costs incurred in bringing any civil action, arbitration or mediation to enforce its rights in its names or marks.
11. I (we) have been supplied and have read and fully understand the CCOF Certification Manuals and agree to strictly adhere to all applicable standards and procedures.
12. I (we) agree to destroy or return to CCOF all packaging and certificate(s) upon notice from CCOF.
13. I (we) understand that the use of the CCOF name and seal must be in accordance with the CCOF standards, as stated in Section 3.7. I (we) authorize CCOF to list certified parcel crops, products, services, and acreage on my certificate and in the CCOF Directory. In the event that this operation withdraws, or certification suspended or revoked, I agree to immediately cease all claims of CCOF certification associated with this operation, and destroy or return all certificates, labeling and marketing material containing reference to CCOF.

I, the owner or legally authorized corporate representative, acknowledge the above General Requirements for CCOF Certification and understand that any willful misrepresentation may be cause for denial of an application and sanctioning of certification. I attest that all information in this application is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge:

Name/Title	Signature	Date

To submit application fee via credit card, please complete and sign the following:

Credit Card Payment Information: <input type="checkbox"/> Visa <input type="checkbox"/> Master Card <input type="checkbox"/> Amex		Amount: \$
Applicant Name:		
Name on Card:	Phone Number:	
Card Holder's Address:		
Credit Card Number:	Expiration Date (mm/yy): /	
Security Number (The three digit code on the back of your card. For Amex, this is the four digits on the front):	Signature _____	



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Agricultural
Marketing
Service

STOP 0201 - Room 1098-S
1400 Independence Avenue, SW.
Washington, D.C. 20250-0268

NOV 24 2008

NOTICE OF REVOCATION

Larry R. Teuber, Executive Director
California Crop Improvement Association
Parsons Seed Certification Center
University of California, One Shields Avenue
Davis, California 95616

Dear Dr. Teuber:

On October 1, 2008, the Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS), National Organic Program (NOP) Appeals Staff notified the California Crop Improvement Association (CCIA) that its appeal of its proposed revocation of accreditation as an NOP certifying agent was dismissed due to failure to file the appeal in a timely manner. Therefore, effective the date of this letter, CCIA is no longer an accredited certifying agent for the NOP. Accreditation is revoked and CCIA is ineligible to be accredited as a certifying agent under the Organic Foods Production Act and 7CFR Part 205, NOP, for a period of not less than 3 years following the date of this revocation. CCIA and all responsibly connected persons are hereby prohibited from acting as an accredited certifying agent or participating in activities related to the certification of organic products as described in the Act and implementing regulations.

Pursuant to paragraph 205.662 of the NOP regulations, CCIA is ordered to cease all organic certification activities and transfer all records concerning its certification activities to the NOP and make same records available to the California State Organic Program. Transfer of certification records is to be accomplished by shipping the records to the NOP offices in Washington, DC, within 60 days of the date of this letter. Records must include those of any certified operation that has not voluntarily transferred their certification and records to another NOP-accredited certifying agent by that time. Please contact Shaunta Newby at (202) 720-3252 to make arrangement for shipping via Federal Express.

If you have questions regarding this action or the transfer of certification files, please contact Mark Bradley, Chief, Auditing, Accreditation, and Training Branch, at (202) 720-3252 or at mark.bradley@usda.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Barbara C. Robinson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Barbara C. Robinson
Acting Director
National Organic Program

Question:

What does revocation of the California Crop Improvement Association's accreditation mean?

Answer:

Operations certified by CCIA must make arrangements with another certifying agent to provide their certification as soon as possible. CCIA clients may make arrangements to transfer their certification by contacting any NOP accredited certifying agent.

Operations certified by CCIA remain certified until certification is surrendered, suspended, or revoked. Properly certified and labeled products from CCIA certified operations are still eligible for sale as organic during this transition.