



CCOF
Certification Services, LLC

IMPORTANT ANTIBIOTIC POLICY CHANGE ANNOUNCEMENT

To: All CCOF Organic Dairy producers
From: CCOF Certification Services
Dated: July 7, 2006 Effective Immediately

Re: Change in CCOF policy regarding use of antibiotics on organic livestock.

CCOF Certification Services has been directed by Ray Green, Manager of the California Department of Food and Agriculture State Organic Program, to amend our policy regarding to the use of antibiotics in organic dairy production. Based on direction from Mr. Green, the following is CCOF's policy on antibiotics, effective immediately:

1. Any animal, including calves, treated with antibiotics will lose its organic status and can never return to organic production.
2. You may not withhold treatment from a sick animal in order to preserve its organic status, per NOP section 205.238(c)(7).
3. You must ensure that animals treated with prohibited materials, including antibiotics, are clearly identified as separate from the organic animals. All meat, milk or milk products from treated animals must be segregated from organic products and there must be clear documentation of the separation.

CCOF CS will no longer allow an animal treated with antibiotics to return to the milking herd, even if the animal is managed organically and remains on the organic farm. CCOF CS producers must cease and desist the transition of any animal treated with an antibiotic immediately.

CCOF's change in policy on this issue is based on recent changes in the NOP standards that are posted on the [USDA website](#), under "Today's News" dated June 5th and June 16th, 2006. You may link to the USDA website via CCOF's site at www.ccof.org or at www.ams.usda.gov/nop.

We appreciate your efforts and thank you for using CCOF for your certification needs. Please contact us at 831-423-2263 if you have any questions regarding this change in policy.