



A Premier Certification Agency

CCOF's roots have been in the California farming community for over 35 years; its certification and services have expanded across the breadth of the food supply chain to include a wide variety of operations, both large and small. From field to fork, CCOF certifies growers, livestock producers, ingredient suppliers, processors and handlers, packaging companies, warehousing and storage facilities, brokers, wholesalers, private labelers, retailers and restaurants. CCOF certified members include more than 2,100 organic operations that produce more than 1,300 different organic crops, products and services.

CCOF Certification Services is accredited by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) under the National Organic Program (NOP) standards. CCOF Certification Services is widely known for its highly-trained staff, expertise in interpreting and upholding organic regulations, strong customer service and support and, above all, its commitment to organic integrity. As a result, the CCOF seal is one of the most recognized and trusted in the industry.



CCOF's mission is to certify, educate, advocate and promote organic.

Global and Local

CCOF operates nationally and internationally by certifying operations in other countries and helping our members export to world markets through a leading Global Market Access (GMA) program. While CCOF's reach has expanded, its focus and structure remain local with the support of Regional Service Representatives (RSRs).

Trade Association Benefits

CCOF is the only full-service certification agency and trade association. CCOF certified operations are also members of CCOF's trade association and benefit from its consumer education, political advocacy and marketing support. In addition to certified members, CCOF represents more than 300 supporting members – individuals and businesses that share our commitment to protecting and expanding the organic marketplace and whose financial assistance helps CCOF achieve its mission.

Education

In addition to CCOF's annual *Organic Directory and Resource Guide*, CCOF publishes a quarterly magazine, *Certified Organic*, which features important organic certification and industry news. CCOF organizes educational events aimed at keeping CCOF members and the organic community up-to-date on industry developments, trends, hot topics and best practices as well as community outreach events designed to increase public awareness of, demand for, and in support of certified organic products. The CCOF website has information on what organic means, organic health and environmental advantages, how to become certified organic, policy and advocacy initiatives, and upcoming events. CCOF's goal is to grow the organic marketplace and our members' businesses by helping consumers understand the benefits of buying organic.

About CCOF

CCOF

The CCOF Foundation

In 2001, the CCOF Foundation, a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization, was created to expand CCOF's education and outreach activities. The mission of the CCOF Foundation is to protect the environment and enhance human health by promoting the production and consumption of nutritious organic food. The Foundation aims to:

- Support organic farmers' efforts to conserve biodiversity
- Accelerate the transition to organic agriculture
- Educate consumers about the benefits of organic food and farming

For more information visit www.ccof.org/foundation.php

Advocacy

CCOF leads the organic movement by advocating for policies that protect and encourage organic food and agriculture and ensure that the many voices of the organic community are heard. CCOF's policy priorities include upholding strict organic standards, protecting the rights of organic producers at the state and federal level, working on behalf of organic farmers on the Farm Bill to ensure access to federal funding and vigorously opposing threats to the organic sector from invasive pests, genetic engineering, and more. CCOF actively participates in National Organic Standards Board (NOSB) and California Organic Products Advisory Committee (COPAC) meetings and works to preserve and improve the integrity of organic.

Promotion

Each year CCOF exhibits at a number of industry trade shows and consumer events where we distribute the annual Organic Directory and Resource Guide free of charge and promote members' products to those looking to buy organic food. CCOF also maintains an online directory of all our certified members where those looking to source certified organic can search by product or service, location or sales method.

We also promote our members' good work and the numerous awards they win in the 'Member News' section of CCOF's quarterly *Certified Organic* magazine, on the CCOF website and via e-newsletters and press releases. To help members promote themselves we inform them of other promotional opportunities and events within the farming and food sectors. Members are also offered complimentary event and classified ad listings in these publications and on our website to help them promote and manage the activities of their operation.

Join Our Organic Community!

- Become certified organic by CCOF - www.ccof.org/certification.php
- Sign up to be a CCOF Supporting Member - www.ccof.org/support.php
- Subscribe to our e-newsletter - www.ccof.org
- Learn about volunteering and internships at CCOF - email ccof@ccof.org
- For more information about CCOF, visit www.ccof.org

CCOF is one of the oldest, largest and most-respected certification agencies in North America.

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