

We're so glad you are participating in the Real Organic Project certification program. We are a grassroots, farmer-led movement created to distinguish soil-grown and pasture-raised products under USDA organic.

This application will help us learn more about your crop and livestock systems. It shouldn't take you long to fill out right now behind your computer. Certification is free and inspection is based on a farm tour, rather than paperwork.

There are 9 Sections in the application, but you only have to fill out the sections that apply to your farm.

SECTIONS:

1. Farm Information (All Farmers Must Complete)
2. Crops (All Farmers Must Complete)
3. Split Farm (All Farmers Must Complete)
4. Greenhouse/High Tunnel
5. Livestock
6. Ruminants
7. Poultry
8. Pigs
9. Review and Submit (All Farmers Must Complete)

If you prefer, you can also print and complete it on paper and mail it to us at the address below. If there are questions that don't apply to your farm, simply type NA (Not Applicable).

Please submit the form even if it is incomplete, and your inspector will get any missing answers with you in person.

Questions? Call Linley at (970) 317-0309 or email her at linley@realorganicproject.org

Optional—mail completed printed form to:

Linley Dixon
31417 Highway 550
Durango, CO 81301

The full Real Organic Project Standards:
<https://www.realorganicproject.org/provisional-standards>

SECTION 1: FARM INFORMATION.

Farm Name

Organic Since

Certifier

Full Mailing Address

Primary Contact First and Last Name

Primary Email

Phone (mobile or best number to arrange visit)

Website

Total Stewarded Acreage

Acres in Organic Crops

Acres in Organic Pasture

Acres in Trees/Conservation

Acres of Non-Certified Production

Please list the crops you grow, including pasture, and approximate acreage of each (Note: If you grow more than 10 crops, OK to answer "mixed vegetables" for example. If you grow on small acreage, OK to answer <1 acre for each crop.)

SECTION 2: CROPS. ALL FARMERS MUST COMPLETE.

Do you harvest from crops grown in soil, with no barrier to the subsoil?

If your answer is no, please explain the situation and what percentage of gross sales comes from crops harvested from containers?

Do you grow microgreens?

If yes, do you add any liquid fertilizer to your microgreens?

Are all microgreens harvested prior to 21 days?

Do you cover crop?

If yes, approximately what percentage of all annual cropped ground do you grow cover crops on each year?

In your current systems, about how many months of the year is soil left bare (exposed with no cover) after tillage? Less than 1 month? 1-3 months? Greater than 3 months?

Describe efforts to reduce amount of time when bare soil is exposed:

Do you apply compost/mulch/manure?

If yes, do you purchase compost/mulch/manure or make your own?

Briefly list the type of feedstock/ingredients/additives for the compost/mulch/manure and approximate amounts applied per year:

Briefly describe any other practices you use to conserve/build soil fertility, organic matter (ex, strip-tillage, shallow tillage, rotating animals on pasture, keep soil covered, fertility inputs):

For areas that are not rotated (ex: perennials, pasture, trees, greenhouses), please describe how the production system builds and maintains the health of the soil and crops.

Section 3: SPLIT FARM. ALL FARMERS MUST COMPLETE.

Is any part of your farm considered a concentrated animal feeding operation, according to the USDA definition: "A farm in which over 1000 animal units are confined for over 45 days a year during the growing season." (For example, 1000 animal units = roughly 1,000 beef cattle; 750 dairy cows; 10,000 sheep; 2,500 pigs; 82,000 egg laying hens; 125,000 broilers; 55,000 turkeys.)

If yes, please describe how/when your farm meets the USDA definition of a CAFO.

Is any part of your farm hydroponic according to the following definition: "Plants that receive the majority of their fertility through liquid feed?"

Parallel Production: Does your farm grow both organic and non-organic products intended for sale within the following categories: (yes/no)

- | | YES / NO | |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Vegetables and small fruit (including berries): | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Tree fruit, tree nuts, and tree sap/syrup: | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Hay, pasture, grain, pulses: | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. Ruminants for meat and byproducts: | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. Ruminants for fibers: | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. Ruminants for dairy: | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7. Poultry for eggs: | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 8. Poultry for meat and byproducts: | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 9. Pigs for meat and byproducts: | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

If you answered yes to any of the above, please explain the situation:

ROP standards provide a split-farm exception for the sale of non-certified ornamental bedding plants and planting stock. Does your farm use this exception? (In other words, is the sale of non-certified ornamental bedding plants greater than 10% of total farm revenue?) If yes, explain.

If yes, are plants managed organically while on the farm?

If yes, are plants clearly identified as non-organic at point of sale?

ROP standards provide a split-farm exception for the sale of non-certified meat from animals that are raised organically but are not slaughtered in a USDA facility. Does your farm use this exception? (Is the sale of non-certified meat greater than 10% of total farm revenue?)

If yes, are non-certified products labeled "not organic" at point of sale?

If yes, are non-certified products managed organically other than at slaughter?

To avoid label confusion, are all non-NOP certified products clearly identified as "not organic" at point of sale?

Is there land, crops or livestock undergoing bona fide transition to certified organic?

If yes, please describe how many acres/animals are in transition to organic?

Status of Operation (circle one):

All organic

Mixed production (less than 10% non-organic,)

Mixed production (greater than 10% non-organic)

Parallel production (both organic and non-organic production of products within the same above 9 categories)

Under what name/s, label/s, and brand/s do you market your products (include both organic and non-organic brands if applicable)?

What percent of your gross sales comes from non-certified organic products?

What practices do you use that wouldn't comply with organic standards on your farm?

SECTION 4: GREENHOUSE/HIGH TUNNEL. COMPLETE ONLY IF YOU SELL CROPS FROM A GREENHOUSE OR HIGH TUNNEL.

How many square feet of greenhouse/tunnel space do you have?

Are all greenhouse/tunnel crops intended for sale grown in soil connected to the bedrock (except for microgreens and plants sold in containers)?

Please list the SLOW-RELEASE inputs used in your greenhouse/tunnel system and how often you are using them (ex: compost, leaves, baleage, meals).

Please list the SOLUBLE inputs used in your greenhouse/high tunnel system and how often you are using them (ex: fish emulsion, hydrolyzed soy protein, pelleted chicken manure).

Explain how your production system is not reliant upon the routine use of (approved) pesticides for disease and insect control:

If your system requires regular use of a pesticide, please list the input and the pest it is needed to control.

Do you use solarization or shallow steam treatment of the greenhouse soil?

Do you use deep steam treatment of the soil (greater than 4 inches)? If yes, please explain why.

Do you use artificial light in your greenhouse?

If yes, briefly describe the dates and/or conditions during which artificial light is used.

Do you add heat to your greenhouse?

If yes, how are you heating your greenhouse (propane, oil, wood, kerosene, electric, etc.) and how much do you use per year (gallons, yards of wood, btu, etc.)?

How many square feet of greenhouse do you heat?

SECTION 5: LIVESTOCK. COMPLETE ONLY IF YOU RAISE AND SELL LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS

Do all animals have daily, year-round access to the outdoors, where the outdoors constitutes at least 50% vegetative cover during the growing season (note: pigs are exempt from vegetative cover requirements)?

Vegetative cover may include pasture, bushes, shrubs, hedgerows, and trees.

Are any of these practices used on your farm:

Needle teeth trimming or grinding, nose ringing, tusk removal, castration after 14 days of age, and tail docking in pigs?

Tail docking, disbudding calves over two months of age or without anesthesia, and wattling in Cattle?

De-horning (Note: de-horning is prohibited except when the health or safety of the herd is put at serious risk; and then must be done by experienced handler and with appropriate anesthesia)?

De-snooding, wattle and comb trimming, notching, toe-clipping and trimming, hole-punching, dubbing, de-beaking and beak trimming, caponization, and forced molting in avian species?

The use of goggles or other similar artificial devices designed to reduce feather pecking?

Mulesing and tail docking of sheep shorter than the distal end of the caudal fold in sheep?

Face branding for all species?

SECTION 6: RUMINANTS. COMPLETE ONLY IF YOU RAISE AND SELL LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS.

Please provide the number of acres exclusively used for pasture, the number of acres exclusively used for hay, and the number of acres that are used for both pasture and hay:

On the acres that are both hayed AND used for pasture, roughly estimate what percent of the total yield will be made for hay vs. grazed:

Please provide the number of grazing animals in each animal group:

Please estimate average pasture yields on your farm (OK to leave blank if you don't know, we can roughly calculate for you based on your location):

What is the DMI% from pasture (calculated for your organic certification)?

Are all ruminants, including dairy cattle, organic from the last third of gestation other than the one-time farm transition to organic certification?

Are tie stalls and stanchions used other than while milking?

Are all ruminants fed colostrum within the first 24 hours of birth?

SECTION 7: POULTRY. COMPLETE ONLY IF YOU RAISE AND SELL POULTRY PRODUCTS.

Do all poultry spend a minimum of half of their life outdoors before being slaughtered (where outdoors is defined as 50% vegetated cover)?

Please describe all variations of poultry housing that you use (mobile/fixed) and the minimum total space allotment per bird at any given time for both indoor and outdoor housing and for all life stages:

Please provide the total number of acres of pasture available for all poultry on the farm:

Please provide the total number of birds you will raise on these acres per year:

For mobile housing/fencing, please describe the approximate number of times poultry will be on the same space per season.

Are there sufficient exit doors on all poultry housing that are distributed to ensure that all individual birds have ready and easy access to the outdoors?

Is shaded outdoor space provided sufficient so that chickens do not have to crowd together to find shade? (Note: Real Organic Project standards require structures, trees, or other objects, vegetation must be 50%)

Is there sufficient water, food, and protection in outdoor areas?

How many inches of perch space are provided per bird for layer and breeder chickens?

Does enough natural light enter shelters during daylight hours to read inside?

Do you use artificial lights to extend daylight hours?

If yes, what is the maximum total number of hours daylight received?

Please describe how you keep volatile ammonia levels low in fixed houses:

SECTION 8: PIGS. COMPLETE ONLY IF YOU RAISE AND SELL PIG PRODUCTS.

Are pigs housed in groups at all times except for farrowing, boars, and illnesses?

Briefly describe the shelter used for farrowing (ROP Standards prohibit gestation crates and farrowing crates. Piglets can not be kept on flat decks or in piglet cages. Sows must be able to stand up, turn around, and lay down at all times. Creeps and bumper bars may be used if set a maximum of 18 inches away from a wall. Slatted flooring is prohibited in all pig housing and shelters.):

Briefly describe all bedding and manipulatable materials provided (ROP standards require deep bedded straw and/or rooting and/or manipulatable materials be provided for all pigs to allow individuals to forage, nest, and otherwise prevent behavior problems whenever indoors or during temporary confinement events. During the farrowing and suckling period a minimum of 2 inches of bedding material must be provided through seven days of age, after which more is required.):

How are your pigs managed to prevent degradation of the soil?

SECTION 9: REVIEW AND SUBMIT.

You did it! Email form to linley@realorganicproject.org, or mail:

Linley Dixon
31417 Highway 550
Durango, CO 81301

(Optional) Email pictures as well.
Do you have any questions for us?
Suggestions for improvement?