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United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

## Is Organic An Option For Me?

Information on Organic Agriculture  
for Farmers, Ranchers, and Businesses

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## What is Organic?

Organic is a labeling term for food or other agricultural products that have been produced according to the USDA organic regulations. These standards require the integration of cultural, biological, and mechanical practices which foster cycling of resources, promote ecological balance, and conserve biodiversity. This means that organic operations must maintain or enhance soil and water quality, while also conserving wetlands, woodlands, and wildlife.

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Looking for an overview of the USDA organic regulations and how we support organic agriculture?

This guide covers:

- + What is organic?
- + USDA's role.
- + Compliance and enforcement.
- + Certification process.
- + USDA resources.

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