



APPROVED MATERIALS IN ORGANIC PRODUCTION & HANDLING

Guidance

Materials used in organic production and processing must comply with the USDA National Organic Program (NOP) regulations. PCO reviews materials for compliance with the NOP regulations and PCO policy as a service to PCO members.

PCO publishes an annual Approved Materials List, which includes materials that PCO has reviewed for compliance with the NOP regulations and allowed for use by PCO-certified operations in accordance with an approved organic system plan. PCO provides quarterly updates to this list in the form of Add/Drop Notices. PCO also publishes material review status changes in the PCO *Organic Matters* newsletter.

PCO certified operators are able to access our Approved Materials List online. Operators must log in to their webportal at <https://portal.paorganic.org/>. You will need a username and password to log into this system. Please call PCO at 814-422-0251 and ask for a Program Assistant if you are having technical difficulties or need information on your username and/or password. Once you are in your portal, the materials list will be labeled “Binder – 20XX PCO Approved Materials List.pdf.” If you are unable to access PCO’s Materials List, contact the PCO office and we will send one to you.

NOP REGULATIONS AND PCO POLICY

The NOP regulations, at §205.105, require that products sold or labeled as “100 percent organic,” “organic,” or “made with organic (specified ingredients or food group(s)),” must be produced and handled without the use of:

- Synthetic substances and ingredients, except as provided in §205.601 or §205.603;
- Non-synthetic substances prohibited in §205.602 or §205.604;
- Nonagricultural substances used in or on processed products, except as otherwise provided in §205.605;
- Nonorganic agricultural substances used in or on processed products, except as otherwise provided in §205.606;
- Excluded methods, except for vaccines: Provided, That, the vaccines are approved in accordance with §205.600(a);
- Ionizing radiation, as described in Food and Drug Administration regulation, 21 CFR 179.26; and
- Sewage sludge.

All input materials used on your organic operation must comply with these requirements and must be reviewed and approved by PCO prior to use.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

ACCEPTING MATERIAL REVIEW DECISIONS OF OTHER AGENCIES

PCO may choose to accept material review decisions by other accredited certification agencies and material review organizations (MRO). PCO accepts the review decisions of the following organizations:

- **Washington State Department of Agriculture's (WSDA)**

Visit https://cms.agr.wa.gov/getmedia/6322228c-c949-44a2-926c-2a86739269e3/WSDA_Organic_Input_Material_List to access WSDA’s approved materials list.

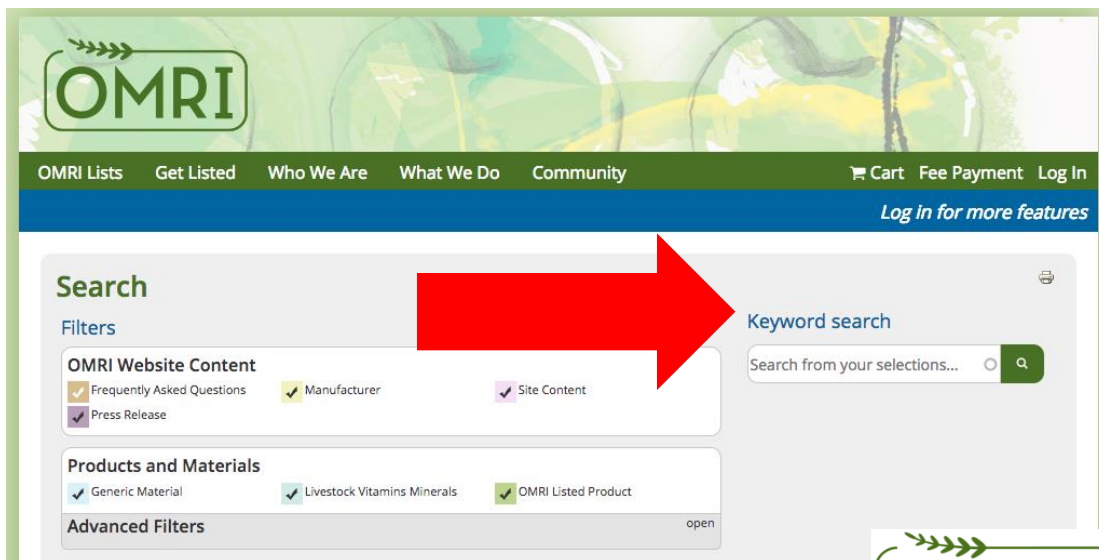


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WSDA approved materials may have the WSDA “For Use in Organic Agricultural” their labels

- **Organic Material Review Institute (OMRI)**

Visit <https://www.omri.org/omri-lists/download> to view and download a copy of OMRI’s products list. Alternatively, visit <https://www.omri.org/ubersearch> to search for specific products on OMRI’s list. Type your search word (product name, manufacturer, type of product, etc.) into the keyword search box and hit enter.



OMRI approved materials may have the OMRI “For Organic Use” logo on their labels



- **California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA)**

To access CDFA’s registered Organic Input Materials list, visit https://www.cdfa.ca.gov/is/ffldrs/fertilizer_OIM.html. Under “Links to Resources,” click on “Registered Organic Input Materials.”

Links to Resources



- **FFLDRS Database** [Apply for a fertilizing materials license and register OIMs]
- **Registered Organic Input Materials (Updated 3/6/2018)** [View a printable list of registered OIMs]
- **Fertilizer Product Database** [View the status of a product and heavy metals analysis]
- **Inspector Information** [Contact an Inspector]
- **Fertilizing Materials Law and Regulations**
- **ISO 17065 Accreditation Notice**

CDFA approved products may have the CDFA “Organic Input Material” logo on their labels



- **Pesticides EPA Registered For Organic Production**

PCO also allows pesticide products that are labeled by the EPA "For Organic Production," provided that PCO can confirm with EPA that the approval is current. Labels of approved products will have an EPA registration number and will have the EPA “For Organic Production” logo and label.



For Organic Production

APPROVED INPUTS

If you have a new material that you would like to use, and you cannot confirm that it is PCO approved for this use or approved by one of the organizations listed above, contact PCO’s Materials Resource Team at 814-422-0251. If the product is not already approved, we will be happy to complete a review for you. Material review requests can also be emailed to jen@paorganic.org, and they can be submitted online at <http://www.paorganic.org/materialsreview>. Fill out the form completely and hit submit. We will get back to you as soon as possible with the results of our material review.