



RESOURCES FOR ORGANIC PRODUCERS & HANDLERS

Resources

STANDARDS/MATERIAL REQUIREMENTS



National Organic Program (NOP)

The NOP is a marketing program housed within the USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service. It does not certify producers, but oversees accreditation of certifying agents. www.ams.usda.gov/nop



Organic Materials Review Institute (OMRI)

OMRI is a non-profit organization whose primary mission is to publish and disseminate generic and specific (brand name) lists of materials allowed and prohibited for use in the production, processing, and handling of organic food and fiber. Brand name lists are available at their website. www.omri.org 541-343-7600



International Organic Inspectors Association (IOIA)

IOIA is a non-profit, professional association dedicated to verification of organic production practices.

<http://www.ioia.net/>

FUNDING HELP

Organic Cost Share Programs

Visit www.ams.usda.gov/nop Click on "More" under the "I want information on" box. This site lists state contacts for organic cost share programs. For Pennsylvania, the contact is Jared Grissinger, 717-705-9513 jgrissinge@pa.gov. Funds are available to get reimbursed 50% (up to \$500) of your certification fees.



NRCS (Natural Resource Conservation Service)

NRCS works with landowners through conservation planning and assistance designed to benefit the soil,

water, air, plants, and animals that result in productive lands and healthy ecosystems. Funds are available for those transitioning to organic and organic producers through the EQIP (Environmental Quality Incentive Program.)

www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/eqip/organic/index.html / www.nrcs.usda.gov

TECHNICAL ADVICE



Appropriate Technology Transfer for Rural Areas (ATTRA)

Funded by the US Department of Agriculture, ATTRA provides outstanding free information and other technical assistance to farmers, ranchers, extension agents, educators, and others involved in sustainable agriculture in the US. www.attra.org / 800-346-9140



Eatwild: The Clearinghouse for Information about Pasture-Based Farming

Eatwild.com features comprehensive, up-to-date, accurate information about grass-fed and organic beef, pork, lamb, bison, dairy products, and poultry. It also features the country's most extensive list of suppliers of pasture-raised products. 29428 129th Ave SW, Vashon, WA 98070 / 1-866-453-8489 / www.eatwild.com/products/index.html



New Farm Online Magazine

New Farm is an online publication that has been informing farmers worldwide for more than 29 years. Get information on transitioning, how to create an organic systems plan, and hot topics in the organic industry. www.rodaleinstitute.org/new_farm



eXtension

eXtension is an interactive learning environment delivering the best researched knowledge from the smartest land-grant university minds across America.

www.extension.org/organic



Organic Guides: Cornell Integrated Pest Management

These organic production guides outline general practices for growing vegetable and fruit crops using organic integrated pest management techniques. Producers working in dairy settings will find the organic dairy cattle guide describes ways to manage external arthropod pests. nysipm.cornell.edu/organic_guide

How to go Organic



A great resource offered by the Organic Trade Association, this website helps producers and processors figure out exactly how to “Go Organic”. The site explains the organic rules and has great resources.

www.howtogoorganic.com



Northeast Organic Dairy Producers Alliance (NODPA)

A resource for organic dairy farmers, organic milk producers and consumers interested in organic dairy farming and products. Among the information offered: Information on the pasture rule, organic dairy news, northeast events, farmer classifieds, business directory, guidance on transitioning to organic, grazing management and soil health. www.nodpa.com Dave Johnson / provident@epix.net, 570-324-2285 / Ed Maltby, emaltby@comcast.net, 413-772-0444

CONSUMER & MARKETING INFORMATION



Organic Consumers Association (OCA):

This is a resource that deals with crucial issues of food safety, industrial agriculture, genetic engineering, children's health, corporate accountability, Fair Trade, environmental sustainability and other key topics. www.organicconsumers.org



Buy Fresh, Buy Local

The Pennsylvania Buy Fresh Buy Local® program celebrates regional foods - heirloom tomatoes, farmstead cheeses, varietal wines, pasture-raised lamb, crisp apples - the abundance and diversity of foods available to you locally is truly inspirational. 412-246-0990 / www.buylocalpa.org



The Organic Trade Association (OTA)

OTA is a membership-based association that encompasses all sectors of the organic industry, from farm to retail. OTA represents the industry's interests to regulators, policymakers, the media and the public. 413-774-7511 / info@ota.com / www.ota.com



Pennsylvania Association for Sustainable Agriculture (PASA)

Non-profit organization working to improve economic and social prosperity of Pennsylvania food and agriculture. Offers seasonal field-days throughout PA, as well as an outstanding annual conference in Feb. info@pasafarming.org / www.pasafarming.org / 814-349-9856



AgMap: Pennsylvania's Online Agricultural Directory

Sponsored by the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture and Penn State University, the AgMap database lists over 3,930 agricultural businesses in Pennsylvania. Looking for locally grown produce, equipment and parts, or businesses serving the ag community? AgMap lets you search based on location, products and service types. Consumers can find places off the beaten track that offer locally grown fruits, vegetables, and other products. <http://agmap.psu.edu> / 814-865-2307

Local Harvest & Food Route



LocalHarvest Both resources help connect consumer and producer by helping consumers find local food sources, including CSA's, Farmer's Market's, and



direct on farm sales. 831-475-8150 /
www.localharvest.org / www.foodroutes.org

The NewFarm.org Farm Locator

Bills itself as “helping consumers, brokers, restaurateurs, and other farmers find the farm services they’re looking for.” Just plug in information such as a product, zip code, marketing method, and state or Canadian province to find what you’re looking for. Its many uses include spreading the word that you need a farm intern. www.rodaleinstitute.org/farm_locator



The National Organic Coalition (NOC)

This is a national alliance of organizations working to provide a "Washington voice" for farmers, ranchers, environmentalists, consumers and progressive industry members involved in organic agriculture. The coalition operates under the central principle that protecting the stringency and integrity of the national organic standards is necessary. www.nationalorganiccoalition.org

THE LATEST RESEARCH



SARE (Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education)

SARE’s mission is to advance – to the whole of American agriculture – innovations that improve profitability, stewardship and quality of life by investing in groundbreaking research and education. www.sare.org



Acres U.S.A

A magazine that is dedicated to bringing producers up to date information on eco-agriculture and sustainable farming practices. Also, Acres has published many resources available for purchase. 800-355-5313 / www.acresusa.com

PROCESSING INFORMATION

OrganicProcessing Magazine

This a free, online magazine that is available to those producers wanting more information on Organic Processing in the food, fiber, and personal care industries. www.organicprocessing.com



606 Organic

This site was developed to assist in the search for organic sources of the non-organically produced ingredients allowed in the National Organic Program section §205.606. The non-organic ingredients listed in §205.606 may only be used when an organic form is not commercially available. www.606organic.com



Organic Farming Research Foundation

This is a website dedicated to teach consumers/ producers about organic policy and current topics to foster the important and widespread adoptions of organic farming system. www.ofrf.org