

Center for Smart Agriculture

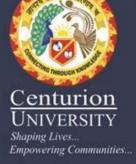
Organic Certification and Inspection

Systems



National Programme for Organic Production

Module 2: Organic Certification Session 1: Certification, Purpose, Process



Organic Certification

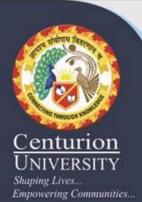
✓ It is a certification process for producers of organic food and other organic agricultural products.

- ✓ In general, any business directly involved in food production can be certified, including seed suppliers, farmers, food processors, retailers and restaurants.
- Requirements vary from country to country, and generally involve a set of production standards for growing, storage, processing, packaging and shipping.

Centurion UNIVERSITY Shaping Lives... Empowering Communities... Avoidance of synthetic chemical inputs (e.g. fertilizer, pesticides, antibiotics, food additives, etc) and genetically modified organisms;

- ➤Use of farmland that has been free from chemicals for a number of years (often, three or more);
- Keeping detailed written production and sales records (audit trail);

Maintaining strict physical separation of organic products from non-certified products;

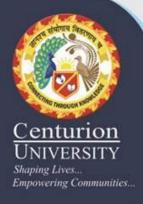


certified Organic

Grown by Certified Organic Farmers.

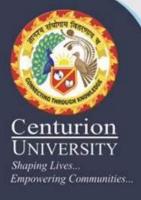


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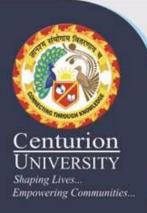
Purpose of certification

- Organic certification addresses a growing worldwide demand for organic food.
- It is intended to assure quality and prevent fraud. For organic producers, certification identifies suppliers of products approved for use in certified operations.
- For consumers, "certified organic" serves as a product assurance, similar to "low fat", "100% whole wheat", or "no artificial preservatives".



Certification is essentially aimed at regulating and facilitating the sale of organic products to consumers.

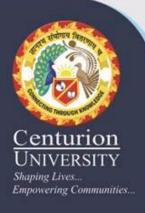
- Individual certification bodies have their own service marks, which can act as branding to consumers.
- Most certification bodies operate organic standards that meet the National government's minimum requirements.



The certification process

In order to certify a farm, the farmer is typically required to engage in a number of new activities, in addition to normal farming operations:

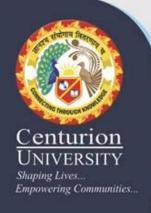
- ✓ Study the organic standards, which cover in specific detail what is and is not allowed for every aspect of farming, including storage, transport and sale.
- ✓ Compliance farm facilities and production methods must comply with the standards.



Documentation - extensive paperwork is required, detailing farm history and current set-up, and usually including results of soil and water tests.

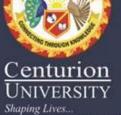
Planning - awritten annualproductionplanmustbesubmitted,detailingeverything from seed to sale

Record-keeping - written, day-to-day farming and marketing records, covering all activities, must be available for inspection at any time.



Inspection - annual on-farm inspections are required, with a physical tour, examination of records, and an oral interview.

Fee – A fee is to be paid by the grower to the certification body for annual surveillance and for facilitating a mark which is acceptable in the market as symbol of quality.



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THANK YOU