

Washington State Horticultural Association  
Organics Session  
Organic Regulatory Update



Presented by Les Eklund – WSDA  
Organic Food Program  
Field Supervisor, Olympia Wa.

## Organic Food Program International Program Requirements for 2009

- International Programs for 2009 include Europe, Canada and Japan.
- Producers and Handlers must – Apply for International Organic Certification when applying for National Organic Program certification or during the yearly renewal process.
- May not apply just for EU or just Canada separately.
- Europe and Canada certification is determined by site. If a site is certified for Europe and Canada, *all* crops on that site must be managed according to NOP and Additional Requirements. It may be necessary to split existing sites.
- Producers with parallel production (same varieties grown conventional or to NOP standards) on their operations are required to have additional inspections at the time of harvest (at the cost of \$40/Hr) to verify the source of the International Compliant product.

## 2009 Requirements Continued

- Attempt to source organic source of manure before using nonorganic source.
- Inspections must include visits to both organic and nonorganic areas of production.
- Yield Estimates for the season are needed for all International crops at application.
- May need to establish a minimum buffer zones (25 feet) for Canada requirements.
- Materials allowed are currently under review – there are some materials that may be allowed in Canada but not in Europe such as gibberelic acid.
- Materials information will included with your application packet.
- **Starting in June 2009** - Exports to Canada will need to be specifically certified in accordance with the new Canadian Organic Regime (COR).

# European Prohibited Materials

- Vitamin D-3 for rodent control;
- Sodium Nitrate
- Sulfur dioxide for rodent control;
- Vitamins B<sub>1</sub>, C, E;
- **Giberellic Acid;**
- **Antibiotics (streptomycin, terramycin);**
- Hydrogen peroxide;
- Ammonium soaps;
- Boric acid for structural pest control;
- Hydrated lime for disease control;
- Peat for soil conditioning
- Chlorine
- Manure – Raw Manure from Caged Poultry

**Taken off the list in 2008 and ALLOWED for use in 2009**

- Potassium bicarbonate and Sodium silicate (pear float)

# EU/Canada Manure Clarifications

- Raw manure sources must be documented
- No Raw Manure from Caged Poultry Operations
- Raw manure other than caged poultry is allowed if tested
- **Composted** or **heat processed** manure from caged poultry operations  
**ALLOWED IF:**
- Manure meets standards for residue testing
  - Residue Testing Must Include analysis for:
    - Pathogens
    - Heavy Metals
    - Pesticide Residues
  - Questions ??
- contact Lisa Brines, Lbrines@agr.wa.gov, (360) 725-3893 for material registration or
- Brenda Book , Bbook@agr.wa.gov, (360) 902-2090 for international organic certification.

# Japan Program

- Prohibits the use of the following 3 materials as **active ingredients** in Organic Production:
  - potassium bicarbonate
  - lignon sulfonate
  - alkali extracted humic acid
- If interested in obtaining Japan Compliance *ONLY*, and not certification in accordance with the European Union and Canada, you are not required to apply to the International Organic Program. The fee for an evaluation for the Japan Compliance Program only is \$40. Contact our office to learn about this process.

Evaluation is based on compliance of crop varieties and NOT on a site by site basis. For example, if fuji on site #1 had kaligreen applied they would not qualify and the fuji on site #2 would also not qualify).

# Cost Share for 2008 - 2009

- Certified applicants may apply for cost share for 2008 Organic Fees
- Certified applicants may apply for cost share for 2009 Organic Fees
- Cost-Share payments will be limited to 75 percent of an individual operation's certification costs, up to a maximum of \$750.00 per certification for 2008 and 2009 certification fees.

## 2009 Renewal Application Packets

- Same as in 2008– only system plan updates, not entire new system plans.
- Late Fees– Sliding scale from \$100 to \$600 the later the application the more the fee.
- Updated Material List will be sent out in January and is updated quarterly on the Organic Web Site, [agr.wa.gov/FoodAnimal/organic](http://agr.wa.gov/FoodAnimal/organic), and in the OFP Organic Quarterly publication.

# Material Updates

- **Products Withdrawn from WSDA Brand Name Material List**
  - **Champion WP Sulfur**
  - **Nu Cop 50WP**
  - **ProGibb Plus 2X**
  - **Isomate M100**
  - **RSA MicroTech – 14 individual Micronutrient Products**
- WSDA is currently a member of OMRI. This gives growers another tool to verify compliance of brand name products. The Brand Name Products List is available on their website, [www.omri.org](http://www.omri.org). **Hard copies of both Brand Name Product Lists and Generic Lists are available to our certified organic applicants free of charge.** Contact the office if you would like a copy.
- The new WSDA Brand Name Material List will be published mid-December and sent out in January. Please be careful to check the list prior to the use of a product to ensure that it is still listed.
- Questions on Materials – Katherine Withey - 360-902-1882  
[kwithey@agr.wa.gov](mailto:kwithey@agr.wa.gov) or Lisa Brines 360-725-3893– [lbrines@agr.wa.gov](mailto:lbrines@agr.wa.gov)

# Organic Program Staff

## New Positions Added in 2008

- Renee Delaney – Certification Specialist -Producer Certification for Crops - Olympia, WA
- Jennifer Gridley – Certification Specialist - Producer/Processor and Handler/Processor Certification, Olympia, WA

## Replacements for existing positions

- Lee Graham – New Organic Field Inspector – Grant County - Quincy, WA  
Replaced Pam Coleman

Vacant Position - Inspector and Certification Specialist – Richard Carr moved out of area

Currently have 22 on staff – 9 Field Inspectors, 3 Certification Coordinators, 4 Certification Specialists, 3 Administrative Assistants, 1 Material Review Specialist