



Organic Certification Surrender Form

Vermont Organic Farmers, LLC (VOF)

The USDA accredited certification agency owned by NOFA Vermont

VOF Office: 802-434-3821 vof@nofavt.org www.nofavt.org/vof

Business Name: _____ Certification #: _____

I, _____ (producer name) of _____ (business name) hereby wish to voluntarily surrender my organic certification and withdraw from the Vermont Organic Farmers certification program. I am aware that I am no longer permitted to use the USDA logo, nor can I use the Vermont Organic Farmers logo, and my product must not be described as organic unless I meet one of the following exemptions or exclusions:

- 1) A production or handling operation that sells agricultural products as "organic" but whose gross agricultural income from organic sales totals \$5,000 or less annually is exempt from certification but must comply with the applicable organic production and handling requirements of the National Organic Program. The products from such operations shall not be used as ingredients identified as organic in processed products produced by another handling operation.
- 2) A handling operation or portion of a handling operation is excluded from the requirements of organic certification, except for the requirements for the prevention of commingling and contact with prohibited substances, if such operation only sells organic agricultural products labeled "100 percent organic," "organic," or "made with organic (specified ingredients or food group(s))" that are packaged or otherwise enclosed in a container prior to being received or acquired by the operation and remain in the same package or container and are not otherwise processed while in the control of the handling operation. (Note: VOF interprets this exclusion to mean that if organic products are packaged prior to surrender and remain in the same package or container then those products may continue to be sold in that final packaging bearing an organic claim.)

I understand that if my certification is surrendered in good standing, I may choose to reapply at any time by contacting the Vermont Organic Farmers office.

Please help us better understand the challenges faced by organic producers and let us know why you have chosen to surrender your organic certification: _____

I understand and agree to the terms noted above.

Signature _____ Date _____

Vermont Organic Farmers LLC
PO Box 697 · 14 Pleasant Street · Richmond VT 05477 · 802-434-3821
Certified **Organic**, Locally Grown

Date Created:

Date Revised: 5.15.18; 3.22.22