



Organic Certification Surrender Form

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:

- 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.
- 2) A retail establishment that does not process organically produced agricultural products.
- 3) A retail establishment that processes, at the point of final sale, agricultural products certified under this part as "100 percent organic," "organic," or "made with organic (specified ingredients or food group(s))."
- 4) A handling operation that only handles agricultural products that contain less than 70 percent organic ingredients (as described in the NOP rule § 205.301 (d)) or that only identifies organic ingredients on the information panel.
- 5) An operation that only receives, stores, and/or prepares for shipment, but does not otherwise handle, organic agricultural products that:
 - a. Are enclosed in sealed, tamper-evident packages or containers prior to being received or acquired by the operation; and
 - b. Remain in the same sealed, tamper-evident packages or containers and are not otherwise handled while in the control of the operation.
- 6) An operation that only buys, sells, receives, stores, and/or prepares for shipment, but does not otherwise handle, organic agricultural products already labeled for retail sale that:
 - a. Are enclosed in sealed, tamper-evident packages or containers that are labeled for retail sale prior to being received or acquired by the operation; and
 - b. Remain in the same sealed, tamper-evident packages or containers that are labeled for retail sale and are not otherwise handled while in the control of the operation.
- 7) A Customs broker (per 19 CFR 111.1) that only conducts customs business but does not otherwise handle organic agricultural products.

- 8) An operation that only arranges for the shipping, storing, transport, or movement of organic agricultural products but does not otherwise handle organic products.

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 _____