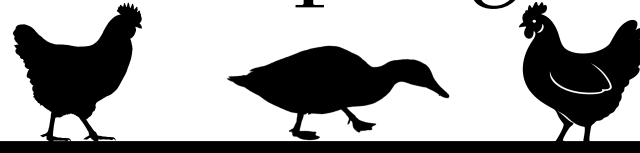


Organic Poultry

A Recordkeeping Checklist



Animal Origin & Identification



- Flock Identification System - ID, source of animal, organic slaughter eligibility, breeding dates, animals entering or leaving the flock.
- Record hatch date, supplier organic certificate; dates animals were purchased or sold, source/origin, ID's, certification status, breed & sex, and itemized receipts.
- Origin documentation proving continuous organic management from no later than the second day of life - note dates arrived and management started.
- Records showing chicks were under organic management by day 2 of life.
- Records identifying any animals treated with prohibited substances and documentation proving they and their products are not sold as organic.

Feed & Nutrition



- Purchase records for all feed, labels, including organic certification of suppliers.
- Pasture and forage production & Inventory records.
- Feed additive and supplement documentation. (must be on National List §205.603)
- Records showing 100% organic feed ration, seasonal ration changes, including grazing.

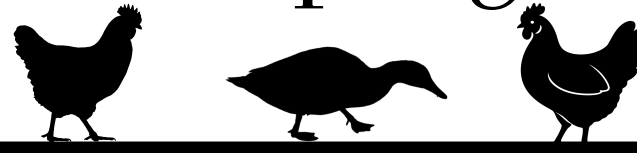
Healthcare & Welfare



- Animal ID, symptoms/diagnosis, date of treatment, product name and active ingredients, dosage and route, vaccination records (preventive and allowed), veterinary prescription/authorization (if required), treatment administrator, and documented vet visits with reasons.
- Preventive practices, fecal monitoring, emergency protocols, and documentation showing acceptable methods were tried before any allowed treatments; Parasiticides prohibited in slaughter stock; emergency use allowed and by veterinary order (§205.238(b)).
- Receipts and labels for healthcare products, supplements, and bedding, including organic certificates when applicable.
- Compliance with meat withdrawal periods for allowed substances (§205.603), clear identification of animals/products permanently removed from organic status due to prohibited substances (e.g., antibiotics, non-allowed synthetics).
- Temporary confinement records (start/end dates and reason), physical alterations (break trimming, toe clipping, etc) performed for welfare/ID/safety, animals euthanized, and documentation of animals treated with prohibited substances.

Organic Poultry

A Recordkeeping Checklist



Housing & Living Conditions



- Records demonstrating adequate space and appropriate indoor and outdoor design to meet animal health and welfare needs, including temperature, ventilation, and air circulation monitoring records for housing facilities.
- Documentation showing animals have continuous access to outdoors, exercise areas, fresh air, direct sunlight, shade, shelter, and clean drinking water. Exit areas provide 1 linear foot per 360 birds.
- Records showing 6 inches of perch space per layer. Documentation that all layers can perch simultaneously.
- Bedding type and source records; organic certification required when bedding is edible/roughage.
- Routine cleaning, maintenance, and sanitation records for animal housing and facilities.
- Weekly ammonia monitoring records at bird head height. Documentation of ammonia levels and actions taken when levels exceed 10 ppm.
- Documentation of vegetative cover maintenance on outdoor soil areas. Records showing access to scratching and dust bathing dry areas with dry litter.
- For slatted/mesh floor, documentation of 30% minimum solid floor with dust for bath.
- Record of temporary confinement with dates, animals affected, and reason of any periods of temporary confinement.

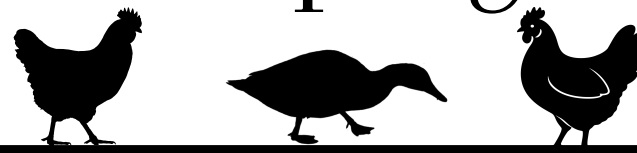
Pasture Practices & Crop Field Activity



- Pasture management plan demonstrating pasture as a managed crop.
- Pasture rotation schedules and maps - location, name, size, fences, shade, water access.
- Records of outdoor space calculations meeting stocking density requirements for layers and broilers.
- Grazing season dates and duration, movement, including daily grazing records throughout grazing season.
- Documentation of pasture management compliance with. (§§205.240)
- Pasture soil amendments and fertility records within organic compliance. (§§205.203)
- Keep field activity logs (planting, inputs, cultivating, harvesting, etc.). (§§205.203)
- Order and document any seed purchase and search for pasture and field crops (must be organic or documented unavailability). (§§205.204)
- Buffer zone documentation, if applicable.
- Record amount of feed harvested, amount, and from which fields.
- Pest management records for pasture.

Organic Poultry

A Recordkeeping Checklist



Transport & Slaughter



- Transport logs including:
 - Departure and arrival times.
 - Condition of animals. Records showing birds are not transported if non-ambulatory.
 - Transporter identity.
- Labeled as organic for the duration of transport.
- Emergency transport plans for animal welfare incidents.
- Slaughter records, if applicable. Records demonstrate FSIS humane standards followed.

Sales



- Keep sales records for all poultry products (live animal, meat, eggs sales).
- Sales invoices describing product as “organic”.
- Records linking each animal/product to its organic management and origin.
- Buyer certification or verification of organic status.
- Keep records for traceability and mass balance inspection audits.

Organic System Plan & Inspection



- Update the Organic System Plan by due date, annually.
- Complete the certification fee reimbursement applications (Usually through FSA or Dept. of Ag.)
- Gather all records for your annual organic inspection ahead of time.
- Be sure you have a comprehensive audit trail linking animal origin > management > feed > health care > sale.
- Retain all records for at least 5 years
- Documentation preventing commingling with nonorganic animals/products.
- Training records for staff responsible for organic livestock.



United States Department of Agriculture
Agricultural Marketing Service
National Organic Program
Transition to Organic Partnership Program

