

NOTICE OF SUSPENSION OF ACCREDITATION

June 11, 2020

Emilie Fournier
Certisys
Avenue de l'Escrime, 85
Schermelaan Brussels B- 1150
BELGIUM

Dear Ms. Fournier:

Pursuant to the regulations at 7 CFR § 205.665(e), the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS), National Organic Program (NOP) issues this Notice of Suspension of Accreditation to Certisys (CSYS).

On May 14, 2020, the USDA-AMS Administrator issued a decision denying CSYS' appeal of the Notice of Noncompliance and Proposed Suspension of Accreditation issued by NOP on November 19, 2019. The decision provided 30 days for CSYS to request a hearing before an Administrative Law Judge. On June 10, 2020, CSYS returned a waiver of hearing form to the NOP. Therefore, the Administrator's decision is final, and the NOP is suspending CSYS' USDA accreditation.

Certisys' USDA accreditation is suspended from **June 13, 2020 through June 13, 2021**. Beginning on June 13, 2020, CSYS must cease all USDA organic certification activities.

CSYS must immediately notify its certified operations and applicants for certification of the following:

1. CSYS will no longer provide USDA organic certification services as of June 13, 2020.
2. Operations listed as certified by CSYS in the Organic Integrity Database will appear as "[---] Transitioning to New Certifier".
3. All operations certified by CSYS must inform the NOP (AIAInbox@usda.gov) **within 60 days of the notification date**, whether they have applied with a new certifier or are surrendering their certification. Operations applying for certification with another certifier must also provide the name of the certifier and the date of application.
4. If an operation does not inform the NOP **within 60 days of the notification date** that it has applied for certification with another certifier or is surrendering certification, the NOP will issue the operation a notice of noncompliance, which may lead to the suspension of the operation's certification.
5. Operations applying for certification with another certifier must inform the NOP (AIAInbox@usda.gov) once they have received their new organic certificate.

6. Operations that have applied for certification with another certifier may use their existing inventory of labels approved by CSYS identifying CSYS as the certifying agent if the use-up is approved by the new certifier according to the NOP's instructions for label use-up approval.

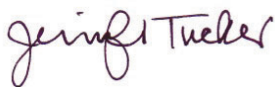
Additionally, please submit to the NOP (AIAInbox@usda.gov) the following by **June 17, 2020**:

1. A copy of the notification sent to applicants and certified operations as outlined above.
2. A current list of new applicants for certification, if applicable.
3. A current list of certified operations, including operation name, physical and mailing address, email address, phone number, and name of primary contact person.
4. The date of the most recent annual inspection for each certified operation and the date of the initial inspection, if applicable, for each applicant.

Please be advised that CSYS may seek reinstatement of its accreditation after the suspension period by submitting a request to the Secretary for reinstatement of its accreditation. The request must be accompanied by evidence demonstrating correction of each noncompliance and corrective actions taken to comply with and remain in compliance with the Organic Food Productions Act and the USDA organic regulations (7 CFR Part 205).

If you have any questions regarding this notice, please contact Graham Davis, Accreditation Manager, at Graham.Davis@usda.gov or (202) 692-0047.

Sincerely,



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Date: 2020.06.11 18:05:43 -04'00'

Jennifer Tucker, Ph. D.
Deputy Administrator
National Organic Program