



1400 Independence Avenue, SW.  
Room 2642-South, STOP 0268  
Washington, DC 20250-0268

August 10, 2017

**MEMORANDUM TO THE NATIONAL ORGANIC STANDARDS BOARD**

**FROM:** Miles V. McEvoy  
Deputy Administrator

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Miles V. McEvoy". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

**SUBJECT:** Request for recommendation on improving oversight of imported organic products

The U.S. Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) National Organic Program (NOP) has determined that certain shipments of corn and soy, shipped from Turkey, were fraudulently labeled as organic. In order to deter additional fraudulent shipments and to protect the integrity of the organic system, AMS-NOP has taken a number of actions, outlined in the following report: <https://www.ams.usda.gov/sites/default/files/media/OversightofOrganicImports.pdf>

AMS is exploring additional measures that could be developed to strengthen the global organic control system.

AMS is requesting that the National Organic Standards Board (NOSB) provide recommendations on improving the oversight and control procedures that are used by AMS, certifiers, and operations to verify organic claims for imported organic products. AMS will provide information and reports to guide and assist NOSB in this work.