

USDA Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) National Organic Program (NOP)

NOP Update for the National Organic Standards Board (NOSB) – Part 2

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Deputy Administrator
National Organic Program
October 24, 2023



NOP Update in Learning Center!



- Transition to Organic Partnership Program (TOPP)
- Standards Update
- Accreditation & Audits
- Compliance & Enforcement
- Trade Activities
- Learning Center
- Human Capital Initiative
- And More ...

National Organic Program Fall 2023 Update for NOSB Now Available in the Learning Center

USDA Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS)
National Organic Program (NOP)



Grow and develop
the organic sector

NOP Update for National Organic
Standards Board Meeting - Fall 2023

Develop and
implement organic
standards



Organic integrity
through strong
oversight systems

Organic integrity
through robust
enforcement





NOP Team: 88 People in Fall 2023

Standards, Accreditation, Compliance & Enforcement, Trade Activities, Office of Deputy Administrator



National Organic Program Goal Areas for 2023



Grow and develop the organic sector through transition initiatives and technical assistance



Develop and implement organic standards through open, transparent, collaborative processes



Protect organic integrity through strong oversight systems



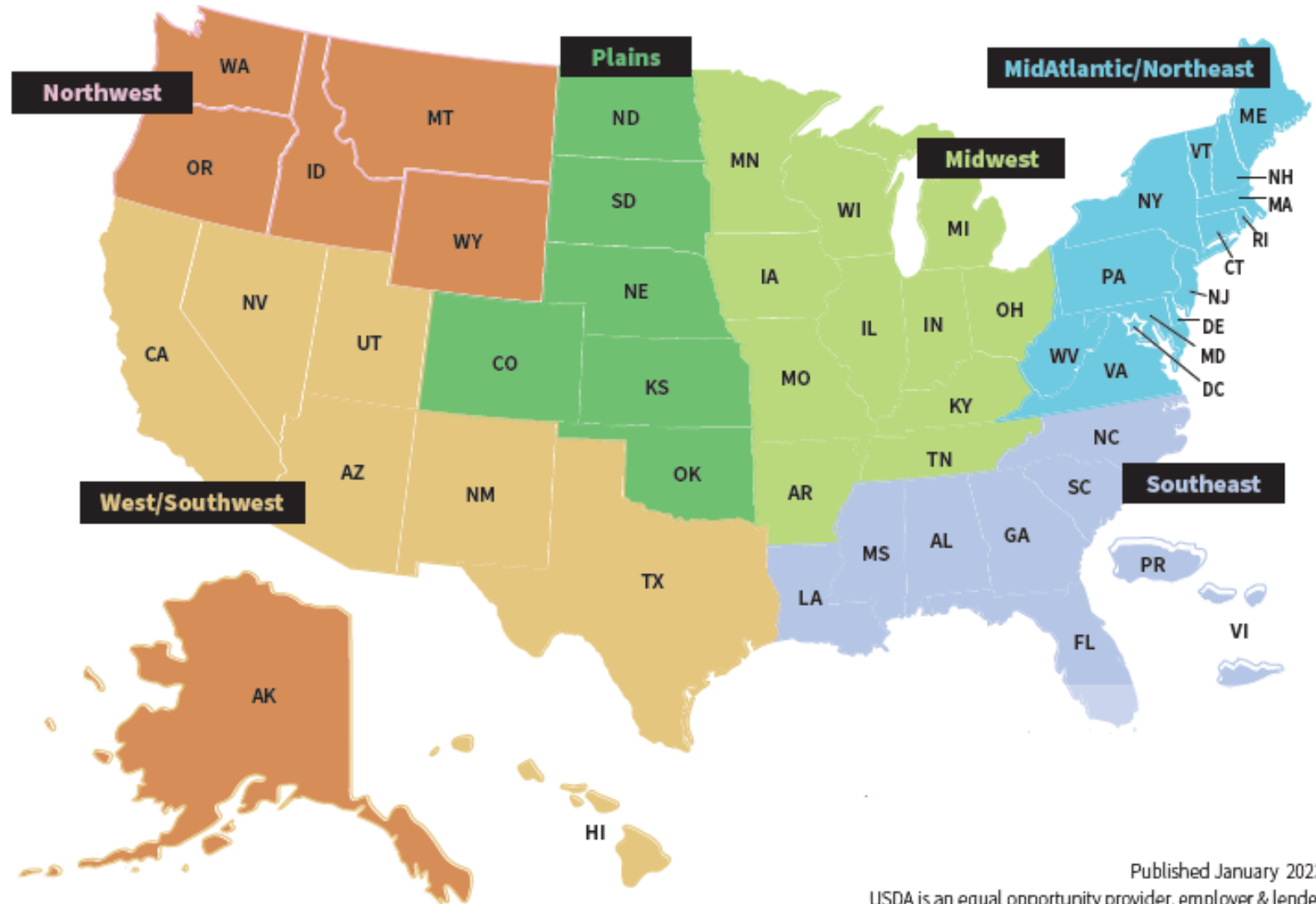
Protect organic integrity through robust enforcement

Transition to Organic Partnership Program (TOPP)



Transition to Organic Partnership Program (\$100 M)

- Farmer-to-Farmer Mentoring
- Technical Assistance
- Community Development
- Workforce Development
- Data and Reporting



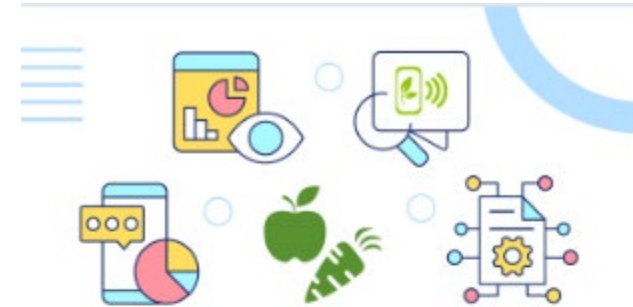
Published January 2023

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Related USDA Support for Transition



- Organic Market Development Grants
- Organic Integrity Database: Transitional Operation Reporting
- Coordination with Risk Management Agency (RMA) on Transitioning Farmer Insurance
- Live Training for USDA Teams on Climate-Smart Ag & Transitioning Farmer Training
- Publishing Soon: Interactive module in Learning Center with “Climate-Smart Crosswalk”
- Transitioning Producer Plan Template (Pre-OSP) (Coming Soon)



Transitioning
to Certified Organic:
Practices at a Glance



Strengthening Organic Enforcement (SOE) Final Rule



Reduce the number of uncertified entities



Strengthen recordkeeping and supply chain traceability



Require use of electronic import certificates



Strengthen oversight of accredited certifiers



GOAL: Protect organic integrity and bolster consumer confidence in the USDA organic seal

Global Organic Control Systems



Compliance and Enforcement



Training and Outreach to Build Capabilities

Surveillance (Operations, Certifiers, Sectors, Countries)

Complaint Investigations & Resulting Actions

Certifier Directives, Testing and Related Actions

Loss of Certification (Suspension, Revocation) under NOP

Legal Penalties Covered by Trademark Protections

Significant Fees and Fines (Civil Penalties)

Prison Time

USDA: NOP & Office of Inspector General + Other Agencies

Customs and Border Protection (CBP)

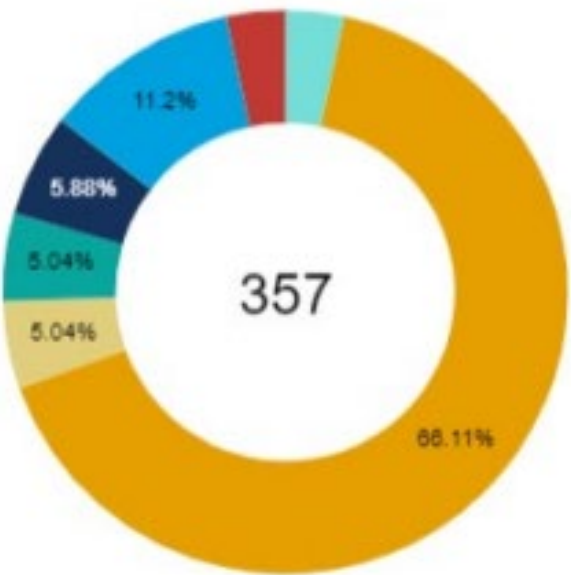
Department of Justice (DOJ)

Compliance and Enforcement – Complaint View



357 Open Cases by Type

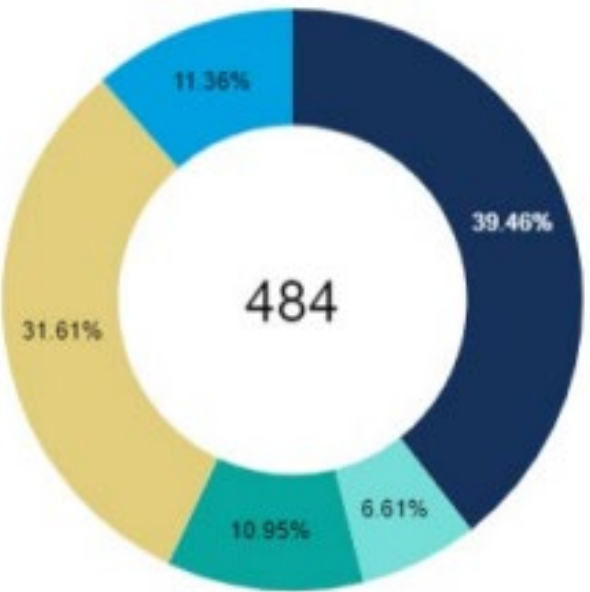
As of 9/28/2023



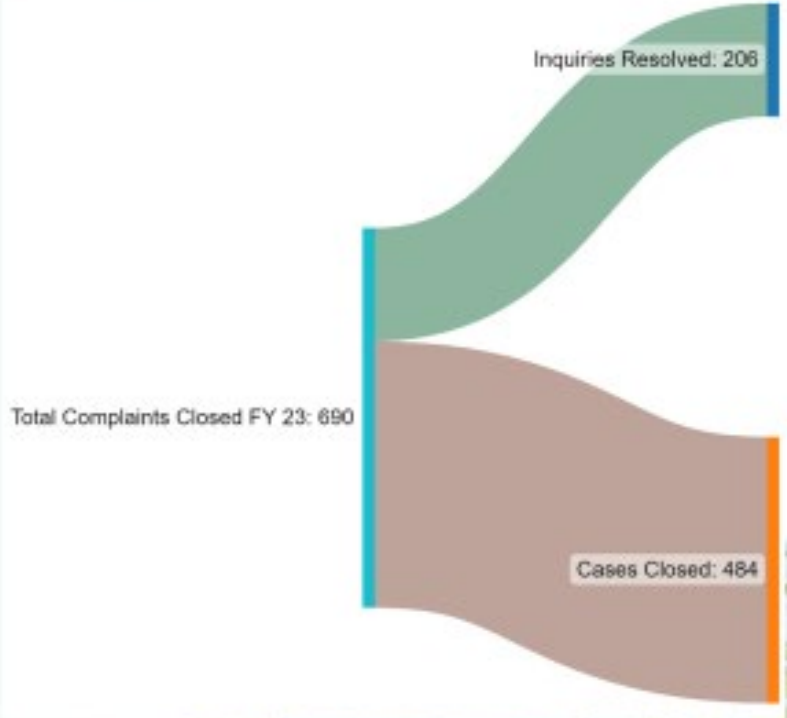
- Fraud
- Labeling Error
- Other
- Pesticide Residue
- Prohibited Practice
- Prohibited Substance
- Reinstatement
- Uncertified Operation

484 Cases Closed by Outcome

As of 9/28/2023



- Civil Penalty, Settlement
- Voluntary Compliance
- Fraudulent Certificate Posted
- No Violation
- Referral, Other



More complaints resolved than received in FY2023.

Tracking Progress on NOSB Recommendations



- NOP Updates for NOSB in Learning Center
- NOSB Recommendation Indices: <https://www.ams.usda.gov/sites/default/files/media/NOSBRecommendationsLibrary.pdf>
- Memos to the NOSB: <https://www.ams.usda.gov/rules-regulations/organic/nosb/memos-nosb>
- OMB Regulatory Agenda (Spring/Fall)

National Organic Standards Board (NOSB)
Summary of Status

Status	Practice Standards	National List
In Process	18	10
Complete	185	306
Closed	3	10
On Hold	12	1
Total	218	327
Percent Complete	85%	94%

July 6, 2023

MEMORANDUM TO THE NATIONAL ORGANIC STANDARDS BOARD

FROM: Jennifer Tucker, Ph.D.
Deputy Administrator
National Organic Program (NOP)

National Organic Program
Deputy Administrator

Digitally signed by JENNIFER
TUCKER
Date: 2023.07.06 17:22:17 -04'00'

SUBJECT: Response to National Organic Standards Board Recommendations
(Spring 2023 Meeting)

Background

This memorandum responds to recommendations from the National Organic Standards Board (NOSB) to the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS), National Organic Program (NOP) at its meeting in Atlanta, Georgia from April 25-27, 2023. This memo also provides an update on NOP's current and upcoming regulatory priorities.

Organic Integrity From Farm to Table



Consumers Trust the Organic Label

