

ORIGIN OF LIVESTOCK FINAL RULE

The Origin of Livestock (OOL) final rule revises the USDA organic regulations to clarify the one-time transition of dairy animals to organic production



WHAT DOES THE RULE DO?

- Describes how and when nonorganic dairy animals can be **transitioned into organic production**
- Harmonizes the market by ensuring all organic dairy producers use the **same transition practices**

WHO IS AFFECTED?

- Producers
- Certifiers
- Inspectors
- Consumers

HOW WILL THE RULE BENEFIT FARMERS?

- Ensures more consistent production and **certification practices**
- Promotes the ability to **compete more fairly** in the organic market

OOL IN PRACTICE

New or transitioning dairy operations may:

- (a) Purchase or raise organic animals, or
- (b) Transition nonorganic animals to organic production **ONCE**.



Once certification is complete:

- (a) The operation may only add animals that have been organically managed from the last third of gestation.
- (b) The operation cannot source transitioned animals from another operation.*

**Some small businesses may be granted limited exceptions by the AMS Administrator*



➔ To learn more about the rule, please see AMS's website: www.ams.usda.gov/organic