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Nevada Organic Farming Workshop Planned for February 26, 2003

THE NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE is pleased to announce Nevada's first Organic Farming and Gardening Conference, to be held February 26, 2003 at John Asguaga's Nugget in Sparks, Nevada. The registration fee is \$10.00 per person, and includes lunch.

This one-day conference will cover topics of interest to organic farmers, ranchers and organic gardeners, including organic livestock certification, techniques for building healthy soil, optimizing native pollinator activity, marketing opportunities for organic products, National Organic Program requirements, and more. Also on hand will be suppliers of products appropriate for use by organic farmers and gardeners.

For farmers and processors who would like to attend and who live out of the immediate area, scholarships are available for lodging and conference registration. Peggy McKie from the Nevada Department of Agriculture's organic certification program said, "USDA provided the state with the grant money to fund the workshop. Thanks to this funding, we are able to offer a limited number of scholarships for growers and processors who ordinarily might not be able to attend because of cost considerations."

Information about the conference, scholarship applications, and registration forms are available by calling Peggy McKie, Nevada Department of Agriculture, 775.688.1182 extension 243.



Last February ('02) the State Department of Agriculture awarded Churchill Butte Horticulture of Dayton, Nevada a federally funded grant for the amount of \$3,079.00 for the purpose of water expansion and improvement for their home delivered organic vegetables and herbs. The process was very competitive, comprising 43 applications totaling over \$1,700,000.00. The applicants vied for a total grant amount of \$120,000.00 that Nevada received from the USDA targeted for specialty crops as a result of Congress recognizing the need to assist the development of alternative crops, specifically locally grown agricultural goods.

Churchill Butte Horticulture Awarded Specialty Crop Grant

CHURCHILL BUTTE HORTICULTURE (CBH) is operated by husband and wife Steve and Marcia Litsinger. It is a solar powered farm located in the Virginia foothills above the Stagecoach valley.

Profile Certified Organic since the program's inception here in Nevada in 1998 and comprising forty total acres, less than one acre is currently under cultivation. CBH is off the power lines and completely solar-powered (photo-voltaic, or PV), so Steve and Marcia use PV panels to operate D.C. water pumps and grow in unheated hoop-houses which moderate the winter temperatures, since conventional greenhouse heaters are not feasible. Serving a select group of CSA (Community Supported Agriculture) clients with fresh-picked, home delivered organic herbs and vegetables, Steve and Marcia practice sustainable agriculture and low-impact farming.



CBH hoop house structures provide for winter growing.

Prior to receiving the grant, CBH operated with a small solar powered 12 volt D.C. pump incapable of delivering water necessary to produce profitably during the summer months. While CBH is currently leading the way in sustainable, solar powered agriculture in Nevada, they were previously unable to

learn more here for more

Frequency & Distribution

The Nevada Organic Review, is a quarterly publication sponsored, printed and distributed by the Nevada Department of Agriculture and the Nevada Organic Council.

Distribution information: Peggy McKie, Nevada Department of Agriculture, Reno, NV (775) 688-1182 X 243. or email: pgmckie@govmail.state.nv.us

Churchill Butte Horticulture Continued from page 1



Marcia cutting salad greens.

show reasonable profitability due to their limited water pumping capabilities.

The implementation of the upgrade allows Nevada to move forward in the new Eco-Economy by showing the feasibility of solar powered micro farming. Nevada's strength is the sun, which simply turns pumps on at sunrise and off at sunset. CBH also uses soaker hoses and

drip lines so very little water is lost to evaporation.

The grant, awarded to CBH, purchased a new 24 volt D.C. pump, two new 75 watt solar panels to power it, and a new water line to carry the water to a storage tank previously in place, but unusable with the old pump.

Bees to Blooms & Beyond ...

With the greater supply of water more flowering herbs were planted, such as lavender, sage, and thyme, to support the beneficial insect population, which enabled George and Camilla Olsen, of Olsen's Soapworks, to place beehives at the farm, to produce Nevada organic honey, currently unavailable.

Upon completion of the new solar powered water system on May 15th, 2002, CBH began a summer of increased growth and profits. Steve reports that upon completion

of the new water system on May 15th, sales were up 350% in May over May of last year, 730% in June, 650% in July and 675% in August. As with any new endeavor, he feels these figures will be increased as they learn how to produce more efficiently in the summer months and how to better serve their clientele.

The new system has allowed them to maintain a customer base of CSA clients throughout the summer as well as growing excess produce and landscape plants to sell at Farmers' Market in Reno. They grew and sold the only certified organic produce available at farmers' markets in Northern Nevada, during the 2002 season.

"Show & Tell" at Churchill Butte Horticulture ...

Douglas County organic growers Darrell and Judee Craig of Johnson Lane Farm, who plan to relocate their organic farm to a new off-grid location near Eureka, Nevada, have been consulting with Marcia and Steve. The Craigs have been able to see the feasibility of solar pumping and now anticipate utilizing a solar pump for their irrigation and home.

Steve and Marcia anticipate increased interest in their methodology, and now are better at showing the feasibility of their philosophies to those interested in converting to a more natural way of producing food. For more information on their CSA membership and delivery service or to arrange a visit at their Stagecoach NV farm, please contact them at their cell-phone: 775-721-6068. You may also contact them by mail at: CBH, PO Box 1096, Dayton NV 89403.

who • what • where













Churchill Butte Horticulture

By Phone: 775-721-6068

By Mail: CBH

PO Box 1096 • Dayton NV 89403

Zone Hardiness in Nevada

Zone Key			
	A	B	
4			-25° to -20° F
5			-20° to -15°/-15° to -10° F
6			-10° to -5°/-5° to 0° F
7			0° to 5°/5° to 10° F
8			10° to 15°/15° to 20° F
9			20° to 25°/25° to 30° F



This map is provided for your general information. It will assist you when selecting seeds or planting stock that will grow and thrive in your particular zone.

The \$5,000 Exemption Question: Do You Qualify?

Peggy McKie, Nevada Department of Agriculture

Prior to the implementation of the National Organic Rule in October of 2002, Nevada state law required that any agricultural product sold as organic in Nevada must be a "certified organic" product. The certification could be obtained from the Nevada Department of Agriculture or from another certification agent such as CCOF or Oregon Tilth. All organic products sold in Nevada were required to be from a certified organic source.

Now that the National Organic Rule has been implemented the Nevada state "certified organic only" requirement no longer exists and has been replaced with the federal rule. As a result, a federal exemption is now allowed for farmers and handlers who sell less than \$5,000.00 of organic products annually (CFR 205.101). In other words, they do not have to go through the certification process to sell their agricultural products as "organic" if gross annual sales of organic products amount to \$5,000.00 or less. They will, however, be required to provide proof of this claim!

Exempt operations must still adhere to the federal requirements for organic production, product labeling, and handling. They must be able to show evidence of compliance with the federal rule. And while an exempt operation may label their products as "organic", they may not use the USDA organic seal, the seal of a certifier, or claim, directly or indirectly, to be "certified organic". Furthermore, they may not sell their organic products as ingredients for someone else's certified organic processed product.

Farmer's market managers, restaurants, and retail stores may also elect to require organic products to be "certified organic" to assure their clients that the farm or facility has been inspected by a USDA-accredited organic certifier and is producing according to federal organic requirements. As with most federal laws, the penalties for selling organic products not in compliance with the federal organic rule are daunting. A person who knowingly sells or labels a product as "organic" that is not in compliance with the federal act may be subject to \$10,000.00 fine *per* violation. This is yet more incentive for retail stores and restaurants to prefer "certified organic" products to help verify certification prior to selling products as organic!

Most consumers will still be looking for "certified organic" products at farm stands, retail stores, and farmer's markets. In order to encourage small farmers to become certified and take advantage of this market recognition, the Nevada Department of Agriculture organic certification fee has been adjusted to create a minimum fee level for farms and handlers who would otherwise qualify for the \$5,000.00 exemption but who chose to become certified for marketing or philosophical reasons. In most cases, this fee will be less than that charged previously under the Nevada organic law.



In Memory

Larry Hendrickson, long-time supporter of the organic industry in Nevada, and owner/operator of Sierra Nevada Organic Orchard, passed away suddenly of a heart attack earlier this month. Larry was a member of the steering committee that created Nevada's organic certification program, and was a member of the Nevada Organic Program Advisory Council. Larry and his wife Char were eager and effective ambassadors for Nevada's organic industry - always the first in line to volunteer their time to promote organic agriculture in Nevada. The Nevada Department of Agriculture and the Organic Program staff send their deepest sympathy to Larry's wife Char.

Selecting Seed and Other Propagation Materials for Organic Production:

What the National Organic Standards Say

Peggy McKie, Nevada Department of Agriculture

Now that the National Organic Standards are in effect, organic farmers searching for propagation materials, including seed will have to follow the new federal guidelines. For the purposes of the national standards, propagation materials fall into four categories: seed, annual seedlings, planting stock, and perennial plants. (Note: "CFR" refers to "Code of Federal Regulations" and 205 refers to the chapter within title 7 of the federal code)

1. Seed.

There are three main points to consider when purchasing seed for organic production. It must be *organic*, it must not be *treated with a prohibited substance*, and it must not be from a *genetically modified source* (GMO).

A. Organic Seed. Seed must be organic unless it is "commercially unavailable". (CFR 205.204) Commercial availability can be defined in two ways: Is the seed available organically? Is the organic seed that is available in a form that you can use and in the quantity you need?

If you can't find your first choice of organic seed or planting stock, the first step is to determine if an equivalent organically produced variety is available somewhere else. By equivalent variety, look for comparable growth habits, days to maturity, environmental tolerances, disease resistance, flavor and other important qualities. If a suitable equivalent variety is not available organically, write down where you tried to locate the seed. This documentation is required to show a good faith effort on your part to locate organic seed.

At this time, price cannot be used as a factor in justifying the use non-organic seed. A higher price is not considered to constitute "commercial unavailability".

Once you have found a source for a specific equivalent organic seed, the next step in determining commercial availability is to see if it is in:

- Appropriate form – such as sized graded, pelleted, hot water treated, inoculated, etc.
- Quality – it's a good idea to try a small quantity the first year to make sure it does well under your conditions. If the only seed that is available organically is inferior seed, then it is acceptable to buy non-organic seed.
- Quantity-An example: if you want to plant 1 acre of squash and the organic seed you want to use is only available in 1 ounce packets, then it is acceptable to buy non-organic seed.

B. Seed cannot be treated with a prohibited material. There is no exception allowed for seed treated with prohibited materials such as fungicides or insecticides UNLESS that treatment is required by state or federal phytosanitary regulations [CFR 205.504(5)]. Growers must take this seriously! If seed is covered in a colored powder it is probably treated with a prohibited material. Use of such seed will result in the crop being removed from organic certification. Seed bags or other packages that contain treated seed are required by federal law to be labeled as such. It is the producer's responsibility to order untreated seed and to verify before planting that seed received from a supplier is not treated.

C. Genetically Modified Seed (GMO) The National standards are specific in their prohibition of the use of genetically modified seed for the production of organic crops. Producers must provide written evidence that each seed used for organic crops is not genetically modified. Seed suppliers must provide you, in writing, with a letter stating that the seed you have purchased is not genetically modified. There are no exceptions to this prohibition.

Remember: It doesn't matter if the seed is organic or non-organic - seed treated with a prohibited material and GMO-seed must not be used for organic production.

2. Annual Seedlings

Annual seedlings must be organic. No exceptions! A temporary variance can be granted by USDA for natural disaster, research trials, etc. [CFR 205.204(a) (3)]. Do not confuse the temporary variance with an exemption for commercial availability!

Note: onion plants are annual seedlings, not planting stock, so they must be certified organic.

3. Planting stock

Planting stock is defined as any plant or plant tissue other than annual seedlings but including rhizomes, shoots, Leaf or stem cuttings, roots, or tubers used in plant production or propagation (CFR 205.2). Planting stock must organic unless organic stock is commercially unavailable.

4. Perennial Plants

Perennial plants or crops (fruit trees, vines, shrubs) must be managed organically for at least 12 months before harvest or sale as organic. The original plants do not need to be organic.

Connecting with Retailers

by Joanie Quinn,
New Mexico Organic Commodity Commission

(Part 1 of a Series on Marketing to Retailers)

Many retailers greatly value the opportunity to sell local produce, meat and dairy products. And, consumers are on the lookout for local product and will buy it in preference to the high-mileage stuff.

FOR THE RETAILER however, there is also a down side to local product—the extra time and uncertainty it adds to the purchasing mix. Most retail department managers are underpaid and overworked—just like farmers. S/he may be in charge of hiring, training, evaluating and scheduling staff, ordering product, taking care of all the inevitable disasters and probably working shifts stocking and receiving as well.

All this can make purchasers pretty cranky. And when a local grower shows up unannounced with a truckful of overheated, wilting greens, or worse, doesn't show up as promised, leaving the buyer wondering how to explain to the customers (and the store manager) why there are no green beans for the weekend....well you get the idea. On the other hand, a well prepared, communicative grower with beautiful, gently handled product can make a retailer's day...or week.

Right about NOW, call the produce manager at the market you have targeted. (Produce managers usually get to work early and leave early—give them a little time to settle in—try calling around 9 or 10am). Tell the buyer who you are, the name of your farm, that you are certified (or registered) organic and that you plan to have the following products available at approximately the following times. Say that you would like to come by and meet her/him, and talk about things such as what his/her product needs might be, how often and on what days they would want deliveries. Make an appointment.

Arrive for your appointment about a half an hour early. Look over the produce department. Look at the products that you hope to sell. Notice how those items are being sold—pound or each. Notice how big the bunches are if it is a bunched product like kale. Look at the signage—how is a product identified? Is there room to include your farm's name? (Positive name recognition will help the retailer by bringing customers back into the store looking for your product.) Get a general idea of how things are being treated in the department. If everything is wilted, wrinkled, old and moldy, you might want to find a different buyer. You are looking for someone who will build your reputation.

Know your Retailer and what they expect...

When it's time for your appointment introduce yourself to the manager and give him/her a card (if you have one) and a copy of your organic certificate. If you have a page-

Be prepared to explain why your stuff is worth more than the stuff from California—fresher, less loss, more customer appeal, truly stunning...

long blurb about your farm it won't hurt a bit to give one to her/him. Let the buyer know what crops you are planning to have and ask what the approximate weekly movement of those items are in the store. Ask what is the minimum and maximum quantity the retailer could use. Let the buyer know what kind of quantities you could deliver. Say that you have been looking at the department (a sincere compliment here would be good) and you have noticed that, "You do carry bunched beets. Is that about

the size bunches you like to have?" Take notes on what the purchaser has to say about sizes: "likes zukes about 8 inches long—no baseball bats." Ask how important uniformity is. Ask about delivery times and frequency.

Ask what information s/he would like on the invoice. Ask if it would be possible to have your farm's name on the signage—or—(but only if you are willing to follow through with this) if the department would be able to use signage that you produce about your farm/product. Ask what the preferred pack is for your products. If you can't pack in that way describe your planned pack and ask if that will be okay. If your

product requires wax boxes and you won't be able to provide them, ask if wax boxes might be saved for you (**ONLY ORGANIC BOXES!**) Understand that saving boxes is a pain for retailers so be sure to pick them up when you say you will. Some growers have worked out an arrangement to have retailers save the producer's boxes; to be picked up at the next delivery—this might be an option to explore.

Ask what the retailer's expectations are about credit for product and be clear what your policy on credits is. Work out an agreement about exactly how credits will be handled. No matter how great your product is and how well you treat it—sooner or later the question is going to come up and all sorts of hard feelings can be avoided if there is a clear understanding beforehand. It is not at all unreasonable for the producer to ask for a call requesting credit to be made within 48 hours of receipt of product. This gives you a heads up and time to correct the situation. Let the retailer know that you would like to have a full explanation of what happened to the product so you can deal with the problem.

Ask about the pricing policy. Will the retailer give you the going rate of comparable organic product from a

Continued on page 4

More Upcoming Events

- > Feb. 2-4, 2003
Annual Conference of Association of Applied
IPM Ecologists (AAIE)
San Luis Obispo, California.
Information: www.aaie.net
Call: 707-265-9349
- > Feb. 4-5, 2003
Organic Viticulture Seminar, Field Tours,
gourmet organic lunches served
Paso Robles, California.
Information: orgamigo@jps.net
Call: Amigo Cantisano at 530-292-3619
- > Feb. 7-8, 2003
New Mexico Organic Farming and Gardening
Expo 2003
Glorieta, New Mexico.
Call: 505-266-9849
Or email: joan.quinn@state.nm.us.
- > February 27th-March 1st, 2003
Upper Midwest Farming Conference
"Keeping the Circle Unbroken"
La Crosse Center, La Crosse, Wisconsin
Information: www.mosesorganic.org
Call: 715.772.3162
- > May 4-5, 2003
Heartland Celebration of Food, Farming, and
Healthy Living in California's Central Valley
Stevenson, California.
Information: www.eco-farm.org
Call: 831-763-2111
- > May 14-17, 2003
All Things Organic Conference
and Trade Show
Austin, Texas
Information: www.atoexpo.com
Call: 207-842-5468

Chef Features Nevada-Grown Produce at Governor's Mansion

CONGRATULATIONS to Chef Michelle Palmer, who has just been hired as the "Executive Chef for the Commander in Chief of the State of Nevada and the 1st Lady."

Michelle, owner of "Absolutely Michelle's," is a long-time champion of creating connections between local farmers and local chefs. Michelle is dedicated to buying from local farmers, first, when possible and plans to include Nevada-grown produce in as many state functions as she can, as well as daily meals served at the governor's mansion.

Michelle said her primary function as the state's executive chef is to foster well-being through healthy nutrition and whole foods. *You go, Chef Michelle!*

Connecting with Retailers

Continued from page 3

wholesaler—or better? Be prepared to explain why your stuff is worth more than the stuff from California (fresher, less loss, more customer appeal, truly stunning). If the two of you can come up with a some formula it will be easier for everyone than negotiating the price with every delivery. At least have a *method* for determining price worked out in advance.

Ask when—what day(s) he/she would like you to call to get an order, and how much advance notice they would like that you are ready to start supplying the store. Then *follow through, follow through and follow through.*

(Next time: post-harvest handling, packing and deliveries.)

EDITOR'S NOTE: Joanie Quinn is Information Specialist for the New Mexico Organic Commodity Commission—which produces a quarterly newsletter called "Fertile Ground."

Organic Farming Research at UNR

PHILLIP PARKER, a senior in Agricultural Economics has been awarded a research grant to evaluate organic farming and community supported agriculture in Nevada. His spring study will be based at Custom Gardens in Silver Springs (775-577-2069), and he would like to visit every organic farm in the state, spending a few hours touring each farm and discussing primary issues with farmers. If you are interested in meeting with him or otherwise being part of the study, please contact him at:

(775) 624-1265 or
parker@unr.nevada.edu

Nevada Organic Review

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We strive to provide helpful, accurate and timely information to our Certified and other Organic Producers and Handlers, as well as Nevada's general public.

Nevada - Certified Organic Producers and Handlers
Nevada Department of Agriculture
350 Capitol Hill Avenue
Reno NV 89502
775-688-1182
Fall 2002

Custom Gardens

Ray & Virginia Johnson

Certified Member Number: 1001P

3701 Elm St

Silver Springs NV 89429

775.577.2069

customgardens@mindspring.com

Products or Services: Vegetables, herbs, vine
and bush berries, cut
flowers

Type of sales: Direct, on-farm, CSA

Sierra Nevada Organic Orchards

Char Hendrickson

Certified Member Number: 1002P

7425 Franktown Rd

Washoe Valley NV 89704

775.885.9522

lg_cm_hendrickson@compuserve.com

Products or Services: Apples

Type of sales: On-farm, wholesale

Mewaldt's Organic Produce

Bill and Korena Mewaldt

Certified Member Number: 1003P

1750 McLean Rd

Fallon NV 89406

775.867.3469

mewaldt@oasis.com

Products or Services: Vegetables, grains, fruits,
herbs, seeds, transplants,
decorative materials

Type of sales: Farmers markets, wholesale

Churchill Butte Horticulture

Steve and Marcia Litsinger

Certified Member Number: 1004P

PO Box 1096

Dayton NV 89403

775.721.6068

Products or Services: Vegetables, herbs,
landscape plants

Type of sales: Farmers markets, direct, wholesale

Bradshaw's End of Rainbow Ranch

Don Bradshaw

Certified Member Number: 1005P

Box 422

Caliente NV 89008

775.726.3373

Products or Services: Apples

Type of sales: On-farm, U-pick, wholesale

Saddleback Orchards

Bill and Rita Barrackman

Certified Member Number: 1007PH

Rt. 69 Box 446

Amargosa Valley NV 89020

775.372.5259

b.barrackman@worldnet.att.net

Products or Services: Pistachios and pistachio processing

Type of sales: Wholesale

Sunnybrook Farm

Rod and Lori Monk

Certified Member Number: 1012P

HC 61 Box 182

Battle Mountain NV 89820

775.931.0124

Products or Services: Alfalfa hay

Type of sales: Direct

McClintick Farms

Rick McClintick

Certified Member Number: 1017P

PO Box 129

Orovada NV 89423

775.272.3284

Products or Services: Alfalfa hay

Type of sales: Wholesale, direct

Industrial Sterilization of Nevada

William Lanning

Certified Member Number: 1019H

1225-101 E. Greg St

Sparks NV 89431

775.356.5999

Products or Services: Ozone fumigation

Type of sales: Wholesale

Leach Logistics

Gary Leach

Certified Member Number: 1020H

810 E Glendale Ave

Sparks NV 89431

775.352.2840

Products or Services: Custom milling, grinding, packaging

Type of sales: Wholesale, custom

Ponderosa Dairy Farm

Ponderosa Dairy Farm

Certified Member Number: 1023P

PO Box 70

Amargosa Valley NV 89020

775.372.1431

dphall@pahrump.com

Products or Services: Dairy feed

Type of sales: None

4S Land and Cattle, Inc

Jim Smith

Certified Member Number: 1024P

100 Burke Drive

Wellington NV 89444

775.465.2549

Products or Services: Alfalfa, grass/hay,
grain/hay, alfalfa seed

Type of sales: Direct

Whiteman Creek Ranch

Jonathan and Anne Wall

Certified Member Number: 1025P

HC 33 Box 33600

Ely NV 89301

775.761.7174

ahwjrw@starband.net

Products or Services: Vegetables, var. fruit

Type of sales: Wholesale

Valley Herbs

Brent Hauver

Certified Member Number: 1026P

155 W. Thomas

Overton NV 89040

702.397.8632

herbs@valleyherbs.com

Products or Services: Vegetables, herbs, var.
fruit

Type of sales: Retail, farmer's market

Lattin Farms

Rick Lattin

Certified Member Number: 1027P

1955 McLean Rd

Fallon NV 89406

775.867.3750

mail@lattinfarms.com

Products or Services: Not currently selling
organic products

Type of sales: On-farm, farmer's market,
wholesale of conventionally farmed
produce

Davidson's, Inc.

John and Sharon Davidson

Certified Member Number: 1028H

700 E Glendale

Sparks NV 89431

775.356.1690

tea@davidsons.reno.nv.us

Products or Services: Bulk and packaged tea

Type of sales: Wholesale by catalog

Mountain Valley Nursery

Becky Masi

Certified Member Number: 1030P

18005 Northridge Avenue

Cold Springs NV 89506

775.972.0933

Products or Services: greenhouse grown
vegetable plants and herbs

Type of sales: Wholesale, retail

Shanendoah Farms

AJ Parks

Certified Member Number: 1031P

HC 61 Box 150

Battle Mountain NV 89820

775.931.0112

Products or Services: Alfalfa hay

Type of sales: Direct

Garrett Van Diest

Garrett Van Diest

Certified Member Number: 1032P

PO Box 867

Winnemucca NV 89446

775.623.3097

Products or Services: Alfalfa hay

Type of sales: Direct, on-farm

One Coyote Ranch

Isidoro and Susie Ramirez

Certified Member Number: 1033P

1100 Inean Road

Winnemucca NV 89445

775.625.1044

Products or Services: Alfalfa hay

Type of sales: Direct, on-farm

T & T Ranch

Joe DeLee

Certified Member Number: 1034P

249 N T&T Road

Amargosa Valley NV 89020

775.372.5510

Products or Services: Pomegranates (1 acre),
pistachios (20 acres)
pecans (two trees)

Type of sales: Direct, farmer's markets

Jack in the Green Stock

Jack Boatman

Certified Member Number: 1035P

5531 Oakridge Avenue

Pahrump NV 89408

775.727.9408

Products or Services: Tomatoes (greenhouse
grown)

Type of sales:

Nevada Soy Products

Mary Jo Rablin

Certified Member Number: 1036H

PO Box 1064

Lovelock NV 89419

775.273.5463

Products or Services: Soybean meal, soybean
oil, livestock feeds

Type of sales: Wholesale, retail

Jim Edgmon**Jim Edgmon**

Certified Member Number: 1037P

HC 61 Box 185

Battle Mountain NV 89820

775.931.0101

Products or Services: Alfalfa hay**Type of sales:** Direct**National Seed Pellet LLC****Steve Vonderheide**

Certified Member Number: 1038H

35 McDougal Rd

Lovelock NV 89419

(775) 273-2901

SVONDERHEIDE@MSN.COM

Products or Services: seed processing**Type of sales:** wholesale**Sonoma Resources of Nevada Inc****Tom and Lile Filbin**

Certified Member Number: 1040P

PO Box 159

Golconda NV 89414

775.623.2239

Products or Services: Alfalfa hay, triticale hay,
oat hay**Type of sales:** Direct, wholesale**M-Line Transportation Brokerage****Mary Jo Rablin**

Certified Member Number: 1041H

PO Box 1064

Lovelock NV 89419

775.273.5463

Products or Services: Transportation and
brokerage of organic
agricultural products**Type of sales:** Brokerage

Labeling Organic Products

There are four categories of labeling under the USDA organic program. They are designed to help consumers

know the exact organic content of the food they buy. The presence of the USDA organic seal also tells you that a product is at least 95% organic. As an example:

- "100% ORGANIC CEREAL" must be made with 100% organic ingredients.
- "ORGANIC" cereal must be made with 95% - 100% organic ingredients.
- CEREAL "MADE WITH ORGANIC INGREDIENTS" must contain at least 70% organic ingredients.
- Cereal made with LESS THAN 70% ORGANIC INGREDIENTS may list specific organically produced ingredients on the side panel but may not make any organic claims on the front of the package.

To Find Out More...

For a list of Nevada-certified organic farmers and processors, or for more information about Nevada's organic certification program contact:

The Nevada Dept. of Agriculture
350 Capitol Hill Avenue
Reno, Nevada 89502
775.688.1182 ext. 243
rbradley@govmail.state.nv.us or
pgmckie@govmail.state.nv.us

Or visit our website:

www.agri.state.nv.us/organic

The USDA National Organic Program website is:

www.ams.usda.gov/nop

For more information about Nevada's Farmers Markets:
775-746.5024

For information about organic labeling go to:
www.ams.usda.gov/nop

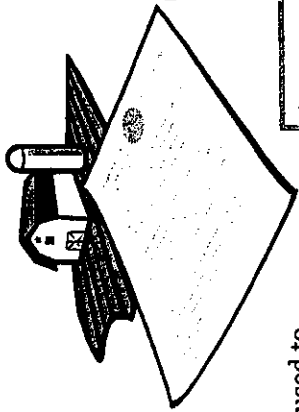


Consumer Guide

NEVADA CERTIFIED ORGANIC

Farm Fresh From
Nevada's Own Growers

Nevada Certified
Organic Program



Nevada Certified Organic

Nevada and the National Organic Standards

"Organic" is used to

What Does Organic Mean?

describe an agricultural product that has been produced without the use of:

synthetic fertilizers and pesticides; growth regulators;

artificial preservatives or additives; irradiation; sewage sludge; or genetic engineering. Organic also refers to the manner in which agricultural products are processed, packaged and transported. Land on which organic products are to be grown must be free of prohibited materials for three years before becoming eligible for organic certification.

How Do I Know a Product is Organic?

After October 21, 2002 agricultural products labeled as "organic" must meet federal requirements. The U.S.

Department of Agriculture's National Organic Standards require that food labeled as "organic" or "certified organic" meets strict production guidelines whether it is grown in the U.S. or imported from other countries. Farms and processors with sales of organic products that total less than \$5,000 per year are exempt from certification. They must still produce and handle their products according to the U.S.D.A. standards, but *cannot* sell their products as "certified organic".

Are There Organic Farms in Nevada?

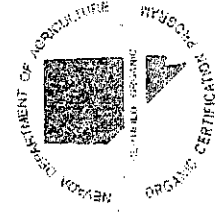
Yes! The Nevada Department of Agriculture (NDA) is accredited by U.S.D.A. to certify organic farmers & processors. NDA-certified organic farms and processors are inspected annually to ensure compliance with organic production and processing procedures.

- The best place to find locally grown organic produce is at area farmers' markets. These are held around the state depending on the growing season. Check with the Nevada Farmer's Market Association for a market near you.

- Call ahead and visit a farm. Some give tours or allow you to pick your own produce, and some offer Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) subscriptions.

- A list of NDA-certified organic farmers & processors is available on line: www.agri.state.nv.us/organic.

When you buy NDA-certified organically grown and processed agricultural products, you support local businesses, small farmers, and the local economy. It's your chance to enjoy locally-grown fresh-from-the-farm fruit and vegetables with quality and flavor.



Look for the Nevada Department of Agriculture organic program seal on products certified here in Nevada. The seal is your assurance that the organic

product you are buying is certified to National Organic Program standards. Nevada producers and handlers have passed all the qualifications—set by federal law—to market their products as "organic".

Does "Natural" Mean "Organic"?

"Natural" and "Organic" do not mean the same thing. Only food labeled as "organic" has been certified as meeting USDA organic standards.

Other truthful claims such as free-range, hormone-free, and natural can still appear on food labels. However, they do not have the same meaning as "organic".

"No spray", "pesticide free" and other similar statements can be made by anyone without verification and should not be confused with something having been produced organically. Synthetic fertilizers, fungicides and even insecticides might still have been used.