Nature's International Certification Services
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"In Nature there is abundance, with Nature there is success"

For Office Use Only

Organic Certification Affirmation

The Organic Certification Affirmation lists the general requirements to obtain and/or continue certification and must be signed by a duly authorized representative to serve as a written statement that the operation requesting organic certification complies with the requirements for such certification and shall continue to agree to comply with the requirements for such certification. An operator requesting organic certification shall:

1. Always supply Nature's International Certification Services, hereafter referred to as NICS, any information needed for inspection and evaluation of products being requested for certification.

2. Always comply with the applicable organic production and/or handling regulations as set forth by the United States Department of Agriculture National Organic Program (USDA/NOP).

3. Establish, implement, and update annually an Organic production and/or handling System Plan (OSP).

4. Permit on-site inspections with complete access to the production and/or handling operation, including, noncertified production and handling areas, structures, and offices. The operation requesting organic certification must make all necessary arrangements for an inspection(s) to be conducted, including provisions for examining documentation and access to all areas, records (including internal audit reports), and personnel, for the purposes of testing, initial and annual inspection, surveillance, re-inspection, unannounced inspections, and re-assessment inspections for the purposes of resolution (i.e. appeals, complaints.).

5. Maintain all records applicable to the organic operation for not less than 5 years beyond their creation and allow authorized representatives of the Secretary, an applicable State organic program's governing State official, and the certifying agent access to such records during normal business hours for review and copying to determine compliance with the USDA/NOP regulations.

6. Submit the applicable fees charged by NICS.

7. Immediately notify NICS concerning any: application, including drift, of a prohibited substance to any field, production unit, site, facility, livestock, or product that is part of an operation requesting organic certification; change of event that significantly affects land, the design or specification of a product being requested for organic certification, or changes in the OSP to which compliance of the product is certified; or changes in ownership, structure or management of the operation requesting organic certification, if relevant, or in the case of any other information indicating that the product being requested for organic certification may no longer comply with the regulations, as set forth by the USDA/NOP.

8. Use marks of conformity only in respect to the scope for which organic certification has been granted, and not bring the USDA/NOP and/or NICS into dispute, or be construed as misleading or unauthorized, including: product claims and certification information, or any part thereof, and/or communication media such as documents, brochures or advertising, complies with the regulations, as set forth by the USDA/NOP.

9. Upon suspension, revocation or withdrawal of its certification, the operation will discontinue the use of all advertising matter that contains any reference thereto, and will return any certification documents, as required or requested by NICS.

10. Understand that subcontractors may be used by NICS for inspection, sampling, testing, and/or other administrative activities, and take full responsibility for decisions relating to granting, maintaining, extending, reducing, suspending, and withdrawing of certification.

Print Name: _____ **Operation/Company Name:** _____
Authorized Representative

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Mail this with a completed Application/OSP and applicable fees to the above address.

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