



## ORGANIC SYSTEM PLAN– CROP PRODUCERS

Business Name:	Certification Number:
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### Section A. Seeds

[NOS 205.204]

Not Applicable. No seeds are used for crops or cover crops on my farm. *Skip to next section*

1. Check all sources of seed used on your farming operation.

Save my own seeds     Seed companies     Provided through contract     Custom seeded

Other (please specify):

2. Do you use non-organic seeds? *If no, skip to next section.*

Yes     No

**Tip!** USDA organic regulations require use of organically grown seed (even when seeds are provided from a contract-buyer).

- ✓ Non-organically produced seeds may be used only if organic forms are not commercially available.
- ✓ Commercial availability is defined as “the ability to obtain a production input in an appropriate form, quality, or quantity to fulfill an essential function in a system of organic production or handling, as determined by the certifying agent in the course of reviewing the organic plan.”
- ✓ Producers should ensure that they are contacting at least three or more suppliers that offer organic varieties before deciding to use a non-organic untreated variety.
- ✓ If non-organic seeds are used, you must maintain records that show you first looked for an organic form.

3. Describe your attempts to source organic seeds. Include details of the records you maintain to demonstrate your ongoing attempts.

**Tip!** Genetically modified seeds and seeds treated with prohibited substances are not allowed. Non-GMO seed documentation is required only when varieties grown on your farm are also available in a GMO form. The following USDA website lists crop varieties which might be found in a GMO form in the U.S. market:  
[http://www.aphis.usda.gov/biotechnology/petitions\\_table\\_pending.shtml](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/biotechnology/petitions_table_pending.shtml)



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4. How do you verify that your seeds are not genetically modified (GMO)?
- Varieties are not available in the market in a GMO form     Letters from seed supplier     Safe Seed Pledge
- Other (please specify):
5. How do you verify seeds are not treated, coated, or inoculated with prohibited materials?

**Tip!** All seed treatments (coating, inoculants, pelleting, etc.) must be included in your Materials Inventory.

Have a list of the non-organic seeds used each year and documentation demonstrating that they are not treated with prohibited materials or genetically modified at your annual inspection.