



Iowa Organic Certification Program

Instructions - Annual Declaration of Exemption from Organic Certification

Individuals who gross no more than \$5000 income annually from the sale of all organic agricultural products are exempted from organic certification. Exempted parties must comply with the National Organic Program Regulations, submit an *Annual Declaration of Exemption* form and maintain records adequately to verify compliance with organic standards and to trace an organic product from production site to sale for consumption. These records must be kept for three years.

Before completing and submitting the *Annual Declaration of Exemption*, please thoroughly review the National Organic Program Regulations. Section 205.101 of the regulations will help you determine your eligibility for exemption from organic certification.

Return the completed form with a \$20.00 processing fee, as instructed at the bottom of the form. The form will be reviewed by the Organic Agriculture Program staff and validated to indicate that you have filed your exemption status with the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship. This validation does not constitute organic certification and your products may not be labeled as **certified** organic. The validated form will be laminated and returned to you.

After you have received the validated form, you may advertise, label and sell your products as *organic*. You may also display this form along with your organic products. If organic products are sold from the same location as products that were not produced or processed according to national organic standards, the two types of products must be separated and distinguished from each other.

As an exempt party making an organic claim you may be subject to an inspection to verify compliance with National Organic Program standards. Individuals who are found to be in violation of National Organic Program Regulations may be subject to a civil penalty.



Iowa Organic Certification Program

Annual Declaration of Exemption from Organic Certification

Name: _____
Doing Business as: _____
Street: _____ City: _____ State: _____
County: _____ Zip Code: _____
Telephone: _____

1. I declare that I gross no more than \$5,000 income annually from the sale of all organic agricultural products [NOP §205.101 (a)].
2. I declare that:
 - a. I have read and understand the National Organic Program Regulations.
 - b. All agricultural products sold, advertised or labeled as organic are produced or processed in accordance with the National Organic Program Regulations [NOP §205.101 (a)].
 - c. I maintain records to verify compliance with these standards [NOP §205.101 (c)].
 - d. I maintain records adequate to trace the organic product(s) from production site to sale for consumption.
3. I declare under penalty of perjury under federal or state law that the foregoing is true and correct.
4. Products I intend to market in accordance with this exemption include: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Submit the completed form, with a fee of \$20.00 to:
Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship
Organic Agriculture Program
502 East 9th Street
Des Moines, IA 50319
Make checks payable to **Iowa Department of Agriculture.**

<p>Office Use: Date Received: Fee Code: 40</p>
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