

**Sustainable and Organic Agriculture Policy Acronyms**  
*January 26, 2007*

**General**

**Legislative Branch—general**

**Executive Branch—general**

**USDA**

**Organic Trade Association--internal**

**General**

ACA – Accredited Certifiers Association

ATTRA – Appropriate Technology Transfer for Rural Areas (within NCAT)

CAQ – Conseil d’Accreditation du Quebec (Accreditation Council of Quebec)

CCOF – California Certified Organic Farmers, a major certifier of processed product

COAB – Canadian Organic Advisory Board

GMO (GEO) – Genetically Modified (Engineered) Organism

HACCP – Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point

HTS – Harmonized Tariff Schedule

IFOAM – International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movements

IOAS – International Organic Accreditation Service

ISO – International Organization for Standardization

ISO 17011 – Standards for Certification Agencies (used to be ISO Guide 65)

ISO Guide 65 – Guide for Certification Agencies (see ISO 17011)

ISO Guide 61 – Guide for Accreditation Agencies

JAS – Japanese Agricultural Service

MAFF – Ministry of Agriculture, Forests, and Fisheries (Japan; formerly UK as well)

NASDA – National Association of State Departments of Agriculture

NASOP – National Association of State Organic Programs (now within NASDA)

NCSA – National Campaign for Sustainable Agriculture

NCAT – National Center for Appropriate Technology (private non-profit)

NFFC – National Family Farm Coalition

NFU – National Farmers Union

NCGA – National Cooperative Grocers Association

NOC – National Organic Coalition (RAFI, Ctr. for Food Safety, NOFA, NCGA, others)

NODPA – Northeast Organic Dairy Producers Association

NOFA – Northeast Organic Farming Association (with state chapters)

OCA – Organic Consumers Association

OCIA – Organic Crop Improvement Association, a major certifier of processed product

OMRI – Organic Materials Review Institute

OTA – Organic Trade Association

OTCO – Oregon Tilth Certified Organic, a major certifier of processed product

PDP – “principle display panel” *or* Pesticide Data Program of EPA

PLU – Price Look-Up (retail stock control number)

QCS – Quality Certification Services, a major certifier of processed product

QAI – Quality Assurance International, a major certifier of processed product

RAFI – Rural Advancement Foundation International (now the ETC Group)  
SAC – Sustainable Agriculture Coalition  
SKU – Store Keeping Unit; retail inventory number  
TRQ – Tariff Rate Quota  
UREC – unavoidable residual environmental contamination  
WHO – World Health Organization  
WTO – World Trade Organization

### **Legislative Branch—general**

AMTA – Agricultural Market Transition Act, a.k.a. “Freedom to Farm”, 1996 Farm Bill  
FACTA – Federal Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act: 1990 Farm Bill (incl. OFPA)  
FAIR – Federal Agricultural Improvement and Reform Act; 1996 Farm Bill; also known as “Freedom to Farm” or sarcastically, “Freedom to Fail”  
FSRIA – Farm Security and Rural Investment Act; 2002 Farm Bill  
GAO – General Accounting Office (investigative arm of Congress)  
OFPA – Organic Foods Production Act of 1990 (Title XXI of FACTA, the 1990 Farm Bill)  
SDWA – Safe Drinking Water Act

### **Executive Branch—general**

ANPR – Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (e.g., a USDA/NOP Federal Register notice)  
FDA – Food and Drug Administration  
GRAS – generally regarded as safe, used by FDA  
NIST – National Institute of Standards and Technology  
PDP – Pesticide Data Program of EPA, *or* “principle display panel”  
PR – Proposed Rule  
USTR – United States Trade Representative

### **USDA**

ACAB – Advisory Committee on Agricultural Biotechnology  
AMS – Agricultural Marketing Service of AMD (includes TMD and NOP)  
APAC – Agricultural Policy Advisory Committee (joint USDA-USTR committee)  
APHIS – Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (USDA)  
ARCD – Audit Review and Compliance Division (of AMS Livestock and Seed)  
ARS – Agricultural Research Service (USDA)  
CSREES – Cooperative State Research, Education and Extension Service (USDA)  
ERS – Economic Research Service (USDA)  
EQIP – Environmental Quality Incentives Program  
FAS – Foreign Agriculture Service (USDA)  
FCIC – Federal Crop Insurance Corporation  
FMNP – Farmers' Market Nutrition Program  
FNS – Food and Nutrition Service (USDA)  
FSIS – Food Safety and Inspection Service (USDA)  
FSMIP – Federal-State Marketing Improvement Program

FPP – Farmland Protection Program  
GIPSA – Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (USDA)  
IFAFS – Initiative for Future Agriculture and Food Systems  
MAP – Market Access Program (USDA export program)  
NAD – National Appeals Division (USDA)  
NASS – National Agricultural Statistics Service (USDA)  
NOP – National Organic Program of USDA  
NOS – National Organic Standards (of NOP)  
NOSB – National Organic Standards Board (advises USDA/NOP)  
NRCS – Natural Resource Conservation Service (USDA)  
SAN, SANET – Sustainable Agriculture Network (USDA)  
SARE – Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (grant program of USDA)  
SAWG – Sustainable Agriculture Working Group (SARE-funded; national and regional)  
TAP – Technical Advisory Panel  
TMD – Transportation and Marketing Division of USDA (contains NOP)  
USDA – United States Department of Agriculture  
WHIP – Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program  
WRP – Wetland Reserve Program

### **Organic Trade Association--internal**

ATO – All Things Organic, OTA’s trade show  
AOS – American Organic Standards (OTA industry guidelines)  
OFARM – Organic Farmers Association for Relationship Marketing

#### *Obsolete OTA Acronyms*

[GAC – Government Affairs Committee *obsolete*]  
[IRC – International Relations Committee *obsolete*]  
[MPPL – Manufacturing, Processing, Packaging, and Labeling Subcommittee (QAC) *obsolete*]  
[OCC – OTA’s Certifiers Council (a.k.a. Organic Certifiers Council) *obsolete*]  
[OFA – Organic Farmers Association; *defunct*]  
[OFAC – Organic Farmers Advisory Committee; *defunct*]  
[OFC – OTA’s Fiber Council (a.k.a. Organic Fiber Council) *obsolete*]  
[OFPANA – Organic Foods Production Association of North America; became OTA *obsolete*]  
[OSAC – OTA’s Suppliers Advisory Committee (a.k.a. Organic Suppliers Advisory Committee) *obsolete*]  
[QAC – Quality Assurance Committee *obsolete*]  
[TIS – Trading and Ingredient Supply Subcommittee (QAC) *obsolete*]