

Crops Committee Draft- Response to Greenhouse Standards Draft

205.2 Terms defined

Bench system. The production of horticultural commodities in a growth medium of nonsynthetic and allowed synthetic materials that are established in a self-contained framework not in contact with the soil.

Spawn. A material in which mycelia are established, the aggregation of which is used to inoculate larger populations.

205.209 Greenhouse Production Systems

- (a) The producer operating a greenhouse with an in-ground, permanent soil system must comply with all applicable provisions within these regulations, including the three year prohibition on the application of prohibited substances, and the inclusion of sound soil building and crop rotation strategies.
- (b) The producer operating a greenhouse with a bench system must establish within the farm plan strategies which enhance the use of ecologically-sound production practices. Components of the farm plan must include provisions for the recycling of growing medium and waste plant materials, the reduction of the use of off-farm inputs, and provisions for minimizing soil erosion, and the pollution of soil, water and air.
- (c) The producer operating a greenhouse with a bench system must establish and maintain a production environment which prevents contact between organically produced crops and prohibited substances throughout the entire growing cycle.
- (d) The use of potting mixtures containing prohibited materials is not allowed.
- (e) Producers may use artificial light sources
- (f) Plants and soil shall not be in direct contact with wood treated with prohibited materials that is used for greenhouse structures or frames of raised beds.
- (g) If a producer is growing both organic and non-organic greenhouse crops using a bench system, it is recommended that those crops be grown in separate greenhouse structures.
- (h) Organic and non-organic crops can be grown within the same structure if the following conditions are met:

1. If synthetic pesticides are applied to the non-organic crop, an impermeable wall shall separate organic and non-organic production sites;;
2. The ventilation system must ensure that prohibited materials do not drift to the organic production area;
3. Separate watering systems must be established if synthetic fertilizers and/or pesticides are injected within the watering system; and
4. Adequate provisions are made to prevent contamination of organic crops when producers alternate between organic and non-organic production during different times of the year.

(i) Producers growing organic and non-organic crops within the same greenhouse must insure that no contamination occurs to the organic crop through cross-pollination with crops produced through genetic engineering.

(j) Soil mixing machines and other equipment used for non-organic crop production should be thoroughly cleaned prior to use in organic production, except that pesticide sprayers used in conventional production can not be used for organic production purposes.

(k) Adequate physical facilities, as determined by the certifying agent, shall separate organic and non-organic crops in storage or holding areas for shipping.

(l) Organic production areas on farms which contain both organic and non-organic crops must be conspicuously labeled.