

Index for NOSB Decisions

Accreditation	6/94 (2)
<i>Access to Pasture, Livestock</i>	<i>see Livestock Living Conditions</i>
<i>Animal Feed</i>	<i>see Livestock Feed</i>
<i>Antibiotics for Livestock</i>	<i>see Livestock: Antibiotics</i>
Biodiversity	6/99
Biotechnology Policy	(no date), (207) circa 1995
Botanical Pesticides Policy	10/94 (173)
Certification	
Conflict of Interest	6/00R
Expiration of	6/00R
Termination of	3/98, 2/99
<i>Commercial Availability, Handling</i>	<i>see Handling: Commercial Availability</i>
<i>Compost Standards</i>	<i>see Crops: Compost</i>
<i>Confinement of Livestock</i>	<i>see Livestock Living Conditions</i>
Cost Share Program	10/99
<i>Cotton Clothing, Handling</i>	<i>see Handling: Cotton Clothing</i>
<i>Criteria for Materials Review</i>	<i>see Materials Review Criteria</i>
<i>Criteria for Processing Materials</i>	<i>see Handling: Processing Criteria</i>
Crops: Compost	11/95 (200), 3/98, 6/00R
Crops: Definitions	6/94 (122)
Crops: Drift & Misapplication	6/94 (124)
Crops: Emergency Spray	6/94, 11/95 (154)
Crops: Greenhouse	4/95 (150)
Crops: Mushrooms	4/95 (151)
Crops: Organic Plan	6/94 (142)
Crops: Planting Stock	6/94 (137), 11/95 (153)
Crops: Raw Manure	6/00
Crops: Residue Testing	6/94 (130)
Crops: Small Farmer Exemption	6/94 (128)
Crops: Split Operations	6/94 (135)
Definitions:	
Crops	6/94 (122), 11/95 (200)
Handling	6/94 (69), 10/95 (159)
Livestock	6/94 (88)
Materials	11/95 (200)
"Organic"	4/95, 6/00R
<i>Drift & Misapplication to Crops</i>	<i>see Crops: Drift</i>
<i>Emergency Spray, Crops</i>	<i>see Crops: Emergency Spray</i>
<i>Food Labelling, Handling</i>	<i>see Handling: Food Labelling</i>
<i>Greenhouse Standards</i>	<i>see Crops: Greenhouse</i>
Handling: Commercial Availability	4/95 (73)
Handling: Cotton Clothing	9/96 (84)
Handling: Definitions	6/94 (69), 10/95 (159)
Handling: Food Labelling	6/94 (44), 10/94 (51), 4/95 (53), 10/95 (54)
Handling: Good Manufacturing Practices	4/95 (76)
Handling: Handler Certification	6/94 (67), 10/95 (71)
Handling: Organic Plan	6/94 (57), 4/95 (66)
Handling: Processing Criteria	2/99
Handling: Processing Materials	10/95 (122) & Addenda 10/95, 6/00
<i>Healthcare for Livestock</i>	<i>see Livestock Health care</i>
<i>Herd Conversion, Livestock</i>	<i>see Livestock Herd Conversion</i>
Importation	6/94 (40)
<i>Inert Ingredients</i>	<i>see Materials: Inert Ingredients</i>
Livestock: Antibiotics	6/94 (98), 10/95 (118), 3/98
Livestock: Definitions	6/94 (88)
Livestock: Feed	6/94 (93), 6/99, 11/00
Livestock: Healthcare	6/94 (95), 4/95 (116), 10/95 (114), 2/99, 6/99

Livestock: Herd Conversion	3/98, 6/00
Livestock: Living Conditions	6/94 (95), 3/98, 6/00R
Livestock: Organic Plan	6/94 (104)
Livestock: Parasiticides	6/94 (101), 10/95 (119), 10/99
Livestock: Sources	6/94 (91)
<i>Living Conditions, Livestock</i>	<i>see Livestock Living Conditions</i>
Materials: Definitions	11/95 (200)
Materials: Inert Ingredients	2/99
Materials: Non-Synthetic	4/95
Materials: Processing policy	10/95 (159) (164)
Materials Review Criteria	11/95 (158)
Materials: Synthetic Definition	11/95 (202)
<i>Mushrooms Standards</i>	<i>see Crops: Mushrooms</i>
<i>Non-Synthetic Materials</i>	<i>see Materials: Non-Synthetic</i>
NOSB Membership Criteria	6/99
<i>Organic Definition</i>	<i>see Definitions: "Organic"</i>
<i>Organic Good Manufacturing Practices</i>	<i>see Handling: Good.....</i>
<i>Organic Plan, Crops</i>	<i>see Crops: Organic Plan</i>
<i>Organic Plan, Handling</i>	<i>see Handling: Organic Plan</i>
<i>Organic Plan, Livestock</i>	<i>see Livestock: Organic Plan</i>
<i>Parasiticides for Livestock</i>	<i>see Livestock: Parasiticides</i>
<i>Peer Review Panel</i>	<i>see Accreditation</i>
Phase-In/Implementation	
For Handlers	4/95 (81)
For Crops/Livestock	4/95
<i>Planting Stock, Crops</i>	<i>see Crops: Planting Stock</i>
<i>Processing Criteria, Handling</i>	<i>see Handling: Processing Criteria</i>
<i>Processing Materials, Handling</i>	<i>see Handling: Processing Materials</i>
Promoting Organic	6/99
<i>Raw Manure, Crops</i>	<i>see Crops: Raw Manure</i>
<i>Residue Testing, Crops</i>	<i>see Crops: Residue Testing</i>
<i>Small Farmer Exemption</i>	<i>see Crops: Small Farmer</i>
<i>Sources of Livestock</i>	<i>see Livestock Sources</i>
<i>Split Operations, Crops</i>	<i>see Crops: Split Operations</i>
<i>Synthetic Definition</i>	<i>see Materials: Definitions</i>
<i>Termination of Certification</i>	<i>see Certification: Termination</i>

Referenced dates are to the meeting of the NOSB at which a recommendation was adopted or amended. Only recommendations which were voted by motion are included except as noted. Numbers in parentheses refer to the page number of the document in the compilation of NOSB documents titled: "Toward Organic Integrity" which was produced by Michael Sligh and the Rural Advancement Foundation International in 1997.

NOSB DRAFT MINUTES OF MEETING March 16 -20, 1998

Ontario, CA

OMRI Endorsement

The following resolution was also submitted:

The National Organic Standards Board (NOSB) endorses and supports the Organic Materials Review Institute's (OMRI) effort in providing technical information to the NOSB and its committees. Additionally, the NOSB requests that OMRI continue to provide this support during the rulemaking period and also (a) Assist in further identifying materials that need to be reviewed and (b) provide technical support for these reviews. The NOSB further recommends that the USDA and other Non-Governmental Organizations provide subscriptions and other funding vehicles to support OMRI's ongoing work.

Rod moved and it was seconded by Steve Harper to adopt the OMRI resolution. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Termination of Certification

The Secretary shall vest the accredited certification agent with the authority to initially terminate certification (based on known abuse), provided the terminated party retains the ability to appeal that decision to the Secretary. Fred seconded. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Antibiotic Change

Accordingly, the Livestock Committee has refined its recommendation on antibiotic use, to encompass the following:

1. No animal product or animal by-product may be labeled organic once an antibiotic has been given to the animal, except as provided for production stock under the Origin of Livestock (Section 205.12).
2. All organic livestock producers shall be required to take all necessary steps to maintain the health of their animals.
3. Culling shall be encouraged as a herd health management tool.
4. Antibiotics must be used to restore an animal to health when other methods acceptable to organic production fail. Thereafter, the animal cannot be used for organic production.
5. Failure to take the necessary steps to restore a diseased animal to health shall result in decertification by the certifier.

Animal Refeeding

The feeding of poultry and mammalian slaughter by-products to organic poultry and mammals shall be prohibited.

Livestock Living Conditions

The Livestock Committee supports the Organic Trade Association's Livestock Living Conditions and Manure Management Recommendations 1, 2, and 3, which are essentially the NOSB's original recommendations with the addition of "direct sunlight" as required as suitable to the species, the stage of production, the climate, and the environment.

1. Access to shade, shelter, fresh air, outdoors, and direct sunlight suitable to the species, the stage of production, the climate, and the environment;

2. Appropriate clean and dry bedding, appropriate to the husbandry system, Provided, that is, if the bedding is typically consumed by the animal species it complies with the feed standard;
3. A housing design which provides for
 - i. natural maintenance, comfort behaviors, and the opportunity to exercise;
 - ii. temperature level, ventilation, and air circulation suitable to the species;
 - iii. the reduction of potential for livestock injury; and
 - iv. free access to floor that is predominantly grass, shavings, dirt, or other non-artificial bedding

Whole Herd Dairy Conversion and Replacement Stock

The Livestock Committee reaffirms the NOSB's 1994 Santa Fe, New Mexico Recommendation:

"Replacement dairy stock must be fed certified organic feeds and raised under organic management practices from the time such stock is brought onto a certified organic farm and for not less than the 12 month period immediately prior to the sale of milk and milk products from such stock."

Clarification of NOSB's Livestock Feed Standard recommendations section A(2); add in:

"Livestock which are part of a mixed crop/livestock operation would qualify to be certified organic at the end of the transition period".

NOSB Meeting Notes from OMRI July 21-23, 1998

Washington, D.C.

(no relevant motions were adopted).

NOSB Meeting Notes from OMRI October 27-29, 1998

Washington, D.C.

(no relevant motions were adopted).

NOSB DRAFT MINUTES OF MEETING February 9-11, 1999

Washington, D.C.

Livestock Confinement

Livestock Committee. Motion by Fred Kirschenmann. Add to the Board recommendation on Confinement of Livestock in an Organic System "stage of production" and "stage of transition of the farm to organic" on the list of exceptions to the requirement that livestock have access to the outdoors. The management practices must make clear that these additional exemptions in no way change the intent that ruminant organic livestock systems be pasture based.

Second: Bill Welsh Those In Favor: **Unanimous**

Inert ingredients

Joint Crops and Materials Committee. Motion by Eric Sideman. Inert ingredients on EPA Lists 1 and 2 shall be prohibited for use in organic production and handling effective on the date of implementation of the final rule of NOP. Synthetic inerts on EPA List 3 shall be prohibited if not specifically approved by the NOSB. This approval process will be completed and published by

January 1, 2002. Any inert currently in use in organic production that is not approved by the NOSB will be banned within 18 months after the review is completed and published. To that goal, inerts on EPA List 3 used in products that have active ingredients approved for organic production shall be reviewed by the NOSB on a case-by-case basis for possible inclusion on the National List. The NOSB recommends that inerts on List 4 generally be allowed unless explicitly recommended for prohibition. Those In Favor: **Unanimous**

Letter to manufacturers of pesticide formulations

Motion: Joint Crops and Materials Committees– Eric Sideman moves that the NOSB/NOP send a letter to be modified as needed by NOP to manufacturers of pesticides formulations used in organic production requesting lists of ingredients, including inert ingredients. Discussion: USDA will create/finesse a new draft, and clear it through the NOSB.

Second: Rod Cossley Those In Favor: **Unanimous**

Processing Criteria

Interdisciplinary Committee on Processing Principles. Motion by Joan Gussow. A synthetic may be used if:

- 1) That processing aid or adjuvant cannot be produced from a natural source and has no organic ingredients as substitutes;
- 2) Its manufacture, use, and disposal do not have adverse effects on the environment and are done in a manner compatible with organic handling as described in section 6513 of the OFPA;
- 3) The nutritional quality of the food is maintained, and the material itself or its breakdown products do not have adverse effects on human health as defined by applicable Federal regulations;
- 4) Its primary purpose is not as a preservative or used only to recreate/improve flavors, colors, textures, or nutritive value lost during processing, except in the latter case as required by law;
- 5) It is Generally Recognized as Safe (GRAS) by FDA when used in accordance with Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) and contains no residues of heavy metals or other contaminants in excess of FDA tolerances;
- 6) Its use is compatible with the principles of organic handling; and
- 7) There is no other way to produce a similar product without its use, and it is used in the minimum quantity required to achieve the process.

Second: Carolyn Brickey Those In Favor: **Unanimous**

Termination of Certification

Motion by Rod Crossley. Be it resolved that the National Organic Standards Board recommends that: A certifying agent retains the authority to terminate its certification of a certified operation where the certifying agent has made a determination that a certified operation has violated the provisions of the Act and the certifying agent shall advise the certified operation of its action by written notice of the termination of certification.

This Termination Notice shall, in addition to terminating certification of all or any part of the certified operation, advise the certified operation of the following:

- 1. That a copy of this Notice has been forwarded to the Secretary [Administrator];
- 2. That the certified operation has 15/20/30 days [length of expedited appeals process] from the effective date of the Notice to appeal the action of the certifying agent to the Secretary [Administrator];

3. That if the certified operation fails to file an appeal within the prescribed time, the Secretary shall without further process and in addition to reaffirming the termination of the certification, terminate the Federal license of the certified operation, effective immediately, and shall enforce and prosecute to the fullest extent of the law;

Failure by the certifying agent to advise the certified operation of the consequences of the Notice of termination shall act as a bar to enforcement by the Secretary until such time as the certified operation has been so advised.

Second: Joan Gussow Those in Favor: **Unanimous**

NOSB DRAFT Meeting Minutes June 8-10, 1999

Washington, D.C.

Additives for promoting or stimulating Livestock growth

Motion by Fred Kirschenmann. The Livestock Committee moves to prohibit, above levels needed for adequate nutrition, the use of injected, implanted, or ingested animal drugs, synthetic trace elements, feed supplements, and additives for the purpose of promoting or stimulating growth.

Second: Bill Welsh Discussion: Call for the vote Vote: In Favor: 10 Opposed: 0 Abstaining: 1

MOTION PASSED

5 percent of livestock feed ration

Motion by Fred Kirschenmann. The Livestock Committee moves that feed additives (as defined by the NOSB) must meet the requirements of the June 2, 1994, Livestock Feed Standard and cannot exceed 5 percent of the total feed ration. Multiingredient processed products for animals that are labeled "organic" must comply with the labeling requirement of not more than 5 percent of dry weight, nonagricultural products. Second: Rod Crossley Discussion: Margaret Wittenberg moved to table this motion; this issue needs input and information from the public. Seconded by: Steven Harper Call for the vote Vote: In Favor: 9 Opposed: 2 Abstaining: 0 **Motion Tabled**

Biodiversity

Motion: The Livestock Committee moves that the NOSB recommend to the USDA/National Organic Program that language be incorporated into the regulation and practice standards that organic practices (farming, wild-crop, or handling) must foster biodiversity and protect and optimize the habitats and ecosystem of endangered and threatened biological species, including plants and animals. Second: Discussion: Rod Crossley moves to table. Steven Harper seconds Rod's motion. Call for the vote Vote: In Favor: 11 Opposed: 0 Abstaining: 0 **Motion is tabled**

Promoting Organic: AMS develop point of purchase materials

Motion: Motion by Eric Sidman. The NOSB recognizes that the OFPA exempts retailers and handlers that do not process from mandatory certification. The NOP and the NOSB should continue to review this situation providing such assurance of organic integrity to the consumer. In the meantime, we request that AMS with assistance from the organic trade develop point of purchase materials that provide consistent information about organic certification to the consumer that is sufficiently comprehensive to enable the consumer to determine that the organic integrity has been maintained. Second: Kathleen Merrigan Vote: In Favor: 11 Opposed: 0 Abstaining: 0

Criteria for National Organic Standards Board Membership

Recommendation for Criteria for National Organic Standards Board Membership 1. A general understanding of organic principles and practical experience in the organic community, particularly in the sector for which the person is making application. 2. Demonstrated experience in the development of public policy, such as participation on public or private advisory boards, boards of directors, or other comparable organizations. 3. Participation in standards development and /or involvement in educational outreach activities. 4. A commitment to the integrity and growth of the organic food and fiber industry. 5. The ability to evaluate technical information and to fully participate in Board deliberation and recommendations. 6. The willingness to commit the time and energy necessary to assume Board duties. Carolyn Brickey moved. Kathleen Merrigan seconded. Call for the vote Vote: In Favor: 11 Opposed: 0 Abstaining: 0

NOSB Meeting Minutes October 28, 1999 Washington, D.C.

Cost-Share Program

The National Organic Standards Board strongly recommends that the United States Department of Agriculture develop a certification/inspection cost-share program to ensure that program participants are not unduly burdened by program costs.

The resolutions passed by a simple majority hand vote (9 yes, 1 no, 1 abstention).

Alternatives to parasiticides in organic livestock

Motion: Motion by Fred Kirschenmann. On behalf of the Livestock Committee, I move that the NOSB work closely with the OMRI staff, NOP staff, Appropriate Technology Transfer for Rural Areas and other USDA Agencies to explore alternative to parasiticide use in organic livestock production. This project would include an effective means of communicating and demonstrating the alternatives to producers. A proposed work plan would be developed by the Livestock Committee and reported back to the NOSB by June 2000.

Second: Marvin Holland

Discussion: Amendments made by Eric Sideman.

Vote: Those in favor: 9 Those opposed: 0 Those abstaining: 2 (out of room)

NOSB Meeting Minutes March 21-22, 2000 Buena Park, CA

(no relevant motions were adopted).

NOSB Meeting Minutes June 5-6, 2000 Crystal City, Arlington, VA

Livestock Herd Conversion

Motion: Eric Sideman moved that the whole-herd conversion language in Section 205.236 Origin of Livestock be changed as indicated. Second by Joan Gussow. Motion passed unanimously.

After some re-crafting of language, the board unanimously supported a new herd clause for one time conversion of whole dairy herd. This will allow for the use of 80% organic feed or farm raised

transitional feed during the first nine months of the last year before organic milk production. It also requires young stock to be managed organically after the farm is converted, except for allowing the use of transitional feed raised on farm for the first year of life. (see NOSB rule reponse below). The board also asked that pasture be defined and access to outside be required in the final rule. They also clarified that their earlier recommendation that allowed for temporary confinement for "stage of production." This is meant to be restricted to short-term instances such as birthing of a new born calf, finish feeding of slaughter animals, and specifically excludes lactating dairy animals or other stages of production that constitute a significant portion of the animal's life.

Crops: Raw Manure

The board held a lengthy discussion about the comments on raw manure and compost. The committee made a distinction between compost made with manure and other types of compost, and supported the NOP language to restrict raw manure use with 90-120 days until harvest. The board did not support use of the NRCS compost guidelines as reference, and asked that annotations on Chilean nitrate and potassium chloride be re-instated. Since these items are non-synthetic and do not appear on the National List, they suggested listing these non-synthetic items as prohibited non-synthetics under 205.602, except with restrictions permitting limited use.

Accreditation: Conflict of Interest and other points

The board referred to its 1994 recommendation on conflict of interest for certification agents, and commented that the proposed rule is too restrictive on membership organizations. The final comments also include support for expiration dates on certificates, a preference for site visits prior to accreditation and a request for more details about what constitutes "reasonable security" that the certifiers must provide to the Secretary. The board also entered a comment about a clarification reached in Feb. 1999 in a discussion between OGC and the Board. This would allow private certifiers to withdraw use of their seal or service mark once certification has been terminated and appropriate notification made.

National Organic Standards Board

Comments to the Revised Proposed Rule June 12, 2000

Definitions: "Compost"

Proper composting must be defined in order that compost that includes manure be considered safe. Compost without manure does not need to follow strict guidelines. Consequently, the NOSB proposed definitions of compost that distinguish between compost with or without manure. The definitions the NOSB developed at the Ontario, CA meeting in March of 1998 are:

"Compost" - The product of an aerobic process by which organic materials are digested by microorganisms. Organic materials added to the composting process (feedstock) are limited to those permitted for crop production by this Rule. Sewage sludge, or feedstock composed of or containing synthetic materials beyond an incidental residue are not permitted in compost.

"Composted manure and Animal Parts" - Manure and animal parts that have been composted in a carefully managed aerobic process to reach temperatures for the duration necessary to effectively stabilize nutrients and reduce pathogen levels. At a minimum, all materials must reach thermophilic conditions, i.e., a temperature of at least 130 degrees F. (55 degrees C.) for at least one day, be thoroughly mixed, and achieve 130 degrees again.

Origin of Livestock

With respect to the origin of dairy animals, the following language is recommended for transition and whole-herd conversion:

Dairy

Milk or milk products must be from livestock that has been under continuous organic management beginning no later than one year prior to the production of the milk or milk products that are to be sold, labeled, or represented as organic:

Except that when an entire, distinct herd is converted to organic production, the following exemptions may apply:

- (i) for the first nine months of the final twelve-month dairy herd transition period, animals must be fed at least 80% feed that is either organic or self-raised transitional feed.
- (ii) for the final three months animals must be fed 100% organic feed.
- (iii) Once a dairy operation has been converted to organic production all dairy animals shall be under organic management from the last third of gestation. Except that transitional feed raised on the farm may be fed to young stock up to twelve months prior to milk production.

Livestock Living Conditions: Access to pasture

The Preamble states on page 13548, "The NOSB specified that the stage of an animal's production is not intended to include the lactation cycle of dairy animals in which only dry cows would be allowed access to the outside and pasture". This assertion is incorrect. See the minutes of NOSB February, 1999 meeting, Board vote taken on February 11, 1999, that does not incorporate any such specific reference.

The language adopted by the Board in this vote states:

"Add to the Board recommendation on Confinement of Livestock in an Organic System "stage of production" and "stage of transition of the farm to organic" on the list of exceptions to the requirement that livestock have access to the outdoors. The management practices must make clear that these additional exemptions in no way change the intent that ruminant organic livestock systems be pasture-based."

Section 205.404 Approval of Certification

(b) The need for expiration dates on certificates of certification is based on the perceived need of the marketplace including manufacturers, distributors, brokers and retailers, to know if certification is valid. This information is also important to inspectors and certifying agents to verify valid certification certificates and is a currently accepted certification procedure.

The NOSB Accreditation Committee recommends the addition of the following language under Section 205.404(b)(2)

"Effective date of certification and expiration date for required annual update of certification."

Conflict of Interest for Certification Agents

The NOSB requests that its original recommendation made in Santa Fe, June 1994 regarding conflict of interest be included in the Proposed Rule. This recommendation states:

That a certifying agent must have written policies and procedures regarding:

1. the application handling process;
2. disclosure of inspector financial interests and affiliations;

- 3. the appeal of inspection results;
- 4. the certification decision making process;
- 5. disclosure of financial interests and affiliations of members of the decision making body, including conditions of disqualification from decision making; and
- 6. the appeal of certification decisions.

Please reference the following Definition of Independence (freedom from conflict of interest), *Toward Organic Integrity, Sligh, July 1997, page 16:*

“The term “conflict of interest” is defined as the use by an individual of his or her position for personal advantage or to the detriment of the integrity of the Organic Program. Personal advantage includes interest in another organization by the individual or a member of his or her immediate family (household), or receipt or acceptance of economic or non-economic favors, gifts or benefits of more than nominal value accruing to the individual or his or her designee, other than as part of his or her bona fide compensation.

Owners, officers, staff, committee members, board members, employees and contractors of Certifying Agents who have a financial interest in a farm or handling operation certified by the Certifying Agent, or who otherwise stand to gain financially from a certification decision, except for receipt of agreed upon fees for service or for use of a trademark or seal, must be isolated from those certification decisions in which they have an interest. Certifying Agents act as agents of the Secretary under the Organic Program, so an individual employed by a Certifying Agent represents the Secretary in certification activities.”

NOSB Meeting Minutes November 15-17, 2000
Washington, DC

Livestock Feed Ingredients

REVISED MOTION: The NOSB recommends that unless otherwise specified in the annotation, any substance on the National List of non-agricultural substances allowed as ingredients in an organic processed food product also be allowed for use in organic animal feed, provided it is approved by FDA in 21 CFR for livestock feed or allowed by FDA discretion as stated by AAFCO. Passed unanimously (11/0/0).

NOSB Decisions 1993 to 2000

1

Cat	Title	Date	Content
A	Accreditation: Standards & Procedures Governing...	6/94 36 pages	Competence, Transparency, Independence. Establishing a Peer Review Panel is Requirement of OFPA. Competence = Determining the expertise used in file review, inspection, administrations, and appeals. Transparency = Recordkeeping and publishing basic certification information. Independence = Freedom from conflict of interest.
G	Biodiversity	6/99	Organic practices (farming, wild-crop, or handling) must foster biodiversity and protect and optimize the habitats and ecosystem of endangered and threatened biological species, including plants and animals.
G	Biotechnology Policy	(no date), circa 1995	GEO's are prohibited.
M	Botanical Pesticides Policy	10/94 2 pages	Users of botanical pesticides shall comply with a set of restrictions including developing a biorational pest management program. Recommend that a comprehensive review of botanicals occur within 5 years of implementation of OFPA.
A	Certification: Conflict of Interest	6/00R	NOSB re-iterates its original recommendation from 6/94 which states that certification agents shall have policies and procedures on "disclosure of financial interests and affiliations of members of the decision making body, including conditions of disqualification from decision making." They shall conform to the original Definition of Independence.
A	Certification: Expiration of	6/00R	Certificates should include a date of expiration.
A	Certification: Termination of	3/98; 2/99 rev. Motion	The Secretary shall vest the accredited certification agent with the authority to initially terminate certification (based on known abuse), provided the terminated party retains the ability to appeal. Termination and appeals procedures in the revision.
G	Cost/share Program	10/99 Motion	The USDA develop a certification/inspection cost-share program to ensure that program participants are not unduly burdened by program costs.
C	Crop Standards: Compost	11/95, 3/98, 6/00	Proper composting must be defined in order that compost that includes manure be considered safe. Consequently, the NOSB proposed definitions of compost that distinguish between compost with or without manure. Compost without manure does not need to follow strict guidelines. "Composted manure and Animal Parts" - Manure and animal parts that have been composted in a carefully managed aerobic process to reach temperatures for the duration necessary to effectively stabilize nutrients and reduce pathogen levels. At a minimum, all materials must reach thermophilic conditions, i.e., a temperature of at least 130 degrees F. (55 degrees C.) for at least one day, be thoroughly mixed, and achieve 130 degrees again.
C	Crop Standards: Definitions	6/94; 2 pp.	Includes elaborations of "Synthetic", "Drift" and "Organic Plan", among others.
C	Crop Standards: Drift and Misapplication	6/94 4 pages	Request that crop losses shall be eligible for reimbursement from federal crop insurance programs. Organic Agricultural products exposed to drift or misapplication of prohibited materials shall not be sold as certified organic. Certification agents must investigate each drift situation to determine the extent and conduct residue tests as necessary. The certifier then can decide what, if any, crops from subsequent years production can be sold as organic.
C	Crop Standards: Emergency Spray	6/94 11/95 rev. 3 pages	A certified organic farm that is treated with a prohibited material as a result of a government emergency pest eradication program or legally constituted insect abatement program shall be excepted from the requirement of 3 years without prohibited material use. Crops or livestock which are directly sprayed may not be sold as certified organic, and residue testing shall be conducted by the certifying agent or government to determine if subsequent crops may be sold as organically produced.
C	Crop Standards: Greenhouse & Mushroom Standards	4/95 3 pages	Greenhouses with bench systems and Mushrooms in houses do not have to wait 3 years to be certified organic, but do have to comply with specialized standards. Log-grown mushrooms and hydroponic production must also comply with these specialized standards.
C	Crop Standards: Organic Plan	6/94 5 pages	The Organic Farm Plan must address the key elements of organic crop production: soil and crop management, resource management, crop protection, maintaining organic integrity.
C	Crop Standards: Planting Stock	6/94 11/95 rev. 5 pages	Annual Transplants: must be organic (with emergency clause). Perennial Transplants: one year of organic management from non-organic stock. Asparagus and Rhubarb: see perennials. Garlic, Onions, Seed Potatoes, Strawberry crowns, sweet potatoes: organically produced (with commercial availability clause). Treated Seed: synthetic seed treatments must be on the National List. Sprouts: seed for sprouts must be organically produced. Banana rhizomes must be organically produced unless they are not commercially available as organic.

NOSB Decisions 1993 to 2000

C	Crop Standards: Raw Manure	6/00	Support for the NOP language to restrict raw manure use with 90-120 days until harvest.
C	Crop Standards: Residue Testing	6/94 5 pages	Organic agricultural products shall not contain pesticide residues in excess of the FDA action level or 5% of the EPA tolerance. Pesticide residue level shall be reviewed annually by the NOSB. A certifying agent shall conduct periodic residue testing in situations of drift or suspicion arising from an inspection, and may conduct periodic testing in other situations as well. The Secretary shall direct the FDA to incorporate not less than 1% of organic products into their Regulatory Monitoring Program.
C	Crop Standards: Small Farmer Exemption	6/94 2 pages	Persons who sell less than \$5000 of agricultural products who wish to use the word "organic" are exempt from certification, but must produce their products in compliance with the standards for production and handling in the Final Rule and OFPA. Such producers must fill out a Declaration Form, develop an Organic Plan, keep records as described in the rule, and allow for public access to these records. Such producers may not market to exporters, wholesalers, processors, etc.
C	Crop Standards: "Split Operations"	6/94 2 pages	In a farming operation with both organic and non-organic production, the timetable and level of transition to organic is up to the producer.
G	Definitions and Interpretations	11/95 4 pages	Includes primarily definitions related to material review, including "compost", "combustion", "extraction", "genetically engineered", "synthetic", "synthetic analog"
G	Definition of "Organic"	4/95, 6/00R 1 pg	"Organic agriculture is an ecological production management system that promotes and enhances biodiversity, biological cycles and soil biological activity. It is based on minimal use of off-farm inputs and on management practices that restore, maintain and enhance ecological harmony."
H	Handling: Commercial Non-Availability of Organic Ingredients	4/95 3 pages	Availability to be determined by handler with responsibility for making a comprehensive effort to obtain ingredients. Verifying the effort lies with certifier, including an annual audit of documentation for each non-organic minor ingredient. Factors to consider in availability are: Quality, adequacy and consistency of supply, suitability in product formulation and cost.
H	Handling: Cotton Clothing	9/96 2 pages	Upon implementation, textiles may be labelled only as "made with organic fiber" pending the deliberation on approved dyeing process standards.
H	Handling: Food Labelling Standards	6/94, 10/94, 4/95, 10/95 12 pages	Percentage of organic ingredients is mandatory on the label. Percentage of organic ingredients to be determined by weight of fluid volume, excluding air, water, and salt. Identify each organic ingredient. Identify certifying agent. Only 100% organic may declare on principal panel. USDA seal is optional. Non-retail containers must be identified as organic on the container.
H	Handling: Organic Good Manufacturing Practices	4/95 5 pages	Follows 21 CFR re: cleanliness, training, plant design, pest control, sanitation, processing aids, boiler water additives, chemicals in washing, water, ionizing radiation, recombinant DNA.
H G	Handler Certification Requirements	6/94, 10/95 6 pages	Handlers who take legal title must be certified. Definitions of who does and does not need to be certified. Revisions exempts retailers and distributors who take title but do not process.
H	Handling: Organic Plan	6/94 10 pages	Description of handling system, procedures for assuring organic integrity, material inputs, audit trail, pest and waste management.
H	Handling: Criteria for Processing	2/99 1 page	7 Criteria were adopted for use in evaluation of synthetic materials in processing. They include: lack of natural alternatives, maintaining nutritional quality of food, no equivalent material achieves the same function, and is not used as a preservative.
M H	Handling: Processing Materials in Food Labelling	10/95 6/00	All synthetic ingredients, processing aids, and incidental food additives used in organic processing must be on the National List. Support for the prohibition on GMOs, sludge, and irradiation for products labeled Made with Organic (at least 50% organic ingredients) as well.
H G	Handling: Addenda to Processing Materials Recs.	10/95 7 pages	Several documents including Allowable Methods of Oil Extraction, Use of Nutrient Supplementation, Use of Natural Flavors, Incidental Food Additives.
G	Importation of Organic Products	6/94 3 pages	Foreign products may be imported if they are certified using a program recognized by the Secretary as equivalent in standards, or if they the program is accredited by the Secretary.
L	Livestock Standards: Antibiotics	6/94 10/95, 3/98 rev. 3 pages	Antibiotics are prohibited in slaughter stock. Antibiotics in breeder stock are restricted to healthcare emergencies that occur before the last third of gestation. Antibiotics may be used in dairy stock and laying hens with products from treated stock not being sold as organic for 90 days. Before any use, 5 conditions must be met: preventative health care, all other management practices pursued, use only substances on the National List, write a justification in the Organic Plan, and provide distinct identification for animals in withdrawal period.
L G	Livestock Standards: Definitions	6/94 3 pages	Includes definitions of "Livestock", "Synthetic", "Audit Trail", "Feed", "Feed Additive", "Forage", "Ration", "Subtherapeutic" and others.

NOSB Decisions 1993 to 2000

	Feed Standard	11/00 rev 2 pages	additives must be on the National List. Non-Organic feed may be fed in a feed availability emergency, as verified by the certification agent. Unless otherwise specified in the annotation, any substance on the National List of non-agricultural substances allowed as ingredients in an organic processed food product also be allowed for use in organic animal feed, provided it is approved for use in 21CFR for livestock feed.
L	Livestock Standards: Healthcare & Records	6/94;4/95 rev.;10/95 2/99; 3 pp	Withholding needed treatment to maintain organic status shall be grounds for decertification. Production environment which promotes livestock health shall be provided, including: access to outdoors, shelter, fresh air and daylight; clean bedding; housing design with comfort and ventilation; manure management system. Innoculation and vaccination are allowed. All healthcare decisions shall be documented in the Organic Plan.
L	Livestock Standards: Herd Conversion	3/98, 6/00	One time conversion of whole dairy herd will allow 80% organic feed or farm raised transitional feed during the first nine months of the last year before organic milk production. Young stock must be managed organically after the farm is converted, except for allowing transitional feed raised on farm for the 1 st year of life.
L	Livestock Standards: Living Conditions	3/98, 6/00	Production environment which promotes livestock health shall be provided, including: access to outdoors, shelter, fresh air and direct sunlight as suitable to species; clean bedding; housing design with comfort and ventilation; manure management system. Management practices must make clear that additional exemptions to livestock access to the outdoors in no way change the intent that ruminant organic livestock systems be pasture based.
L	Livestock Standards: Organic Plan	6/94 10 pages	Type of livestock and livestock products, production practices, sources, feed, drinking water, environment, manure management, breeding, healthcare, handling livestock products, mixed production.
L	Livestock Standards: Parasiticides	6/94 10/95, 10/99 rev. 3 pages	Parasiticides are prohibited in slaughter stock. Parasiticides in breeder stock are restricted to healthcare emergencies that occur before the last third of gestation. Parasiticides may be used in dairy stock and laying hens with products from treated stock not being sold as organic for 90 days. Before any use, conditions must be met: all other management practices pursued, use only substances on the National List, justify use in the Organic Plan. Regular or periodic use is prohibited.
L	Livestock Standards: Sources	6/94 2 pages	Breeder stock must be organic for the last third of gestation. Slaughter stock must be born to organic breeder stock and raised organically. Poultry must be organic from one day old.
M	Materials: Inerts Ingredients Policy	4/95 2/99 rev. 3 pages	The NOSB will make every effort to review synthetic inert ingredients for their appropriateness in organic production systems. Inerts proposed for organic production from EPA List 2 and List 3 will be compiled by the NOSB and forwarded to the EPA as materials for fast-track review and possible reclassification. Inert ingredients on EPA Lists 1 and 2 shall be prohibited for use in organic production and handling effective on the date of implementation of the final rule of NOP. Synthetic inerts on EPA List 3 shall be prohibited if not specifically approved by the NOSB. This approval process will be completed and published by 1/1, 2002.
M	Materials: Non-Synthetic	4/95	A list, which was reviewed by the TAP process and then adopted informally by the NOSB, of materials that are non-synthetic and allowed for organic farming.
M	Materials Review Criteria	11/95 ??	Explanation of some of the criteria in OFPA, particularly the 7 th . Includes a preamble to the National List.
M G	Materials: Synthetic Definition	11/95	Clarifies that genetic engineering is synthetic and that combustion of minerals is considered synthetic. Includes and explanation of synthetic analogs.
G	NOSB Membership Criteria	6/99	NOSB recommends criteria to be used for future NOSB appointments, including: experience with organics, experience with boards and in standards development, time and energy, etc.
G H	Phase-In/Implementation for Handlers	4/95 2 pages	Implementation date for OFPA shall be the date of publication of the list of Accredited Organic Certifying Agents or the date of the Final Rule, whichever is later. Handlers must apply to an Accredited Certifier within 2 months of implementation and must be certified within 12 months. Product labels and processed products from before implementation will have 18 months to come into compliance after the implementation date.
G	Phase-In/Implementation for Crops/Livestock	4/95 2 pages	Practices and materials which become prohibited under the final rule that were previously allowed must stop being used at the time of implementation. However, such practices used up to 3 years before the implementation shall not be a cause for de-certification.
G	Promoting Organic	6/99	AMS with assistance from the organic trade should develop point of purchase materials that provide consistent information about organic certification to the consumer.

Key: Category: C=Crops, L=Livestock, H=Handling, A=Accreditation, G=General & Definitions, M=Materials
 Title: Keywords to characterize recommendation, or Title given by NOSB.
 Date: Date of meeting at which recommendation was made. More dates are modification dates. Length of original document.
 Content: Highlights of recommendation. See original documentation for more information.