## Organic Imports: Where things go wrong, and what can be done









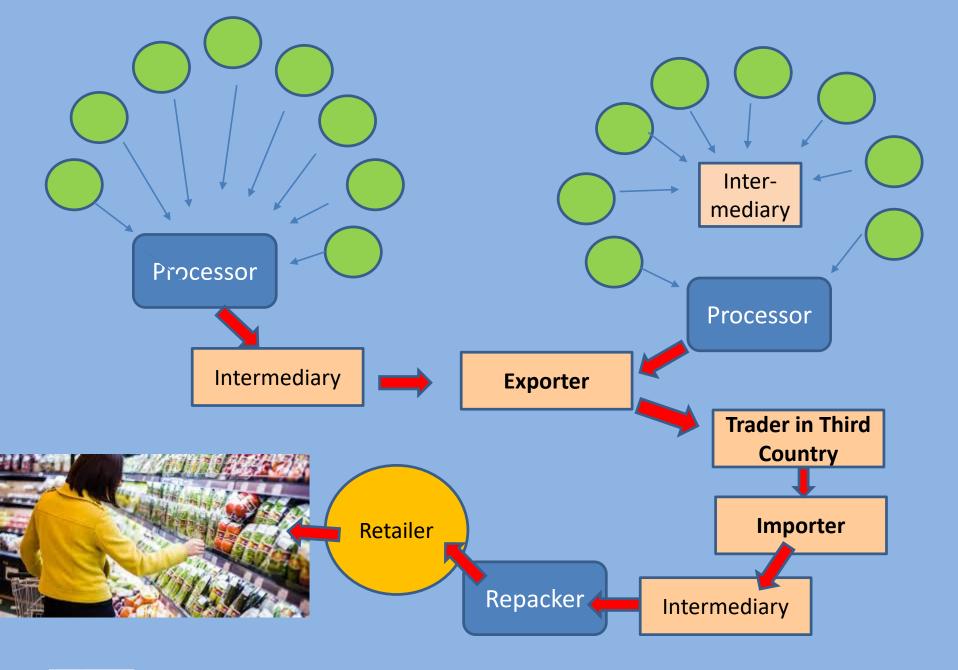


# Why is fraud in the organic industry so widespread in some countries?





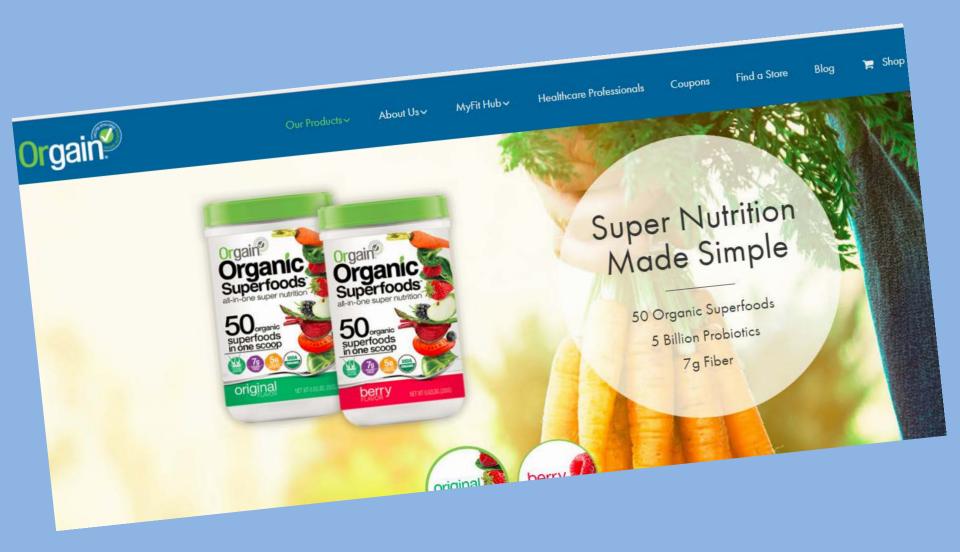














# What do customers buy after viewing this item?



truRoots
Organic Quinoa 100% Whole Grain
Premium Quality, 4 lbs
\$ 1999

\*\*Prime\*\*

Top Rated



Kirkland Signature
Organic Gluten-Free Quinoa from
Andean Farmers to your Table - 2.04kg.,

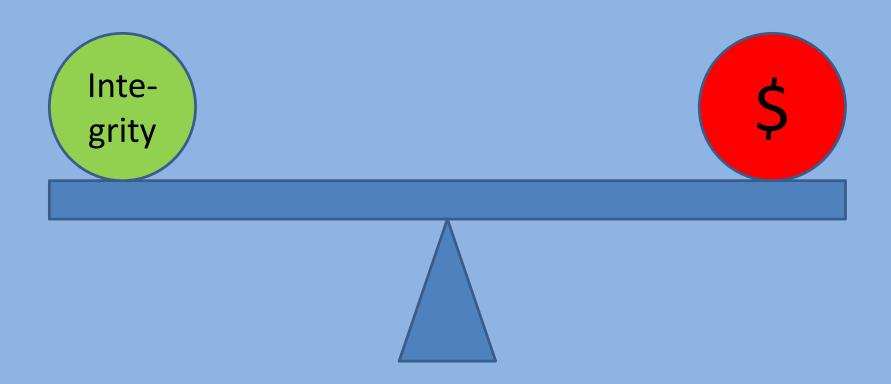
\$ 17.75

Grocery & Gourmet Food > Dried Beans, Grains & Rice > Grains & Rice > Ouinoa

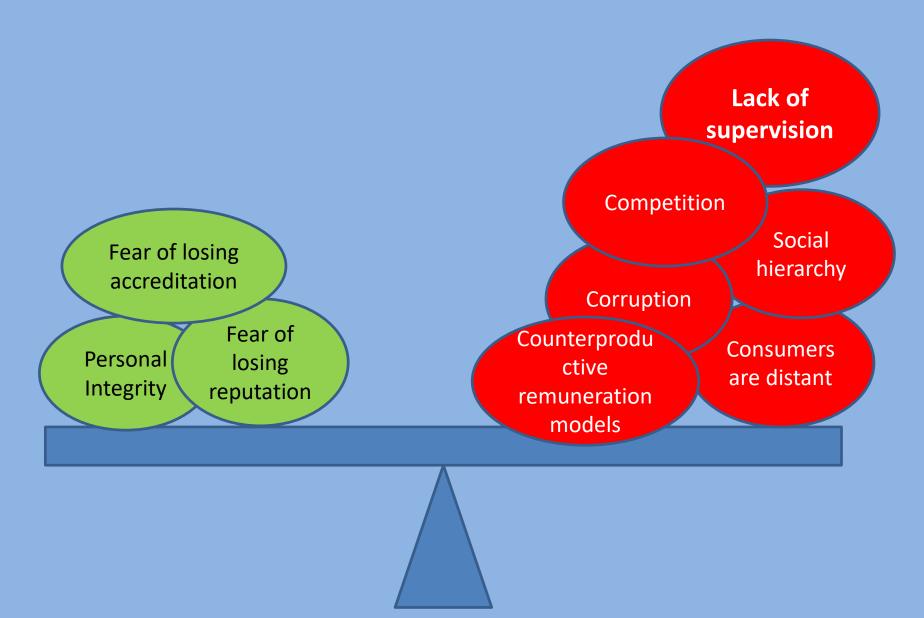


# 3. Certifiers are businesses

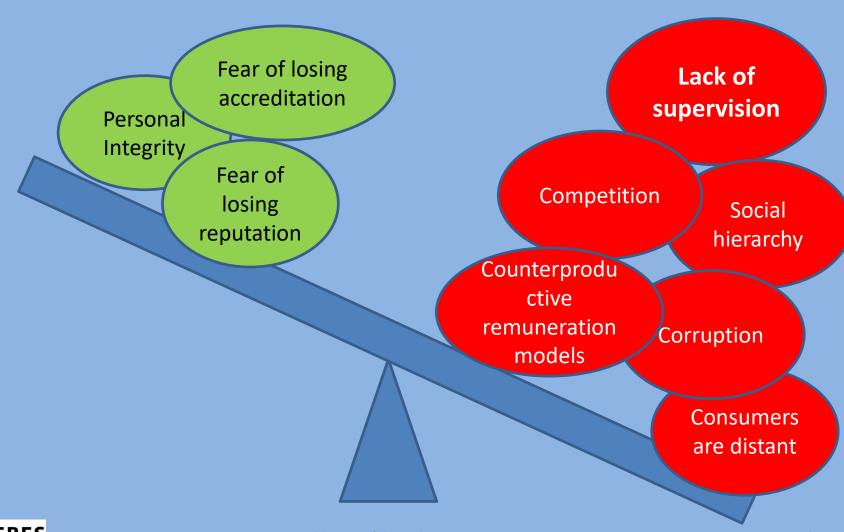














# Some things that are being done in the EU to deal with fraud:



## Compulsory Certificates of Inspection

#### Cartificate of Inspection for Impert of products from Degards production late the European Union 1. Isvaing control body or authority (name, address and code) 2. Council Regulation No 834/2007, Article 33 CB 🖂 or Council Regulation CERES Cartification of Environmental Standards Grabit - DO-810-140 Fordechaulock 1 , 91210, Support, Germany (DE) No 834/2007, article 33 (3) [2] 1 Secial number of the certificate of inspection 4. Experter (name and address) Fernández Badia Agrecamo Cierretora San Francisco de Mazario-Najosa, Ren. 6 1/2 Guico, San Francisco De Mazoria, Domenican Republic (192) COLDO 3918,0900019 5. Producer or processor of the product (name and address) 6. Corned body or corned authority (name, address and code) Permindes Badia Agrocacao Camerara Son Francisco de Macerti- Nagua, Kin. 6 1:2 Geixa, San Francisco De Macorto, Dominican Republic (DII) CERES Certification of Environmental Standards GnAH - DO-000-140 Vorderhoelech 1 , 91230, Happurg, Germany (DE) 7. Country of origin 8. Country of export Dominican Republic (DO) Dominion Republic (DO) 5. Country of clearance/Point of entry 18. Country of destination Zollant Benchurg-Waltershof - DESO4851 Finkenwarder SF, 4, 21129, Handwarg, Freis Und Hamestadt, Germany UDE Germany (DE) 11. Importer (name, address and BORI number) 12. First consigner in the Union (name and eddress) Santiere Triefe Grabel - 155-5W-466-23854-CD Habers I argo-Str.24, 757-00, Ontfidena, Stock, Germany (DE) EDE: DES:4816747815284 Sentana Trado Gentill - DE-Bra (DS-23694-CD Robert - Lange-Str. 24, 75780, Darfishera, Stadt, Germany (DE) 13. Description of preducts CN code Trade name Number of peckages Let number Not weight 18010900 Organic Cacca Bears Type Hispaniols; Also 184 Bug NOP-certified in 200% organic 0018-2017 200000.0 %



### **OFIS**

Nouncations										
Notification	Ver.	Notifier	Product Reference	Confirmed on	Replied on	Reply Status	View	Edit De	lete Rep	ly Confirm
INTC-374/2017	1	Germany	17K290 pesticides residues in Grape Seed Powder Ex	14/11/2017	13/12/2017	accepted				
INTC-378/2017	1	Germany	Organic Green Tea	21/11/2017	11/01/2018	refused				
INTC-378/2017	2	Germany	Organic Green Tea	21/11/2017	21/03/2018	accepted				
INTC-385/2017	1	Switzerland and Li	Getrocknete Bio Shiitake respektive Shiitake-Pulver	23/11/2017	01/12/2017	accepted				
INTC-383/2017	1	Germany	17K258 Wrong labeling of cereals(wheat and spelled	23/11/2017	31/01/2018	refused				
INTC-383/2017		Germany	17K258 Wrong labeling of cereals(wheat and spelled	23/11/2017		unreplied			<u>~</u>	
INTC-390/2017	1	Netherlands	2017-1050903-AH Organic Wheat Fumigation	28/11/2017	29/11/2017	refused				
INTC-390/2017	2	Netherlands	2017-1050903-AH Organic Wheat Fumigation	28/11/2017	31/01/2018	accepted				
INTC-399/2017	1	Belgium	Pumpkinseeds GWS organic	30/11/2017	08/01/2018	refused				
INTC-399/2017	2	Belgium	Pumpkinseeds GWS organic	30/11/2017	30/01/2018	accepted				
INTC-42/2018	1	Italy	organic peppermint (dry)	19/02/2018	21/03/2018	accepted				
INTC-52/2018	1	Germany	18K49 pesticides residues in tea	28/02/2018	29/03/2018	refused				
INTC-52/2018		Germany	18K49 pesticides residues in tea	28/02/2018		unreplied			<u>~</u>	
INTC-53/2018	1	Germany	18K50 residues in Chia seeds	28/02/2018	29/03/2018	refused				
INTC-53/2018		Germany	18K50 residues in Chia seeds	28/02/2018		unreplied			<u>~</u>	
pelipa	^	consumer	ring ^							Alle a



f

### Details of Reply on Notification n. INTC-399/2017 Regulation (EC) No 834/2007, Regulation (EC) No 889/2008 and Regulation (EC) No 1235/2008

#### **Reply Evaluation**

Status:

ACCEPTED

Reason:

Many thanks for the investigations and conclusions. We propose to close this case.

### Reply n. INTC-399/2017 to Notification

Regulation (EC) No 834/2007 and Regulation (EC) No 889/2008

Notification Number : <u>View Notification</u>

Version of reply: 2

#### A) INVESTIGATION:

1) Which authority(-ies) and/or body(-ies) Certisys (CB of Beanworks) Ceres (former CB of Dalian Domore), Kiwa (CB of Dalian Domore)

are/were in charge of the investigation?

2) Describe cooperation between the different CERES was in exchange with Certisys and Kiwa BCS since 24.11.2017

onerators and hodies involved in the



### Stope Sale in Case of Suspicion

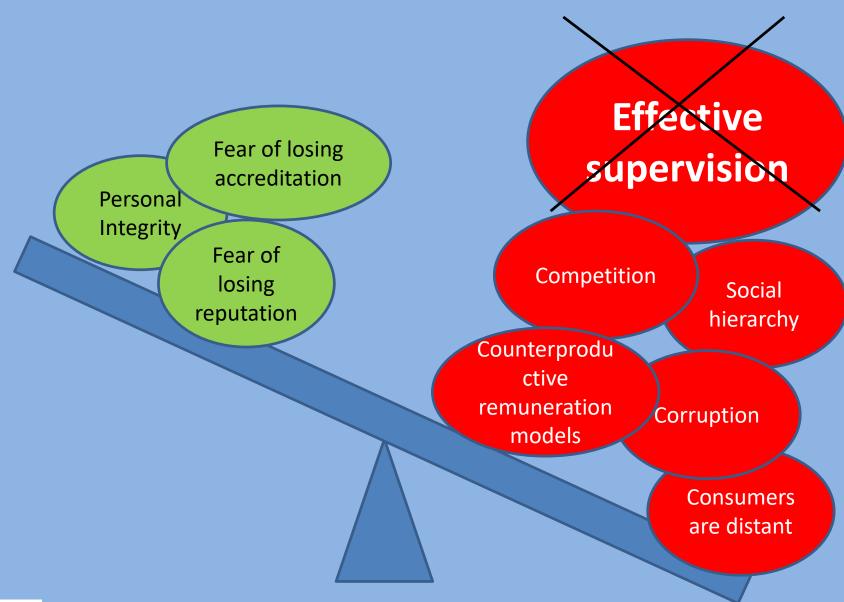
Reg. EC 889/08, Art. 91(2):

Where a control body has a substantiated suspicion that an operator intends to place on the market a product not in compliance with the organic production rules, this control body can require that the operator may provisionally not market the product with this reference ... This decision shall be supplemented by the obligation to withdraw from this product any reference to the organic production method is the control body is sure that the product does not fulfil the requirements



# What is not being done, neither by the EU Commission, nor by the NOP:





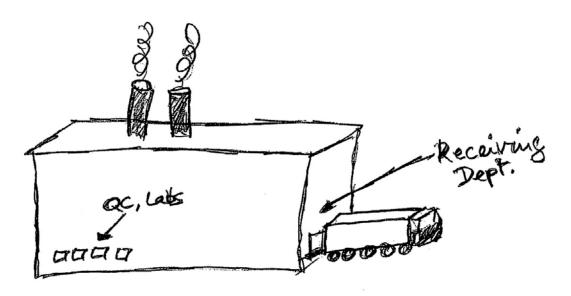


## Silke Fuchshofen

# Independent Organic Processing Inspector



Disconnect between Departments



© Organic Insights, Inc.

## If we focus on procedures,

1. We can determine high risk areas in ingredients, suppliers, operation, etc.

2. During review of records, a well-chosen sample will show us, if the procedures are adhered to and if they are effective.

3. The staff at the certified operation usually appreciates thorough vetting of their procedures because that helps them understand strengths and weaknesses -

4. and the operation can work on improvements and will be better able to fulfill their responsibility of maintaining organic integrity at their plant.

Certified Organic Operations can be our best allies when it comes to protecting organic integrity.

### Records vs. Procedures

understand the operation's procedures

and then

use records to verify that the procedures work

### **Six Suggestions:**

1.

That certified organic operations need to submit comprehensive written organic procedures and that reviewers and inspectors are trained to verify them in detail.

That organic processing and handler inspectors should be trained and authorized to take samples, if they encounter a high-risk situation. For example, if the audit trail cannot be linked back to a certified entity and the raw material is still in storage, we should be authorized, or even required, to take a sample.

That Certifiers are required by the NOP to report uncertified vendors that appear to be repackaging or relabeling. And that the NOP applies the same scrutiny to those as to certified entities.

Research and development of a system that is geared to identify and target high risk operations. Right now we are focusing on the areas where fraud had been discovered. If we want to be proactive, where do we need to look for fraud and how do we best employ resources? The Pareto Principle, also called 80:20 rule, could provide a very useful tool and I hope we will be able to speak more about this.

To address the issue of inspection qualifications, we need to talk about trainings, but also about the work environment. It is engrained in the organic industry that organic inspections should not cost much. Therefore, most organic inspectors will try to be fast. But one cannot rush and be thorough at the same time and the industry does not want quick inspections any more. This needs to be addressed by and with the certifiers.

Higher quality inspections will come at a cost to the certifiers. To make it possible, a risk-based approach can be useful here too. Inspectors can be grouped into different skill levels and areas and they can be dispatched according to type of operation and risk level. High risk operations are matched with highly skilled inspectors.

## Silke Fuchshofen

# Independent Organic Processing Inspector

### Risk Based Approach

- We talk about risk based approach, but what does that mean?
- Is there a system to organize your operation and your resources around?
- The regular work of annual inspections needs to continue, so how do the extra efforts, such as cross checks, unannounced audits and testing fit in?
- Right now we are reacting to cases of detected fraud, but how can we be pro-active?

### **Pareto Principle**

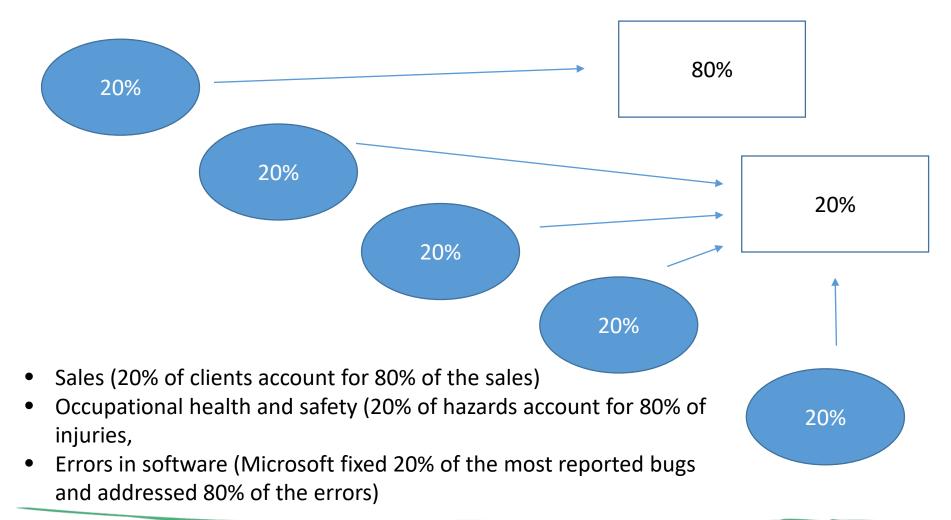
Also called:

80/20 Rule

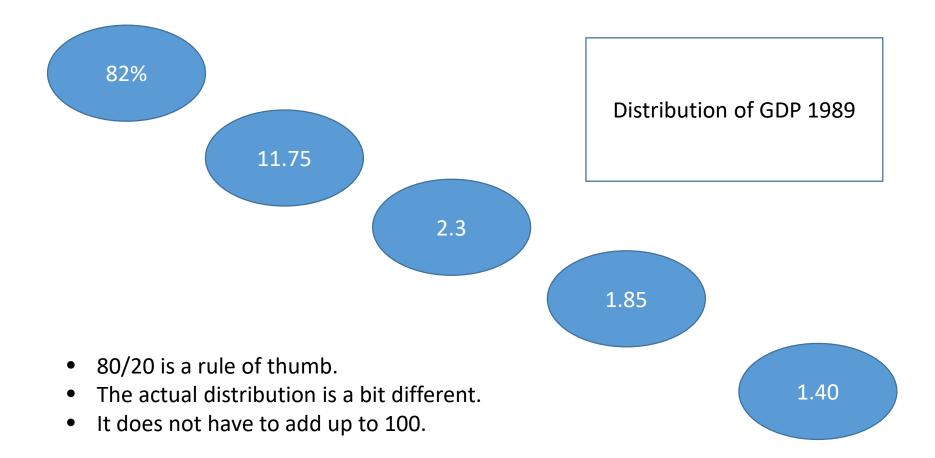
Law of the Vital Few

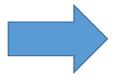
**Principle of Factor Sparsity** 

### PARETO PRINCIPLE



### PARETO PRINCIPLE



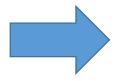


We can find 80% of the fraud in 20% of the operations.

What do we need?

- Industry Cooperation to
- Define general high risk criteria.
- Define red flags at individual operations

#### Organic Insights, Inc.



We can find 80% of the fraud in 20% of the operations.

- And a tool set of investigative methods:
  - Sampling & testing
  - Cross checks
  - Trained inspectors and reviewers
  - Documents
  - Complete Audit Trails
  - Unannounced inspections

Thank you.



# NOSB Imports Panel 2018

Jake Lewin, President CCOF Certification Services, LLC

#### **Our Deep Roots**



First CCOF logo, 1973

CCOF is a nonprofit organization governed by the people who grow and make our food. Founded in California more than 40 years ago, today our roots span the breadth of North America and our presence is internationally recognized.

## **Three Primary Issues for Certifiers**

1. The majority of certifiers do not report acreage to NOP.

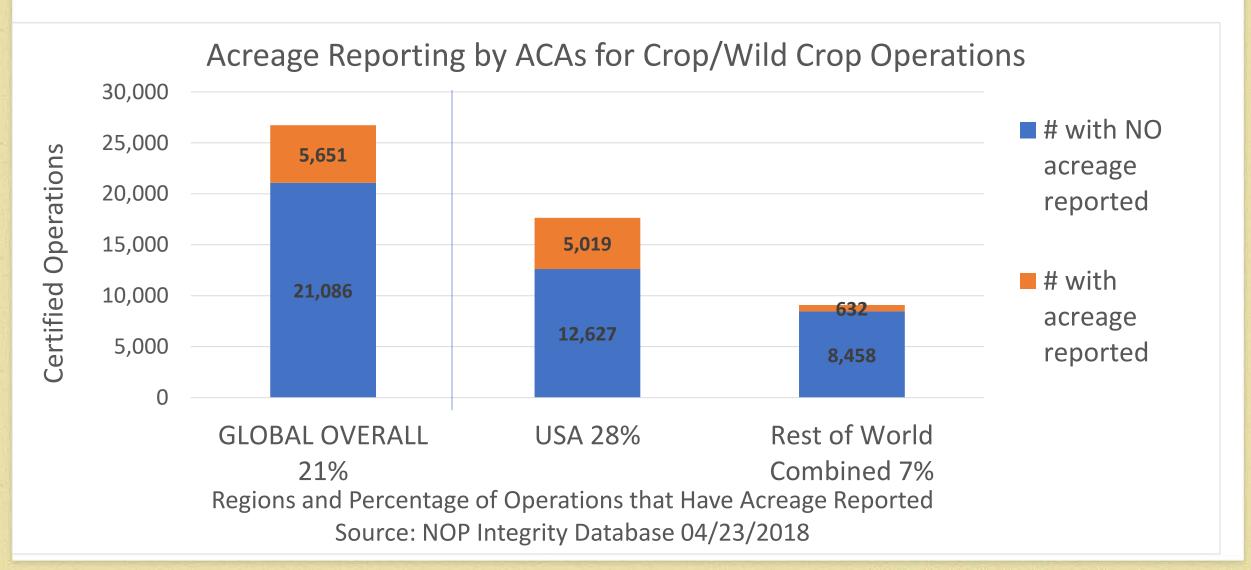
2. Certifiers are not fully collaborating with each other.

3. Certifiers are not always tracking and reporting exports.

#### Solution 1

All certifiers should report crop acreage to Integrity Database

#### **Certifiers Report Acreage to NOP Integrity Database**



#### Solution 2

NOP should direct certifiers to collaborate on investigations

#### Solution 3

Certifiers should track and report export activity to NOP.

## Organic is in a Strong Position for Oversight

 Fraud is rare, but any incidence must be taken seriously and addressed quickly.

 We can work together to create effective tools and solutions to prevent future fraudulent imports.



#### **Three Critical Solutions**

Acreage Reporting



Collaborative Investigations

Trade Tracking

### **Example of Solutions in Action**

#### Alleged Fraudulent Activity:

- Large shipment of grain imported from Turkey.

#### NOP Action:

- NOP verifies organic acreage from region where grain grown
- Certifiers immediately share information.
- NOP looks at overall export activity in region



#### **Thank You!**

Jake Lewin, President,
CCOF Certification Services, LLC
<a href="mailto:jake@ccof.org">jake@ccof.org</a>



Organic Farmers' Agency for Relationship Marketing





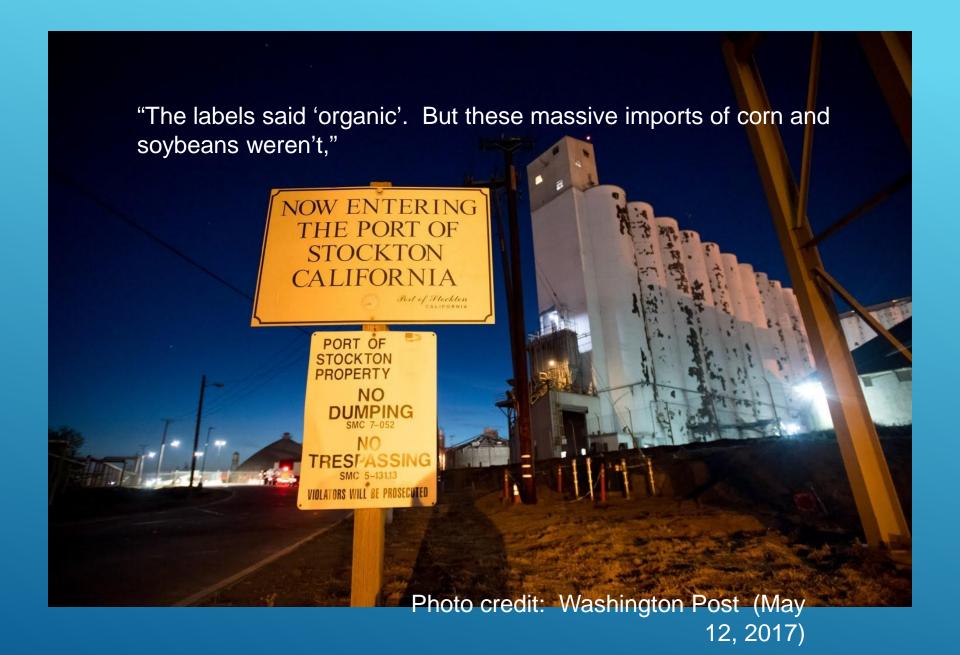


The Ince Atlantic is expected to arrive at the Port of Olympia's Marine Terminal on September 13, 2016. After unloading cargo, it is expected to depart around September 19, 2016.

Steamship Line: Tiryaki

Vessel Flag: Istanbul Cargo: Organic Grain

**Volume:** 15,000 metric tons





Bellingham, WA September 27, 2017





#### WHAT IS OFARM ASKING FOR?

- 1. NOP TO REQUIRE ANY ENTITY THAT IMPORTS GRAIN TO BE CERTIFIED
- 2. PUTTING A SYSTEM IN PLACE FOR INSPECTION AT U.S. PORTS
- 3. PROTOCOLS FOR RESIDUE TESTING

4. Putting in place a warning system of special protocols of imports from "High Risk" countries similar to the EU

5. Strengthen Accredidation of Certifiers

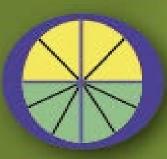
- 6. Improved transparency on the part of NOP
  - 7. Examination of ships Captains Logs

- 8. USDA submits to an outside audit as called for in OFPA (Not skirting the issue by using peer review.)
- 9. NOP to submit a full report on compliance with the OIG recommendations.

#### Cost to U. S. Organic Producers

Over \$400 Million

Who should be held responsible?



# Improving Your Organic Profits



ofarm.org



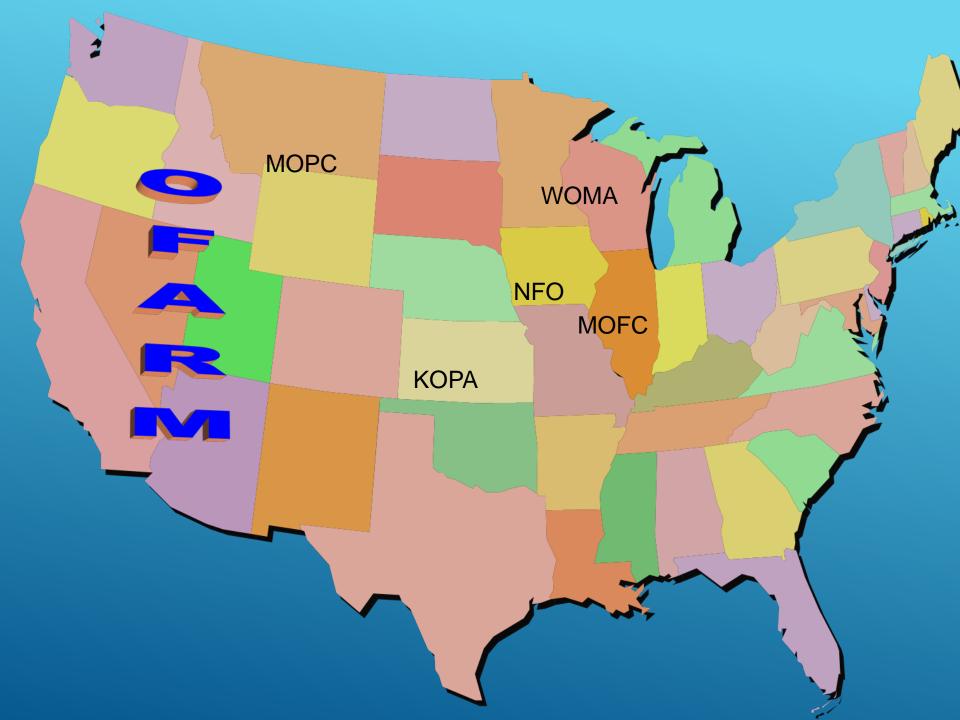
#### MISSION STATEMENT

**► To Coordinate Efforts of** 

**Producer Marketing Groups to** 

Benefit and Sustain **CERTIFIED** 

**ORGANIC PRODUCERS.** 



- OFARM pricing goals:
- ► The full recovery of all input costs for grain and livestock
- ► A return to labor and management that provides adequate family income
- ▶ Return to investment
- Income enhancement to provide for the community support for schools and churches
- Organic premium for production of healthy wholesome food that is environmentally responsible

#### OFARM provides services to:

Promote the exchange of pricing, contracts and marketing information

► Facilitate negotiations and terms of the contracts

Educate policy makers such as legislators

Assist organic farmers with adoption of new crops and agronomic practices



"Organic Federation Seen As A Strategy For Family Farm Survival, Regional Competitiveness" USDA- Dr. Thomas Gray January 2012

Dr. Gray cites a study by Clarkson University authors Richard Welsh and Amy Guptil, which concluded this:

organized block of producers growing organic field crops in North America."

# CHEAP GRAIN=

CHEAP MILK

**MEAT** 

**EGGS** 

# ORGANIC IS PROJECTED TO GROW OVER THE NEXT 3 YEARS AT 14% ANNUALLY

CONVENTIONAL FOOD SALES AT 2.5% PER YEAR

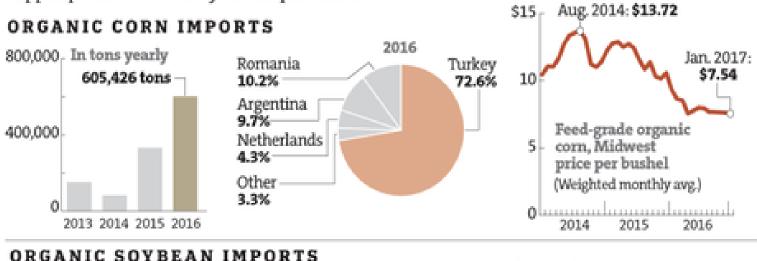
#### Concerns and Issues

Food Imported from Low-GDP Nations Poses Higher
Safety Risks Study Finds Source: PR
Newswire

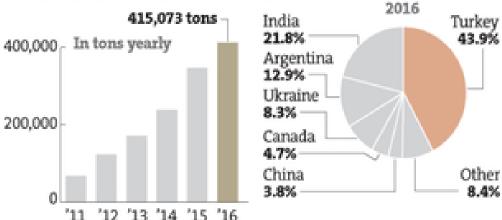
Jan. 26, 2015

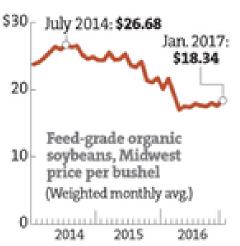
#### IMPORTS SINK U.S. ORGANIC GRAIN PRICES

Large increases in organic corn and soybean shipments, especially from Turkey, have dropped prices dramatically for U.S. producers.



#### 415.073 tons India





Source: Agricultural Marketing Service, U.S. Dept. of Agriculture

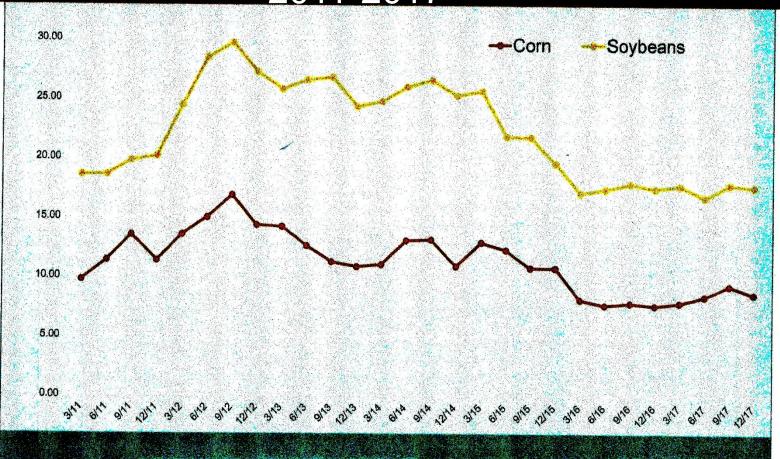
MARK BOSWELL . Star Tribune

## SO WHAT ARE BUYERS SAYING ABOUT YOUR PRICES?

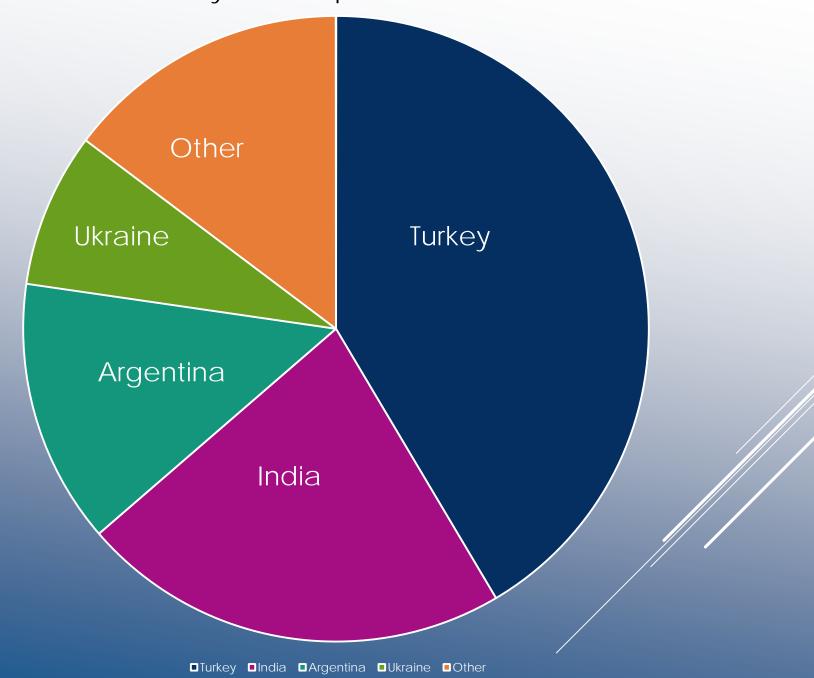
"WITH IMPORTS NOW FILLING IN THE GAPS, IT LOOKS AS THOUGH THERE WILL BE ENOUGH SUPPLY TO FILL THE GROWING ORGANIC DEMAND. WITH SUCH GROWTH, THE FUTURE FOR THE ORGANIC MARKET LOOKS STRONG AND PRODUCERS SHOULD CONTINUE TO SEE GREAT PRICE PREMIUMS COMPARED TO CONVENTIONAL MARKETS."

#### Historic Organic Grain Prices

2011-2017



2017 Soybean Imports Dollar Value



## 2017 Corn Imports Dollar Value Argentina Argentina Romania Turkey □Turkey

#### USDA's Foreign Agricultural Service Report "Turkish Organic Market Overview"

January 26, 2016

"As organic production and consumption in Turkey, so too do the concerns about fraudulent organic products and lack of inspections."

#### The report went on to state:

"Although inspections and transparency in the Turkish organic food sector are improving, the integrity of organic farming, production, shipping and marketing are not always guaranteed."

## ETKO DECERTIFIED MARCH, 2016 BY THE EU JUNE 7, 2016 BY CANADA

## NOP AND ETKO REACHED A SETTLEMENT IN APRIL 2016

OFARM FILED A FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST WITH USDA ON JANUARY 18, 2017 ASKING FOR ALL TRANSCRIPTS AND DOCUMENTS RELATED TO THE ETKO CASE.

ETKO beats USDA to a draw and settles

## 80% of Ukraine soy grown illegally from GM seed Source: Agrimoney May 24, 2016

Malta is at the center of a \$220 M organics fraud case in Italy Source: The Independent April 12, 2016

Romania-Grown men working 12 hours per day for a loaf of bread Source: Arc 2020 July 2, 2014

## Profits in Organic Fraud USA \$ 4 MILLION \$

\$3-\$4 Million at origin
More Profits than drugs

What procedures does NOP have to assess the EU's process for accreditation and certification are adequate to ensure the integrity of bulk shipments of commodities that are pooled from many farms?

Does the NOP have an adequate system to track bulk commodity shipments produced in other countries outside the EU that are certified by EU-based certifiers or shipped through EU countries?

What other data collection should NOP set up to have a better understanding of sthe source of imports, back to the certifier and farm level?

## USDA's Office of Inspector General Found

"AMS was unable to provide reasonable assurance that NOP required documents were reviewed at U.S. ports of entry to verify that imported agricultural products labeled as organic were from certified foreign organic farms.

## India No. 1 exporter of soybeans to U.S

Organic agreement with India

Put inside a nuclear treaty option in 2008 that is secret

No opportunity for audit

## "USDA's Pineapple Center Ring Organic Circus Fraud Continues"

The Milkweed, January, 2018

IF USDA Can't Keep Your Pineapple Straight, What about a shipload of organic grain?

## Cost to produce a bushel of organic corn based on our farmers numbers:

\$9.50-\$10.50 per bushel

Current losses

\$300.00 per acre

# Cost to U.S.Organic Producers

Over \$400 Million in losses



#### **EUROPEAN COMMISSION** DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Directorate B. Multilateral relations, quality policy **B.4.** Organics



#### **ЄВРОПЕЙСЬКА КОМІСІЯ**

ГЕНЕРАЛЬНИЙ ДИРЕКТОРАТ З СІЛЬСЬКОГО ГОСПОДАРСТВА ТА РОЗВИТКУ

Дирекція Б. Багатосторонні відносини, політика у сфері якості

Version 3 December 2015

#### Версія 3, Грудень 2015 р.

#### **GUIDELINES**

on additional official controls on organic products imported from Ukraine, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan and Russian **Federation** 

#### НАСТАНОВИ

для додаткових офіційних перевірок органічних продуктів, що імпортуються з України, Азербайджану, Білорусі, Грузії, Казахстану, Киргизстану, Молдови, Таджикистану, Узбекистану та Російської Федерації

Applicable from 01/01/2016 until 31/12/2016

Термін дії з 01.01.2016 до 31.12.2016

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It has been elaborated in co-operation with the Member States. Він був розроблений у співпраці з державами-членами It does not intend to produce legally binding effects and by its nature it does not prejudice any measure taken by the Commission or by a Member State within the implementation prerogatives under Article 32 and 33 of Council Regulation (EC) членом в межах впровадження прерогатив у відповідності зі No 834/2007 and of Commission Regulation (EC) No 1235/2008, nor any case law developed with regard to this provision.

Комісії.

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Commission européenne/Europese Commissie/Європейська Комісія, 1049 Bruxelles/Brussel/Брюссель, BELGIQUE/BELGIĒ/БЕЛЬГІЯ - Tel. +32 22991111

# A verified audit trail back to the field on all organic imports!

#### WHAT IS NOP DOING?

- 1. HIDING BEHIND "EQUIVALENCY" AGREEMENTS OR SIMPLY TAKING WORD THAT COUNTRIES MEET NOP STANDARDS. TURKEY? UKRAINE?
- 2. CAN ONLY RESPOND TO COMPLAINTS-ENFORCEMENT RESPONSE OF ARM FILED A FORMAL COMPLAINTS ON SEPTEMBER 7, 2016 AND NOV. 15, 2016



#### Canada and/or the EU

 Importers required to be certified

Organic inspection at the ports

Warning system of higher risk countries

Testing protocols for banned substances

#### NOP

Just now talking about it. Setting up an NOSB Subcommittee.

#### To the Rescue

### Organic Trade Association



NOP

Certifiers



# LEGISLATION AND RULE MAKING

WHAT ROLE MIGHT STATES' ATTORNEY'S GENERAL PLAY IN ORGANIC FRAUD INVESTIGATION AND PROSECUTION?

Currently the market is signaling to farmers with low prices no more production is needed!

Additional acres needed to replace imports to bring stability:

Corn-200,000 acres Soybeans-400,000 acres If you are a buyer of organic grain for your farm, you should be asking for verification of whether the grain is produced in the U.S. or imported

## THE IMPORT ISSUE IS NOT GOING AWAY ANYTIME SOON.

U.S. PRODUCERS NEED TO WORK TOGETHER TO BE ABLE TO PUT TOGETHER UNITS OF U.S. PRODUCED GRAIN IN SUFFICIENT QUANTITIES TO BEGIN REPLACING IMPORTS.



## The future depends on maintaining "ORGANIC INTEGRITY"

Producing to the highest standards in the world and maintaining those standards!



Filing a Formal Complaint with NOP

► Email: NOPCompliance@ams.usda.gov

Phone: 202-720-3252

Fax: 202-205-7808

Mail: NOP Compliance and Enforcement Branch
 Agricultural Marketing Service
 United States Department of Agriculture
 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W.
 Mail Stop 0268, Room 2648-S

### Currently a lot of producers in the face of collapsing conventional commodity prices are considering transition to organic

► How do we orderly transition them so they don't put themselves and everyone who is aready at risk of collapsing organic prices?

## The Milkweed



## ORGANIC FARMERS ASSOCIATION

Sponsored by RODALE INSTITUTE

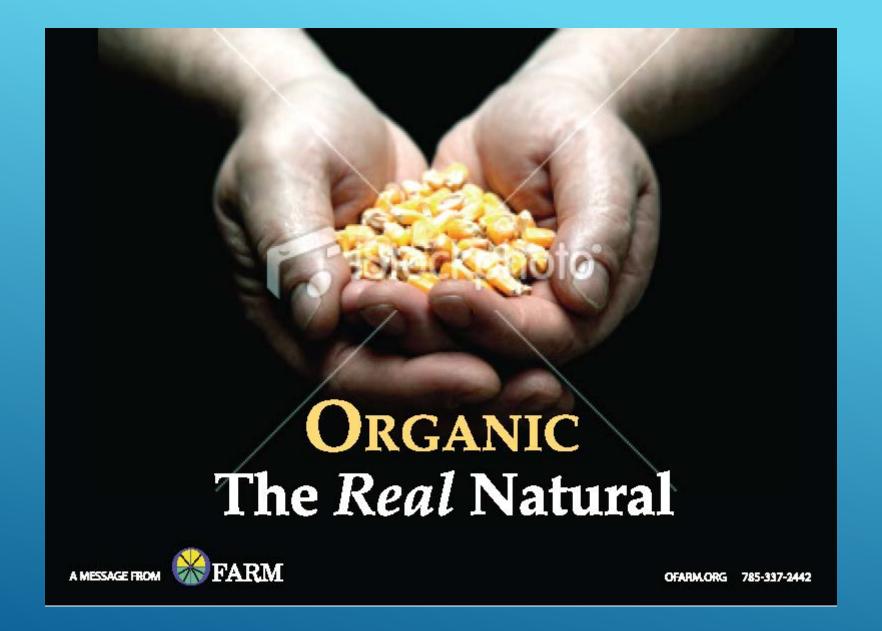
www.organicfarmersassociation.org

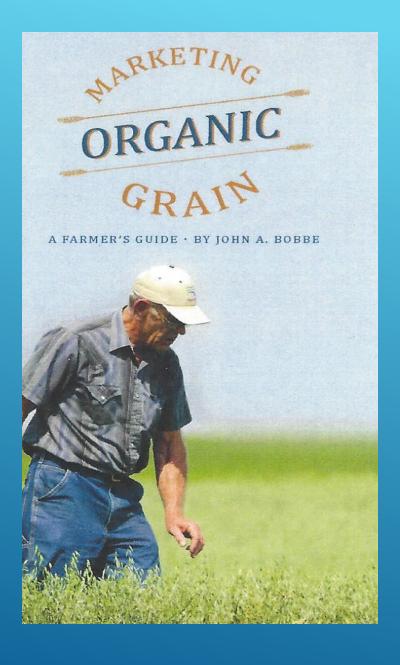
Organic Producers can take the route of being "rugged individualists" doing their own thing.

We only need to look at our conventional neighbors to see how well that has worked.

## >OR???

We can work together to solve these problems.





www.MarketingOrganicGrain.com

- Web: www.ofarm.coop
  www.ofarm.org
- Facebook: Organic Farmers'
   Agency for Relationship
   Marketing

Videos: www.organictherealnatural.com

## In many cases OFARM writes the terms of contracts to the buyers for its farm members.

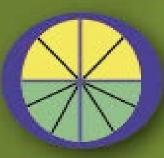
A further study done by lowa State University shows that prices received by OFARM member farmers can be 22-24% higher than those farmers who market alone.

#### Organic Hoduceis

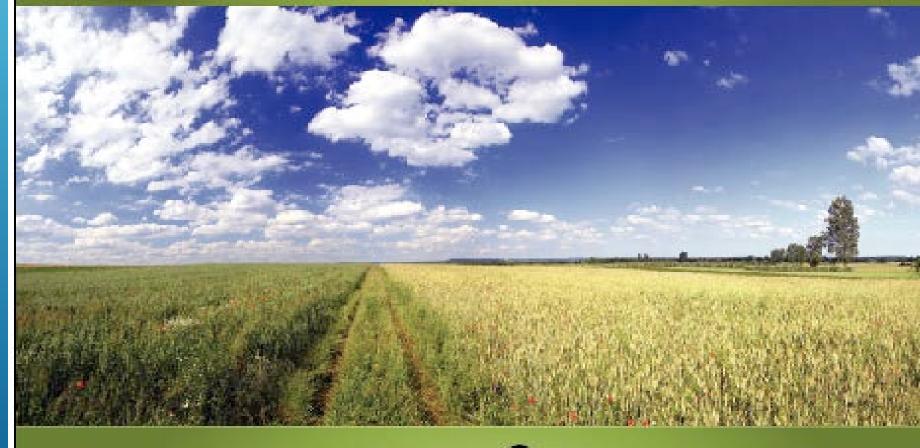
- How to get consumers to consienciously buy more U.S. organic food
- ▶ 75 % of global respondents cite country of origin as the most important criteria to buy

#### "Farmers who do have a marketer seem to access the markets more fluidly. Those who don't "seem to be less aware of the marketing opportunities out there." Also, "they may not know what the markets are for their rotation crops. And I think that is where a marketer might really come in handy."

- Nate Lewis, Organic Trade Association
- Source: Agripulse.com February, 2016



# Improving Your Organic Profits



ofarm.org



Organic Farmers' Agency for Relationship Marketing

#### Country of Origin Labeling-

OFARM was one of 200 signers of a letter to Congress supporting COOL

GMO contamination -partnered with Food and Water Watch to survey our members on the costs

>USDA's solution-organic farmers should buy crop insurance to protect themselves

Organic Seed Alliance survey- asking organic farmers about the problems they face with obtaining organic seed

## Dry Baltic Index

Say What?????



Country of Origin	\$6.50 delivered to port
Shipping	\$8.00 delivered to a US port
Deliver to PA and NY	\$10.50
Potential Margins	\$2.00-\$2.50/ bushel

# "Eight ways to get consumers to buy organic."

We asked consumers what they wanted to know and then found farmers to tell their story.

You have to tell your story in 60-90 seconds.

## Shocking Reasons Why You Can Never Trust "Organic" from China

- 1. Organic Products from China Can Contain an Ulimited Amount of Heavy Metals
- ▶ 2. China Has Almost No Environmental Regulations
- ▶ 3. Agencies and Government Departments in China are Not Operating Properly

# Dollar Value of US Imports by Year

	Corn	Soybeans	Wheat
	(\$1,000)	(\$1,000)	(\$1,000)
2011		41,790	695
2012		90,177	9,528
2013	36,620	110,237	16,037
2014		184,341	16,663
2015*		224,293	14,279

- 4. Supplements and Herbs from China Are Often Contaminated with Lead
- 5. Corruption: China Has Forged Organic Certification Label and Other Documents
- ▶ 6. Organic Products in China are Often Certified by Third Party Agencies
- \*NOTE: Organic products sent to the U.S. are supposed to be certified by a USDA Certifier, there are not enough certifiers to meet the need.
  - ➤ Source: Althealthworks.com January 8, 2016

#### Soybean Imports-2016

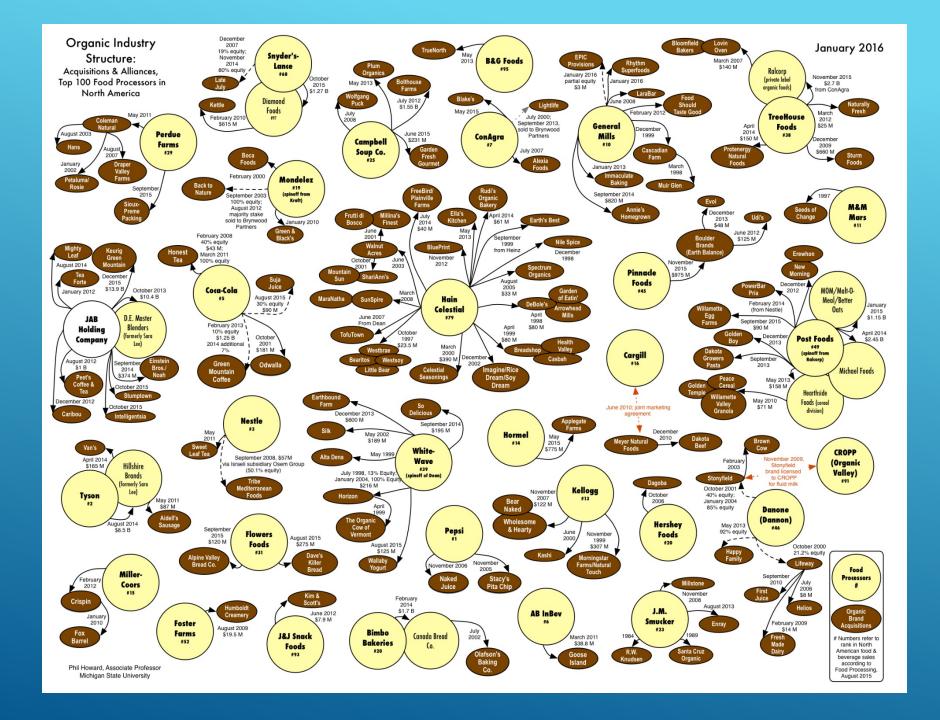
	Organic Soybeans Except													
1 India	Seed	7879916	6312938	11399253	9345332	7869786	7232846	6177337	4934902	3406581	3562951	3086077	6609691	77817610
	Organic Soybeans Except													
2 Turkey	Seed	46768	0	155421	303228	719143	187072	46768	46768	0	748849	5873922	4838387	12966326
	Organic Soybeans Except													
3 Canada	Seed	751639	1469203	1525097	2019029	1737617	2626279	1631653	1114870	922222	1934605	1493438	1800027	19025679
	Organic Soybeans Except													
4 Argentina		380739	30960	187506	0	1039207	6963657	5330988	2574940	2240126	2600286	2992322	1714548	26055279
	Organic Soybeans Except													
5 China	Seed	1581040	839689	1653723	1181006	1810468	2567207	2841379	2835562	2442183	1406321	718526	990046	20867150
	Organic Soybeans Except											_		=======================================
6 Uganda	Seed	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	90200	180400	0	451000	721600
	Organic Soybeans Except	0.0000												
7 Ukraine	Seed	810252	1137224	871588	8774465	9861269	18028178	12346332	1334887	14755905	941460	2918971	75278	71855809
	Organic Soybeans Except						=====					_		577000
8 Brazil	Seed	0	0	0	0	73513	599313	0	0	0	0	0	0	672826
Hong	Organic Soybeans Except			=0.405								_		==+==
9 Kong	Seed	0	0	52186	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	52186
	Organic Soybeans Except											_		
10 Latvia	Seed	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	76575	0	0	0	0	76575
	Organic Soybeans Except											_		
<b>11 ds</b>	Seed	116556	0	610964	297105	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1024625
	Organic Soybeans Except	.=										_		
12 Romania		170384	0	4530000	0	441282	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5141666
42.5	Organic Soybeans Except			450055	207224	00000	440200	504022	272057	F20524	200422	427222		2002220
13 Russia	Seed	0	0	160066	297221	99683	440200	594822	272857	530624	380423	127333	0	2903229

## Organic Corn Imports

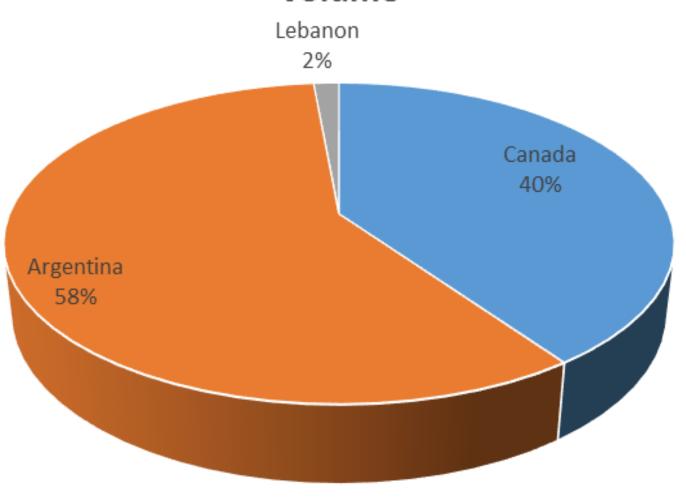
1Turkey	Organic Yellow Dent Corn, Except Seed	2,202,741	1,681,759	2,090,775	1,749,425	1,193,997	2,790,957	593,185	275,220	91,740	3,098,172	15,704,449	4,882,967	36,355,387
2 Canada	Organic Yellow Dent Corn, Except Seed	650,025	597,761	728,233	828,953	589,192	803,959	368,663	286,867	452,102	512,873	843,547	773,759	7,435,934
3 India	Organic Yellow Dent Corn, Except Seed	180,400	0	306,901	295,240	223,080	294,315	208,360	143,660	137,808	413,788	68,904	379,280	2,651,736
4 Argentina	Organic Yellow Dent Corn, a Except Seed	319,424	124,200	660613	276,971	895841	1653085	1897669	1050390	917,832	889,172	1,318,811	298,512	10,302,520
5 Romania	Organic Yellow Dent Corn, Except Seed	505275	636050	6,830,689	6,907,514	8,173,774	5443848	10701094	5,255,727	6,257,917	2,425,931	265,733	56,100	53,459,652

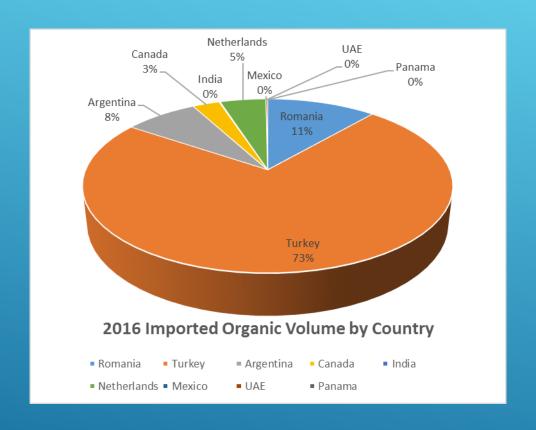
- Challenges:
- Joint venture of ConAgra and Ardent Mills
  - 35% of the flour milling market for all wheat including organic

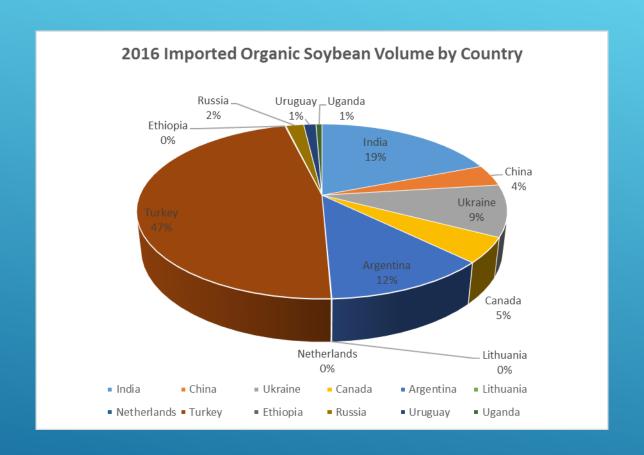
## Ardent Mills to Help Farmers Double Organic Wheat Acres by 2019 Source: prnnewswire.com Dec. 15, 2015



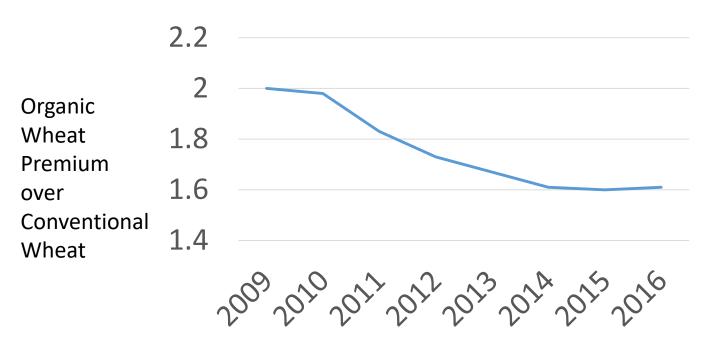
## 2016 Imported Organic Durum Wheat by Volume





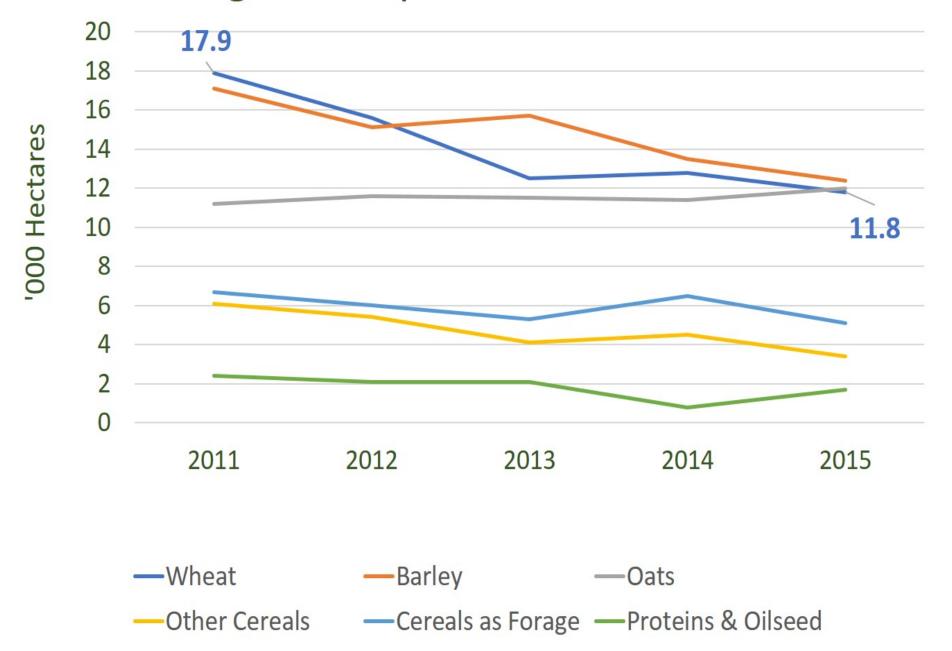


#### 6-year Rolling Average Organic Premium





### Organic Crop Areas 2011 - 2015



## ANTI-FRAUD WORKSHOPS CONDUCTED BY IOAS, MONTANA

SEPTEMBER AND DECEMBER, 2015 UKRAINE AND TURKEY

# When something isn't working, try more of the same?

Organic producers are looking at alternative crops

Corn and soybean acreage could decline

# WHERE IN THE WORLD IS ORGANIC Headed?

















#### ORGANIC PRODUCE WHOLESALERS COALITION

#### Mike Dill

Organically Grown Company- Food Safety & Compliance Manager

Organic Produce Wholesaler Coalition- Coordinator

mdill@organicgrown.com



**Employee and Grower Owned** 









Typical produce packaging. Unsealed and not tamper-evident.





### Bulk produce with Brand and Distributor clearly identified





## **Incoming Product Inspection**

SKU: 0003338390408

- A function of every produce handler



SKU:	0003338390408	I	tem:	0003338
Po Number:	15867331	Ship D	ate:	04-18-20
QC				
Inspector / QA Reject Qu	antity	5	;	
Restacking Charge Asse	ssed			
Allowance Amount				
Air Temperature				
Reefer Id				
Reefer Temp Setting				
Trailer Number				
Location On Inspected Pa	allet	Т	ор	
Location On Inspected Tr	uck	L	Jnkno	wn
Temp Recorder used?		N	lo.	
Temp Recorder Number	(Outside)			
Ryan # (On Tape)				
Pulp Temp (F)		3	9	
Protection Requested Du	e To Condition Of Load	N	10	
Receive with an Allowan	ce	N	10	
Was Rejection Due To Te	mperature	N	lo.	
If Yes, Condition of The A	ir Chute	N	I/A	
Reefer Temp Setting Uni	(nown?	N	10	
Photos Taken?		N	10	
Federal Inspection Perfo	rmed?	N	lo.	
Federal Certificate Numb	er			
Date / Time Inspection Ca	alled			
Date / Time Inspection Co	ompleted			

Item: 00033	338390408 LETTUCE ICEBE	RG ORG	NC, CTN, [ANY], 24			Vendor	<				
Date: 04-18	-2018										
I											
5	Surronding Pulp Tem	ps									
	Temp 38		High Range	39			ı	Low Range 3	8		
	Pulp Temps if item is	rejecte									
	Front/Top		Front/Mid					Font/Bottom			
	Middle/Top	39	Middle/Mid		39			Low Range	38		
	Rear/Top		Rear/Mid	ddle				Rear/Bottom			
Гор	Defect Piece Informa	tion									
Jnknown	No. of Pieces		of Defects Found			'% of Def	ects	Found			
lo l	24	5			20						
	24	4	4				16				
	24	4				16					
39	Problems Found Dur										
No O	Lot Number		olem Found		Rang		То	Average			
lo l			dition		16		20	17			
No.		Sele									
		Sele									
N/A		Sele									
No		Sele	ct								
No											
do.	Comments										

04/19/2018 04: 44 AM QA015/Kes

Reject 5 cases, Rib rust. Product back on truck.

QC Last Updated:

## **Quality Control**

- A function of every produce handler







### Produce storage in a typical produce warehouse or distribution center









**Receiving Produce** 

**Shipping Produce** 









Organically Grown Company 1800 B Prairie Road Eugene, OR 97402

United States

Client Identification Number: OT-007556

NOP ID: 8150001722

Certificate Issue Date: 08/28/2017

Certified by OTCO since: 4/16/1998

#### Location(s) and Facilities Inspected:

	Location/Facility Name	Address
	Organically Grown Company	1800 B Prairie Road, Eugene, OR 97402
	Portland Facility	20078 NE Sandy Blvd., Portland, OR 97230

#### Certified Product (100% Organic)

Product	Brands	Complianc
Fruit:		
Fresh > Blueberry	Organically Grown	NOP-Handlin
Fresh > Cranberry	Organically Grown	NOP-Handlin
Vegetables:		
Fresh > Broccoli	Organically Grown	NOP-Handlin
Purple Sprouting Broccoli Fresh > Carrots	Organically Grown	NOP-Handlin



System Plan Summary

Nuevo Amanecer 4785 Grace Drive Eugene, OR 97404 United States

Parcels

Client Identification Number: OT-007343

NOP ID: 8150001838

Certificate Issue Date: 04/21/2017

Certified by OTCO since: 5/30/2006

Production Partner: Organically Grown Company

#### 100% Certified Organic Land, fields and crops:

#### Crops

Nuevo Amanecer: 97390 River Rd, Junction City, Oregon

Beet, Broccoli (Purple), Broccoli, Cabbage, Cabbage (savoy), Cabbage (Red), Cabbage (Green), Collard, Garlic, Kale, Leek, Lettuce, NOP-Crop, US/Canada Equivalence-Crop

Compliance

Pepper, Shallot, Swiss Chard,

Certified Product (100% Organic)

Product Compliance

Vegetables:

Fresh > Broccoli Purple Sprouting Broccoli (Organically Grown Company) NOP-Crop

Generic boxes used for nonorganic and organic growers in Oregon and the Northwest.



Commonly used by split operations and Brokers.





This is how imported organic produce is shipped and handled









Developing sustainable supply chains in agriculture

## Organic Integrity Assurance

Presented to the NOSB by Erin L. Heitkamp April 25, 2018





### Who We Are

Pipeline Foods is a global organization with a vision to accelerate the availability of non-GMO, organic and regeneratively grown food. We are bringing best-in-class sustainable supply chain solutions to build a better future for our farmers, customers and partners.

We are experts in our respective areas, united by integrity and respect for relationships and the earth. Our teams promote transparent and collaborative business practices while working towards our goal to meet current demand for organic and non-GMO crops grown in the Americas.

### Issues in Current Organic Supply Chains

- Fragmented supply chain
- Lack of price transparency
- Lack of supply chain transparency
- Fraudulent product entering supply chain
- Lack of enforcement within a regulated market

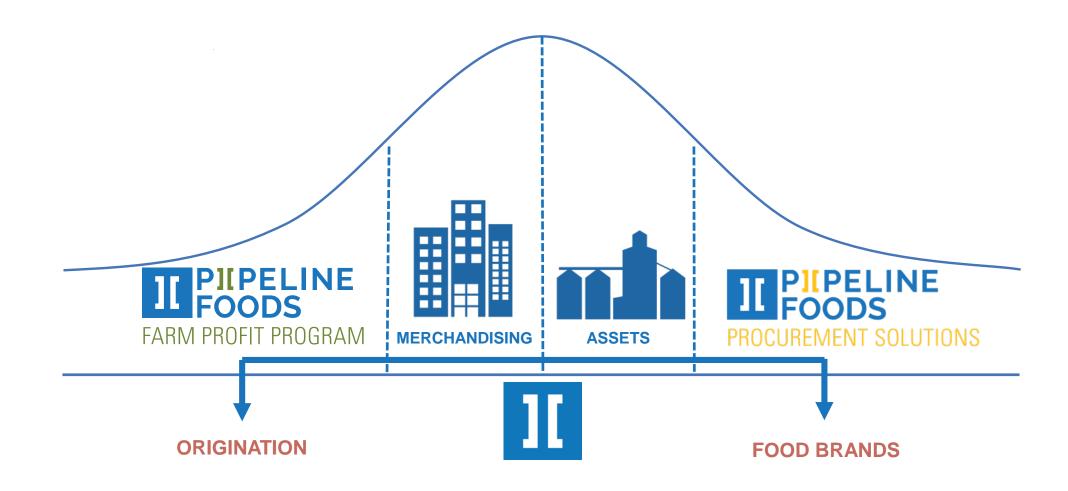




### Risks of Fraudulent Product

- Supply chain disruption
- Counterparty financial risk
- Recall risk
- Headline risk

### What We Do



### Commitment to Organic Integrity

- We commit to and will work to leverage new technologies to enable full transparency and traceability in all that we do.
- We ensure we have "boots on the ground" in all locations from which we source organic crops.
- We require transaction certificates on all product transfers when importing product from outside the U.S. or Canada.
- We third-party test all products to be imported into the U.S. prior to loading and shipment.
- We will assess and implement risk-based preventive controls.







# Steps We Take to Ensure Organic Integrity

- Supplier Screening Program and Classification
  - Audits, certification checks, flowchart checks, traceability checks, allergens, FSVP compliance
  - Approve or deny suppliers based on the assessment
  - Classify approved suppliers into multiple categories

#### Product Risk Profile

- Categorize products by specific uses and risks
- Create testing and assurance programs based on specific product risks

#### Country of Origin Risk Profile

- Identify macro risks within specific countries, i.e, corruption risk, political risk
- Meet with local certifiers to determine specific risks the country is facing

#### Product Inspections

- 4 stage testing program: Pre-shipment, loading inspection, unloading inspection, continuous inventory inspection
- Analyze based on specific product risks, customer requirements, and food safety risks



### Recommended Agency Action

- Prosecute and hold accountable bad actors
- Close certification requirement gaps
- Require transaction certificates
- Create a system for and conduct mass balance reconciliation
- Investments in technology solutions/blockchain
- Inter-agency collaboration
- Alarm system





### Recommended Industry Action

- Formalize industry and organizational commitment
- Vulnerability assessment and mitigation process
- Shorten supply chains
- Transaction certificate requirements
- Physical oversight of product transactions
- Product testing at high-risk points in the supply chain
- Communicate concerns





Erin L. Heitkamp

eheitkamp@pipelinefoods.com 612.900.9499





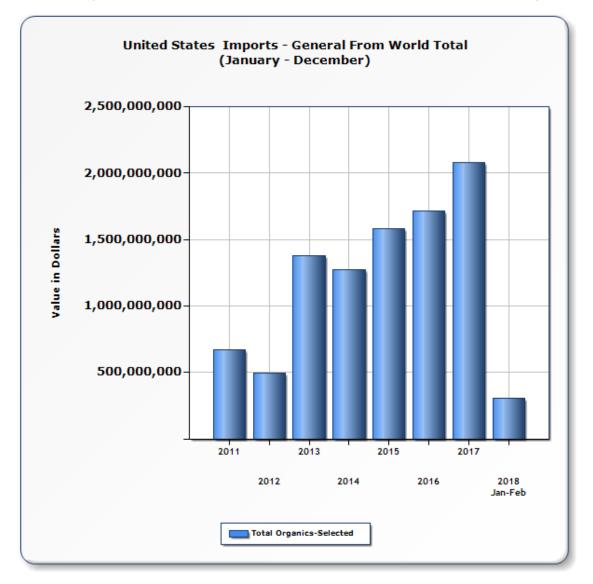
# Promoting Organic Integrity

prepared for the National Organic Standards Board

Monique Marez | April 2018 | Tucson, AZ

### TOP 10 IMPORTS / TOP 10 ORIGINS

• Imports reached \$2.08 billion, up 21% compared to 2016



#### **Top 10 Countries**

Mexico

Turkey

Brazil

Argentina

Spain

Italy

Peru

India

Ecuador

Canada

#### **Top 10 Imports**

Soybeans

Coffee Arabica not roasted

Bananas (fresh)

Extra Virgin Olive Oil

Avocado (fresh)

Honey

Yellow Dent Corn

Sugar

Apples (fresh)

Blueberries (fresh)



### RISK FACTORS IDENTIFIED THROUGH GOSCI

- ✓ Excluded Operations Uncertified
- ✓ Long and Complex Supply Chains
- ✓ Imports
- ✓ History of fraud (region or operation)
- ✓ Long and/or complex supply chain
- ✓ No formalized supplier approval process
- ✓ New supplier / short history
- ✓ Use of uncertified handlers (brokers, traders) in the supply chain
- ✓ Supplier handles both conventional and organic
- ✓ Imported from areas of known risk (history of fraud)
- ✓ Ingredient/product comes from multiple suppliers

- ✓ Ingredient/product has crossed multiple borders
- ✓ Ingredient/product is sourced from multiple sources in an open market with limited knowledge about the supplier
- ✓ Supplier will <u>not</u> disclose sources and/or provide certificates for those sources
- ✓ Compliance documents submitted are not verifiable
- ✓ Violations of fraud found by NOP from ✓ product type and/or region
- ✓ Sudden change in volume or market price
- ✓ Certified company or certifier is not listed on the NOP Organic Integrity Database

- ✓ Supplier company operates under multiple names
- ✓ Bulk product with a valid organic certificate but not identified as organic on paperwork
- ✓ Missing certificate from originating farm or intermediate handler
- ✓ Evidence of falsification changed operation name on certificate to protect proprietary information
- ✓ Known production challenges and need for use of pesticides
- ✓ Lack of clarity about whether product was fumigated



### TOP PRIORITIES

- 1. NOSB  $\rightarrow$  Recommend NOP require certification of currently excluded operations; 1<sup>st</sup> Step: clear terms and definitions on operation types
- 2. NOSB & NOP  $\rightarrow$  improve timing & communication around NOP's complaint procedures  $1^{st}$  Step: develop an alert system that identifies products or regions where heightened vigilance is needed.
- 3. NOSB  $\rightarrow$  Recommend NOP require ACAs to harmonize a method & develop a report for mass balance, 1<sup>st</sup> Step: understand existing methodologies and reporting differences.
- NOSB & NOP → Prioritize creation of organic HS codes
   1<sup>st</sup> Step: collaborate w/ industry on identifying key products to track



### EXISTING ORGANIC HTS CODES – 49 for import

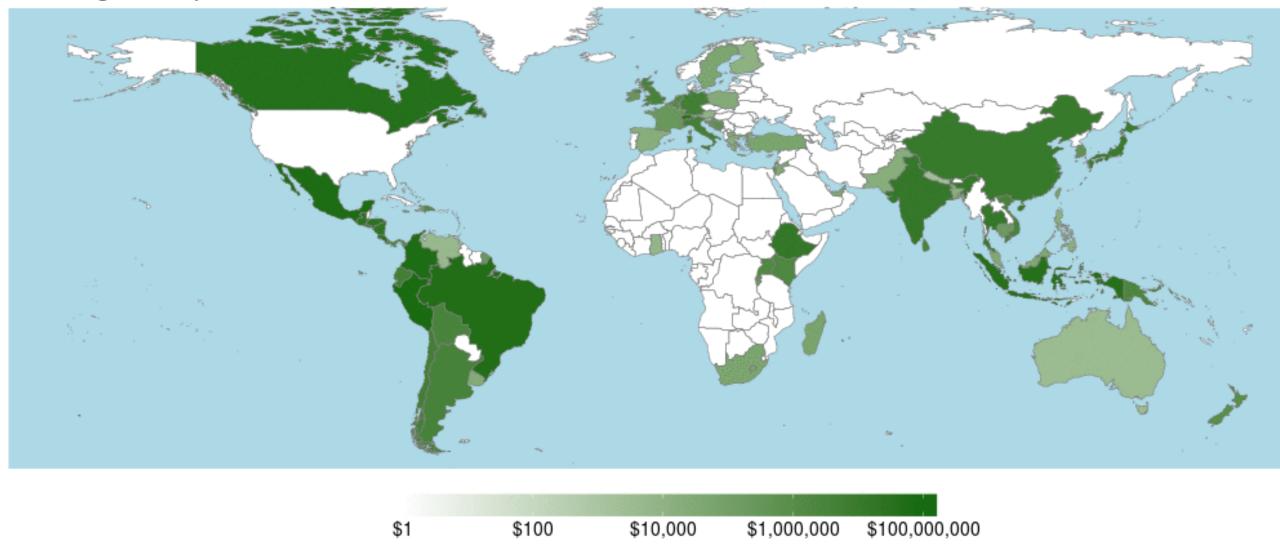
- lemons
- oats
- quinoa
- sovbean flour
- dried yellow peas
- dried green lentils
- barley
- specialty sugars
- yellow dent corn
- garlic in fresh whole bulbs
- 11. shelled almonds
- bananas
- 13. mangoes, if entered Sept. 1 to May 31
- 14. mangoes, if enterd at any other time
- ginger, not crushed or ground
- flaxseed (linseed) for use as oil stock
- virgin olive oil, weighing < 18 kg
- other virgin olive oil

19. sparkling wine

- 20. red wine < 2 liters
- 21. white wine < 2 liters
- 22. honey
- 23. Greenhouse sweet bell-type peppers
- 24. Other sweet bell-type peppers
- 25. Hass & Hass-like avocados
- apples valued over 22¢ kg
- 27. pears & quinces, entered 4/1 to 6/30
- 28. other pears and quinces
- 29. cultivated blueberries
- 30. Arabica coffee, not decaf
- 31. other coffee, not decaf
- 32. decaffeinated coffee
- 33. coffee, not decaf, in retail containers 2 kg or less
- 34. Other coffee, roasted, not decaf, in retail containers more than 2 kg
- 35. decaf coffee in retain con-tainers weighing 2 kg or 49. soybeans, whether or not broken less
- green tea, of a content not exceeding 3 g, flavored

- 37. other green tea, of a content not exceeding 3 g, not flavored
- 38. Other green tea
- 39. black tea, in packing not exceeding 3 kg,in tea bags
- 40. durum wheat, grade 1, with specified hard vitreous content >84%
- 41. durum wheat, grade 1, with specified hard vitreous content not exceeding 84%
- 42. durum wheat, grade 2, with specified hard vitreous content >84%
- 43. durum wheat, grade 2, with specified hard vitreous content not exceeding 84%
- 44. Other durum wheat
- 45. Other long grain rice
- 46. Other med. grain rice
- 47. Other short grain rice
- 48. Other mixtures of rice

U.S. Organic Imports in 2011





### **ACTIONS w/ IMPACT**

#### NOP REGULATORY IMPROVEMENTS

- Require certification of currently excluded entities
- Require ACAs to execute and report mass balance, rolling up to a countrywide report.
- Increase oversight of inspectors.

#### NOP PROCESS IMPROVEMENTS

- Improve the timing and communication around NOP's complaint system
- Increase coordination and access to available data cross border documentation systems administered across other
- Better utilize the organic equivalency relationships to help prevent fraud.

#### **ACTIONS FOR INDUSTRY**

- Adopt and implement the GOSCI Best Practices Guide
- Improve and harmonize training of inspectors and ACAs
- Require that all documents created by direct parties to an organic transaction include organic ID

#### **OTHER U.S. GOVERNMENT ACTIONS**

- Support HR 3871
- Prioritize ORGANIC hs codes
- Determine whether a 332 should be pursued.

