



EXPORTING ORGANIC PRODUCTS FROM THE U.S.

To create additional markets for certified organic farmers and businesses, USDA has facilitated trade partnerships with multiple foreign countries.

Learn more about each partnership at www.ams.usda.gov/NOPIInternationalAgreements.

CANADA

USDA organic products produced worldwide can be sold as organic in Canada (effective June 30, 2009).

Terms of the Arrangement. To trade products under the partnership, certified operations must:

- Produce products without sodium nitrate or hydroponic/aeroponic methods.
- Produce livestock (except ruminants) according to specified stocking rates.
- Ship products with documentation that states, "Certified in compliance with the terms of the US-Canada Organic Equivalency Arrangement."

Labeling Requirements. For packaged retail products, labels or stickers must state the name of the USDA-authorized certifier and may use the USDA organic seal and/or the Canada organic logo.

EUROPEAN UNION (EU)

USDA organic products can be sold as organic in the EU (effective June 1, 2012).

Products must be either produced or have had final processing or packaging occur within the U.S.

Terms of the Arrangement. To export products under the partnership, certified operations must:

- Produce crops without antibiotics.
- Meet additional specifications for wine.
- Ship products with an **EU import certificate**, completed by a USDA-authorized certifier.

Labeling Requirements. For packaged retail products, labels or stickers must state the name of the USDA-authorized certifier and may use the USDA organic seal and/or the EU organic logo.

JAPAN

USDA organic plants, fungi, and plant-based processed products (such as grape juice or corn meal) can be sold as organic in Japan (effective January 1, 2014).

Products must be either produced or have had final processing or packaging occur within the U.S.

Terms of the Arrangement. To trade plants, fungi, and plant-based products under the partnership, certified operations must:

- Ship products with an **export certificate** (TM-11), completed by a USDA-authorized certifier.

Labeling Requirements. For packaged retail products, labels or stickers must state the name of the USDA-authorized certifier and may use the USDA organic seal. Use of the Japanese organic logo is required on plant and plant based products, and requires a Japanese Agricultural Standards (JAS)-authorized importer.

Other Products. Organic products not regulated by the



EXPORTING ORGANIC PRODUCTS FROM THE U.S. (continued)



JAS law—such as meat, dairy products, and alcoholic beverages—may also be exported to Japan. These products do not require an export certificate and may be labeled with the USDA organic seal (but not the Japanese organic logo).

Export Codes. For certain organic products, traders must use harmonized tariff schedule codes for tracking purposes. <http://bit.ly/organic-codes2>

Grading. Exported agricultural commodities must often meet product size, grade, quality, and maturity requirements. www.ams.usda.gov

Food Safety. Most countries require shipments to include specific permits and certificates to ensure the product is healthy and free from pests requiring quarantine. Such requirements vary by country.

TAIWAN

USDA organic products produced and handled in the U.S. can be sold as organic in Taiwan (effective March 18, 2009).

Terms of the Arrangement. To export products under the partnership, certified operations must:

- Produce livestock without systemic pain killers.
- Ship imports with an **export certificate** (TM-11), completed by a USDA-authorized certifier. Documentation must also include required statements related to prohibited substances.

Labeling Requirements. For packaged retail products, labels or stickers must state the name of the USDA-authorized certifier and may use the USDA organic seal.

IDENTIFYING ORGANIC PRODUCTS

If an organic logo (see below) isn't on the exterior of the shipping box (not required), shippers should review the:

- Receipt (bill of lading) detailing receipt of organic goods and specifying terms of delivery.
- Commercial invoice representing a complete record of the business transaction.
- Any import/export certificate or required statement as required (see above).

OTHER INTERNATIONAL MARKETS

Many additional countries accept USDA organic products without a specific trade partnership. www.globalorganictrade.com

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIC LOGOS



USDA organic seal (U.S.)



Canada organic logo



European organic logo



Japanese organic logo

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

In addition to organic requirements, traded agricultural products must meet all general or commodity-specific import requirements for the destination country.

Labeling. Generally, products must meet labeling requirements in the destination country.