

Current Temporary Variances



Temporary variances from the production and handling requirements of the USDA organic regulations may be granted by the Administrator for natural disasters declared by the Secretary, damage caused by severe weather, or other business interruption, or for the purpose of conducting research in organic production or handling. Procedures for requesting temporary variances are described in [NOP 2606: Processing Requests for Temporary Variances](#). 7 CFR Section 205.290 provides the full regulatory text regarding temporary variances.

The list of temporary variances that are currently in effect or that were denied in 2018 is listed below. For a list of expired temporary variances, please visit <http://www.ams.usda.gov/rules-regulations/organic>.

2018 Allowed Temporary Variances						
Company / Producer	Location	Date of AMS Decision	Effective Date	Expiration	Certifying Agent	Remarks
Mikita Dairy	Calhan, CO	07/30/2018	07/30/2018	2018 grazing season only	Oregon Tilth Certified Organic (OTCO)	<p>The temporary variance from §§205.237(c) and 205.240(b) is restricted to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Applies only to organic livestock producer, Mikita Dairy, in Calhan, Colorado. 2. Ruminants must be provided with at least 10 percent average dry matter intake from pasture, or no more than 90 percent average of the ruminant's dry matter demand from dry matter fed, during the 2018 grazing season. 3. Ruminants must be grazed on pasture throughout the grazing season for no less than 60 days during the 2018 grazing season.

Company / Producer	Location	Date of AMS Decision	Effective Date	Expiration	Certifying Agent	Remarks
Corsentino Dairy	Walsenburg, CO	07/30/2018	05/01/2018	09/01/2018	Ecocert ICO (ECO ICO)	<p>The temporary variance from §205.237(c) is restricted to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Applies only to the organic livestock producer Corsentino Dairy in Walsenburg, Colorado. 2. Ruminants must be provided with at least 10 percent average dry matter intake from pasture, or no more than a 90 percent average of the ruminant's dry matter demand from dry matter fed, during the time period of the temporary variance.

Company / Producer	Location	Date of AMS Decision	Effective Date	Expiration	Certifying Agent	Remarks
Certified Organic Ruminant Livestock Producers in Colorado	Counties in Colorado declared as primary or contiguous drought disaster areas by Secretary Perdue in calendar year 2018	07/10/2018	07/10/2018	2018 grazing season only	CCOF Certification Services, LLC (CCOF)	<p>The temporary variance from §§205.237(c) and 205.240 is restricted to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Certified organic ruminant livestock producers located in the following counties in Colorado: Alamosa, Cheyenne, Gunnison, Kiowa, Lincoln, Montrose, Rio Grande, Saguache, Kit Carson, and Washington. 2. Producers must provide ruminants with at least 20 percent average dry matter intake from pasture, or no more than an 80 percent average of the ruminants' dry matter demand from dry matter fed, during the 2018 grazing season. 3. Ruminants must be grazed on pasture for no less than 90 days during the 2018 grazing season.

Company / Producer	Location	Date of AMS Decision	Effective Date	Expiration	Certifying Agent	Remarks
Hearty Roots Community Farms Ltd.	Germantown, NY	06/04/2018	06/04/2018	2018 growing season only	NOFA-NY Certified Organic, LLC (NOFANY)	<p>The temporary variance from the requirements in §205.204(a)(3) of the USDA organic regulations has the following restrictions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Applies to the organic producer, Hearty Roots Community Farms Ltd., in Germantown, NY. 2. Hearty Roots Community Farms Ltd. may plant non-organic, untreated, non-GMO bare root leek and onion seedlings for the 2018 leek and onion crop.
Ohio State University's Organic Food and Farming Education and Research (OFFER)	2 Sites: Wooster, OH and Bowling Green, OH	07/25/2016	07/25/2016	09/30/2019	Ohio Ecological Food and Farm Association (OEFFA)	<p>The temporary variance from § 205.203(d)(1) is for research purposes and restricted to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The use of micronutrients on the National List of allowed synthetic substances at §205.601(j)(6) without documentation of deficiencies from soil testing. • The variance will only cover OARDC OFFER fields EB701 and WB1101; and Hirzel Site fields SP1, SP2, and SP3.

2018 Denied Requests for Temporary Variances

Company / Producer	Location	Date of AMS Decision	Certifying Agent	Remarks

This table is updated when AMS Administrator decisions are issued.