Organic Integrity Dashboard – 3/31/2020
A quarterly review of National Organic Program Enforcement activities

474 Cases in Progress
As of 3/31/2020

- Prohibited Substance: 3%
- Prohibited Practice: 7%
- Pesticide Residue: 8%
- Labelling Error: 6%
- Fraud: 11%
- Surveillance: 12%
- Uncertified Operations Making Organic Claims: 53%

504 Closed Cases by Outcome
12 Months ending 3/31/2020

- Administrative Actions: 4%
- Settlement, Civil Penalty, Appeal: 3%
- Referred for Investigation: 10%
- No Violation: 25%
- Voluntary Compliance: 54%
- Fraudulent Certificates Posted: 4%

NOTE: NOP is working to make this new dashboard a useful benchmark for the organic community, providing both data and context. The categories used in these charts have been modified based on feedback from last quarter’s Dashboard. Open cases are based on allegations, complaints and surveillance, and are not in themselves proof or wrongdoing. Administrative Actions are warnings/notices to businesses, often uncertified, and are critical in establishing that violators are aware of the rules, to support future enforcement action if needed.

In April, the NOP achieved a significant Farm Bill milestone by deploying the electronic organic import certificate in the Customs and Border Protection Automated Commercial Environment. The 2018 Farm Bill called for technological enhancements to improve the ability to oversee imported organic products. The electronic organic import certificates will provide critical organic import data and make it easier to monitor organic imports.

The electronic organic import certificate is being launched first as an optional filing step, not as required. The electronic organic import certificate is expected to become required with the publication of the Strengthening Organic Enforcement final rule. Organic importers may begin to use the certificate on a voluntary basis at any time. NOP is currently communicating with a number of organic importers interested in participating in pilot tests of the import certificates.

For additional details on the National Organic Program visit www.ams.usda.gov/Organic