



# Organic Livestock and Poultry Standards (OLPS) Final Rule

The Organic Livestock and Poultry Standards (OLPS) Final Rule updates the USDA organic regulations (7 CFR part 205) to promote animal welfare and encourage consistent livestock production practices. It adds detailed regulations regarding indoor and outdoor space requirements for avian species, animal health care practices, confinement, transportation, euthanasia, and slaughter.

## What Does OLPS Do?

The rule ensures more consistent production and certification practices and bolsters trust in the organic label. The final rule:



**Reduces** confusion about organic production practices and standards



**Establishes** species-specific standards for avian species



**Clarifies** indoor and outdoor space requirements



**Strengthens** and **clarifies** animal health care regulations

## OLPS History + Engagement

### Proposed Rule

- Published as proposed rule in August 2022

### Public Comment

- 40,336 written comments
- 57,000 petition signatures
- 94% of comments and petitions support the rule



### Final Rule

- Policy updated based on public comment

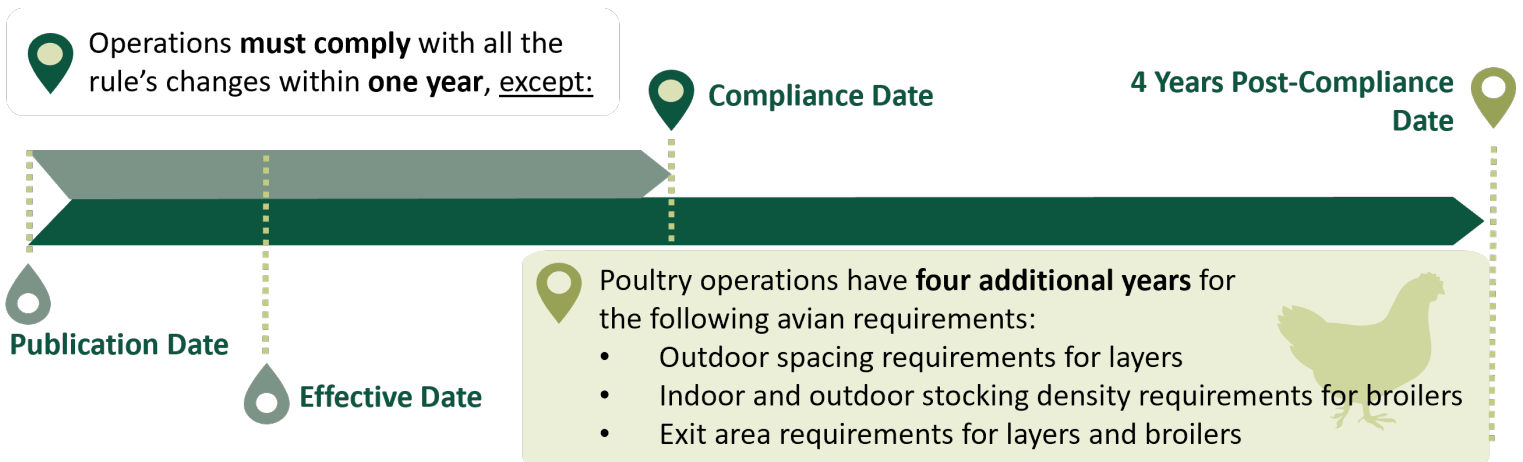
### Enforcement

- One year implementation period for most practices, five years for select exceptions

## Who is Affected by OLPS?

- USDA accredited certifying agents
- Consumers
- Livestock Producers
- Processing Facilities

## When Do I Need to Comply?



## Organic Livestock and Poultry Standards (OLPS) Final Rule Cont.



### OLPS establishes indoor and outdoor space requirements for avian species

- OLPS sets specific **space and stocking density requirements** for both indoor and outdoor spaces.
- Poultry must have year-round **outdoor access** and may only be confined temporarily in limited situations.
- **Porches** are **prohibited** for use as outdoor space.
- Requires weekly monitoring of **ammonia** in indoor spaces.



### OLPS revises production practices for mammals and non-avian species

- **Shelter** must allow for animals to **move, stretch** and express **natural behaviors** over a 24-hour period.
- Animals must have unrestricted **outdoor access** year-round.
- OLPS adds species-specific requirements for **swine**, including requirements for rooting materials and group housing.



### OLPS revises production practices and care standards

- OLPS defines and **prohibits** several physical alterations (e.g., teeth clipping, induced molting).
- Other physical alterations may only be performed for **safety** or **identification**.
- Producers must **document** treatment of sick or injured animals.



### OLPS sets clearer requirements for transport and slaughter of animals

- Animals being transported must be clearly **identified** and **able to walk**.
- Transport system must be suitable to the **climate** to protect animals from extreme temperatures.
- **FSIS** humane slaughter standards must be followed.

