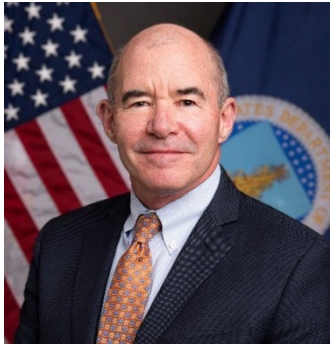


National Organic Standards Board Spring 2025 Meeting: NOP Update



Christopher Purdy, Deputy Administrator (Acting)
National Organic Program
April 29, 2025



Agricultural Marketing Service

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE | NATIONAL ORGANIC PROGRAM



SOE: Where We Are

- Certification Coverage Facilitating Oversight
- Actively Stopping Products Without Import Certificates
- Certifiers Are Strengthening Control Systems
- Watching/Learning Data Patterns and Flows
- Blending Education with Enforcement
- Continuing to Address Technology Needs



Increased Certification

- January – September 2024: Intensive Outreach and Warning Letters to Uncertified Importers
- All Regulatory Discretion Ended September 19, 2024 (6 months in)
- Fall: Completed Desk Audit with Certifiers – Improvements Happening
- NOP is in Full Enforcement Phase

3,378

New U.S. Handlers
(1/1/24 – 3/31/25)

7,105

New Handlers
Worldwide
(1/1/24 – 3/31/25)



Import Certificates

177,715

e-NOP-IC's from OLD
(3/19/24-2/28/25)

104,337

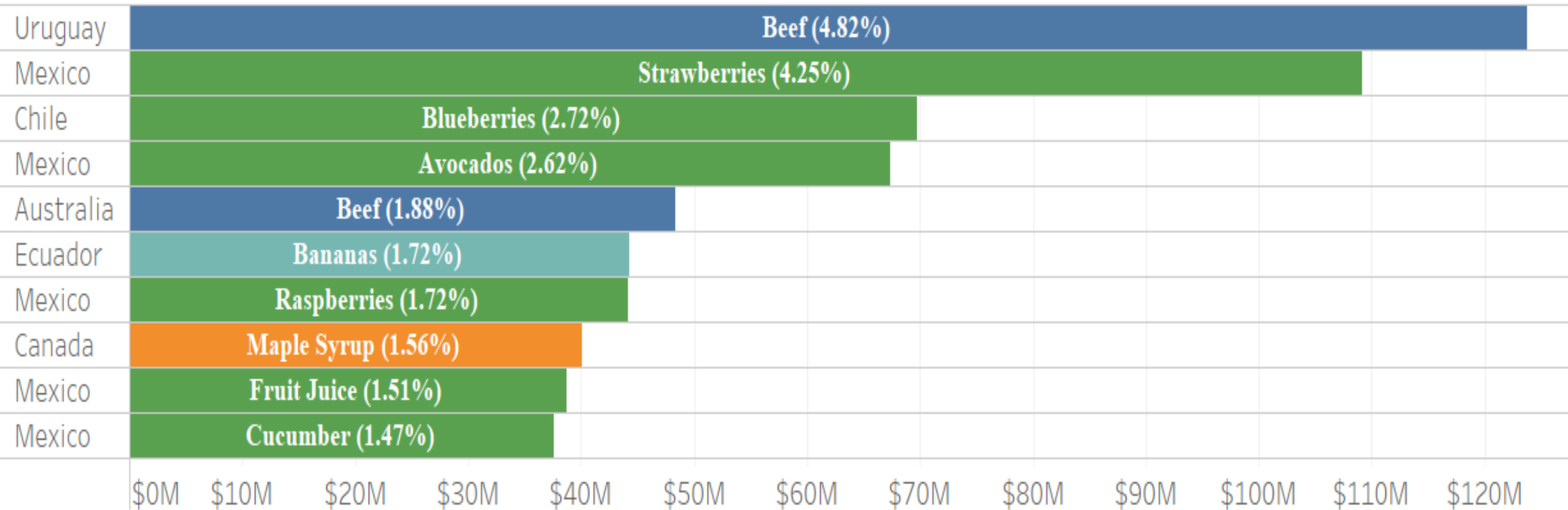
Certificates
in CBP-ACE
(As of 2/28/25)

94% of e-NOP-IC's
& ACE Filings Match
(1/1/25-2/28/25)

68% e-NOP-IC's Issued
by USDA Certifiers;
Rest under EU, Canada,
Japan



Top 10 Country-Commodity Pairs





Standards Division Updates

- Rule Updates
- Board Nominations



Market Development: Final Rule for Organic Pet Food and Mushrooms

- Published December 2024
- Effective March 21, 2025
- Will expand organic market opportunities & clarify standards
- Two years to comply





Organic Livestock and Poultry Standards (OLPS) Final Rule



- Clarifies indoor and outdoor space requirements for avian species, animal health care practices, transportation, and slaughter.
- Compliance Date: **January 2, 2025**; however certain poultry operations have extended compliance timelines for certain provisions.
- Online Training in Learning Center (NOP-360)

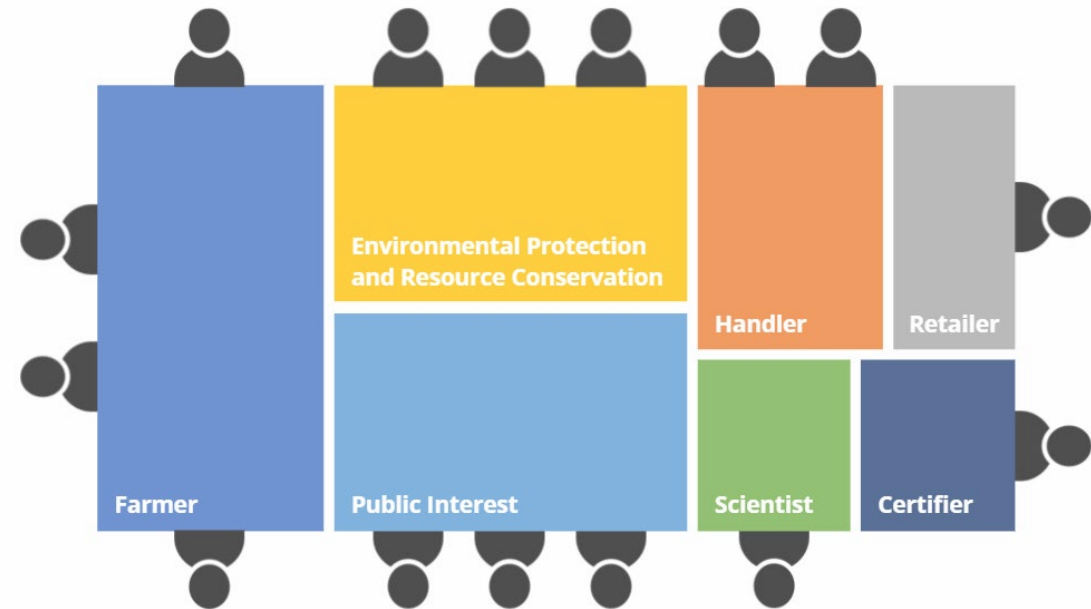


National Organic Standards Board

Call for Nominations: Publishing this Summer

Five seats with terms starting January 2026:

- 2 public/consumer interest seats
- 2 organic farmer seats
- 1 certifier seat



ORGANIC



Protected
by law

Inspected
yearly by experts

Traced
from farm to store

Shaped
by public input





Sound and Sensible, Risk-Based Oversight

- SOE introduces the concept of risk in our oversight
- Avoid applying a one-size-fits-all approach
- Reduce unnecessary burden - while holding the operation accountable for compliance



Enforcement: Organic Imports

New import data is useful and essential for oversight

NOP Compliance focus:

- High-risk livestock feed commodities
- West Africa Certifier Directive
- Turkey soybean and grain supply chains





Residue Testing

- Focus: high-risk organic feed commodities, including:
 - Soybeans, soybean meal, corn
 - Imported from Black Sea, India, and Africa
- Testing for pesticides, GMOs, herbicides, and solvents
 - Over 50 samples collected to date
 - Finding: Testing for hexane may help to detect fraud in organic oilseed meals



Enforcement: Livestock Directive Results Notices Issued by Certifiers

Notice of Noncompliance	134
Notice of Proposed Suspension	15
Notice of Proposed Revocation	1
Notice of Suspension	1
Notice of Revocation	1
Notice of Denial of Certification	2
Operation Surrendered	2



Origin of Livestock Surveillance

No major concerns with operations or certifiers

Livestock and Livestock Products Import Oversight

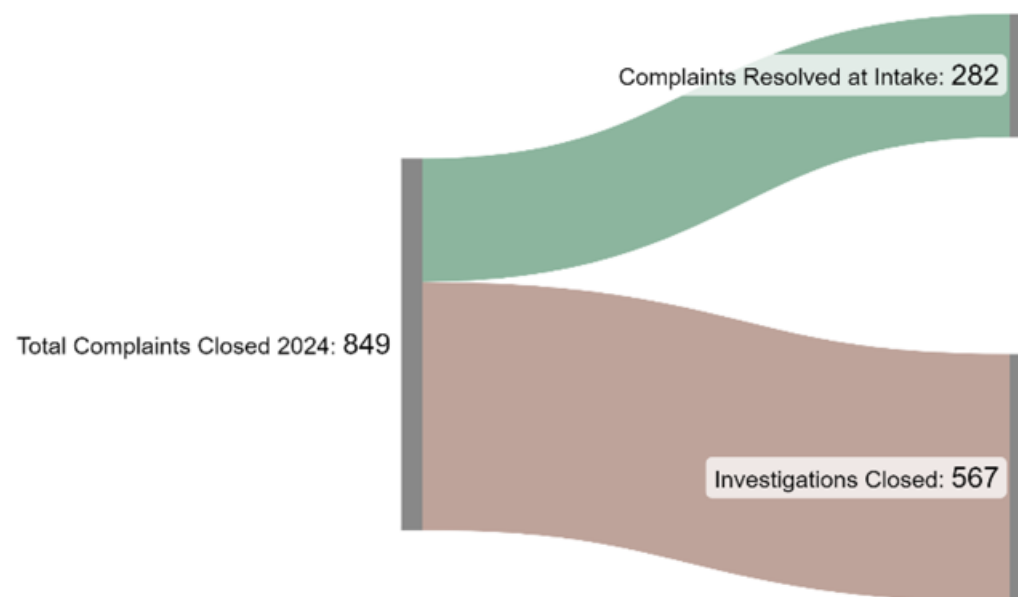
Identifying high-risk factors and expanding surveillance to livestock imports

Organic Livestock and Poultry Standards

NOP is preparing surveillance activities



Total Complaints Resolved at Intake and Total Investigations Closed CY2024



The NOP closed 849 complaints in CY2024. 282 of those complaints were resolved at the intake stage without further investigation. This includes complaints with a lack of evidence, out of scope products, complaints referred to other NOP Divisions, etc. 567 complaints moved on for further investigation and were closed in CY2024.



Collaboration and partnership with U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) through the Commercial Targeting and Analysis Center (CTAC)

- Enhanced access to trade and shipment data to increase import oversight.
- Proactive targeting capabilities to identify potentially violative shipments.
- Collaboration with CBP personnel at ports of entry for shipment sampling, examinations, detentions and seizures.
- Coordination of seizures and/or denials of entry of violative goods.
- Trademark protection/enforcement of the USDA organic seal usage.





Questions from the Board