## 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 are shown below. For a list of expired temporary variances, please visit [http://www.ams.usda.gov/rules-regulations/organic](http://www.ams.usda.gov/rules-regulations/organic).

### 2021 Allowed Temporary Variances

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Company / Producer</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Date of AMS Decision</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Certified Organic Ruminant Livestock Producers in California and Oregon | Counties in California and Oregon designated as primary or contiguous drought disaster areas by Secretary Vilsack in calendar year 2021 | 6/21/2021 | 6/21/2021 | 2021 grazing season only | Those that certify operations in counties in California and Oregon designated as primary or contiguous drought disaster areas by Secretary Vilsack | The temporary variance from §205.237(c)(1) and §205.239(a)(2) is based on severe drought and restricted to the following:  
- Applies only to certified organic ruminant livestock producers located in counties in California and Oregon designated as primary or contiguous natural disaster areas by Secretary Vilsack. The list of declared State counties is available on USDA’s website for [Disaster Designation Information](http://www.ams.usda.gov/rules-regulations/organic).  
- All ruminants and classes of animals must be provided with at least 20 percent average dry matter intake from pasture, or no more than 80 percent average of the ruminant’s dry matter demand from dry matter fed, during the 2021 grazing season.  
- All ruminants and classes of animals must be grazed on pasture throughout the grazing season for no less than 90 days during the 2021 grazing season. |
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gillian's Dairy</td>
<td>Petaluma, California</td>
<td>4/19/2021</td>
<td>4/19/2021</td>
<td>2021 grazing season only</td>
<td>Oregon Tilth Certified Organic (OTCO)</td>
<td>The temporary variance from §205.237(c)(1) and §205.239(a) (2) is based on severe drought and restricted to the following:</td>
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<td>- Applies only to organic livestock producer, Gillian’s Dairy, in Petaluma, California.</td>
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<td>- Ruminants must be provided with at least 30 percent average dry matter intake from pasture, or no more than 70 percent average of the</td>
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<td>ruminant’s dry matter demand from dry matter fed, during the 2021 grazing season.</td>
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<td>- Lactating cows must be grazed on pasture throughout the grazing season for no less than 75 days during the 2021 grazing season.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Blake’s Landing Farm</td>
<td>Marshall, California</td>
<td>3/24/2021</td>
<td>1/1/2021</td>
<td>12/31/2021</td>
<td>Marin Organic Certified Agriculture (MOCA)</td>
<td>The temporary variance from §205.237(a) is for research purposes and restricted to the following:</td>
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<td>- Applies to the organic livestock producer, Blake’s Landing Farm, located in Marshall, California.</td>
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<td>- No more than 45 of the operation’s certified organic cows.</td>
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<td>- The operation may feed its certified organic cows non-organic Asparagopsis taxiformis for a period that must not exceed 60 days.</td>
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| Ohio State University Organic Food and Farming Education and Research (OFFER) Program | 2 Sites: Wooster, OH and Bowling Green, OH    | 7/14/2020            | 7/14/2020      | 11/30/2023 | Ohio Ecological Food and Farm Association (OEFFA)    | The temporary variance from §205.203(d)(1) is for research purposes and restricted to the following:  
  • 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 only covers OFFER field WB1101.                                                                                           |

2021 Denied Requests for Temporary Variances

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This table is updated when AMS Administrator decisions are issued.