

Crops and Livestock Producer New and Annual Update application submission deadline is mid-April to apply for certification or continuation of certification each year. Please contact the RI Organic Certification Program for detailed information, and to request forms.

Required application forms and documentation are summarized below for each category and type of application. Forms must be filled out completely, signed and dated and submitted by mail with supporting documents and application fee to the address on the form by the application deadline.

The application forms are downloadable in PDF format: <http://www.dem.ri.gov/programs/agriculture/orgcert.php>

RIDEM is not accredited to certify organic handlers. Certification agencies which are accredited by USDA to certify organic handlers can be found on the USDA NOP Accredited Certifiers web page:

<https://www.ams.usda.gov/services/organic-certification/certifying-agents>

Crop Producer New Application

- Forms to be completed by new applicants for the crop producer category: Application for Certification, Organic Farm Plan Questionnaire, Organic Field History Report (for each of the previous three years)
- Additional documentation: Current soil test results, Farm maps, Input purchase receipts and any other supporting documentation

Crop Producer Annual Update

- Forms to be completed for the annual update for the crop producer category: * Organic Farm Plan and/or Update Questionnaire, Organic Field History Report (for the previous cropping season for certified fields; for each of the previous three years for new fields requested for certification)
- Additional documentation: Current soil test results, Updated farm maps, Input purchase receipts and any other supporting documentation

Livestock Producer New Application

- Forms to be completed by new applicants for the organic livestock producer category: Application for Certification, Organic Livestock Plan Questionnaire. An Organic Farm (Crops) Plan Questionnaire also must be submitted for fields and outdoor access areas where the farm is growing its own feed or any crops, including pasture.
- Additional documentation: Farm maps, Purchase receipts for materials, supplements, medications and feed, Animal purchase and/or breeding records, and any other supporting documentation. Additional documentation required for the Organic Farm (Crops) Plan also must be submitted as specified for that plan. If you are requesting certification of ruminants, please include (1 a pasture plan as described in NOP Standard 205.237 (e.g. NRCS Pasture/Rangeland plan) and 2) documentation that the pasture plan complies with NOP Standard 205.240 (e.g. USDA NOP DMI calculation worksheet).

Livestock Producer Annual Update

- Forms to be completed for the annual update for the organic livestock producer category: Organic Livestock Plan Questionnaire. * An Organic Farm (Crops) Plan and/or Update Questionnaire also must be submitted for fields and outdoor access areas where the farm is growing its own feed or any crops, including pasture.
- Additional documentation: Farm maps, Purchase receipts for materials, supplements, medications and feed, Animal purchase and/or breeding records, and any supporting documentation. If you are requesting certification of ruminants, please include (1 a pasture plan as described in NOP Standard 205.237 (e.g. NRCS Pasture/Rangeland plan) and 2) documentation that the pasture plan complies with NOP Standard 205.240 (e.g. USDA NOP DMI calculation worksheet).
- Additional documentation required when applying for update of the Organic Farm (Crops) Plan also must be submitted as specified for that plan.

* The following policy is in effect regarding organic farm (crops) plan updates: Farms applying for continuation (update) of certification are required to submit a current Rhode Island Certified Organic Farm (crops) Plan Questionnaire, the 18-page form RICO 102, at least once every third year to allow for a more efficient consolidation and review of updated information. Farms that have submitted the 5-page Organic Farm Plan Update Questionnaire form RICO 103 at least two years in a row must submit the 18-page farm plan form RICO 102, in addition to Sections 1, 2, 3B, 4 and 5 of form RICO 103, when applying for continuation of certification. A summary statement of changes should be submitted to facilitate requests for the addition or discontinuation of certification of production areas, fields, greenhouses, crops or other changes. If any noncompliances were received from the previous year's certification, a description should be submitted describing corrective actions taken.