# YOLOYolo County Department of Agriculture Weights and Measures

**Humberto Izquierdo**

Commissioner/Sealer

Organic Livestock Plan Questionnaire: Ruminants

*Please fill out this form if you are requesting organic certification of ruminant livestock ( cows, goats, sheep). A separate Organic Production System Plan Questionnaire for crop production must be filled out if you are growing your own feed or other organic crops for sale. A Handling/ Processing Organic Systems Plan Questionnaire must be completed if you operation participates in the processing of raw animal products.*

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| **SECTION 1: GENERAL INFORMATION** | | | | | | | | |
| Name | | Operation name | | | | | **FOR OFFICE USE ONLY** | |
| Address | | | | | City | | **Date Received** | |
| Phone | | | Fax | | | | **Date of final review** | |
| **Reviewers initials** | |
| Legal Status:  Sole proprietorship  Trust or non-profit  Corporation  Legal Partnership ( federal form 1065)  Other (Please Specify): | | | | | | | Organic Certification number | |
| Year first certified | List previous organic certification by other agencies | | | | | List current organic certification by other agencies | | Have you ever been denied  Certification? Describe below  YES NO |
| Describe circumstances: | | | | | | | | |
| **Do you plan to export products to foreign markets?**  **Yes**  No  If yes, indicate which market  EU  Japan  Taiwan  Switzerland  Canada    Other\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  **Note: There are critical variances between US and foreign organic markets**.  Learn more about each partnership at [www.ams.usda.gov/NOPInternationalAgreements](http://www.ams.usda.gov/NOPInternationalAgreements) | | | | | | | | |
| **Do you plan to import products to United States?**   **Yes**  No  NOP Import Certificates are now required for all organic products entering the United States. The NOP Import Certificate should accompany the imported goods during shipment and be retained by the purchasing operation for the annual inspection  **If yes, describe product to be imported:** | | | | | | | | |
| Do you understand current organic standards?  YES NO | | | | Do you have access to the National organic standards (NOP)?  YES  NO  Link to the NOP standards:  [**www.ams.usda.gov/rules-regulations/organic**](http://www.ams.usda.gov/rules-regulations/organic)  If unable to access organic standards electronically, contact your certifier | | | | |
| Do you intend to grow your own feed this year?  YES  NO  If yes, have you filled out the organic production system plan questionnaire?  YES  NO  If no, please contact your certifying agent to get the organic production system plan questionnaire.  Describe below the general process of your livestock operation:    Is your livestock operation a split operation?  YES  NO  If yes,  Please describe your operation’s visual identification system for slaughter -eligible animals: | | | | | | | | |
| |  | | --- | | **SECTION 2A: LAND REQUIREMENTS**   NOP 205.202 | | Additional safeguards used to prevent drift and contamination  None | | Written notification to:  Highway Departments  Aerial / Ground Spray Companies ( i.e. mosquito vector control)  Adjoining landowners  Other (Please specify):  Verbal notification to:  Highway Departments  Aerial / Ground Spray Companies ( i.e. mosquito vector control)  Adjoining landowners  Other (Please specify):  Have you posted organic signage along roadsides that adjoin organic fields?  Yes  No | | | | | | | | | |

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| SECTION 2B: Land requirements NOP 205.202 | | | | |
| **Are all fields requested for certification been** **registered as organic with CDFA?**  YES  NO  If Yes, note registration number:      . If No, please go to your county’s department of agriculture and complete a 3-year pesticide use search. Once the search is complete and there has been no prohibited materials used, go to CDFA’s website to initiate the registration process:  **https://organic.cdfa.ca.gov/OrganicReg/** | | | | |
| ADJOINING LAND USE: ***NOP RULE requires that organic production areas have distinct boundaries and buffer zones to prevent the unintended application of a prohibited substance or contact with a prohibited substance that is applied to adjoining land not under organic management.*** *Buffer areas may change annually, depending on contamination potential from adjoining land uses. The width of the minimum buffer is dependent on certifying agent policy. The NOP Rule requires that the buffer must be sufficient in size or other features (windbreaks, diversion ditches) to prevent the unintended contact by prohibited substances applied to adjacent land areas.*  ***Show all adjoining land uses on your field maps*** Not applicable | | | | |
| location/ field Numbers | CROP | TYPE OF buffer **(crop land, Treeline, hedgerow, wildlife planting, grass strip)** | **width of buffer** | **adjoining land use** |
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| **SECTION 2C: Biodiversity and Conservation**  NOP 205.200 |
| Production practices implemented must maintain or improve the natural resources of the operation by integrating practices that conserve resources and promote biodiversity. Natural resources is defined by the National Organic Program (NOP) as the physical, hydrological, and biological features of the production operation, including soil, water, wetlands, woodlands, and wildlife. |
| Do you participate in any National Resource Conservation Service (NRCS); Farm Service Agency (FSA), land trust, or other conservation programs?  Yes  No  If yes, describe the programs that you participate in  What soil and water conservation practices do you utilize in your operation**?**  Rotational Grazing  Composing pasture plantings of diverse species  Plant native vegetation along stream banks  Control sensitive area access  Locate feed stations and water troughs away from streams and water  Restoring grasslands, riparian habitat, forest, and wetland areas  Other (Please specify): |

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| **SECTION 2D: PASTURE FOR RUMINANT LIVESTOCK**  NOP 205.240 |
| **An organic livestock operation must provide a functioning management plan for pasture and rangeland.** If applicable, you may provide your NRCS plan in lieu of filling out this section; however, your NRSC plan must address the questions below. For each ranch include maps that identify grazing areas, sources of water, fencing, and shade.  Rangeland resources:  USDA-NRCS National Range and Pasture Handbook ( [www.glti.nrcs.usda.gov/technical/publications/nrph.html](http://www.glti.nrcs.usda.gov/technical/publications/nrph.html))  Pasture resources:  The Guide to Pasture Condition Scoring ([www.glti.nrcs.usda.gov/technical/publications/index.html](http://www.glti.nrcs.usda.gov/technical/publications/index.html)) |

Please describe your grazing season in general terms (precipitation patterns, approximate grazing season stop and start dates):

Describe your type of pasture that you provide to your livestock and how do you ensure that ruminant feeding requirements are met (predominant grasses/forbs, etc):

Describe your pasture management strategy to ensure that sufficient quality and quantity of forage is available to your livestock (irrigation, clipping, re-seeding, crop rotation):

Describe grazing methods to be used (continuous, rotational, or multi-species grazing):

For each location, what factors influence your decision making about animal density, frequency of livestock movement, and length of grazing?

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| SECTION 3A: LIVESTOCK ORIGIN (BEEF) NOP Section 205.236 |
| Breeder Stock: livestock may be brought from a nonorganic operation onto an organic operation at any time, Provided, That the following conditions are met:  (i) Such breeder stock must be brought onto the operation **no later than the last third of gestation** if their offspring are to be raised as organic livestock; and  (ii) **Such breeder stock must be managed organically throughout the last third of gestation and the lactation period** during which time they may nurse their own offspring.  **Provide documentation that verifies livestock was under continuous management from the last third gestation.**  **Breeder stock, and their offspring, that have not been under continuous organic management since the last third of gestation may not be sold, labeled, or represented as organic slaughter stock.**  **How is Breeder Stock sourced?**  Self (livestock producer)  Certified Auction Yard    Certified Livestock Broker  Organic Livestock Producer  Other (describe): |
| For livestock producer (self), provide documentation for the breeder stock sourced by your operation:  Approximate Date of Heifer Servicing:  Date Heifers were transported to organic rangeland**:**  Please describe transportation process, and attach supporting documents showing animal movement:  Describe how non-organic breeder stock is identified: |
| **Provide documentation for breeder stock for breeder stock purchased from certified auction yards, livestock Brokers, or other livestock producers. If livestock is sourced from an organic livestock producer, attach organic certificate for animals. If livestock is sourced from certified auction yards or livestock brokers, attach attestations of slaughter eligibility status included with transaction:**    **Name of operation (s) purchased from:**  Please list animals supplied. If the list of animals purchased is extensive, provide an attachment to the OSP that clearly identifies where the livestock was purchased :  **Describe Livestock breed purchased:**  **How were purchased animals identified?**  Plastic Ear Tags  Electronic Ear Tags (EID)  Ear Notching  Brand  Tattoo  Other (Please Describe): |
| **SECTION 3B: SOURCE OF LIVESTOCK: DAIRY NOP Section 205.236 (a) (2)** |
| An operation that is not certified for organic livestock and that has never transitioned dairy animals may transition nonorganic animals to organic production only once. After the one-time transition is complete, the operation may not transition additional animals or source transitioned animals from other operations; the operation must source only animals that have been under continuous organic management from the last third of gestation.  Dairy animals that complete the transition and that are part of a certified operation are transitioned animals and must not be used for organic livestock products other than organic milk and milk products. |
| **How is Dairy Stock sourced?**  Self ( livestock producer)  Certified Auction Yard    Certified Livestock Broker  Organic Livestock Producer  Other ( describe):  Please list animals supplied. If the list of animals purchased is extensive, provide an attachment to the OSP that clearly identifies where the livestock was purchased:  Describe Livestock breed purchased:  Date animals began transition:  Date of expected end of transition:  How are transitional animals identified from organic livestock: |

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| **SECTION 4A: LIVESTOCK HEALTH CARE PRACTICE STANDARD** NOP 205.238; 205.603 |
| Producers must establish and maintain year-round livestock living conditions which accommodate the natural health and behavior of animals involved. These conditions include: access to the outdoors, clean drinking water, sunlight, shelter, and shade. **Continuous confinement of any animal is prohibited. Continuous confinement of ruminants in feedlots, yards, and feeding pads is prohibited**. |

***Water used for organic livestock must be potable and readily accessible. Water tests for: coliform, bacteria, nitrates and/or known contaminates may be required.***

What is your source of water?

On-site well  Municipal  River/creek/pond  Spring

Other (Please specify):

Please describe where water sources are located:

Describe how you prevent erosion and risks of contamination around water sources:

Describe reasons for and methods for any physical alternations ( i.e.branding; castration)

Indicate additional components of preventative healthcare used in your operation:

breed/species  closed herd isolate sick animals

monitor for pests, diseases, and injuries  good sanitation  vector control

Other (Please specify):

What traits of your livestock breed(s) make them suitable to your environment?

How often do you monitor livestock health?

**What types of health care practices do you implement in your operation?**

manure management  dry clean bedding  secure food storage  use of sanitizers

pasture/range management

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| **SECTION 4B: LIVESTOCK HEALTH CARE PRACTICE STANDARD** NOP 205.238( b) |
| When preventive practices and veterinary biologics are inadequate to prevent sickness, a producer may administer synthetic medications: Provided, That, such medications are allowed under § 205.603.  Please list all materials that you use or plan to use. All materials must be on the national list of synthetic materials allowed for use in livestock production (NOP 205.603).  Documentation must be maintained for materials that have restricted use.  **All appropriate medications must be used to restore animals’ health, medications should not be withheld to protect an animal’s organic status. Maintain all records for inspection.**  Livestock treated with a prohibited substance must be clearly identified and shall not be sold, labeled, or represented as organically produced. If prohibited materials are used to restore animals’ health, how do you identify the segregated animals? |

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| **Type of material** | **Product Name /**  **Manufacturer** | **Health Problem** |
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**Describe problem pests that affect your livestock (flies, external parasites, predators):**

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| **Pest Type** | **Monitoring methods** | **Preventative pest control strategies** |
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**If preventative pest control is not effective, please list materials used in your operation to control pests. Note that if your operation uses a healthcare material on livestock that is not listed on NOP National List, the animal will not be eligible to be sold as organic slaughter stock:**

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| **Material** | **Brand** | **Manufacturer** | **Location and method of application** |
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| **SECTION 5: LIVESTOCK LIVING CONDITIONS** NOP 205.239 |
| The producer of a livestock operation must establish and maintain livestock living conditions that accommodate the health and natural behavior of animals. |

Describe how often all monitoring practices are verified to ensure livestock living conditions are compliant with NOP requirements**:**

Describe the regional climate of your operation, and how it affects animals’ access to the outdoors, and

if applicable, describe ruminants’ access to pasture:

What type of bedding is used for animals?  N/A (rangeland/pasture)

If roughage is used for bedding, was it produced organically? Yes  No

What types of shelters and other structures are used for your animals?

Is lumber treated with arsenate, or any other substances used in any structures/ fencing ? Yes  No

If yes, describe how you prevent contact of prohibited materials with animals and soil:

If feedlots and yards are used, how are they managed?

How are animal wastes removed?

Describe how manure is managed to prevent environmental degradation (Non-point source runoff, direct discharge to streams, etc. to protect water quality and human health):

Animals may be temporarily denied access to the outdoors. Describe circumstances in which animals would need to be confined:

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| **Reasons for confinement** | **Circumstances** | **Length of confinement** |
| Inclement Weather |  |  |
| Illness/Injury |  |  |
| Animal Safety |  |  |
| Life stage |  |  |
| Special projects ( 4-H) |  |  |

**Confinements of ruminants:** not applicable, do not raise ruminant livestock

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| **Reasons for confinement** | **Circumstances** | **Length of confinement** |
| Shearing |  |  |
| Milking |  |  |
| Lactation dry off |  |  |
| Parturition |  |  |
| Finishing  Not to exceed 1/5th of animal’s total life (or 120 days) |  |  |

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| **SECTION 6A: FEED AND DRY MATTER INTAKE FOR RUMINANTS** NOP 205.237 (d) | | |
| Ruminant livestock producers shall describe the total feed ration for each type of animal.  Total feed ration includes all agricultural products, including pasture and forage, and supplements and additives.  **All feed must be organically produced and handled by operations** **certified to NOP standards.**  Dry matter demand (DMD) and dry matter intake (DMI) shall be calculated for each type of animal.  **Maintain and provide records of products used in animal rations** | | |
| **Feed Types** | **Source** | **Percentage of Total Ration** |
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| **Describe the total feed ration for each type and class of animal:** |

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| **SECTION 6B: FEED AND DRY MATTER INTAKE FOR DAIRY** NOP 205.236 (a)(2)(iii) | | |
| Ruminant livestock producers shall describe the total feed ration for each type of animal.  Total feed ration includes all agricultural products, including pasture and forage, and supplements and additives.  **All feed must be organically produced and handled by operations** **certified to NOP standards.**  Dry matter demand (DMD) and dry matter intake (DMI) shall be calculated for each type of animal.  During the 12-month transition period, dairy animals and their offspring may consume third-year transitional crops from land included in the organic system plan of the operation transitioning the animals. Transitional crops must be included in the crop production OSP  **Maintain and provide records of products used in animal rations** | | |
| **Feed Types** | **Source** | **Percentage of Total Ration** |
|  | Transitional Yes  No |  |
|  | Transitional Yes  No |  |
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| **SECTION 6B: DRY MATTER CALCULATION**  For all class and types of ruminants: **an average of 30% of all dry matter intake must be consumed from pasture during the grazing season.** As defined grazing season is the period of time when pasture is available. **The grazing season must be at least 120 days/year, but does not need to be continuous.** | | | | | |
| * Predict dry matter demand (DMD) in pounds. For example, beef cattle consume ~2.5% of their body weight in dry matter per day.   **1,000 lb Angus Cow (2.5%) = 25 lbs of dry matter per day**   * Determine dry matter intake from non pasture feed sources. For example, the cow above eats 10 pounds of oat hay in addition to pasture. The dry matter content of oat hay is average 90%     **10 lbs(90%) = 9 lbs of dry matter (non pasture)**    References for dry matter:  UC Cooperative Extension [www.animalscience.ucdavis.edu/faculty/robinson/projects](http://www.animalscience.ucdavis.edu/faculty/robinson/projects))  Beef Magazines composition tables ( www.beefmagazine.com/nutrition/feed-composition-tables)  Dairy Cattle 7th revised edition, 2001 (www.nap.edu/catalog.php?record\_id=9825)  Small Ruminants( sheep & goats), 2000 (www.nap.edu/catalog.php)   * Determine estimated dry matter intake from pasture. Estimated DMD – dry matter intake from non pasture feed sources= estimated DMI from pasture   **25 lbs (DMD) – 9 lbs = 16 lbs per day DMI from pasture**   * Calculate dry matter percentage intake from pasture.   The percent DMI from pasture = estimated DMI (pasture)/ estimated DMD x 100  **16 lbs/ 25lbs x 100 = 64%**  **Please describe how often is DMD requirements for each class of animal evaluated:** | | | | | |
| **Animal Class**  (slaughter) | **DMD (lbs)**  (25 lbs) | **Feed Type**  (oat hay) | **DMI**  **(non pasture)**  (9lbs) | **Estimated DMI (pasture)** | **DMI %** |
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| **SECTION 7: HANDLING LIVESTOCK**  NOP 205.270 (a); 205.271 |
| **Handling for slaughter:**  not applicable  Note: Dairy animals that complete the transition and that are part of a certified operation are transitioned animals and **must not** be used for organic livestock products other than organic milk and milk products. |
| Name of facility where your animals are slaughtered:  attach certificate    How are animals loaded?    What form of transportation is used?    How long does transportation take?    Are animals provided with food in transit?  YES  NO  Are animals provided with water in transit?  YES  NO  How many hours from loading until time of slaughter? |

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| **SECTION 8: RECORD KEEPING SYSTEM** NOP Rule 205.103 |
| ***NOP Rule requires that records disclose all activities and transactions of the operation, be maintained for 5 years, and demonstrate compliance with the NOP Rule.*** |
| Which of the following records do you keep for organic livestock production? Field maps  CDFA Registration  NRCS plan  Documentation of purchased animals  Animal Health records ( vaccines & medications)  Purchased feed, feed supplements, feed labels  Dry matter test results ( feed)  Input records ( cleaners and sanitizers- keep all labels)  Transportation records  Equipment cleaning records  Handling records that show location and activities  Sales records (purchase order, contract, invoice, cash receipts, cash receipt journal, sales journal, etc.)  Certified processor’s certificate  If applicable , labels for livestock products (i.e. eggs)  Other (please specify):  ***Please have these records available for the inspector.***  ***Maintain all records for 5 years.*** |

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| SECTION 9: AFFIRMATION NOP 205.400 |
| I affirm that all information in this organic systems plan ( OSP) is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge  I have reviewed the National Organic Standards (NOP) and will ask the certifying agent to clarify any standards that are not understood  I agree to implement the OSP, and will notify the certifier of any change in my certified operation that may affect its compliance with the NOP  I agree to maintain all records applicable to my organic operation for not less than 5 years beyond their creation and the certifier shall have access to all records maintained  I agree to submit applicable fees charged according to the fee schedule by the certifying agent  I have made copies of this questionnaire and other supporting documents for my own records.  Signature of Operator      \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  Date      \_\_\_\_\_\_ |