



Knowledge Tree

Certified Organic Poultry Fact Sheet

Version 1

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Converting to Organic Poultry



- Poultry must be born onto the farm, or chicks up to 2 days old can be brought in.
- As your operation moves from being certified in-conversion to fully certified, the eggs and meat from your animals have the same status as the operation. For example, birds produce certified organic in-conversion eggs while on a certified in-conversion property. The same birds will produce certified organic eggs when that property achieves full certification status.
- You'll need to have good records on your bird numbers.

Feeding

- Poultry must be fed from pastures, and where pastures are down or recovering, certified pellets or other certified feeds are permissible.
- Feed supplements (feed other than pasture and mineral supplements) must be certified organic. If this can't be found, SXC can approve non-certified supplements up to a maximum 5% of the total ration.
- In circumstances such as droughts, fires and floods, SXC can approve the use of non-certified, brought-in feed. While using this feed, the eggs and meat from the birds is deemed uncertified. Birds must have certified feed for at least 6 months before the eggs and meat regain certified status.
- You need to keep records of feed purchased and given.



Animal Health



If a bird becomes sick or injured it must immediately have appropriate treatment, even if that means the eggs or meat from the bird become uncertified.

- Vaccines are permitted when practices are insufficient to guard against disease or illness.
- Only certified allowed inputs or substances (listed at the end of this document) can be used.
- Treating animals with science-based/modern medicine and antibiotics is prohibited.
- Animals (and their products) become uncertified when treated with prohibited substances.
- Animals treated with prohibited substances must be quarantined for the greater period of 3 weeks or 3 times the withholding period of the drug used, before being allowed to return to the flock.
- Records of all treatments and quarantine need to be kept.

Substances Permitted for Organic Poultry

Pest Control

- Ayurvedic preparations
- Biological controls (Naturally occurring organisms and cultured organisms)
- Boric Acid
- Clay
- Diatomaceous earth
- Essential oils, plant oils and extracts
- Garlic oil, garlic extract or crushed garlic
- Homeopathic preparations
- Hydrogen Peroxide
- Natural plant extracts obtained by infusion
- Magnesium Sulphate (Epsom salts)
- Methylated spirits
- Monosodium fluorosilicate
- Potassium permanganate
- Pyrethrum (Extracted from *Chrysanthemum cineraria folium*)
- Quassia (Extracted from *Quassia Amara*)
- Rotenone (Extracted from *Derris Elliptica*)
- Sea salts and salty water
- Seaweed, seaweed meal, seaweed extracts
- Sodium Bicarbonate
- Sulphur
- Vinegar (e.g. cider)

Disease Control

- Ayurvedic preparations
- Calcium salts
- Charcoal
- Clay
- Copper sulphate
- Diatomaceous earth and naturally occurring chitin products
- Essential oils, plant oils and extracts
- Homeopathic preparations
- Hydrogen Peroxide
- Natural plant extracts obtained by infusion, excluding tobacco
- Magnesium Sulphate (Epsom Salts)
- Methylated spirits
- Potassium permanganate
- Sea salts and salty water
- Seaweed, seaweed meal, seaweed extracts
- Sodium Bicarbonate
- Trace elements (to correct identified deficiencies only)
- Vaccines*
- Vitamins (Naturally sources only)
- Vinegar (e.g. cider)
- Zinc sulphate

*May be used only for a specific disease, which is known to exist on the organic farm or neighbouring farms and which threatens livestock health and which cannot be effectively controlled by other management practices. Vaccines must not contain genetically modified ingredients or by-products.