

New Hampshire
Department of Agriculture,
Markets & Food

Shawn N. Jasper, Commissioner

**Division of Regulatory Services
Organic Certification Program**

February 27, 2024
CERTIFIED MAIL

CHANGING STATUS OF NHDAMF - NOP ACA
(CROP OPERATION ORGANIC CERTIFICATION)

Dear Organic Crop Operation:

This is to inform you that the New Hampshire Department of Agriculture, Markets & Food (Department) will no longer offer organic certification services for crop operations, effective June 30, 2024.

This action is in response to challenging resources to maintain pace with the increase of United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) National Organic Program (NOP) standards since New Hampshire began participating with the Program and to satisfy other responsibilities of Department staff.

YOUR CURRENT CERTIFICATION IS VALID UNTIL SURRENDERED, SUSPENDED OR REVOKED – Pending the following:

To facilitate a smooth process for the affected operations, the NOP has advised the Department of the following:

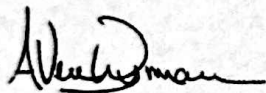
- a. All operations certified by NHDAMF must inform NHDAMF **by close of business April 27, 2024**, of whether they applied with a new certifier or are surrendering their certification. An operation applying for certification with another certifier must also provide the name of the certifier and the date of application via the attached Verification Form.

If you intend to continue to produce or sell products as organic, you must maintain your current certification by following all NOP law, rule, and plan as presented in your latest Organic System Plan (OSP) until granted certification by the new certifying agent.

- b. NHDAMF's NOP accreditation and NOP certification activities will cease on June 30, 2024. After this date, the certifier listed for NHDAMF's certified operations in the Organic Integrity Database will appear as "[---] Transitioning to New Certifier"

- c. While the NHDAMF's certified operations are listed under "[---] Transitioning to a New Certifier", your NHDAMF organic certificates remain valid until surrendered, suspended, or revoked. **However, the operations will not be able to make changes to their USDA organic certification, such as adding new fields, animals, products, or labels until they are granted certification by a new certifier.**
- d. Operations can search for a new certifier by using the Organic Integrity Database Certifier Locator tool at the following link:
<https://organic.ams.usda.gov/Integrity/Certifiers/CertifiersLocationsSearchPage.asp>.
- e. If an operation does not inform NHDAMF that it is applying for certification with another certifier or surrendering certification **by close of business on April 27, 2024**, the NHDAMF will issue the operation a noncompliance, which may lead to suspension or revocation of the operation's certification.
- f. Operations applying for certification with another certifier must inform the NOP (Callie.Herron@usda.gov) once they have received their new organic certificate.
- g. Operations that have applied for certification with another certifier may use their existing inventory of labels approved by NHDAMF identifying NHDAMF as the certifying agent if the use-up is approved by the new certifier according to the NOP's instructions for label use-up approval.

Sincerely,



Allen Wyman, Director
NHDAMF NOP ACA

Encl: Verification Form
Surrender Form

Cc: Commissioner Shawn N. Jasper, NHDAMF