

FARMER FRIENDLY ORGANIC CERTIFICATION



ACCREDITED BY THE USDA SINCE 2002
TRUSTED BY FARMERS EVEN LONGER

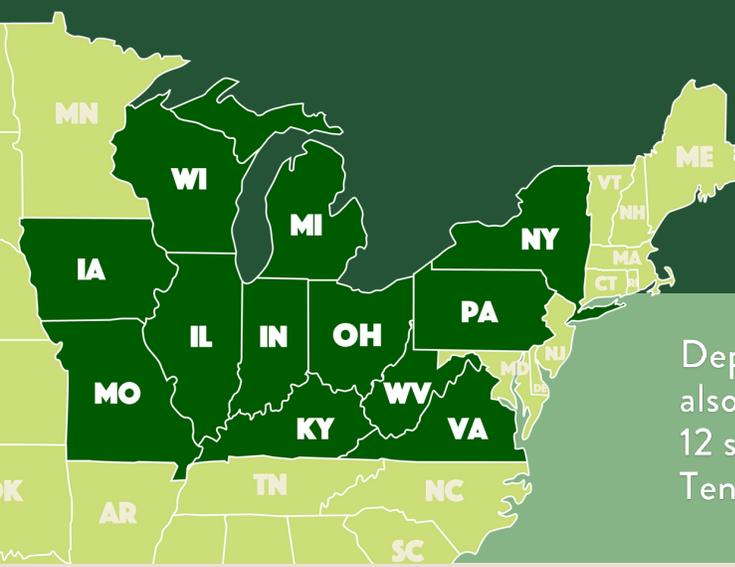
From humble beginnings as a volunteer group of farmers, in 1981 OEFFA certified our first dozen farms. Since then, we've grown to be one of the nation's oldest, largest, and most respected organic certifiers, now offering services to farms in the Midwest and Mid-Atlantic U.S.

All certifiers are required to apply the same USDA National Organic Program standards for organic certification. What sets OEFFA Certification apart is the OEFFA Advantage:

- ✓ A farmer-first mindset
- ✓ Organic educators dedicated to providing:
 - Free technical assistance
 - Connections to funding or cost-share opportunities, such as the Transition to Organic Partnership Program and Climate-Smart Agriculture and Forestry
- ✓ Federal advocacy for policies that work for you as organic producers
- ✓ Dedicated staff to advise you through the transition process
- ✓ Additional certifications, such as Organic Plus Trust Grass-fed
- ✓ Easy certification renewal process with streamlined paperwork
- ✓ Staff and inspectors experienced in working with a variety of farmers and farming styles, from human-powered to horse-powered to tractor-powered
- ✓ Not tech-savvy? We meet you where you are
- ✓ Correspondence by postal mail or email—your choice



OEFFA CERTIFICATION COVERAGE AREA



Depending on administrative capacity, OEFFA may also accept applications from producers outside of these 12 states, but in nearby states, such as Minnesota or Tennessee. Please contact us if this applies to you.

MORE THAN JUST CERTIFICATION



By certifying with us, you also gain access to the resources of our sister organization, the Ohio Ecological Food and Farm Association, which provides education and technical assistance to organic farmers. Staff are available to help with production, marketing, and certification challenges. If you need help, we're just a phone call or email away.

OUR MOTIVE: HELPING FARMS PROFIT

OEFFA Certification is a not-for-profit organization. We set our fees to cover our cost of operation, saving you money. The fee farmers pay is based on a number of factors, such as when you apply, and whether or not you have livestock or do any on-farm processing (like feed grinding). The National Organic Cost Share Program helps certified operators with the expense of organic certification, reimbursing producers for a portion of their costs for each "scope" certified—crops, livestock, wild crops, and handling.

OUR PLEDGE

We will work to provide you with dependable and friendly service, while upholding high standards that ensure the integrity of the organic label so that your hard work is recognized in the marketplace.

FROM TRANSITION TO MARKET

Transitioning to organic production requires dedication: it is a commitment to navigate new regulations, contend with more limited input options, trialing new seed varieties, and—most importantly—adopt a new mindset to think about your farm as an agroecological system. But you aren't on your own. We'll meet you wherever you're starting from. OEFFA has staff dedicated to helping farmers through the transition process, whether that's figuring out your crop rotation, sourcing seed, or completing your first application for certification (your Organic System Plan).

We can also put you in touch with other farmers, farmers who've been there and are happy to share what they've learned along the way. It's always been part of OEFFA's culture that farmers teach other farmers.

If you are new to OEFFA and are referred by an OEFFA-certified farm or handler, receive a \$100 discount!

Include the name of the person who referred you to OEFFA on the fee sheet to apply the discount.



Ohio Ecological Food and Farm Association Certification

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