

Increase Oversight of the Global Organic Supply Chain to Ensure Integrity and Level the Playing Field for U.S. Farmers

Organic is a voluntary regulatory program that depends on a clear market distinction backed by a trusted, verified and enforced label. While U.S. organic production continues to grow, U.S. consumers' demand for organic products regularly outpaces domestic supply. Imports of organic products have continued to rise to meet this demand.

Organic grain imports primarily used in livestock feed grew by over 100% in recent years. Recent USDA investigations found that some imported organic commodities that entered the U.S. market had been fraudulent.

The Next Farm Bill Should:

- ✓ **“Protect the integrity of the USDA Organic certified seal and deliver efficient, effective oversight of organic production practices to ensure organic products meet consistent standards for all producers, domestic and foreign.”**

—Secretary Perdue in outlining USDA's 2018 Farm Bill and Legislative Principles

- ✓ Authorize annual funding for USDA's National Organic Program (NOP) to keep pace with industry growth.



- ✓ **Include \$5 million for NOP to update technology systems to modernize and improve international trade tracking systems and data collection.**

- ✓ Ensure effective oversight, robust investigations and enforcement across the entire supply chain.



- Establish Joint Compliance Working Groups. (i.e. Accredited Certifying Agents, State Organic Programs, and National Organic Program).

- Ensure coordination and access to available data cross border documentation systems



United States Department of Agriculture
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

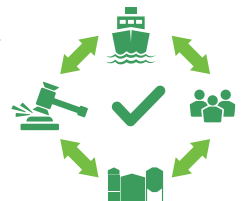


- Authority to require increased documentation under specific areas of concern.
- **Require all entities involved in the global organic supply chain such as ports, importers, brokers, and on-line auctions to become certified.**



- Increase authority for NOP over certifying agents and their global operations to require full accreditation audits of satellite offices annually.

- Require USDA to complete an annual compliance report to Congress on domestic and overseas investigations and actions taken.



ASK: Support The Organic Farmer and Consumer Protection Act

House: Cosponsor H.R. 3871 introduced by Representatives Faso (R-NY), Lujan Grisham (D-NM), Davis (R-IL), Blunt-Rochester (D-DE), Grothman (R-WI) and Soto (D-FL)

Senate: Support the Senator Baldwin (D-WI) bill and request that the Senate Agriculture Committee include it in the Farm Bill

U.S. ORGANIC TRADE DATA

- Exports of U.S. organic products were valued at \$565 million in 2017, up 2.5% compared to the previous year
- Imports of organic products to the U.S. reached \$2.08 billion, up 21% compared to 2016
- Currently there are 38 export and 48 import organic specific HS codes



Top 10 Countries for U.S. ORGANIC EXPORTS

Canada
Mexico
Taiwan
South Korea
Japan
Hong Kong
United Arab Emirates
Guatemala
China
United Kingdom

Top 10 Countries for U.S. ORGANIC IMPORTS

Mexico
Turkey
Brazil
Argentina
Spain
Italy
Peru
India
Ecuador
Canada

Top 10 U.S. ORGANIC EXPORTS

Apples
Lettuce
Strawberries
Grapes
Spinach
Carrots
Tomato Sauce
Berries
Cauliflower
Roasted Coffee



Top 10 U.S. ORGANIC IMPORTS

Soybeans
Coffee
Bananas
Extra Virgin Olive Oil
Avocado
Honey
Yellow Dent Corn
Sugar
Apples
Blueberries

