



Organic Labeling and Composition Guide

If you want to claim:

100% ORGANIC
(or similar statement)

§205.301 (a)

Product Content

- » Must contain 100% organically produced ingredients, excluding added water and salt².
- » Any processing aids used must be organic.

§205.303 (b)

Label Must

- » Show an ingredient statement when the product consists of more than one ingredient.
- » Show below the name and address of the handler of the finished product, the statement: **“Certified organic by ____”** or similar phrase, followed by the name of the Certifying Agent. Certifying Agent seals may not be used to satisfy this requirement.

IP

§205.303 (a)

Label May

- » The term “100 percent organic” to modify the product name. **PDP IP OP**
- » The term, “organic” to identify the organic ingredients¹. Water and salt included as ingredients must not be identified as organic. **IS**
- » The USDA organic seal and/or certifying agent seal(s). **PDP OP**
- » The certifying agent’s business, Internet address or telephone number. **IP**

§205.303 (a)

Label Must/May Not

- » Display the certifier seal more prominently than the USDA Seal.

Terms



Principal Display Panel



Ingredient Panel



Ingredient Statement



Other Panel

¹ To identify an ingredient as organically produced, in the ingredient statement use the word “organic” in conjunction with the name of the ingredient, an asterisk, or other reference mark defined below the ingredient statement.

² Salt cannot contain any additives or flow agents.

If you want to claim:

ORGANIC
(or similar statement)

§205.301 (b)

Product Content

- » Must contain at least 95% organic ingredients, not counting added water and salt.²
- » Must not contain added sulfites.
- » May contain up to 5% total of:
 - ◇ Non-organically produced agricultural ingredients which are listed on 205.606 AND not commercially available in organic form
 - ◇ Other substances allowed by 7 CFR 205.605
 - ◇ Non-organic substances must not be produced using ionizing irradiation, sewage sludge, excluded methods.
- » Any agricultural processing aids used must be organic or specifically listed on 205.606 and not commercially available
- » Cannot contain organic and non-organic forms of the same ingredient

§205.303 (b)

Label Must

- » Show an ingredient statement. List the organic ingredients as “organic” when other organic labeling is shown.¹ Water and salt included as ingredients must not be identified as organic. **IS**
- » Show below the name and address of the handler (bottler, distributor, importer, manufacturer, packer, processor, etc.) of the finished product, the statement: “**Certified organic by ___**” or similar phrase, followed by the name of the Certifying Agent. Certifying Agent seals may not be used to satisfy this requirement. **IP**

§205.303 (a)

Label May

- » Use the term “Organic” to modify the product name. **PDP IP OP**
- » Declare product organic percentage “X% organic” or “X% organic ingredients.” **PDP IP OP**
 - ◇ note: the size of the percentage statement must not exceed one-half the size of the largest type size on the panel and must all be in same font type, size, style and color.
- » The USDA Organic seal and/or certifying agent seal(s). **PDP OP**
- » The certifying agent’s business/ Internet address or telephone number. **IP**

§205.300

§205.303 (a)

Label Must/May Not

- » Use the term organic to modify a non-organic ingredient in the product (§205.300)
- » Display the certifier’s seal more prominently than the USDA Organic seal.

¹ To identify an ingredient as organically produced, in the ingredients statement use the word “organic” in conjunction with the name of the ingredient, an asterisk, or other reference mark defined below the ingredient statement.

² If your product contains more than 95% organic ingredients that uses a non-organic agricultural ingredient not listed on 205.606 or an ingredient listed on 205.605 with specific annotation only for “made with products”, your product may only qualify for “made with category.”

If you want to claim:

MADE WITH ORGANIC
(or similar statement)

§205.301 (c)

Product Content

- » Must contain at least 70% organic ingredients, excluding added water and salt.
- » Must not contain added sulfites; however, wine may contain added sulfur dioxide in accordance with 7 CFR 205.605.
- » May contain up to 30% total of:
 - ◊ Nonorganically produced agricultural ingredients without being limited to those on 7 CFR 205.606
 - ◊ Other substances allowed by 7 CFR 205.605.
 - ◊ Non-organic substances must not be produced using ionizing irradiation, sewage sludge, and excluded methods.
- » May contain organic and non-organic forms of the same ingredient

§205.304 (b)

Label Must

- » Show an ingredient statement.
- » List the organic ingredients as “organic” when other organic labeling is shown.¹ Water and salt included as ingredients must not be identified as organic. **IS**
- » Show below the name and address of the handler (bottler, distributor, importer, manufacturer, packer, processor, etc.) of the finished product, the statement: **“Certified organic by ____”** or similar phrase, followed by the name of the Certifying Agent. Certifying Agent seals may not be used to satisfy this requirement. **IP**
- » If stating “Made with organic (specified ingredients or food groups²).”
 - ◊ The entire statement must appear in the same font size style and color without highlighting and may only be one half the size of the largest type size on that panel.
 - ◊ Only three organic ingredients or three product group may be listed in this statement.
 - ◊ If specified food group is used, all ingredients in that food group in the product must be organic.

§205.304 (a)

Label May

- » The term “Made with organic (specified ingredients or food groups²).” **PDP IP OP**
- » Declare a percentage statement: “X% organic” or “X% organic ingredients.”, as long as the statement appears in its entirety in the same font size, style and color and cannot be more than one half the size of the largest font on that panel. If the percentage statement is used, a “Made with Organic (specified ingredients or food groups)” claim must also be made on the same panel. **PDP IP OP**
- » The certifying agent seal(s). **PDP OP**
- » The certifying agent business/ Internet address or telephone number. **IP**

§205.304 (c)

Label Must/May Not

- » Use the USDA Organic seal
- » Use company/brand names that includes the word “Organic” or similar phrase, or imply that the product is in the “Organic” category.³

¹ To identify an ingredient as organically produced, in the ingredient statement use the word “organic” in conjunction with the name of the ingredient, an asterisk, or other reference mark defined below the ingredient statement.

² Product groups allowed are: beans, fish, fruits, grains, herbs, meats, nuts, oils, poultry, seeds, spices, sweeteners, vegetables, and processed milk products

³ Company names that include “organic” or a variation of the word “organic” are only permitted to be listed on the information panel as part of the handler/distributor information

If you want to claim:

LESS THAN 70% ORGANIC INGREDIENTS
(or similar statement)

§205.301 (d)

Product Content

- » Any percentage of organic content
- » May contain over 30% of:
 - ◊ nonorganically produced agricultural ingredients; and/or
 - ◊ other substances, without being limited to those in 7 CFR 205.605 of 205.606

§205.305 (a)

Label Must

- » Identify organic ingredients as “organic” in the ingredient statement.¹ **IS**

§205.305 (a)

Label May

- » “X% organic ingredients” when organically produced ingredients are identified in the ingredient statement. **IP**

Label Must/May Not

- » Any other reference to organic contents.
- » The USDA Organic seal.
- » The certifying agent seal.
- » Refer to organic certification of ingredient or product

¹ To identify an ingredient as organically produced, in the ingredient statement use the word “organic” in conjunction with the name of the ingredient, an asterisk, or other reference mark defined below the ingredient statement.

² Your product could contain any amount of organically produced ingredients. However, the product is limited to this label category if materials not listed on 205.605 are used.

Note: a product certified in this category and containing less than 70% organic ingredients can be used as an ingredient in a manufactured product making and organic or made with claim as long as the non-organic ingredient portion is allowed in that organic or made with product category. If the less than 70% organic product is certified by an accredited certifier, the organic content of the product can be used to count toward the product composition requirements in the higher category.