



# OREGON TILTH LIVESTOCK FAQs

## **Do all of the animals on my farm have to be managed organically?**

No, it is possible to have a “split production” meaning some animals are managed organically and others are not. It is important to make sure organic animals are easily identifiable, organic health treatments and organic feeds are kept separately, records are in place to show all farm activities for both organic and conventional animals, and only organic feed and allowed health treatments are given to organic animals.

## **Why do I have to fill out two applications for organic livestock certification?**

Livestock operations manage pasture or crop ground as well as animals. Since there are two production systems, there must be an organic management plan in place for both. It is required that livestock operations fill out an Organic Crop Application and an Organic Livestock Application.

## **Is there a list of approved healthcare products I can use for my animals?**

Any health treatment for organic animals must contain allowed ingredients. Oregon Tilth must receive and review ingredient information prior to the product being used. Remember to submit the full ingredient statement as the guaranteed analysis does not represent the actual product ingredients. Two sources that do provide products approved for use are The Organic Materials Review Institute (OMRI) and the Washington State Department of Agriculture Organic Food Program.

## **Can non-organic animals be pastured on organic land?**

Yes, non-organic animals can graze certified organic land.



## **Can I convert my herd using the 80/20 provision, where I feed 20% conventional feed for 9 months of the animal's 12 month transition period?**

No, the National Organic Program Regulation was amended and that exception was discontinued on June 9, 2007. Organic dairy animals must be managed for 12 consecutive months on 100% organic feed to qualify for organic certification.

## **Do I need to use organic feed supplements, mineral mixes, and salt?**

Since salt cannot be certified organic, plain salt is allowed in organic production. Mineral mixes and feed supplements need to contain organic agricultural ingredients. Molasses, carriers (rice hulls, wheat midlings, grain byproducts, etc.), and other agricultural products like alfalfa meal or soy meal are required to be organic. It must also be verified that yeast, yeast products, and any bacteria products are not a genetically modified organism.