

**Hi Point Orchard
Mesa, WA
Site Visit – Tuesday, August 4, 2009**

Organic System Plan Questionnaire

Crop production

1. List the various crops produced organically.
2. Are there any varieties that are well-adapted to organic management? If so, what attributes do these varieties have that make them particularly suited for organic production?
3. Are cover crops used? If so, list cover crops grown and how they are used within the farm operation.

Soil Fertility and Nutrient Management:

1. What off-farm fertility inputs are applied to the orchards? What is the source of various inputs? When are they applied (i.e. month or season) and how often?
2. Explain the use and role of legume green manure crops in orchard alleys. Consider when they are planted, how they are managed and the perceived benefits.
3. List applicable sections of the National Organic Program standards:



Weed Management

1. What are the primary weed plant species on this farm?
2. What equipment / implements are used to control weeds? What time of year and during what stage of crop production are they used?
3. What is cultivation depth for implement(s) used? How many average passes per growing season for each implement? Describe any cultivation challenges.
4. Are any other weed control strategies (non-equipment) used? If yes, please describe?
5. List applicable sections of the National Organic Program standards:

Water Quality and Biodiversity:

1. Describe any water features on or adjacent to the farm site. Are they seasonal or year-round? Are adequate riparian buffers maintained?
2. What steps are taken to ensure farm practices and inputs used do not adversely impact water quality?
3. Describe wildlife habitat and biodiversity on the farm? What benefits to crop production might they provide?
4. List applicable sections of the National Organic Program standards:



Insect & Disease Pest Management:

1. What are the primary insect & disease pests for the various crops grown on this farm operation?
2. What are the major pest control strategies implemented? Consider preventative practices, monitoring system and inputs applied.
3. List applicable sections of the National Organic Program standards:

Contamination risk and avoidance

1. Describe neighboring land use on all borders of the farm.
2. Do any bordering land use activities present potential contamination risk to organic crops and/or acreage? If yes, are adequate buffers and/or other contamination avoidance measures in place? Please describe.
3. Is any equipment used on the farm also used for non-organic production? If so, what measures are taken to ensure contamination avoidance?
4. List applicable sections of the National Organic Program standards: