



The USDA has created two standards for USDA Organic Certification that is

Unfair. Unjust. Untransparent.



U.S. Requirements

- In nearly all cases, **every U.S. organic farm is inspected each year** by a USDA-accredited certifier who is trained and qualified to be an organic inspector. Farm inspections involve inspector field and farm building visits, farmer interviews, and review of farm records.
- The **USDA issues the organic crops certificate to the U.S. farmer.**
- **Farm traceability** – All U.S. organic farmers are identified to the public in the USDA’s “organic integrity” data base by name and address.



Foreign Requirements

- The **USDA waives the requirement for certifier inspections for nearly all foreign farms.**
- The **USDA issues the organic crops certificate to foreign agribusiness “handlers”** that purchase crops from small farmers. Farmers are required to enter into adherence contracts that make the farmers “captive” to sell only to the handler on terms and prices set by the handler.
- **No farm traceability** – the USDA database misidentifies thousands of foreign agribusiness handlers as grower–farmers. The actual farmers are not listed in the database and are invisible.

Fact: According to USDA statistics, total organic farm acreage in the U.S. has leveled and not increased significantly since 2015. According to the Organic Trade Association, total U.S. organic food and livestock feed sales have increased over 55% from \$43.4 billion in 2015 to \$67.6 billion in 2022. This growth is fueled by foreign agribusiness imports sourced from uninspected farms — at the expense of U.S. farmers.