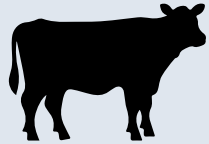


Organic Meats & Fiber

A Recordkeeping Checklist (*Beef, Lamb, Goat, & Pork*)



Animal Origin & Identification



- Keep a list of each of your animals – these are identification records for each animal using ear tags, digital IDs, ear tags, tattoos, breed & sex, etc
- Record breeding dates, births with Dam and Sire information; dates animals were purchased or sold, source/origin, IDs, certification status, breed & sex, and itemized receipts
- Origin documentation proving continuous organic management from last third of gestation - note dates arrived and management started
- Records demonstrating continuous organic management
- Records showing breeder stock arrived before last third of gestation if offspring are sold as organic
- Records identifying any animals treated with prohibited substances and documentation proving they and their products are not sold as organic

Feed & Nutrition



- Purchase records for all feed, labels, including organic certification of suppliers
- Pasture and forage production & Inventory records
- Feed additive and supplement documentation (must be on National List §205.603)
- Records showing 100% organic feed ration, seasonal ration changes, including grazing
- Document the total feed ration for each type and class of animal - calculate dry matter demand & intake

Healthcare & Welfare



- Animal ID, symptoms/diagnosis, date of treatment, product name and active ingredients, dosage and route, vaccination records (preventive and allowed), veterinary prescription/authorization (if required), treatment administrator, and documented vet visits with reasons
- Preventive practices, fecal monitoring, emergency protocols, and documentation showing acceptable methods were tried before any allowed treatments; emergency use only for parasiticides (prohibited in slaughter stock per §205.603)
- Receipts and labels for healthcare products, supplements, and bedding, including organic certificates when applicable
- Compliance with meat withdrawal periods for allowed substances (§205.603), records showing milk from treated animals not sold as organic or fed to organic livestock, and clear identification of animals/products permanently removed from organic status due to prohibited substances (e.g., antibiotics, non-allowed synthetics)
- Temporary confinement records (start/end dates and reason), physical alterations performed for welfare/ID/safety, animals euthanized, and documentation of animals treated with prohibited substances

Organic Meats & Fiber

A Recordkeeping Checklist (*Beef, Lamb, Goat, & Pork*)

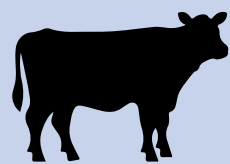


Housing & Living Conditions



- Documentation showing animals have continuous access to outdoors, exercise areas, fresh air, direct sunlight, shade, shelter, and clean drinking water
- Records demonstrating adequate space and appropriate indoor and outdoor design to meet animal health and welfare needs, including temperature, ventilation, and air circulation monitoring records for housing facilities
- Bedding type and source records; organic certification required when bedding is edible/roughage
- Routine cleaning, maintenance, and sanitation records for animal housing and facilities
- Documentation of vegetative cover maintenance on outdoor soil areas
- Record of temporary confinement with dates, animals affected, and reason of any periods of temporary confinement

Pasture Practices & Crop Field Activity



- Pasture management plan demonstrating pasture as a managed crop
- Pasture rotation schedules and maps - location, name, size, fences, shade, water access
- Records showing minimum 30% dry matter intake (DMI) from pasture during grazing season
- Grazing season dates and duration, movement, including daily grazing records throughout grazing season
- Documentation of pasture management compliance (§§205.240)
- Pasture soil amendments and fertility records within organic compliance (§§205.203)
- Keep field activity logs (planting, inputs, cultivating, harvesting, etc.) (§§205.203)
- Order and document any seed purchase and search for pasture and field crops (must be organic or documented unavailability) (§§205.204)
- Buffer zone documentation, if applicable
- Record amount of feed harvested, amount, and from which fields
- Pest management records for pasture

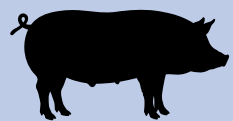
This checklist serves as an organic certification record keeping reference. Use it to stay organized throughout the year and prepared for inspections. You may not need every record listed—focus on those that reflect your operation's activities. Consult the current version of 7 CFR Part 205 at [ecfr.gov](https://www.ecfr.gov) and your Accredited Certification Agency (ACA) to understand which records are necessary for your ACA and inspector to fully understand your operation. This document does not substitute for legal advice or official regulatory guidance.

Organic Meats & Fiber

A Recordkeeping Checklist *(Beef, Lamb, Goat, & Pork)*



Transport & Slaughter



- Transport logs including:
 - Departure and arrival times
 - Condition of animals
 - Transporter identity
- Labeled as organic for the duration of transport
- Emergency transport plans for animal welfare incidents
- Records showing hides are tanned at a certified organic Tannery for certified organic sales
- Records showing wool is processed at a GOTS facility for certified organic sales
- Slaughter records, if applicable

Sales



- Keep sales records for all livestock products (live animal, meat sales, hides & fiber products)
- Sales invoices describing product as “organic”
- Records linking each animal/product to its organic management and origin
- Buyer certifications or verification of organic status
- Keep records for traceability and mass balance inspection audits

Organic System Plan & Inspection



- Update the Organic System Plan by due date, annually
- Complete the certification fee reimbursement application (usually through FSA or Dept of Ag)
- Gather all records for your annual organic inspection ahead of time
- Be sure you have a comprehensive audit trail linking animal origin → management → feed → health care → sale
- Retain all records for at least 5 years
- Documentation preventing commingling with nonorganic animals/products
- Training records for staff responsible for organic livestock

This checklist serves as an organic certification record keeping reference. Use it to stay organized throughout the year and prepared for inspections. You may not need every record listed—focus on those that reflect your operation's activities. Consult the current version of 7 CFR Part 205 at ecfr.gov and your Accredited Certification Agency (ACA) to understand which records are necessary for your ACA and inspector to fully understand your operation. This document does not substitute for legal advice or official regulatory guidance.



United States Department of Agriculture
Agricultural Marketing Service
National Organic Program
Transition to Organic Partnership Program

