

USDA Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) National Organic Program (NOP)

Fruit and Vegetable Industry Advisory Committee Meeting

Lesley Ett
Assistant to the Deputy Administrator
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Presentation Overview



- Transition to Organic Partnership Program (TOPP)
- Strengthening Organic Enforcement (SOE)
- Organic Trade Association (OTA)

Organic Transition Initiative



Transition to Organic Partnership Program (\$100 M)

- Farmer-to-Farmer Mentoring
- Technical Assistance
- Community Development
- Workforce Development
- Data and Reporting

Direct Support: Conservation and Crop Insurance (\$100 M)

- Conservation Support for Transitioning Farmers (NRCS)
- Crop Insurance Assistance for Transitional Organic Growers (RMA)

Pinpointed Organic Market Development (Up to \$100 M)

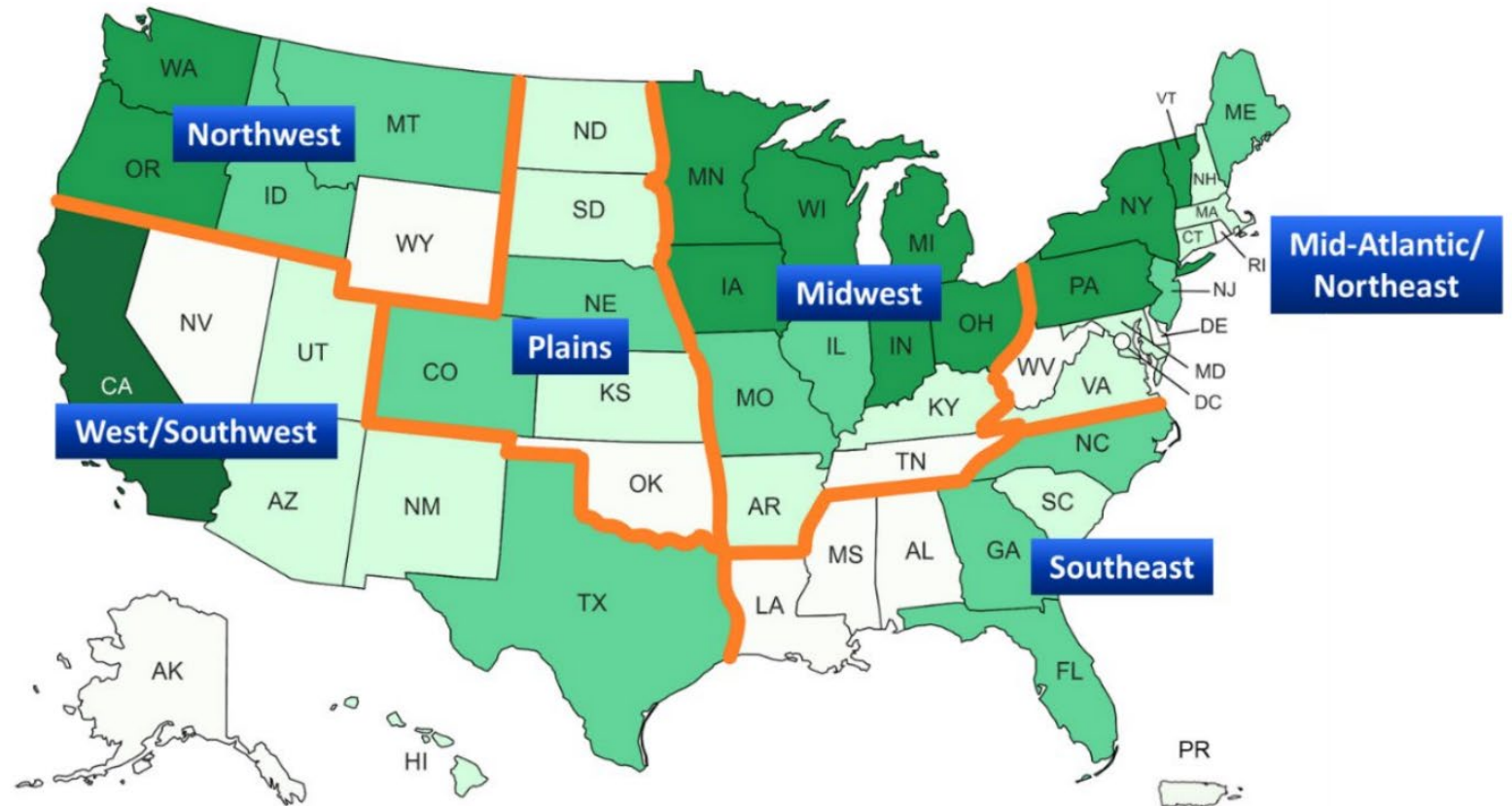
- Support Innovation by building organic supply chains in targeted markets

Transition to Organic Partnership Program (TOPP)



Transition to Organic Partnership Program (\$100 M)

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- Workforce Development
- Data and Reporting



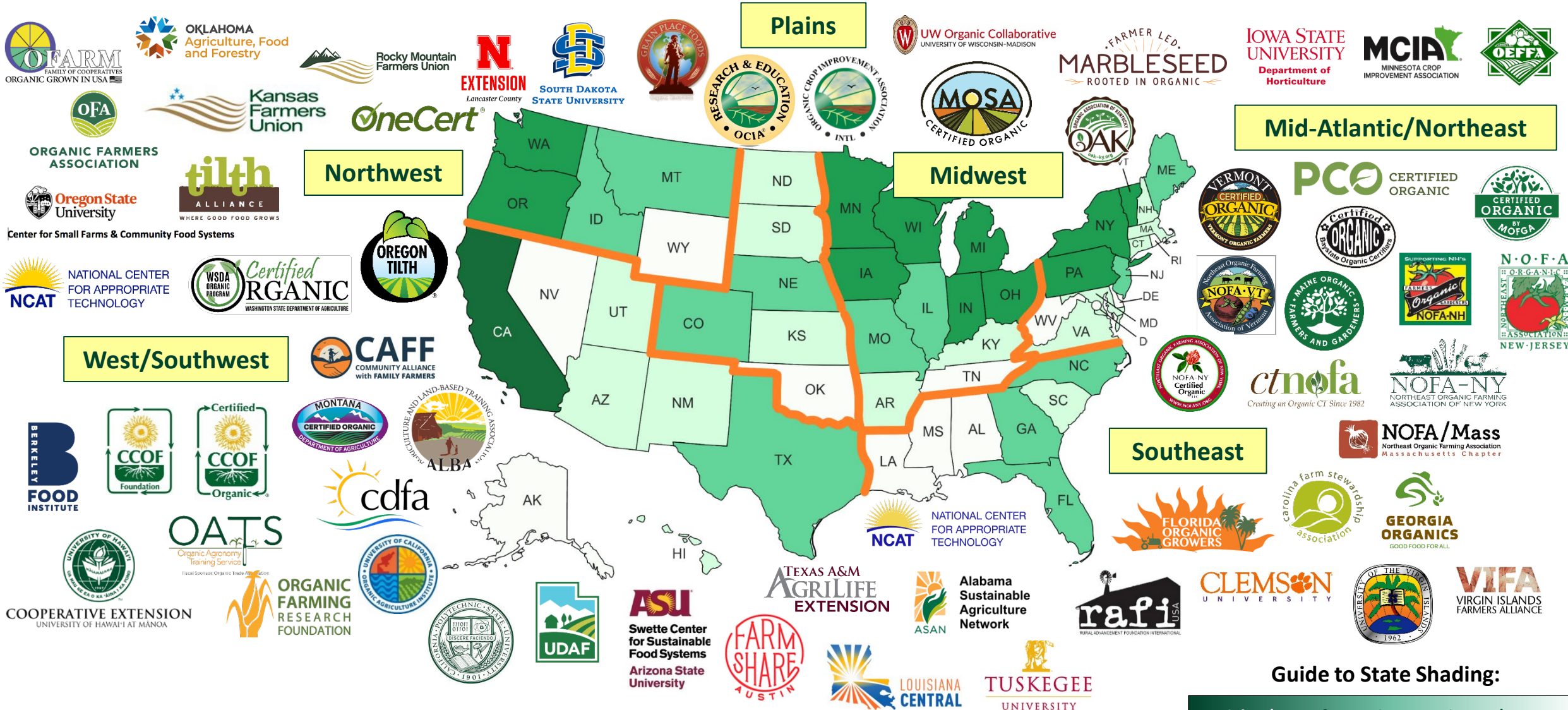
<https://www.ams.usda.gov/services/organic-certification/topp>



Organic Transition Initiative (OTI) Transition to Organic Partnership Program (TOPP) Regions



This map shows many of the organizations helping to establish the TOPP partnership network (October 2022)



Strengthening Organic Enforcement Final Rule



Reduce the number of uncertified entities



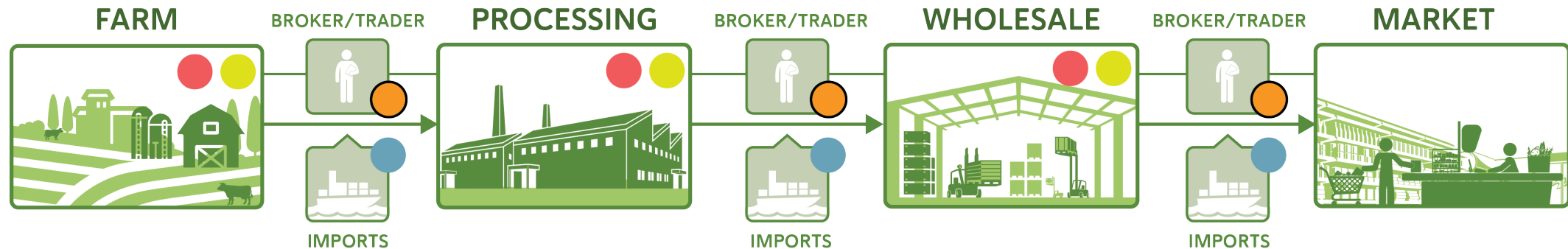
Strengthen recordkeeping and supply chain traceability



Require use of electronic import certificates



Strengthen oversight of accredited certifying agents



- **GOAL: Protect organic integrity and bolster consumer confidence in the USDA organic seal**

Why Is SOE Needed?



Organic supply chains have become increasingly complex, leading to **documented cases of organic fraud and gaps in oversight.**



SOE implements provisions from the **2018 Farm Bill.**



The SOE final rule implements many **National Organic Standards Board** recommendations.

Who Does SOE Affect?



USDA accredited certifiers



Organic inspectors



Brokers, traders, exporters,
and importers who are not
certified organic



Producers



Processors



Consumers

OTA 2023 Organic Industry Survey



- The Organic Trade Association (OTA) has launched the 2023 Organic Industry Survey.
- Your participation is essential to accurately represent organic's contribution to the national economy and help continue to build confidence in this sector
- The survey closes on March 21.



United States Department of Agriculture
National Organic Program
Phone: 202-720-3252
Nopguidance@usda.gov

Questions?

To learn more about TOPP, please visit:

www.ams.usda.gov/services/organic-certification/topp

To see if you are affected by SOE, please read the full rule
available at:

www.federalregister.gov/public-inspection/2023-00702/national-organic-program-strengthening-organic-enforcement

OTA 2023 Organic Industry Survey:

https://informa.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_5jVVKRnMTWQCnGu