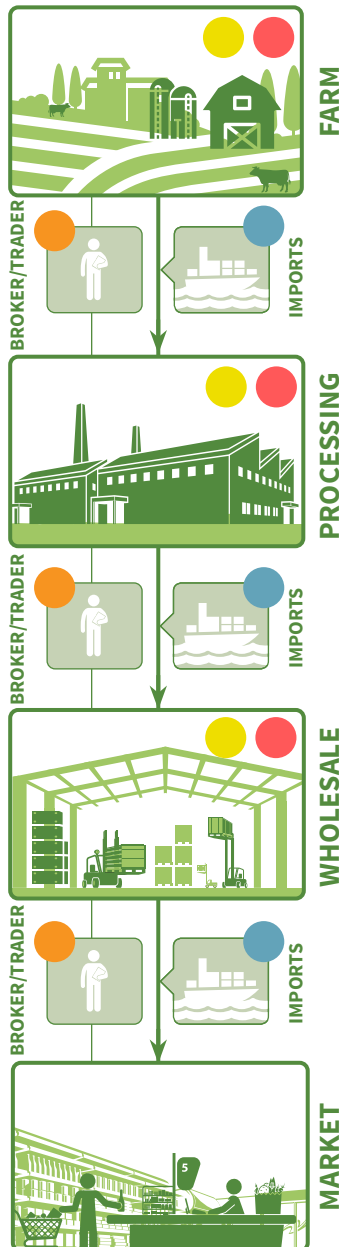


Safeguarding Organic Supply Chains




The National Organic Program (NOP) is updating its regulations to support continued growth of the organic market and improve oversight at critical links in organic supply chains.



What does the rule **do**?

-  Reduce the types of businesses exempt from organic certification
-  Require electronic NOP Import Certificates for all organic products entering the United States
-  Clarify recordkeeping and fraud prevention procedures to improve supply chain traceability
-  Standardize requirements for on-site inspection of organic operations to strengthen oversight



How does the organic industry **benefit**?

-  Stronger tools and processes to help ensure compliance
-  Robust and consistent enforcement of the organic regulations
-  Improved farm to market traceability

-  Strong consumer and farmer trust in the organic label
-  Level playing field for organic farms and businesses

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What does the rule **do**?



Reduce the types of businesses exempt from organic certification

The proposed rule requires organic certification of businesses that:

- Buy or sell organic products
- Negotiate sales of organic products between buyers and sellers

Businesses that may need organic certification include brokers, traders, importers, and exporters. Some businesses in the organic supply chain, such as retailers and transporters, may not need organic certification.



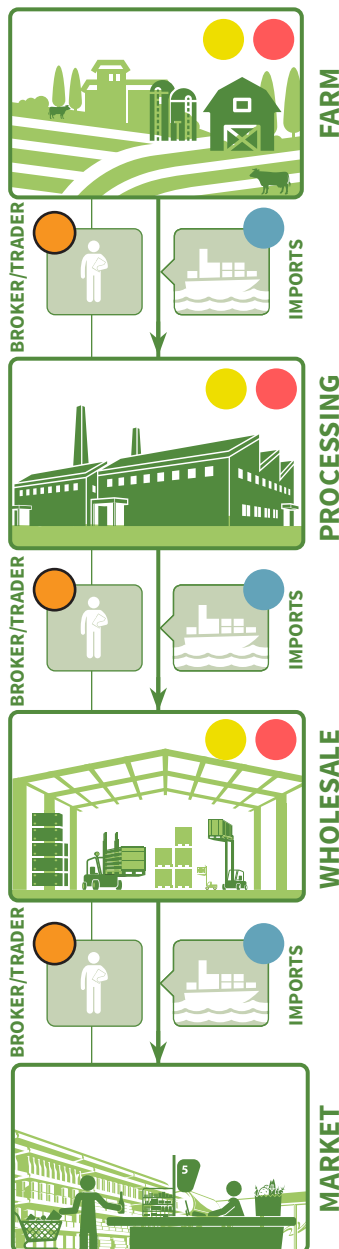
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Require electronic NOP Import Certificates for all organic products entering the United States

The proposed rule requires the creation and review of NOP Import Certificates for each shipment:

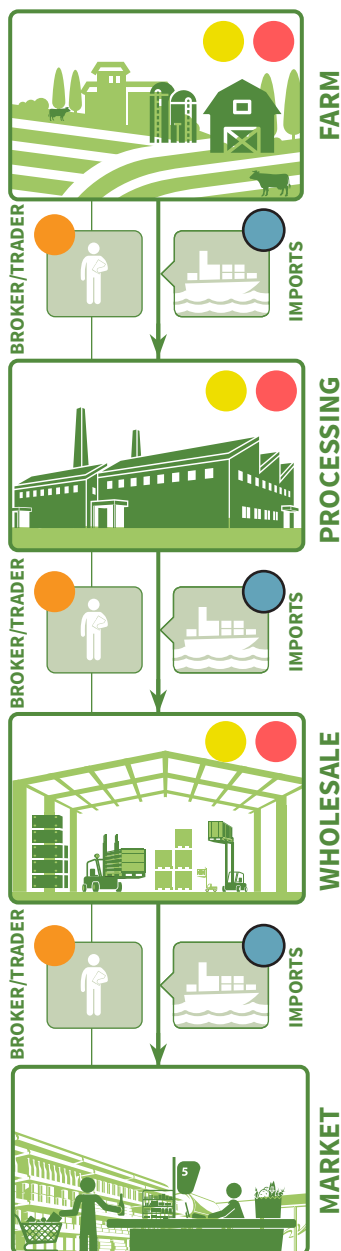
- An exporter must request an import certificate from their certifier
- The certifier must review the request and issue the import certificate
- The importer must verify that the shipment matches the associated import certificate
- Data from the import certificate must be uploaded into the U.S. Customs and Border Protection's Automated Commercial Environment (ACE)



Clarify recordkeeping and fraud prevention procedures to improve supply chain traceability



Standardize requirements for on-site inspection of organic operations to strengthen oversight



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Stronger tools and processes to help ensure compliance



Robust and consistent enforcement of the organic regulations



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Clarify recordkeeping and fraud prevention procedures to improve supply chain traceability

The proposed rule ensures **certified organic operations**:

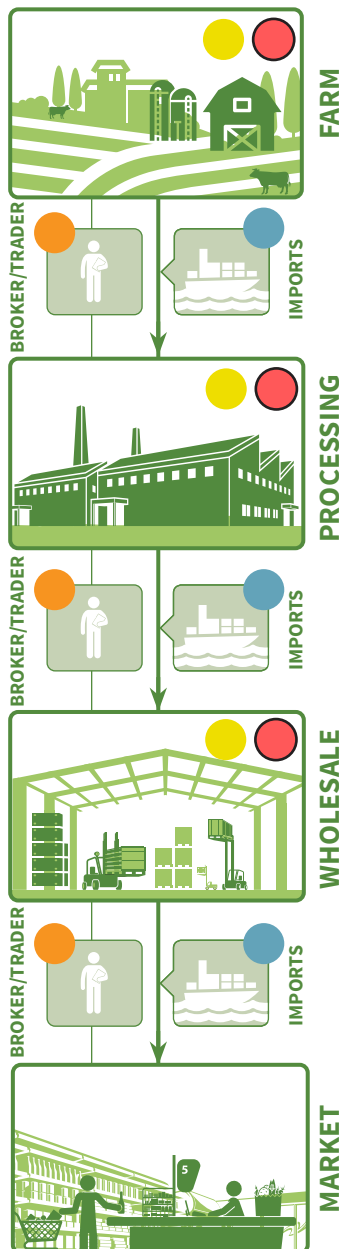
- Maintain records that document a product's source and chain of custody across the supply chain
- Clearly identify products as organic on all records and labels
- Document the monitoring practices used to prevent fraud and verify suppliers and products

The proposed rule ensures **USDA-accredited certifiers**:

- Describe the procedures they use to identify operations and products at high risk of organic fraud
- Conduct supply chain audits to verify the origin and chain of custody of high-risk products
- Share compliance-related information about certified operations with other certifiers



Standardize requirements for on-site inspection of organic operations to strengthen oversight



How does the organic industry **benefit**?



Stronger tools and processes to help ensure compliance



Robust and consistent enforcement of the organic regulations



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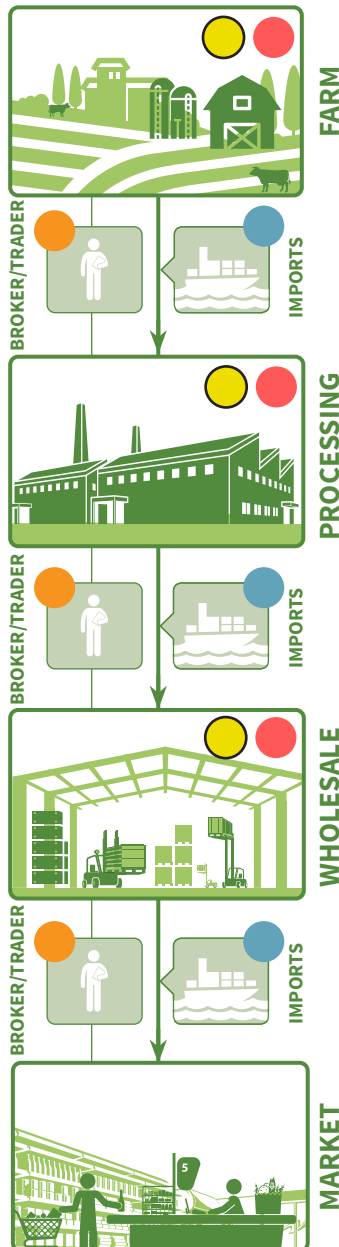
 Require electronic NOP Import Certificates for all organic products entering the United States

 Clarify recordkeeping and fraud prevention procedures to improve supply chain traceability

Standardize requirements for on-site inspection of organic operations to strengthen oversight

The proposed rule ensures **USDA-accredited certifiers**:

- Conduct unannounced inspections of at least 5% of the operations they certify annually
- Conduct mass-balance and trace-back audits during on-site inspections
- Use inspectors that meet minimum training, experience, and education requirements
- Implement consistent practices to inspect grower groups



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