



THE ORGANIC PLUS TRUST INC.

THE CERTIFIED GRASS-FED ORGANIC LIVESTOCK PROGRAM™

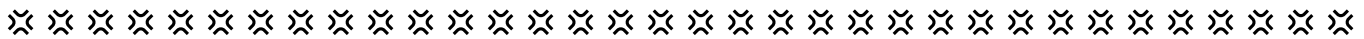


ORGANIC PLUS TRUST, INC. (OPT) is a public benefit company dedicated to the improvement of human, livestock, and environmental health. OPT builds upon existing federal organic production and handling standards to meet growing business and consumer preferences.

OPEN-SOURCE PROGRAMS OPT's principal activity is the cooperative development of production and handling standards, and supply chain oversight mechanisms, that innovate upon existing requirements for certified organic operations and accredited certifying agents.

- OPT certification programs are open to any qualified entity;
- OPT accreditation is open to any federally accredited certifying agent;
- OPT standards are developed through transparent stakeholder processes;
- OPT program standards are open source. [Find them on our website!](#)

THE TRUST MARK. OPT programs are backed by a robust seal representing enhanced product attributes and advanced oversight mechanisms.



OPT GRASS-FED ORGANIC LIVESTOCK PROGRAM

GRASS-FED ORGANIC is the first ever, national, third party verified grass-fed certification program directly linked with organic certification. This seal is rapidly growing in recognition. **We are excited to have you grow with us!**

VERIFIED Many organic certification agencies are accredited to the GRASS-FED ORGANIC standards. Accredited certifiers follow strict federal regulatory National Organic Program regulations. They build on this model to verify GRASS-FED ORGANIC.

TRUSTED Many stakeholder including organic certifiers, processors, farmers, nutritionist and industry representatives developed the standards and policies for GRASS-FED ORGANIC. You can be rest assured this standard was developed with integrity and strict protocols.

PREMIER PARTNERS

Find the GRASS-FED ORGANIC seal on products by leading Grass-fed, Organic brands: Organic Valley, Maple Hill Creamery and Natural by Nature, Alexandre Family Farm, and more!

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GRASS-FED ORGANIC KEY PRODUCTION AND HANDLING BENCHMARKS

- **ORGANIC FOUNDATION.** Organic certification is a prerequisite to certification under this program.
- **NO GRAIN.** Livestock consume a diet of high-quality forages (pasture and hay). Feeding grain to certified animals is not allowed.
- **FEED IS GRAZED AND HARVESTED FORAGE.** To qualify, an operation must have a grazing season not less than 150 days a year and high-quality seasonal pasture that provides an average of 60 percent of an animal's dry matter intake. During the non-grazing season feed is composed of harvested forages and vegetative-state cereal crops. Minor feedstuffs necessary to maintain rumen health and nutritional stability may include other plant products that are not grain.
- **STRICT PASTURE MANAGEMENT.** Operations must have a pasture management plan to maintain and improve farm bioresources and maintain animal well-being.
- **ANIMAL WELLNESS MANAGEMENT.** Certified operations must undergo mandatory third-party wellness evaluations.
- **END TO END CERTIFICATION.** The OPT Seal means complete supply chain oversight, from livestock sourcing to handling and final packaging. Grass-Fed Organic dairy and meat products are always segregated from non-compliant products to assure a consistent, correct standard of identity.
- **NATIONAL NETWORK OF QUALIFIED CERTIFIERS.** Only federally accredited certifying agents may apply to receive OPT accreditation to conduct certification under the Certified Grass-Fed Organic Livestock Program™. This network is the professional, scalable and the preeminent pool of certification expertise.

GET STARTED TODAY!

STEP ONE: Are you eligible? Have a look at the [OPT Dairy & Meat standards and program manual](#)! See if you qualify!

STEP TWO: Are you already certified organic? Ask your certifier if they are Accredited to the OPT Grass-fed standards! Or check [this list](#) to see if your certifier is accredited. If not, ask them if they would consider becoming accredited and we would be happy to assist them.

STEP THREE: Submit an application with your organic certifier! They will bundle your organic and grass-fed inspection OR offer an out of cycle inspection for initial GRASS-FED ORGANIC certification!

STEP FOUR: Once certified, we can offer a licensing agreement for use of the **VERIFIED & TRUSTED** GFO seal! Begin marketing your products as certified GRASS-FED ORGANIC!

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