
• Jan. 28-29, 2012 Guelph Organic Expo •

Organic Exhibitor Terms & Conditions

• Guelph University Centre • <www.guelphorganicconf.ca>

SPECIAL NOTE: to all Organic Expo participants - approval of your space is subject to the decision of the board of Organic Food Conferences Canada. We will consider each & every application on its own merits.

June, 2011 - BACKGROUND - over the years, the Conference managers were asked to justify "who is allowed to exhibit in this Trade Show" - thus, these Terms & Conditions were developed to answer that question. We want to present a consistent image to the public, to federal organic food regulators, to organic food producers and processors, as well as to the media. The COR - the Canada Organic Régime came into force as of July 2009 and the 2-year 'Stream of Commerce' phase-in ends July 1/11, so we are bound to represent "organics" fairly, clearly, legally. The rules and guidelines below help all of us to communicate a consistent message.

COMPLIANCE TO THE CANADA ORGANIC PRODUCTS REGULATION IS REQUESTED FROM ALL PARTICIPANTS. CAN YOU, IN FACT, COMPLY WITH THE FOLLOWING ???

All Expo exhibitors who sell 'organic food products' in this Expo are expected to use certified organic production (and processing) for their product lines. This is our goal: to have 100% of the food products in the Expo as "CERTIFIED ORGANIC" ! However, as explained below, several other organic farming, processing and contingency categories exist.

- **Effective deadline - today:** these terms apply to all exhibitor applications received for the 2012 Organic Expo. All Expo participants must comply to the best of their ability.
 - **Products:** all products claiming to be 'organic' must be certified BY A CFIA ACCREDITED CERTIFIER or recognized under an organic trade arrangement with a foreign competent authority under the Organic Products Regulations, 2009. Processed product must be certified and the certifier's name or applicable seal must be visible." Please submit your current, valid certificate with the booth application.
 - **Exemptions:** if your product is not certified or if not certifiable in its current form, we reserve the right to exclude you from the Expo. However, approvals may be made on a case-by-case basis. If you do, in fact, exhibit in the Expo with conditional approval for these (transitional) products, you must display clear, explanatory signage at your booth. For instance: "this product is not currently certified organic, though we have applied for certification (i.e. certification pending). XX % of the raw ingredients used in the product are certified." Anticipated certification date: ____
 - **Agricultural/farm inputs:** 'input products & substances' used in certified organic farm production must be in accordance with the "Permitted Substances List" (PSL) as referenced by the Canada Organic Product Regulation. Your product or substance must be approved according to the PSL and/or approved by an accredited organic certifier with your applicable certificate or the certifier attestation/approval letter visible. To grow Canadian organic crops, your product must be approved to the PSL. If your product is directly approved by an accredited certification body for use in Canada, a copy of your certificate will verify that fact. No
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testimonial from a non-accredited consulting body is accepted. 'Un-approved input use' can affect the certification of all growers in this Expo, where they buy non-compliant products, whose use can result in loss of organic status for •fields, •entire farm or for •products.

- **Ag inputs which are non-registered, non-certified or non-compliant to Canada's PSL:** these are excluded from the Expo. They pose a liability risk to you and to our Conference Committee by risking loss of organic status for fields, farm or products.
- **Fair trade:** must also be certified organic or show a clear time line for certification.
- **Seeds:** seed producers, handlers or vendors must either be currently selling certified organic seeds; or, must be certified as a trading enterprise (seed cleaner, etc.). Alternatively, your enterprise must give a valid and tangible reason why the seed is not yet available as 'organic.' Alternatively, you must provide a statement outlining why the seed is still transitional with a firm date for certification. If you sell only non-certified organic or untreated seed, we reserve the right to refuse you space in the Expo unless you have a tangible and verifiable reason for maintaining this status.

Small seed grower-packer-vendors: low cost organic certification is available through one or more certifiers. All seed vendors currently in the Expo are certified.

- **Hemp:** certified organic hemp products are widely available, thus your hemp must be certified to be in the Expo.
- **Wildcrafting:** within the 'certified' category, we must know what wildcrafting practices you follow and which certifier supervises your operation. If your handling, blending, mixing, etc. are not certified, please send a statement on how and when you plan to get certified. Wildcrafting exhibitor approval is on a case-by-case basis.
- **Other categories making organic claims:** the Committee welcomes other important categories which may currently function outside the regulation, such as pet food, textiles, cotton, cosmetics, soaps, retailers, restaurants, etc. Though not yet included in the scope of the current Canadian organic regulation, they may be covered by a private organic certification such as a Global Organic Textile Standard, or others. We will consider your product if you are following an industry best practice, or if you have a 3rd party certification, or can provide other data. Approval to exhibit will proceed on a case-by-case basis, overseen by our board-authorized group called the "Certification Oversight Sub-Committee."
- **Trade associations, services, groups, movements, methodologies, belief systems - without organic in their title:** every year, we are asked to accept groups whose organic link is marginal. If you feel you belong in the 2012 Organic Expo, please send a policy statement right away confirming your relationship to organic foods, organic farming, organic processing, etc.,. For instance: "as an educational body, we support the promotion of organic foods as a way to enhance human nutrition..." or "our work supports sustainable food production."

Your written concerns will be transmitted immediately to our board and to the Certification Oversight Sub-Committee for review. We have sincerely tried to cover every eventuality but yours may be a 'special organic case'... so please tell us about it. Organically yours !

Tomás Nimmo

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