

A holistic agriculture certification encompassing pasture-based animal welfare, fairness for farmers and workers, and robust requirements for soil health and land management.

Regenerative Organic Certification builds upon the near 100-year legacy of organic movement visionaries like J. I. Rodale and Dr. Rudolf Steiner and provides stepwise guidance for farming and ranching operations, transportation, slaughter, and processing facilities that produce food, cosmetics, and fiber. It is essential to farm in a way that enriches rather than degrades the soil, and values animals and workers. Regenerative Organic Certification leverages existing high-bar organic, animal welfare, and social fairness certifications, and includes additional regenerative requirements.

GOALS

- Increase soil organic matter over time, and potentially sequester carbon in the soil
- Improve animal welfare
- Provide economic stability and fairness for farmers, ranchers, and workers
- Create resilient regional ecosystems and communities



Three Pillars

Soil Health*

- No/low Tillage
- Cover Crops
- Crop Rotations
- Rotational Grazing
- No Synthetic Inputs
- No GMOs or Gene Editing
- Promotes Biodiversity
- Builds Soil Organic Matter
- No Soilless Systems

* Leverages USDA Organic, Biodynamic, etc.

Animal Welfare*

- Five Freedoms
- Grass-Fed / Pasture-Raised
- No CAFOs
- Suitable Shelter
- Minimum Transport Distances

* Leverages GAP 4+, AWA, Cert. Humane, etc.

Social Fairness*

- Living Wages
- No Child Labor
- No Forced Labor
- Maximum Working Hours
- Fair Pricing for Buyers/Farmers
- Long-Term Commitments

* Leverages AJP, Fair Trade, FFL, SPP, etc.

If you are interested in reviewing and commenting on the Regenerative Organic Certification requirements, please refer to standards.nsf.org/apps/group_public/document.php?document_id=39305 and contact Jessica Evans, Director of Standards Development at NSF International at jevans@nsf.org or 734-913-5774.

Abridged list of contributors to the creation of Regenerative Organic Certification:

