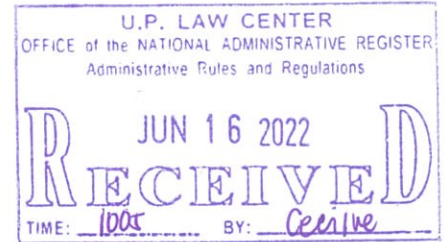




Republic of the Philippines  
**OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY**  
Elliptical Road, Diliman  
1100 Quezon City

**DEPARTMENT CIRCULAR**

No. 05  
Series of 2022



**SUBJECT: UNIFIED SET OF RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR THE REGISTRATION OF ORGANIC PRODUCERS, PRODUCE AND INPUTS**

**WHEREAS**, Republic Act No. 11511 (RA No. 11511), an Act amending the Organic Agriculture Act of 2010, reaffirms the policy of the State to promote, propagate, develop further and implement the practice of organic agriculture in the Philippines;

**WHEREAS**, Section 17 of the Organic Agriculture Act of 2010, as amended by the RA No. 11511 mandates the Bureau of Agriculture and Fisheries Standards (BAFS), Bureau Plant Industry (BPI), Bureau of Animal Industry (BAI) and Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR) on the registration of organic producers, produce, and inputs within their purview;

**WHEREAS**, Section 17 of the amended Organic Agriculture Act of 2010, further requires the BAFS, BPI, BAI, and BFAR to come up with a single unified set of rules and regulations for the registration of organic produce and inputs; and

**IN VIEW THEREOF**, this Circular provides the *Unified Set of Rules and Regulations for the Registration of Organic Producers, Produce, and Inputs*.

**ARTICLE I  
OBJECTIVES**

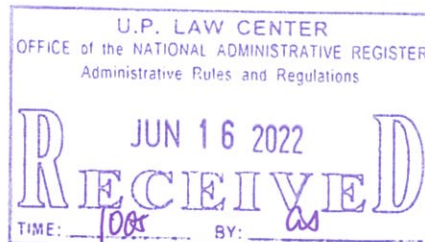
- Section 1. This Circular aims to:
- 1.1. Set the unified rules and regulations for the registration of organic producers, produce, and inputs; and
  - 1.2. Establish and maintain the Organic Agriculture Registry System (OARS) for organic producers, produce, and inputs.

  
**BERNABE L. TALISAN**  
Administrative Officer III  
Records Division

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**ARTICLE II**  
**SCOPE AND LIMITATIONS**

Section 1. This Circular shall cover the following Regulatory Agencies under the Department of Agriculture (DA-RA) with the corresponding scope of registration:

AGENCY	SCOPES
a. Bureau of Agriculture and Fisheries Standards (BAFS)	Integrated organic farms, organic soil amendments, and organic biocontrol agents
b. Bureau of Plant Industry (BPI)	Organic seeds, planting materials, and crops
c. Bureau of Animal Industry (BAI)	Organic apiculture, livestock and poultry and its feeds
d. Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR)	Organic fisheries and aquaculture resources and organic aquaculture feeds

Section 2. This Circular shall not cover the following:

- 2.1. Existing relevant rules and regulations on accreditation, certification, licensing, product registration, and other regulatory functions of the BAFS, BPI, BAI, and BFAR; and
- 2.2. Product registration of organic pre-packaged and processed food of the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) of the Department of Health (DOH).

**ARTICLE III**  
**DEFINITION OF TERMS**

Section 1. For the purposes of this Circular, the following terms are defined as follows:

- 1.1. *Certificate of Registration* refers to a written attestation provided by BAFS to the organic producers listed in the registry database.

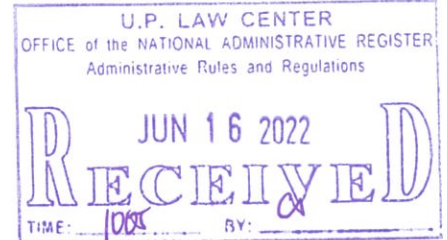


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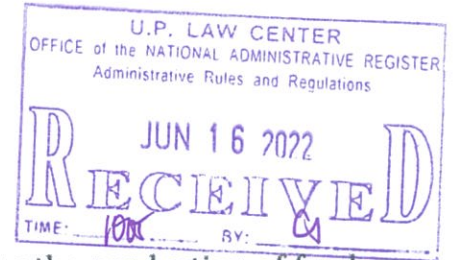


- 1.2. *Integrated organic farm* refers to a production system practicing a combination of any two or more scopes defined in the applicable current Philippine National Standards (PNS) for organic agriculture (OA) (crop production, animal production, inputs, beekeeping, special products, processed products, and aquaculture), and certified by a BAFS-accredited organic certifying body.
- 1.3. *Organic* refers to the particular farming and processing systems described in the standards and not in the classical chemical sense. The term "organic" is synonymous in other languages to "biological" or "ecological." It is also a labeling term that denotes products considered organic based on the PNS for OA.
- 1.4. *Organic Certificate/Participatory Organic Certificate* refers to a documentary proof that a producer/produce/input is compliant with the requirements, standards and norms of organic farming/agriculture issued by a BAFS-accredited organic certifying body, and hereinafter referred to as "Organic Certificate (OC)".
- 1.5. *Organic fisheries and aquaculture resources* refer to fish, all other aquatic flora and fauna, and other living resources of the aquatic environment, certified by a BAFS-accredited organic certifying body.
- 1.6. *Organic inputs* refer to materials/products necessary for organic agriculture production and processing such as but not limited to seeds, biocontrol agents, soil amendments, feeds, feed ingredients, feed supplements, feed additives, base mixes, concentrates, specialty feeds, special feed nutrient preparations and other feed products, which are used to comply with the requirements of an applicable current PNS for OA, and certified by a BAFS-accredited organic certifying body.
- 1.7. *Organic produce* refers to any agricultural produce from an organic farm certified by a BAFS-accredited organic certifying body according to an applicable current PNS for OA.
- 1.8. *Organic producer* refers to a farm or business enterprise that is engaged in the production, manufacturing, distribution, trade of organic agriculture produce and inputs; and issued with an Organic Certificate by a BAFS-accredited organic certifying body.



  
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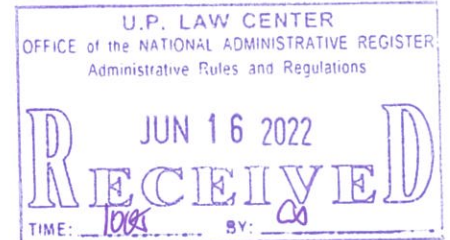
- 1.9. *Organic seed* refers to planting materials used for the production of food, forage, fibers, industrial crops, oil, flowers, grasses, herbs and aquatic plants, including but not limited to meristem, and clonal propagules such as tubers, corms, and micro-propagated plantlets, and certified by a BAFS-accredited organic certifying body.
- 1.10. *Product Registration* refers to the authorization embodied in a document granted by a DA regulatory agency to a person for a product, after evaluation and approval process as required by existing laws, rules and regulations, prior to manufacture, importation, exportation, sale, offer for sale, distribution, transfer, and where applicable, direct use, testing, promotion advertisement, and for sponsorship. This term shall be differentiated from the term, "Registration", to denote product approval.
- 1.11. *Registration* refers to the process wherein a DA regulatory agency records the information on a product, a person, or establishment engaged in the production, manufacturing, trade, and distribution of agricultural and fishery commodities in an official system.
- Section 2. Other relevant terms as defined in RA 10068, as amended by RA 11511 and its IRR, are adopted by this Circular.

#### ARTICLE IV GENERAL PROVISIONS

- Section 1. Only producers, produce, and inputs issued with Organic Certificate (OC) by the BAFS-accredited organic certifying body (OCB) are qualified for enrollment to the OARS.
- Section 2. There shall be a unified process for registering the organic producers, produce, and inputs. However, compliance to other applicable laws, rules, and regulations shall be considered a prerequisite to registration for the following producers and inputs:
- Organic biocontrol agents;
  - Organic feeds, feed ingredients, feed supplements, feed additives, base mixes, concentrates, specialty feeds, special feed nutrient preparations, and other feed products;
  - Organic seeds; and
  - Organic dairy farms.







The above-cited producers and inputs shall be only registered in OARS upon recommendation by the relevant DA-RA.

Section 3. The registration of organic producers, produce and inputs shall be processed through the OARS. The OARS shall be established and maintained by the BAFS.

**ARTICLE V**  
**REQUIREMENTS AND PROCEDURES FOR REGISTRATION**

Section 1. The BAFS-accredited OCB shall enroll the information of certified organic producers and produce/input in the OARS within three (3) working days after the date of issuance of the OC. However, BAFS shall make the entry if BAFS-accredited OCB failed to enroll the information in the OARS due to any valid circumstances and/or upon receipt of enrollment request from the certified organic producer.

Section 2. BAFS shall assess the enrolled information on organic producers, produce and inputs within eight (8) working hours upon enrollment by the BAFS-accredited OCB in the OARS.

Section 3. A Certificate of Registration (COR) shall be generated in the OARS for the enrolled organic producer and produce/input within eight (8) working hours upon verification of the enrolled information.

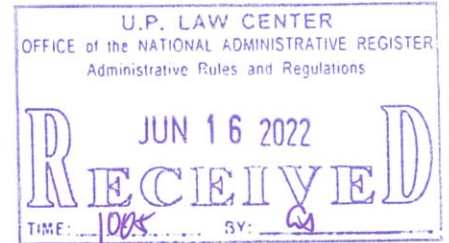
However, for organic producers, produce or inputs covered by other applicable laws, rules and regulations of the relevant DA-RA, the BAFS shall notify the relevant DA-RA on the enrolled organic producer and produce or input for registration within eight (8) working hours upon verification of the enrolled information. The DA-RA shall provide BAFS either of the following feedback through the OARS within three (3) working days upon receipt of BAFS notification:

- a. Recommendation for the continuous processing of registration, together with the regulatory issuance as proof of compliance to existing applicable laws, rules and regulations; or
- b. Recommendation to hold in abeyance the registration of the organic producer, produce, or input until further notice of compliance from the relevant DA-RA.





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Non-submission of any recommendation by the relevant DA-RA to BAFS within three (3) working days shall be deemed an approval of the enrolled information. Thereafter, a COR shall be generated by BAFS through the OARS.

Section 4. Procedure and processing time for the registration of organic producers, produce, and inputs appear in *Annex A*.

#### ARTICLE VI CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION

Section 1. The COR shall be made available in the OARS for access by the registered producer and reference by the general stakeholders. The COR template appears in *Annex B*.

Section 2. The validity of registration shall follow the validity of the OC issued by the BAFS-accredited OCB.

#### ARTICLE VII ESTABLISHMENT AND MAINTENANCE OF THE ORGANIC AGRICULTURE REGISTRY SYSTEM (OARS) OF ORGANIC PRODUCERS, PRODUCE, AND INPUTS

Section 1. The BAFS shall establish and maintain the OARS of organic producers, produce, and inputs in collaboration with BPI, BAI, and BFAR.

Section 2. The BAFS, BAI, BFAR, and BPI shall ensure the accessibility and dissemination of the OARS to other relevant offices and institutions, and organic agriculture stakeholders.

Section 3. The BAFS, BPI, BAI, and BFAR shall ensure their compliance with the obligations laid down in the Data Privacy Act of 2012 and other relevant laws and issuances of the National Privacy Commission.



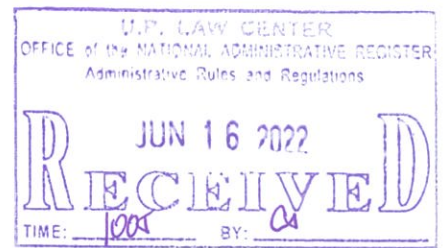
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**ARTICLE VIII**  
**DELISTING OF ORGANIC PRODUCERS, PRODUCE, AND INPUTS FROM THE ORGANIC AGRICULTURE REGISTRY SYSTEM (OARS)**

- Section 1. Organic producers, produce, and inputs shall be delisted from the OARS in any of the following grounds:
- a. Expiration or revocation of OC; and
  - b. Expiration or revocation of other applicable regulatory issuance upon notification from relevant DA-RA.

**ARTICLE IX**  
**ANNEXES**

The annexes, or any part thereof, referred to in this Circular is deemed an integral part of this Circular.

**ARTICLE X**  
**SEPARABILITY CLAUSE**

If any provision of this Circular is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the other provisions not affected thereby shall remain valid and subsisting.

**ARTICLE XI**  
**REPEALING CLAUSE**

Department Circular (DC) No. 03, Series of 2015 (*Rules and Regulations on the Registration of Establishments of Primary and Postharvest Organic Food and Non-Food Products*), DC No. 11, Series of 2018 (*Transition Period for the Registration of Establishments of Primary and Postharvest Organic Food and Non-Food Products*), and all prior issuances, rules, regulations, or part thereof, which are inconsistent with this Circular, are hereby repealed accordingly.

**ARTICLE XII**  
**AMENDMENT CLAUSE**

This Circular shall be reviewed as deemed necessary by the National Organic Agriculture Board (NOAB). Amendments shall consider significant changes to legal, market, or standards development.

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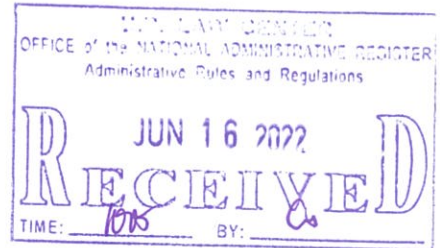


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**ARTICLE XIII  
 EFFECTIVITY**

This Circular shall take effect after fifteen (15) days following the completion of its publication in the Official Gazette or a newspaper of general circulation, and its filing with the National Administrative Register of the University of the Philippines Law Center.

Done this 9th day of June 2022.

APPROVED BY:

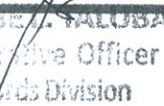
  
**WILLIAM D. DAR, Ph.D.**  
 Secretary



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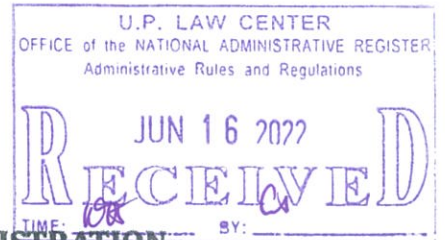
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 Administrative Officer III  
 Records Division

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**ANNEX A**  
**PROCEDURE AND PROCESSING TIME FOR THE REGISTRATION**  
**OF ORGANIC PRODUCERS, PRODUCE, AND INPUTS**

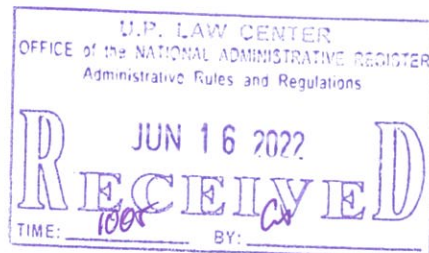
Step	Activity	By	To	Processing Time	Remarks
1	Enroll information of the certified organic producer and produce/input	BAFS-accredited OCB	Organic Agriculture Registry System (OARS)	within 3 working days	The enrollment shall be done after the date of issuance of the OC.
2	Assess enrolled information	BAFS-Organic Agriculture Division (OAD)	N/A	within 8 working hours	The assessment shall commence upon enrollment by the BAFS-accredited OCB in the OARS.  Steps 2.1 and 2.2 are not applicable if the organic producers, produce and inputs are not covered by other applicable laws, rules and regulations of relevant DA-RA.
	2.1. Notify if the organic producer, produce or input is covered by other applicable laws, rules and regulations	BAFS-OAD	DA-Regulatory Agency (RA)	within 8 working hours	Notification to relevant DA-RA shall only be done if the organic producer, produce or input is covered by their applicable laws, rules and regulations.
	2.2. Recommend whether to continue or hold in abeyance the registration	DA-RA	BAFS-OAD	within 3 working days	BAFS-OAD shall update the OARS immediately upon receipt of DA-RA notice of compliance.
3	Generate Certificate of Registration (COR)	BAFS-OAD via OARS	N/A	within 8 working hours	BAFS shall make sure the availability of COR in the OARS for access by the registered organic producer, and reference of the general stakeholders.



*[Signature]*  
**BERNARD TALLERAN**  
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**ANNEX B**  
**TEMPLATE FOR CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION (COR)**

DA Header

**CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION**

*This certificate is issued to*  
**[Farm/Company Name]**  
*with address at*  
**[Farm/Company Address]**

This registration is being issued pursuant to *DA Department Circular No. \_\_\_\_, Series of 2022*, with compliance to organic agriculture-related *Philippine National Standards (PNS)*, by the Bureau of Agriculture and Fisheries Standards (BAFS).


Registry Identification :  
 Date of Issue :  
 Valid Until :  
 Registration Scope :  
 Organic Produce/Input :

(Computer-generated Unique Code)

**Disclaimer:**

*This certificate is computer generated; no signature is required. It is issued by BAFS for whatever purpose it may serve. It may be subjected to change without prior notice as deemed necessary. For concerns related to this certificate, please contact BAFS-Organic Agriculture Division through \_\_\_\_\_.*

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 Administrative Officer III

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