

1400 Independence Avenue SW. Room 4008-South Building Washington, DC 20250 NOP 5003 Original Issue: October 3, 2006 Distribution: Public

## **Dairy Animal Acquisition under the NOP Regulations**

## **Purpose**

This document is for use by National Organic Program (NOP) producers and certifying agents in determining what classes of dairy animals are appropriate for acquisition under the NOP regulations. These guidelines only clarify existing NOP regulations and will be updated as the regulations are revised.

If You:	Then You May Acquire the Following Class(es) of
	Dairy Animals:
Were certified organic prior to October 21, 2002.	<ol> <li>Conventional (Note: Conversion using the 80-20 exemption must be complete by June 9, 2007);*</li> <li>Converted feeding 100% organic feed;**</li> <li>Converted under 80-20;**</li> <li>Organic from last 3<sup>rd</sup> of gestation;**</li> <li>Born of an organic mother;**</li> </ol>
Were certified organic after October 21, 2002, and fed 100% organic feed during conversion.	<ol> <li>Conventional (Note: Conversion using the 80-20 exemption must be complete by June 9, 2007);*</li> <li>Converted feeding 100% organic feed;**</li> <li>Converted under 80-20; **</li> <li>Organic from last 3<sup>rd</sup> of gestation;**</li> <li>Born of an organic mother. **</li> </ol>
Were certified organic after October 21, 2002, and converted using the 80-20 feed exemption.	Organic from last 3 <sup>rd</sup> of gestation.**
Are currently in transition to organic and feeding 100% organic feed during the 12-month dairy animal conversion period.	None. You must complete certification before adding animals from off your farm to your herd. Any organic animal that leaves a certified operation loses its organic status when it enters a non-certified operation.
Are currently in transition to organic and converting using the 80-20 feed exemption during the 12-month dairy animal conversion period.	None. You must complete certification before adding animals from off your farm to your herd. Any organic animal that leaves a certified operation loses its organic status when it enters a non-certified operation.
Are currently in transition to organic and feeding crops and forage from land, in your organic systems plan, that is in the third year of organic management during the 12-month dairy animal conversion period.	None. You must complete certification before adding animals from off your farm to your herd. Any organic animal that leaves a certified operation loses its organic status when it enters a non-certified operation.
Are a new dairy, certified, with no dairy animals	<ol> <li>Conventional (Note: Conversion using the 80-20 exemption must be complete by June 9, 2007);*</li> <li>Converted feeding 100% organic feed;**</li> <li>Converted under 80-20;**</li> <li>Organic from last 3<sup>rd</sup> of gestation;**</li> <li>Born of an organic mother.**</li> </ol>

<sup>\*</sup>Milk from these animals eligible to be labeled as organic after 12 months of continuous organic management.

**Approval** 

Mark A. Bradley

Associate Deputy Administrator

**National Organic Program** 

<sup>\*\*</sup>Milk from these animals is immediately eligible to be labeled as organic.