



GCIA Organic E-News

July 2020

GCIA certified organic clients,

Please see the email below from the USDA National Organic Program (NOP) regarding the use of cannabidiol (CBD) in food products and dietary supplements – in particular, the highlighted section. Further questions regarding the use CBD in organic products should be directed to USDA NOP.

From: John Reid, USDA NOP

Sent: Wednesday, July 8, 2020 10:16 AM

Subject: U.S. FDA Policy: CBD Prohibited in Food and Supplements

Dear Accredited Certifiers,

The NOP is sharing updated information from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regarding cannabidiol (CBD). The FDA is working to answer questions about the science, safety, and quality of products containing cannabis-derived compounds, particularly CBD. FDA is aware that some companies are marketing food products and products labeled as dietary supplements that contain cannabis or cannabis-derived compounds in ways that violate the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act (FD&C Act).

Per the FD&C Act, it is currently illegal to market CBD by adding it to food or labeling it as a dietary supplement. For more information, please see <https://www.fda.gov/media/131878/download>.

If you certify a producer or handler who is selling CBD as a food additive or dietary supplement in the U.S., please make them aware of these requirements, to avoid having their names – and yours – on illegal products in the U.S.

Sincerely,

USDA | National Organic Program

1400 Independence Avenue SW | 2649-S | Washington DC 20250

Main: (202) 720-3252 |

UPDATE: Organic Inspections & COVID-19

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, we have continued to schedule and conduct onsite inspections as best as possible. However, we understand that some of our clients may have policies or directives in place which do not allow for outside visitors, etc. We will continue to address such circumstances as they arise and will do our best to cooperate with our clients accordingly. Should you have questions or concerns, please contact the GCIA office or your inspector.

Annual Renewal Date

Organic renewal applications and fees are due in the GCIA office on the anniversary date of the issuance of the initial Organic Certificate. In addition to the Organic System Plan and supporting documentation, you are required to submit payment of your annual fees on your renewal date. A fee estimate letter will be provided to you 30 days in advance of your annual renewal deadline. Failure to submit all relevant documentation AND fees will result in a noncompliance.

Organic E-News

To view past editions of Organic E-News, you will find them archived [HERE](#). If you have suggestions or comments regarding E-News, please let us know. Should you have any questions or need further information, please contact our organic staff at the office (706-542-2351) or via email:

Johnny Luke, Organic Program Manager (johnny.luke@georgiacrop.com)

Jeanne Gonzales, Organic Program Assistant (jeanne.gonzales@georgiacrop.com)

Billie Dunn, Outside Services Program Assistant (billie.dunn@georgiacrop.com)

Please be sure to visit the [GCIA Organic Program website](#) for additional resources.