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About INTEGRITY

Welcome to the **Organic INTEGRITY Database!** INTEGRITY is a comprehensive list of certified organic operations that:

- · Contains up-to-date information about operations that may and may not sell organic agricultural products;
- Increases supply chain transparency for buyers and sellers;
- · Promotes market visibility for organic operations; and
- Improves access to information for industry and public users.

Only certified operations can sell, label, or represent agricultural products as organic, unless exempt from certification. You may search for a certified organic farm or business by name, or by specific characteristics such as:

- The operation's status: Certified, Surrendered, Revoked, or Suspended
- The scopes for which an operation is certified: Crops, Livestock, Wild Crops, or Handling
- The organic commodities and services that operations offer. (Refer to our <u>classification system</u> @ example.) Details about the NOP taxonomy can be found in the <u>INTEGRITY Categories and Items</u> @.

Site Data

Lists of certified operations come from accredited certifying agents (certifiers, or certification bodies, or control bodies). Certifiers can directly update certified operation data and products. *INTEGRITY* provides new and updated information as it is submitted. The source data is submitted using a <u>template</u> with extensive macros and validations to improve <u>data quality</u>. Monthly and annual data snapshots are provided on the <u>Data History</u> page.

A glossary of terms used in INTEGRITY Operation Profiles and a more technical data dictionary of are also available. Refer to our Frequently Asked Questions of for more information about using INTEGRITY.

Organic Equivalence/Trade Partner Modules

INTEGRITY has been expanded to include data for organic operations that are certified under the organic programs of countries with which the USDA has organic equivalence arrangements. The primary purpose of adding the Trade Partner modules to INTEGRITY is to allow certifiers to issue the NOP Import Certificate for organic products imported to the United States. Therefore, the operation list for each Trade Partner is not necessarily a comprehensive list of all operations certified under that country's organic program. Instead, it is primarily a list of those operations that export to the United States. Certifiers approved under equivalence partners' organic programs directly update certified operation data and products.

Our website provides more information about <u>USDA's Organic Equivalence arrangements</u> **27.**

Technical user resources, including customized data submission templates, are also available for Trade Partners on the User Resources page for logged-in users.

Investing in INTEGRITY Awards

Each year we honor USDA-accredited organic certifiers with the "Investing in INTEGRITY" award at our annual certifiers' training. The awardees are announced annually in the Organic Insider @.

The "Investing in INTEGRITY" award recognizes these certifiers for regularly providing accurate and comprehensive data on certified operations throughout the year. <u>Data quality minimum standards and best practices</u> a have been incorporated into Certifier Data Quality Profiles that help certifiers see what they are doing well with their data and shows where they could improve. With advancements in technology driving efficiencies and leading efforts to better customer service, INTEGRITY and its Data Quality Dashboard are guiding the organic industry on the path to success through improved data.

For Developers

The INTEGRITY API allows developers to incorporate USDA organic operation data into their applications. INTEGRITY offers SOAP/REST access to get a download of all organic operations in the system in XML format. The INTEGRITY Developers. page provides further instructions for developers.

About INTEGRITY Organic Acreage Reports

Organic acreage reports based on operation-level acreage data are provided by some certifiers. Use these reports for estimates of total USDA certified organic acreage at the country and state level. Organic crop and wild crop acreage and livestock information for a subset of certified organic operations is also included.

Acreage data were previously collected through Organic Certifier Surveys conducted by other agencies. The <u>INTEGRITY Organic Certifier Survey Guide</u> & describes different historical data sets and crosswalks *INTEGRITY*'s categories and commodities with USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) commodity categories. <u>Access information</u> & about NASS reports for 2014 and 2015 on the <u>NASS Organic</u> & Agriculture. Access prior reports by USDA's Economic Research Service on the <u>ERS Organic page</u> &.

Enhancements and Fixes

INTEGRITY functionality is being enhanced on a regular basis based on feedback from our users. The INTEGRITY System Release Notes & document provides information on recent improvements and enhancements made to INTEGRITY.

About the INTEGRITY Team

INTEGRITY was made possible through funding in the 2014 Farm Bill. The initial core functionality of the system was built in less than a year, with its first release in place by the end of FY 2015 (September 2015). In June 2016, the INTEGRITY team won an AMS Administrator's Award for outstanding service delivery and in September 2016, the team was awarded a U.S. Department of Agriculture Secretary's Honor Award. The team competed as a finalist in the Igniting Innovation of Showcase sponsored by the American Council for Technology (ACT) and Industry Advisory Council (IAC) in April 2017 and won a place among the Flite 8

Want to learn more about INTEGRITY? Where it came from, what it does, and how it was built? In this new 6-min video, "Organic Integrity through Data Partnerships," the AMS team presents an overview of INTEGRITY.

Click picture to access video.



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