



Application for Farm Certification

Part one: the operation

1. Farm name:
2. Names of Owners and Managers:
3. Address of farm:
4. Phone #:
5. E-mail address/website:
6. Application submission date

Application for Certification Instructions:

This document is available electronically and can be completed on line and e-mailed to the Administrative Assistant for Demeter Canada at demetercanadainfo@gmail.com

The applicant should keep copies of all documents submitted to Demeter Canada.

Evaluation Procedure:

The inspector/evaluator will make observations regarding many of the same points that are asked in the **Application**. Filling out the application is an opportunity for recognizing potential deficiencies that can be corrected or adjusted by the time of the inspection.

The farm manager should accompany the inspector at the time of inspection so that details and explanations can be offered that might not be apparent to the inspector.

Application Preparation:

Answers and descriptions should be given in concise, clear statements. Please avoid superfluous information wherever possible, while including sufficient detail so that the points are understandable.

N/A is an appropriate answer for those items not relevant for the applicant operation.

It is advisable to include clearly marked photos to support your answer.

Terms:

The applicant should be familiar with all conditions of the *demeter* Production Standards, the Standards for Labeling of *demeter* products with the new *demeter* trademark logo, and all relevant or applicable sections of the International *demeter* Processing Standards as published and updated by Demeter International e.V. These Standards are available for downloading at www.demetercanada.ca

1. Application Category:

Are you applying for Dual Certification (indicate with an X) Ecocert Pro-cert
Other, name:

Expected certification categories applied for/acres:

Organic:

Demeter:

Total acres (including wasteland):

Total acres of crops to be certified:

2. Farm Acreage:

- a) Total acres owned:
- b) Total acres leased:
- c) Total acres farmed:
- d) Total acres for certification:

3. Farm Buildings:

Include square footage, use, occupancy (e.g. number of people/animals), major materials of construction and state of repair. Include a photo if possible.

- a. Residence(s):
- b. Temporary/seasonal housing:
- c. Barns:
- d. Greenhouse/cold-frame:
- e. Other structures:

Part two: farming

1. Fields:

- a) Crops/acres:

- b) Non-organic fields/acres:

- c) In conversion fields/acres:

2. Weed, Pest and Disease Management:

What do you do to control weeds, pests and disease?

3. Soil Conservation:

- a) Describe the general topography of the farm:

- b) Is there evidence of wind, water or other erosion? If yes, please describe.

- c) What methods are used to minimize erosion? Are there wind breaks? What cover crops are used to control erosion?

Soil Conservation cont'd

d) Describe all fallow situations, wasteland, etc.

e) Describe tillage practices. How do they relate to soil conservation?

4. Soil Building:

a) Describe the soil's tilth.

b) How is soil fertility maintained?

c) What is done to build organic matter and to increase biological activity in the soil?

4. Off-farm Inputs:

a) List all materials used for fertility, soil conditioning, plant protection etc.

Off-farm inputs cont'd

- b) Will any other off-farm inputs be used for this production cycle? If yes, what?

- c) Have you considered alternatives to using these inputs? What are the alternatives?

- d) What are your plans for future use of these inputs?

- e) Are buffers in place? Describe.

- f) Is the farm subject to mandatory weed or pest control applications by government agencies? If yes, describe.

- g) Do you take measures to avoid contamination of your farm from such activities, for example, by using “*no spraying*” signs or similar notification strategies?

- h) Is any aerial spraying conducted near your farm?

- i) How is your relationship with your neighbours?

- j) Describe any possible contamination of soils or water sources by equipment, chemicals, petroleum products or effluent wastes.

6. Harvest/Post Harvest:

- a) How is product harvested and stored?

- b) Describe all storage units including their construction their condition and labeling.

- c) What methods do you use to maintain the storage area?

- d) How is product separation maintained? Is product lot identified adequately?

- e) Are you using off farm storage facilities? If yes, describe your controls over your products at that facility.

- f) Describe any on-farm processing.

- g) In what type of package(s) does product leave the farm?

- h) How is the product transported from the farm?

7. Split Operation/Parallel Production:

- a) Is this a split operation, i.e. a farm with both organic and non-organic production?

- b) Are organic and non-organic (including in conversion) crops visually distinguishable from each other? If no, indicate which ones are not. Supply label samples from you file.

Split Operation/Parallel Production: cont'd

- c) List all off-farm inputs used in the non-organic crops production.

- d) Is there separate equipment for organic and non-organic crops? If no, describe cleaning procedures for all pieces involved and list any cleaning products used.

- e) How are harvests from non-organic and in conversion fields stored? Is there clear separation between these and certified organic goods?

8. Record Keeping:

- a) What is your source of seed/plant material?

- b) Are seeds certified organic? Non-GMO?

- c) Are seeds untreated?

- d) What types of field records are kept?

- e) What types of harvest records are kept?

- f) Are buffer harvests documented separately?

- g) What types of storage records exist?

- h) What type of lot coding system do you use? Does the system provide adequate information to allow traceability of the product through shipment and storage, back to the field of origin?

2. Biodynamic Awareness:

a) Describe the aesthetic appeal of your farm including architectural/landscape design, general diversity, unique visual and practical characteristics, etc.

b) What is your impression of the biodynamic awareness and interest of any farm workers and consumers?

c) What do you do to promote local awareness of biodynamics?

Part Four: Livestock

1. Stock:

a) Type and breed:

b) Sources of the animals:

c) Method(s) and examples(s) of identification.

2. Housing/Environment:

a) Describe the general condition of the animal environment.

b) Describe the housing/shelter and outdoor access during each season.

Housing/Environment cont'd

c) Describe management of pests, e.g. flies, rodents, etc.

d) Describe your interaction with the animals and the animals response to your presence/activities.

e) What is the stock rate?

How is this determined?

Dairy Animals:

a) How are the exercise needs of the dairy animals met?

b) How long are dairy animals confined each day?

c) Describe the extent of the pasture.

Swine:

a) Describe the gestation and farrowing system and environment

Feed and Supplements cont'd

- c.) List feed ingredients and their sources (obtain and provide certification information for purchased feeds).

Forages:

Grains:

Supplements (e.g. salt, minerals, vitamins, protein). Provide labels or exact product formulations for each item. Are efforts being made to provide supplements via forages (e.g. herbs, flowering herbage)?

Pastures:

- a) Describe the condition of the pastures.
- b) Are pastures under your management or are some of your animals grazing on land controlled by another operator?
- c) Describe the other operator's pasture management strategies (e.g. rotational grazing, moveable fencing)

Pastures cont'd

d) Are crop fields grazed? If yes, please describe.

e) Describe your contingency plan for feed shortage.

4. Water:

a) Describe your water sources for pasture and farmyard/barn.

b) Describe the potential for contamination of your water.

c) Has your water been tested, if yes, when and what for?

d) What were the results of the test? How did you confirm the results? Submit a copy of the test results, if available.

Managing Treated Animals:

a) What is your plan for dealing with treated animals?

b) Are treated animals identifiable?

Dairies:

a) How is mastitis managed?

b) Describe dry-off procedures.

Product Handling:

- a) Describe milking systems, egg handling systems or any on-farm handling of meat, fibre or other livestock products.

- b) Describe facilities sanitation strategies and all materials used.

7. Record Keeping

Please describe and verify the completeness of the following record keeping systems. Submit examples of each, if possible.

- a) Breeding and birth.

Record Keeping cont'd

b) Animal purchase.

c) Animal Sales.

d) Animal deaths.

e) Grain and forage purchase.

f) Feeding.

3. Crop Rotation:

- a) Please include a summary of your crop rotation plan for all production areas.

Summary comments and additional disclosures:

IN TESTIMONY THEREOF the farm manager(s) have signed that all of the above information is true and complete to the best of their knowledge and are hereby requesting application review, for the purpose of *demeter* certification (or conversion):

Manager (print name)

Manager (print name)

Signature

Signature

Date:

Date:

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