

Transitional Production Plan – Livestock

This Transitional Production Plan is for livestock producers transitioning to organic livestock production practices as part of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Organic Transition Initiative (OTI) Transition to Organic Partnership Program (TOPP).

“Organic” is a labeling term that refers to an agricultural product produced in accordance with federal law and regulations, published in the [Code of Federal Regulations, Part 205: National Organic Program](#). This plan represents the operation’s plan to comply with applicable organic livestock regulations. Only dairy animals may go through a one-time transition to organic milk production which must occur as part of the operation’s Organic System Plan and with certifier oversight.

The [Organic Integrity Database](#) (INTEGRITY), operated by the USDA Agricultural Marketing Service National Organic Program (NOP), is a registry of certified organic and transitional operations, including data provided by certifiers. For a transitional producer to have its operation listed as transitional in INTEGRITY, the producer must complete this Transitional Production Plan and have it reviewed/signed by a certifier. This will comply with the [USDA NOP Organic Integrity Database – Transitional Operation Reporting memo](#) issued to certifiers.

Livestock Producers – *complete all pages of this plan; sign this cover page; and submit your completed plan to a certifier for review.*

By signing this plan, I certify that all information is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. I agree to be listed in INTEGRITY as a transitional operation. Transitional operations listed in INTEGRITY will only be viewable by logged-in authorized USDA personnel, TOPP lead partner and certifier users. Transitional operations will not be viewable by the public. Transitional status does not mean that a producer will qualify for organic certification; that requires full compliance with the regulations as assessed by a certifier.

Transitional Producer Signature

Date

USDA-NOP Accredited Certifier – *review this completed plan and sign below.*

I have reviewed this plan according to the criteria contained in the Organic Integrity Database – Transitional Operation Reporting memo issued by USDA-NOP. The review confirms that the reported practices and materials in this transitional producer plan meet the requirements for transition as defined above, and the operation will be listed in INTEGRITY with “Transitional” status.

Signature of Reviewer

Date

Printed Name of Reviewer and Title

Printed Name of Accredited Certifier

Livestock Producer Contact Information

1. Operation Name:

2. Address(es):

Primary Physical Address

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Mailing Address

	City	State	Zip Code
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Billing Address

Street Address	City	State	Zip Code
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3. Contact Information:

Primary Contact	
First Name	Last Name
Phone Number	Email Address
Relationship to Operations	Preferred Language

Responsibly Connected Contact (if different)	
First Name	Last Name
Phone Number	Email Address
Relationship to Operations	Preferred Language

Additional Authorized Contact (if relevant)	
First Name	Last Name
Phone Number	Email Address
Relationship to Operations	Preferred Language

Introduction: Livestock Production

1. This plan requests information to demonstrate the ability to comply with the following regulatory requirements. The information listed below is a general guide for what can be anticipated in each section and does not reflect the comprehensive information required:

- a. **[Origin of Livestock §205.236](#)**
 - ☐ Quantity and types of animals planned for organic production
 - ☐ How animals are identified and traced in records throughout production
 - ☐ Planned livestock suppliers
 - ☐ Dairy animal transition plan (if applicable)
 - ☐ Breeding plans
- b. **[Livestock Feed §205.237](#)**
 - ☐ Feed rations for all classes of animals
 - ☐ A sample of feeding records to be maintained
 - ☐ Planned feed suppliers
 - ☐ List of feed additives/supplements
- c. **[Livestock Care and Production Practices §205.238](#)**
 - ☐ Planned healthcare materials to be administered to organic animals
 - ☐ A sample of medical treatment logs to be maintained
 - ☐ Plans for mitigating parasite infestation and lameness in animals
 - ☐ Plans to ensure prompt euthanasia of animals in specific circumstances
- d. **[Mammalian and Non-Avian Livestock Living Conditions §205.239](#)**
 - ☐ List of all housing structures
 - ☐ Plans for temporary confinement of animals
 - ☐ A sample of temporary confinement logs to be maintained
- e. **[Pasture Practice Standard §205.240](#)**
 - ☐ Typical start and end date to the grazing season
 - ☐ Pasture management practices to ensure compliance with feed requirements
 - ☐ A pasture map
- f. **[Avian Living Conditions §205.241](#)**
 - ☐ List of all housing structures
 - ☐ Indoor and outdoor housing specifications and stocking densities
 - ☐ Use of artificial lighting
 - ☐ Vegetation of outdoor access area
 - ☐ Plans for temporary confinement of animals
 - ☐ A sample of temporary confinement logs to be maintained
- g. **[Transport and Slaughter §205.242](#)**
 - ☐ Conditions provided to animals in transport
 - ☐ Emergency plans to ensure animal welfare during transport
 - ☐ Methods of slaughter
 - ☐ Compliance with applicable federal regulations pertaining to slaughter

2. Throughout this plan, the following items are directly linked to the USDA National Organic Program Standards. Please click on these links throughout the process for additional information:

- a. **[Definitions](#)**: These are bold and underlined, in green text.
- b. **[Standards and Resources](#)**: These are bold and underlined, in blue text.

The organic standards include definitions in [§205.2: Terms Defined](#).

3. Records are required for certifiers to review and verify an operation's compliance with the organic regulations. Throughout this plan, you will see a pencil icon  that indicates records are required.

4. What species of livestock are you raising organically?

If you are raising multiple species of livestock as organic, ensure this plan reflects all applicable practices for all species, OR complete a separate Transitional Production Plan - Livestock per species.

5. What products do you plan to sell as organic? Select all that apply:

- ☐ Meat
- ☐ Milk
- ☐ Eggs
- ☐ Live Animals
- ☐ Fiber
- ☐ Other:

Origin of Livestock: [§205.236](#)

1. List the animals you are managing organically:

Animal Type	Production <i>What product(s) would you like certified from these animals?</i>	Quantity <i>Approximately how many animals do you anticipate on-site at once?</i>	Source <i>From where are you obtaining these animals?</i>	Products to be sold/represented as certified organic? <i>Yes/No</i>	Livestock to be sold/represented as eligible for organic slaughter? <i>Yes/No</i>
Example: Laying Hens	Eggs	2,000	XYZ Hatchery	Yes	No
Example: Dairy Cows	Milk Meat	500	ABC Auction Yard	Yes	Yes

2. Organic traceability of animals.

2.1. Do your animals ever leave your operation for **grazing** and/or management at another operation?

Livestock that are removed from an organic operation and managed or handled on a nonorganic operation may not be sold, labeled, or represented as organic, per [§205.236\(b\)\(1\)](#).

- ☐ Yes. Your certifier will request additional information from you pertaining to the location, duration, and management of your animals' stay at other operations.
- ☐ No. All animals remain on-site for the duration of their lives, or until they are sent for processing.

2.2. How are animals identified, including identification of their organic status?

If you use ear tags or another numbering system to identify your animals (such as a flock ID), explain how the numbering system functions. Additionally, provide a description of how your records trace your animals from birth or purchase through your production system to final sale and how animals are identified if organic status changes.

Example: Animals to be represented as organic have an "O" at the start of their ear tag number. Calves are given the same ID number as their dam. I use a computer system to document birth dates, healthcare treatments and sales records.

2.3. How do you ensure your animals are managed organically from their last third of gestation, as required per [§205.236\(a\)](#)? Select all that apply:

- ☐ Not applicable, I only raise poultry, which must be managed organically since their second day of life.
- ☐ New animals will be sourced once transitioning land is eligible to be certified organic, if applicable. I will maintain documentation from the supplier attesting to the animals' last-third organic status.
- ☐ Animals are/will be born on-farm and I will have documentation attesting to their organic management from the last third of gestation.
- ☐ Other. Describe how records demonstrate that **animals are managed organically from their last third of gestation:**

2.4. List all suppliers of livestock you currently use and/or plan to use:

Note: Unless the operation is a first-time transitioning dairy with an approved plan to transition dairy animals, animals placed on transitioning land are not eligible for organic certification.

- ☐ I supply my own animals born on-farm.
- ☐ Suppliers are not yet determined.
- ☐ Planned suppliers are listed below:

Type of Livestock	Supplier	Supplier Certified? Y/N <i>Supplier is required to be certified unless sourcing animals for first-time dairy transition.</i>	Animals eligible for organic slaughter? Y/N <i>To be eligible, must:</i> <i>have been raised organically from their last third of gestation</i> <i>not treated with any synthetic dewormers</i> <i>(All poultry must be managed organically from their second day of life).</i>
Example: Beef Cattle	Blue Sky Organic Ranch	Yes	Yes
Example: Breeding Cows	Green Grass Dairy	No	No
Example: Day-Old Chicks	Chickadee Hatchery	No	Yes
Example: Pullets	Oceanside Pullets	Yes	Yes

2.5. If sourcing certified organic animals from other operations, how do you ensure the organic certificate is valid and verify organic slaughter eligibility, if applicable, at the time animals are acquired?

- ☐ I reference their current certification status in the [USDA NOP Organic Integrity Database](#).
- ☐ I request a current copy of their certificate that I maintain on file.
- ☐ Other. Describe your verification plan:

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3. Dairy Operations Only: If not a dairy operation, proceed to Question #4: Breeder Stock.

3.1. Has this operation ever been certified organic as a dairy operation?

- ☐ Yes, this operation has been certified organic as a dairy operation previously. This operation is not eligible to transition a new dairy herd at this time. Proceed to Question #4: Breeder Stock.
- ☐ No, this operation has never been certified organic as a dairy operation. This operation is eligible to transition animals as a new dairy herd, per specific requirements outlined in [§205.236\(a\)\(2\)](#).

3.2. Are you planning to **transition animals as a new dairy herd?**

- ☐ No. I will source new animals once the land described in my Transitional Production Plan - Crops is eligible to be certified organic. Proceed to Question #4: Breeder Stock.
- ☐ Yes, I plan to transition a dairy herd while the land described in my Transitional Production Plan – Crops is transitioning.
- ☐ Yes, I plan to transition a dairy herd and my land is certified organic.

3.3. List your planned transition timeline:

- Dairy animals must be under continuous organic management for at least 12 months immediately prior to production of organic milk or milk products, per [§205.236\(a\)\(2\)\(i\)](#).
- All dairy animals must end the transition at the same time, per [§205.236\(a\)\(2\)\(vi\)](#).
- Transitioned animals may only be used for milk and/or milk products. They cannot be sold for organic slaughter per [§205.236\(a\)\(2\)\(vii\)](#).

Start Date of Transition:		End Date of Transition:	
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3.4. Do you have a list of the animals you plan to transition?

- ☐ Yes. The list of transitioning animals is attached.
- ☐ Yes. A list of transitioning animals will be available for review by my inspector and certifier.

3.5. Are transitioning animals and/or their offspring consuming crops/forage/pasture from land in its third year of transition?

- ☐ No. Solely certified organic forages/pasture are being provided to transitioning animals and/or their offspring.
- ☐ Yes, **third-year transitional crops** described in my Transitional Production Plan - Crops will be provided to transitioning dairy animals during the last third of gestation and/or their offspring. *Offspring born during or after the 12-month transition period are transitioned animals if they consume third-year transitional crops during the transition or if the mother consumes third-year transitional crops during the offspring's last third of gestation, per [§205.236\(a\)\(2\)\(iv\)](#).*

3.6. How will your records and animal identification system clearly distinguish transitioned animals from those that have been managed organically from their last third of gestation?

(Example: transitioned animal ear tags will always begin with the number 8. I maintain a separate list of transitioned animals as well as separate sales records).

4. Breeder Stock.

Breeder stock must be managed organically throughout the last third of gestation and the lactation period during which time they may nurse their own offspring, per [§205.236\(a\)\(3\)\(ii\)](#).

4.1. Are you managing breeder stock as part of your herd?

- ☐ No. Proceed to Page #10: Livestock Feed.
- ☐ Yes, I manage breeder stock. They live on-farm year-round and are managed organically during their last third of gestation through lactation and nursing of their offspring, if not longer.
- ☐ Yes, I manage breeder stock. They are non-organic animals brought on-site for organic management no later than their last third of gestation, through lactation and nursing of their offspring, if not longer.
- ☐ Other. Describe your management of breeder stock:

4.2. When do you anticipate your breeder stock will be bred and have offspring?

- ☐ Breeding dates are not yet determined.



Required Record: *Maintain breeding dates, feed records, healthcare records and birthing records to document breeding dates and organic management of breeder stock during the last third of gestation. Additionally, demonstrate that these animals are identified and sold as nonorganic.*

- ☐ I anticipate the following breeding and parturition date range:

Approx. breeding date range:		Approx. start date range of last third of gestation:		Approx. parturition date range:	
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Livestock Feed: [§205.237](#)

1. Feed Ration.

Livestock must be provided with a total feed ration composed of agricultural products, including pasture and forage, that are organically produced and handled by operations certified to sell organic feed, per [§205.237\(a\)](#). Please review the regulations, per [§205.237\(b\)](#) for items that must not occur or be fed to organic livestock.

1.1. Non-ruminant Feed Ration: For each group of animals by stage of life and production, attach a planned feed ration. Example: For a layer operation, attach a separate ration for chicks, laying hens, etc.

- ☐ Not applicable. Only raising ruminant animals for organic production.
- ☐ Planned rations for non-ruminants are attached. These rations may change over time due to seasonal grazing changes and/or availability of feedstuffs. I will update my ration with my certifier as applicable.
- ☐ I do not yet have an established, planned feed ration for non-ruminant animals. I will work with my certifier to learn more about the components of a compliant feed ration. Proceed to Question #1.3: Feed as Fed.
- **Rations for poultry must include the following information:**
The percentage of DL-Methionine fed. Per 205.603(d)(1) synthetic DL-Methionine may be fed to poultry at maximum rates as averaged per ton of feed over the life of the flock. DL-Methionine fed must be recorded.

1.2 Ruminant Feed Ration: Attach a ration for each type and class of animal.

- ☐ Not applicable. Only raising non-ruminant animals. Proceed to Question #1.3: Feed as Fed.
- ☐ Rations for ruminants are attached.
- ☐ I do not yet have an established, planned feed ration for ruminant animals. I will work with my certifier to learn more about the components of a compliant feed ration. Proceed to Question #1.3: Feed as Fed.
- **Rations for ruminants must include the following information:**
 - All feed that is produced on-farm
 - All feed purchased from off-farm sources
 - The percentage of each feed type, including pasture, in the total ration
 - A [grazing season](#) ration and a non-grazing season ration
 - The ration must demonstrate that animals receive an average of at least 30% of their [dry matter intake](#) from grazing pasture throughout the grazing season, per [§205.237\(c\)\(1\)](#) and [\(c\)\(2\)](#).
 - The ration may demonstrate that animals in their finishing period receive less than 30% DMI from pasture when the finishing period corresponds with the grazing season, per [§205.239\(d\)](#).
 - If applicable, include the length of finishing period (*Must not exceed one-fifth (1/5) of the animal's total life or 120 days, whichever is shorter*).
 - [Dry Matter Demand](#) for each class of animal and the method for calculating dry matter demand. The NOP provides reference tables for dry matter demand [here](#).
 - The method for calculating dry matter intake from pasture.
 - The NOP provides a helpful worksheet to calculate dry matter intake from pasture during the grazing season [here](#).
 - For step-by-step written instructions provided by the NOP, visit [this link](#).

1.3. Feed as fed:

- Attach a sample of how you record the amount of each type of feed actually fed to each group of animals.
☐ A sample feed as fed record is attached.
- Attach a sample of how you record actual dry matter intake from grazing for each class of ruminant animals.
☐ A sample dry matter intake record is attached.

1.4. List all suppliers for each type of certified organic feed you are sourcing from off-farm, including organic roughages as bedding. (Attach additional sheets as needed).

☐ Not applicable, all feed will be harvested on-farm. Proceed to Question #2: Feed additives and supplements.

☐ Planned feed suppliers are not yet established. I will work with my certifier to ensure I source organic feed from approved suppliers. Proceed to Question #2: Feed additives and supplements.



Required Record: Maintain purchase records for all feed, including documentation that the feed is certified organic. If purchasing bulk, unpackaged feed such as hay, ensure records demonstrate that a certified operation was paid directly for the feed and include weight tags as applicable.

Feedstuff/ Organic Roughage for Bedding	Source
Example: Alfalfa Hay	Ron's Hay Sales LLC

1.5. How do you ensure the organic certificate is valid at the time feed is acquired?

- ☐ I reference their current certification status in the [USDA NOP Organic Integrity Database](#).
- ☐ I request a current copy of their certificate that I maintain on file.
- ☐ Other. Describe your verification plan:

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2. Feed additives and supplements.

- All materials must be reviewed and approved by your certifier prior to use.
- All agricultural ingredients included in the ingredients list for such additives and supplements must be certified organic, per [§205.237\(a\)](#).
- **Synthetic** substances allowed under [§205.603](#) and **nonsynthetic** substances not prohibited under [§205.604](#) may be used as feed additives and feed supplements

2.1. Provide a list of all planned feed additives and/or supplements:

Attach additional sheets as needed.

 **Required Record:** Maintain purchase records for all feed supplements and additives.

☐ Not applicable, no feed additives and/or supplements are planned for use.

Material Brand Name	Manufacturer	Reason for Use
Example: Close-Up Mineral ORG	BCD Animal Nutrition	Feed Supplement for Close-Ups

Livestock Care and Production Practices: §205.238

1. Preventive Practices.

1.1. Place a check in the first column of the table below for each preventive practice you implement:

	Requirement
	Selection of species and types of livestock with regard to suitability for site-specific conditions and resistance to prevalent diseases and parasites.
	Provision of a feed ration sufficient to meet nutritional requirements of the animal, including vitamins, minerals, proteins and/or amino acids, fatty acids, energy sources, and fiber (ruminants).
	Establishment of appropriate housing, pasture conditions, and sanitation practices to minimize the occurrence and spread of diseases and parasites.
	Provision of conditions which allow for exercise, freedom of movement, and reduction of stress appropriate to the species.
	Administration of vaccines and other veterinary biologics . (List all planned biologics in Table #3.1 below).
	Other:
	Other:

2. Physical alterations and medical procedures.

2.1. Provide information regarding physical alterations you perform:

☐ Plans for physical alterations are not yet established. I will ensure my plan is approved by my certifier prior to performing physical alterations on my animals. Please review [205.238\(a\)\(5\)\(i\)](#) and [\(ii\)](#) for specific restrictions and prohibited practices.

Physical alteration performed	Reason (identification or safety)	Age of animal (at a young age for the species)	How pain and stress are minimized (anesthetics, analgesics, proper animal restraint)	Person/role performing procedure (must be capable)
Example: Disbudding	Safety	2 months	Use of hot iron and pain management (Lidocaine)	Veterinarian

2.2. Attach a healthcare plan that outlines common ailments on your operation (i.e. mastitis, hoof rot, pneumonia), and your standard treatment for those ailments. Include surgical procedures as applicable, and how you use best management practices to promote the animal's wellbeing and to minimize pain, stress, and suffering.

- ☐ Protocols are attached.
- ☐ I have not yet established these protocols. They will be developed over time with certifier approval. I understand that I cannot withhold medical treatments from animals, including those designed to minimize pain and suffering.

3. Healthcare Materials Used

- Producers may administer medications that are allowed under [§205.603](#) to alleviate pain or suffering, and when preventive practices are inadequate to prevent sickness.
- Producers must not withhold medical treatment from a sick animal in an effort to preserve its organic status, per [§205.238\(c\)\(7\)](#).
- Producers must not withhold individual treatment designed to minimize pain and suffering for injured, diseased, or sick animals, which may include forms of euthanasia as recommended by the American Veterinary Medical Association. [§205.238\(c\)\(8\)](#).

3.1. Provide a list of all healthcare materials planned for use. Attach additional sheets as needed.

Material Brand Name	Manufacturer	Reason for Use
Example: KELIVAC Brucellosis Vaccine	KK Animal Wellness	Vaccine

3.2. If synthetic parasiticides are administered that are allowed with restrictions per [§205.238\(b\)](#) and [§205.603](#), which group(s) of animals are treated?

- Parasiticides may be administered for emergency use to breeder stock, when used prior to the last third of gestation but not during lactation for progeny that are to be sold, labeled, or represented as organically produced, dairy animals, and fiber bearing animals.
- Parasiticides may not be administered on a routine basis, per [§205.238\(c\)\(4\)](#).
- Animals treated with a synthetic parasiticide are not eligible for organic slaughter, per [§205.238\(c\)\(5\)](#).

3.3. If any materials prohibited for use in organic production are used, such as synthetic parasiticides in slaughter stock or antibiotics, how does the producer ensure the treated animal is clearly identified and the animal and its products are not sold or represented as organic? *Applicable medical treatment records and animal sales records must be maintained and made available for review.*

- ☐ Not applicable, prohibited materials are not used. Explain how animals receive all appropriate medications to restore health, even if this means the animal loses its organic status:

3.4. If organic dairy animals are treated with any materials that require a milk withdrawal period, how does the producer ensure the milk is withheld from the organic milk supply?



Required Record: *Maintain medical treatment records and milk withholding records.*

- ☐ Not applicable, no materials are used that require a milk withdrawal period.

3.5. Parasite Control Plan: Describe the plan to prevent and minimize internal parasite problems in livestock on the operation, as required per [§205.238\(d\)\(1\)](#). Address specific activities described in the table below:

- ☐ Parasite prevention and control plan is attached. *(If not, complete table):*

Preventive/Monitoring Activity	Details
Describe how pasture is managed to prevent internal parasites in livestock:	
How are animal housing and sanitation practices maintained to prevent the spread of internal parasites?	
How frequently is fecal matter monitored for internal parasites?	
In the event of an internal parasite outbreak, what emergency measures are taken control them?	
Other:	

3.6. Describe and/or attach a sample of healthcare treatment logs:

- ☐ Sample medical treatment log attached.

3.7. Complete the table below to describe how lameness is monitored and treated on the operation per [205.238\(a\)\(8\)](#):

Preventive/Monitoring Activity	Details
How frequently does the producer monitor for lameness?	
How and when is lameness treated when detected in animals?	
What are the typical causes of lameness on the operation?	
How is lameness minimized on the operation?	

4. Euthanasia

4.1. Describe the plan to administer prompt, humane euthanasia for sick or injured livestock suffering from irreversible disease or injury, as required per §205.238(e).

- Include the method(s) of euthanasia to be performed, as recommended by the [American Veterinary Medical Association](#).
- Include post-mortem examination used to ensure the animal is deceased.
- Certain methods of euthanasia are prohibited per §205.238(e)(2).

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Mammalian and Non -Avian Living Conditions: [§205.239](#)

☐ Not applicable, not raising mammalian/non-avian species. Proceed to Page #22: Avian Living Conditions.

1. Living Conditions

1.1. Place a check in the first column of the table below for each required living condition provided to animals year-round:

	Living Conditions
	Access to the outdoors. When the outdoor space includes soil, vegetative cover must be maintained as appropriate for the season, climate, geography, species of livestock, and stage of production.
	Shade provided by structures, trees, or other objects in the outdoor area
	Shelter with sufficient space and freedom to lie down, turn around, stand up, fully stretch their limbs, and express normal patterns of behavior over a 24-hour period. • Dairy young stock may be housed in individual pens until completion of the weaning process, provided that they have enough room to turn around, lie down, stretch out when lying down, get up, rest, and groom themselves. • Individual animal pens shall be designed and located so that each animal can see, smell and hear other animals. • Any animal shall not be confined or tethered in a way that prevents the animal from lying down, standing up, fully extending its limbs, and moving about freely.
	Shelter with suitable temperature level, ventilation, and air circulation
	Shelter with reduction of potential for livestock injury
	Exercise areas
	Fresh air
	Clean water for drinking
	Direct sunlight
	For all ruminants, management on pasture and daily grazing throughout the grazing season(s). <i>Leave blank if not raising ruminants.</i>
	Appropriate clean, dry bedding. If roughages are used as bedding, they are certified organic and my supplier is listed in the table of Question #1.4 on page 10.
	In indoor housing, areas for bedding and resting that are sufficiently large, solidly built, and comfortable so that animals are kept clean, dry and free of lesions.
	• Swine are housed in a group, aside from allowable reasons outlined in §205.239(a)(8)(i)-(iii). • Piglets are not kept on flat decks or in piglet cages. • For swine, rooting materials must be provided, except during the farrowing and suckling period. <i>Leave blank if not raising swine.</i>

1.2. Are mammalian livestock ever kept in housing with stalls?

☐ No.

☐ Yes. Which type of housing is being used?

Enough stalls must be present to provide for natural behaviors of the animals, per [§205.239\(a\)\(11\)](#).

A cage must not be called a stall, and there are specific requirements for swine.

1.3. List all housing structures used as shelter for animals: Attach additional sheets as needed.

Site Name	Physical Address	Size (in square feet)	Class of animals housed at this location
<i>Example: Home Barn</i>	<i>33 ABC St City, State, Zip</i>	<i>2,000</i>	<i>All swine</i>

1.4. Describe (or attach a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP)) of how animal housing, pens, runs, equipment, and utensils are properly cleaned and disinfected as needed to prevent cross-infection and build-up of disease-carrying organisms.

☐ I have not yet established SOPs. These protocols will be developed over time with certifier approval.

2. Temporary Confinement

2.1. Use the table below to describe all potential reasons that animals may be temporarily confined.

Continuous total confinement of any animal indoors is prohibited. Continuous total confinement of ruminants in yards, feeding pads, and feedlots is prohibited, per [§205.239\(a\)\(1\)](#).

Allowed reasons for temporary confinement	Details of your temporary confinement. Please include typical duration and what prompts temporary confinement.
<u>Inclement weather</u>	Details: Typical Duration:
The animal's <u>stage of life</u> . Lactation is not a stage of life for which ruminants may be exempt from applicable requirements.	Details: Typical Duration:

Conditions under which the health, safety, or well-being of the animal could be jeopardized.	Details: Typical Duration:
Risk to soil or water quality.	Details: Typical Duration:
Preventive healthcare procedures or for the treatment of illness or injury. (Neither various life stages nor lactation is an illness or injury).	Details: Typical Duration:
Sorting or shipping animals and livestock sales, (with animals maintained under organic management for the duration of confinement).	Details: Typical Duration:
Breeding: - Animals shall not be confined any longer than necessary for natural breeding or to perform artificial insemination. - Animals may not be confined to observe estrus. - Animals may not be confined after breeding to confirm pregnancy.	Details: Typical Duration:
For 4-H, National FFA Organization, and other youth projects, for no more than: One week prior to a fair or other demonstration, through the event, and up to 24 hours after the animals have arrived home at the conclusion of the event (with animals maintained under organic management for the duration of confinement).	Details: Typical Duration:

2.2. Use the table below to describe all potential reasons that you may temporarily restrict access to pasture:

☐ Not applicable. Not raising ruminants and/or ruminants are never confined from pasture during the grazing season. Proceed to Page #21: Pasture Practice Standard.

Allowable reasons to deny a ruminant animal pasture and/or outdoor access during the grazing season:	Details of your confinement from pasture and/or outdoor access for these reasons (including typical duration and what prompts confinement)
<i>Per §205.237(b)(8), an operation must not prevent, withhold, restrain, or otherwise restrict ruminant animals from actively obtaining feed grazed from pasture during the grazing season, except for conditions as described below.</i>	
One week at the end of a lactation for dry off (for denial of access to pasture only).	Details: Typical Duration:
Three weeks prior to giving birth.	Details: Typical Duration:
Giving birth.	Details: Typical Duration:
Up to one week after giving birth.	Details:

	Typical Duration:
In the case of newborn dairy cattle, for up to six months, after which they must be on pasture during the grazing season and may no longer be individually housed.	Details: Typical Duration:
In the case of fiber bearing animals, for short periods for shearing.	Details: Typical Duration:
In the case of dairy animals, for short periods daily for milking. Milking must be scheduled in a manner to ensure sufficient grazing time to provide each animal with an average of at least 30 percent dry matter intake (DMI) from grazing throughout the grazing season. Milking frequencies or duration practices cannot be used to deny dairy animals pasture.	☐ Not applicable, not raising dairy animals. Describe milking schedule:

2.3. Describe and/or attach a sample of temporary confinement logs maintained to describe instances of temporary confinement.



Required Record: Maintain temporary confinement logs that include animal(s) confined, date(s) of confinement, and reason(s) for confinement.

☐ Sample temporary confinement log attached.

2.4. Are ruminants ever placed in yards, feeding pads, feedlots and/or laneways?

- ☐ No. Proceed to Page #21: Pasture Practice Standard.
- ☐ Yes. Select all that apply to affirm your understanding and/or implementation of each statement:
- ☐ Ruminant slaughter stock, typically grain finished, will be maintained on pasture for each day that the finishing period corresponds with the grazing season for the geographical location.
 - ☐ Yards, feeding pads, and feedlots may be used to provide ruminants with access to the outdoors during the non-grazing season and supplemental feeding and/or finishing rations during the grazing season.
 - ☐ These areas are well-drained, kept in good condition (including frequent removal of wastes), and managed to prevent runoff of wastes and contaminated waters.
 - ☐ These areas are large enough to allow all ruminant livestock occupying the yard, feeding pad, or feedlot to feed without competition for food.
 - ☐ Ruminants are never continuously totally confined in yards, feeding pads, and feedlots.
- Per [§205.239\(e\)](#), operations must demonstrate that manure is managed in a manner that does not contribute to contamination of crops, soil, or water by plant nutrients, heavy metals, or pathogenic organisms and optimizes recycling of nutrients. Operations must manage pastures and other outdoor access areas in a manner that does not put soil or water quality at risk.

Pasture Practice Standard: [§205.240](#)

☐ Not applicable, no ruminants on this operation. Proceed to Page #22: Avian Living Conditions.

1. **Pasture Plan.**

1.1. What is the typical start and end date of your grazing season? The grazing season is when pasture is available for grazing in your regional location.

- If the grazing season is non-continuous due to weather, season, and/or climate, list multiple start and end dates in the table below.
- The grazing season must be at least 120 days per calendar year and ruminant animals must graze for the entire grazing season [§205.237\(c\)\(1\)](#).

Start Date of Grazing Season:		End Date of Grazing Season:	
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1.2. Describe the type(s) of pasture provided to animals to ensure feed requirements are met:

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1.3. Describe how pasture is managed to ensure it is of a sufficient quality and quantity for all ruminants to graze throughout the grazing season?

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1.4. Describe the grazing methods used and/or planned for use.

Consider reviewing the [Natural Resource Conservation Service](#)'s information regarding [Livestock and Pasture Management](#).

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1.5. Attach a description and map of the pasture(s) used for grazing organic ruminants.

Descriptions must include:

- Location of pastures
- Size of pastures
- Identification of pastures
- Location and types of permanent fences
- Location and source(s) of shade
- Location and source(s) of water
- Describe practices for erosion control and protection of wetlands and riparian areas
- Adjacent land use

Avian Living Conditions: [§205.241](#)

☐ Not applicable, no avian species raised on this operation. Proceed to Page #28: Transport & Slaughter.

1. Living Conditions

1.1. Place a check in the first column of the table below for each required living condition provided to animals year-round:

	Living Conditions
	Access to the outdoors. Access to outdoor space and door spacing must be designed to promote and encourage outside access for all birds on a daily basis.
	Shade provided by structures, trees, or other objects in the outdoor area
	Shelter
	Exercise areas
	Fresh air
	Direct sunlight
	Clean water for drinking
	Materials for dust bathing
	Adequate outdoor space to escape aggression
	Housing sufficiently spacious to allow all birds to move freely, stretch both wings simultaneously, stand normally, and engage in natural behaviors.
	All birds have access to areas in the house that allow for scratching and dust bathing. <i>(Exceptions for mobile housing in some cases).</i>
	Litter is provided and maintained in a dry condition in the house.
	Ammonia levels are measured at the height of the birds' heads at least weekly and maintained below 20 ppm. • If ammonia levels exceed 20 ppm, additional measures must be taken to reduce them. Ammonia levels cannot exceed 25 ppm.
	Steps are taken to prevent stray poultry, wild birds, cats, and other animals from entering poultry houses - (for producers subject to requirements in 21 CFR part 118—Production, Storage, and Transportation of Shell Eggs). <i>Leave blank if not applicable.</i>

1.2. List all housing structures used as shelter for birds:

House Name	Housing Structure	Physical Address	Production group housed at this location	Size (in square feet)	Quantity of birds at placement
Example: House #1	Mobile Coop	33 ABC St City, State, Zip	Layers, Flock A	120 sq ft	60

1.3. In a 24-hour period, for how many hours is artificial light provided in poultry houses?

(Maximum allowance is 16 hours per [§205.241\(b\)\(3\)](#)).

Artificial light intensity should be lowered gradually to encourage hens to move to perches or settle for the night.

Artificial light spectrum may not be manipulated to increase feed intake and growth rate.

☐ # Hours per 24-hour period:

☐ # Hours per 24-hour period varies per poultry house. Describe:

☐ N/A: artificial light is never provided.

2. Indoor Specifications

2.1. Describe the specifications of poultry houses in the table below. Attach additional sheets as needed to describe all poultry houses used for organic birds:

Requirement	How to Measure	Poultry House #1 <i>Name:</i> <i>Number of birds:</i>	Poultry House #2 <i>Name:</i> <i>Number of birds:</i>
Width of exit areas - at least 1 linear foot of exit area for every 360 birds. -For flocks with less than 360 birds, no less than 1 linear foot of exit area.	Measured across the base of the exit.	Width of exit areas:	Width of exit areas:
Perches - For layers, 6 inches of perch space must be provided per bird. - All layers must be able to perch at the same time except for aviary housing, in which 55 percent of layers must be able to perch at the same time. ☐ Not applicable. Not raising layers.	- Perch space may include the alighting rail in front of the nest boxes. - Floors in slatted/mesh floor housing cannot be counted as perch space.	Perch space provided per bird:	Perch space provided per bird:
		Percent of layers that can perch at the same time:	Percent of layers that can perch at the same time:
		%	%
Solid Floor - Non-mobile houses with slatted/mesh floors must have 15 percent minimum of solid floor area available with sufficient litter available for dust baths so that birds may freely dust bathe without crowding. ☐ Not applicable. Only using mobile housing and/or housing with solely solid flooring.	1. Square footage of entire floor area (length ft x width ft):	Solid floor area available with sufficient litter for dust bathing: % of floor <i>(Optional): Provide calculations below:</i>	Solid floor area available with sufficient litter for dust bathing: % of floor <i>(Optional): Provide calculations below:</i>
	2. Square footage of solid floor area (length ft x width ft):		
	3. (Solid floor area divided by total floor area) x 100: %		
	Example: 1. 1000 total square ft 2. 200 total solid square ft 3. $200 / 1000 = 0.2$ $0.2 \times 100 =$ <u>20% solid floor</u>		

2.2. Use the table below to list the indoor **stocking density** that applies to your production system:

- Indoor space includes flat areas available to birds, excluding nest boxes, per [§205.241\(b\)\(11\)](#).
- Indoor space may include enclosed porches and lean-to type structures (e.g., screened in, roofed) as long as the birds always have access to the space, including during temporary confinement events. per [§205.241\(b\)\(12\)](#).
- Check regulations for requirements for certain bird types and housing types.

How to calculate stocking density:

Look carefully at the regulations for specific requirements for different bird types and housing types:

Option 1: Calculating pounds (lbs.) of bird per square foot - Square footage of entire floor/outdoor area (length ft x width ft): a. Example: 50 ft x 20 ft = <u>1,000 sq ft.</u> - Total lbs. of bird in the house at one time a. Example: 500 hens x 4.0 lbs each = <u>2,000 lbs.</u> - Total square footage divided by total lbs of bird a. 2,000 lbs. / 1000 sq ft = <u>2 lbs. per sq. ft.</u>	Option 2: Calculating square feet per bird Square footage of entire floor/outdoor area (length ft x width ft): a. Example: 50 ft x 20 ft = <u>1,000 sq ft.</u> Total birds in the house at one time a. Example: <u>500 hens</u> Total square footage divided by total birds a. 1000 sq ft / 500 birds = <u>2 sq ft per bird.</u>
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Bird Type / Housing	Required Stocking Density	Planned Stocking Density
Pullets – all housing types	Must be: - less than 3.0 pounds per sq ft; OR - at least 1.7 sq ft per bird	
Broilers – all housing types	Must be: - less than 5 pounds per sq ft; OR - at least 2 sq ft per bird	
Layers - Mobile housing	Must be: - less than 4.5 pounds per sq ft; OR - at least 1.5 sq ft per bird	
Layers - Aviary housing	Must be: - less than 4.5 pounds per sq ft; OR - at least 1.5 sq ft per bird	
Layers - Slatted/mesh floor housing	Must be: - less than 3.75 pounds per sq ft; OR - at least 1.8 sq ft per bird	
Layers - Floor litter housing	Must be: - less than 3.0 pounds per sq ft; OR - at least 2.2 sq ft per bird	
Layers - Other housing	Must be: - less than 2.25 pounds per sq ft; OR - at least 3.0 sq ft per bird	

3. Outdoor specifications

3.1. Use the table below to list the outdoor stocking density that applies to your production system:

	Required Stocking Density	Planned Stocking Density
Pullets:	<i>Must be:</i> - less than 3.0 pounds per sq ft; OR - at least 1.7 sq ft per bird	
Broilers:	<i>Must be:</i> - less than 5.0 pounds per sq ft; OR - at least 2.0 sq ft per bird	
Layers:	<i>Must be:</i> - less than 2.25 pounds per sq ft; OR - at least 3.0 sq ft per bird	

3.2. What percentage of the outdoor access area is soil?

At least 75% of outdoor space must be soil, per [§205.241\(c\)\(2\)](#).

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3.3. Describe the vegetative cover of the poultry outdoor access area.

Outdoor space with soil must include vegetative cover appropriate for the season, climate, geography, species of livestock, and stage of production. Vegetative cover must be maintained in a manner that does not provide harborage for rodents and other pests, per [§205.241\(c\)\(2\)](#).

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3.4. At what age are poultry encouraged (trained) to go outdoors?

Producers must provide access to the outdoors at an early age, per [§205.241\(c\)\(1\)](#).

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4. **Temporary Confinement**

4.1. Use the table below to describe all reasons that birds may be temporarily confined.

- Continuous total confinement of birds is prohibited, per [§205.241\(a\)](#).
- Confinement events must be recorded, per [§205.241\(d\)](#).
- **Induced molting** is prohibited, per [§205.238\(c\)\(10\)](#).

Allowed reasons for temporary confinement	Details of confinement. Please include what prompts confinement and typical duration of confinement.
Inclement weather , including when air temperatures are under 32 degrees F or above 90 degrees F.	Details: Typical Duration:
The animal's stage of life , including: • The first 4 weeks of life for broilers • The first 16 weeks of life for pullets and • Until fully feathered for bird species other than Gallus gallus.	Details: Typical Duration:
Conditions under which the health, safety, or well-being of the animal could be jeopardized.	Details: Typical Duration:
Risk to soil or water quality.	Details: Typical Duration:
Preventive healthcare procedures or for the treatment of illness or injury. (Neither various life stages nor egg laying is an illness or injury).	Details: Typical Duration:
Sorting or shipping birds and poultry sales, (with birds maintained under organic management for the duration of confinement).	Details: Typical Duration:
For nest box training, provided that birds shall not be confined any longer than required to establish the proper behavior. • Confinement for nest box training must not exceed five weeks over the life of the bird.	Details: Typical Duration:
For 4-H, National FFA Organization, and other youth projects, for no more than: • one week prior to a fair or other demonstration, through the event, and up to 24 hours after the birds have arrived home at the conclusion of the event (with birds maintained under organic management for the duration of confinement).	Details: Typical Duration:

- Per [§205.241\(e\)](#), operations must demonstrate that manure is managed in a manner that does not contribute to contamination of crops, soil, or water by plant nutrients, heavy metals, or pathogenic organisms. Operations must also optimize recycling of nutrients and must manage outdoor access areas in a manner that does not put soil or water quality at risk.

Transport and Slaughter: [§205.242](#)

1. Transport

1.1. Are animals ever transported?

☐ No, animals are never transported. Proceed to Question #2: Slaughter.

☐ Yes, animals are transported. Reason(s) for transport:

1.2. How are animals identified as organic during transport?

1.3. The following practices must be utilized for animal transport:

	Animal Transport Practices
	All livestock are fit for transport to buyers, auction or slaughter facilities.
	Calves have a dry navel cord and are able to stand and walk without human assistance. <i>Leave blank if not applicable.</i>
	Seriously crippled and non-ambulatory animals are not transported for sale or slaughter. Such animals are medically treated or euthanized.
	Adequate and season-appropriate ventilation is provided during transport to protect animals against cold and heat stresses.
	During any transport and prior to slaughter, bedding is provided on trailer floors and in holding pens, as needed, to keep livestock clean, dry, and comfortable. <i>Use of bedding must be appropriate to the species and type of transport. Bedding is not required in poultry crates. When roughages are used for bedding, they must be certified organic.</i>
	Records for transportation must be maintained and available for review by certifying agents when an operation is certified.

1.4. Does transportation ever exceed 8 hours, measured from the time all animals are loaded onto a vehicle until the vehicle arrives at its final destination?



Required Record: Maintain records that demonstrate transport pickup and drop-off times.

☐ No, transport time is always less than 8 hours.

☐ Yes, transport time is 8 hours or more. Describe how you ensure organic management and animal welfare are maintained for the duration of transport:

1.5. Describe or attach your emergency plans in place that address possible animal welfare problems that might occur during transport. (Potential issues may include: animals escaping transport, unexpected delays, animal injury, excessive heat, etc.)

☐ I have not yet established emergency plans. These will be developed with certifier approval.

2. Slaughter.

2.1. Do you slaughter organic animals?

- ☐ No. This form is complete.
- ☐ Yes. I slaughter animals owned by other operations. Slaughtering animals owned by other operations is not considered part of the livestock scope of certification. This form is complete.
- ☐ Yes. I slaughter my own organic animals.

- List all animal species slaughtered at your operation:

- How many animals are slaughtered on an annual basis?

- What method(s) of slaughter are used? Describe the slaughtering process and/or provide a flow-chart:

- Provide the physical address(es) of the facility/location(s) where animals are processed and stored (as applicable):

- FSIS and the Federal Meat Inspection Act regulations for humane handling and slaughter of livestock, and ante-mortem inspection must be followed. Noncompliance records issued by FSIS will be reviewed by the certifier. Specific requirements apply when slaughtering poultry per [§205.242\(c\)](#):
 - Producers and handlers who slaughter organic poultry must be in compliance, as determined by FSIS, with the Poultry Products Inspection Act requirements ([21 U.S.C. 453\(g\)\(5\)](#)); the regulations at paragraph (v) of the definition of “Adulterated” in [9 CFR 381.1\(b\)](#), and [9 CFR 381.90](#), and [381.65\(b\)](#); and applicable FSIS Directives.

Congratulations, you have completed the first step of filling out a Transitional Production Plan - Livestock!

- The next step is to submit this completed Transitional Production Plan - Livestock to the certifier of your choosing. Ideally, this is submitted together with your Transitional Production Plan - Crops for review.
- A list of certifiers is located here at the [USDA’s Organic Certifier Locator](#).