



कृषि और प्रसंस्कृत खाद्य उत्पाद
निर्यात विकास प्राधिकरण
(वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार)

**Agricultural and Processed Food Products
Export Development Authority**
(Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Govt. of India)

Ref. No: APEDA/ORG/2020-21-000100

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Advisory on Certification and export of organic products to USA during transition period

This has reference to the earlier advisory dated 15th January 2021 regarding the India-US recognition agreement for export of organic products to USA.

The National Organic Program (NOP) has been publishing detailed information about the transition requirements on its International Trade Policies: India webpage since announcing the transition from the U.S-India recognition in January 2021.

As informed by USDA, NAB accredited Certification Bodies for NOP shall not be accepting new clients for NPOP-NOP certification or maintaining NPOP-NOP certification for operators that have not applied for certification with a USDA-accredited Certification Body.

All operators involved in the supply chain have to be listed in Organic Integrity Database (OID) of USDA. By July 12, 2022 all India operators in the supply chain currently listed in OID as "Applied; APEDA-certified" must have achieved NOP certification with a USDA-accredited Certification Body in order to continue exporting to the U.S.

USDA has confirmed that for product exported to USA, TC should only be issued if the NPOP-NOP certified operation (and its supply chain) applied for certification with a USDA-accredited certifier by July 12, 2021 OR the operation has achieved direct certification by a USDA-accredited Certification Body.

In order to comply with the DGFT notification on export of organic products from India, the Transaction Certificate issued on TraceNet need to be accompanied with the consignment for every export. If the operator is presently certified by NAB accredited Certification Body (through recognition agreement), the NOP TC having reference to recognition agreement need to be issued on TraceNet.

If the export takes place through the certification of USDA accredited CB (through direct recognition), NPOP TC need to be issued on TraceNet for traceability and accountability purpose. For issuance of such Transaction Certificate for export to US, provision is being made on TraceNet without reference to recognition agreement. However, USDA confirmed that NOP is not currently restricting its Certification Bodies from issuing a Transaction Certificate for product exported from India to USA.

As the transition period ends in July 2022, the NAB accredited Certification Bodies for NOP have to surrender the Accreditation Certificate if valid beyond 12 July 2022.

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