



# Organic Farming

## For more information:

*This brochure is for informational purposes only; other eligibility requirements and restrictions may apply. To learn more, visit your local FSA office.*

To find your local FSA county office, visit <http://offices.usda.gov>, or find us in your telephone directory under U.S. Department of Agriculture. To learn more about how USDA can help organic producers, visit [www.usda.gov/organic](http://www.usda.gov/organic). To learn how USDA has delivered results for the organic sector, visit [www.usda.gov/results](http://www.usda.gov/results).

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United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

## Farm Service Agency

# Programs Available to Organic Farmers



*The Farm Service Agency (FSA) offers a number of programs available to certified organic farmers. From loans to disaster assistance, from conservation to financial assistance, FSA is there to make sure organic farms can thrive.*

Check inside for more information, then stop by your local FSA office to talk to an FSA representative about how we can assist you.

# What FSA offers Organic Farmers

## Loans:

*Whether you're just getting started or you've been in business for a while, FSA has many loan types to meet your needs.*

- **Loans** (up to \$300,000) and **Microloans** (up to \$50,000) provide help with ownership or operating costs.
- **Emergency Loans** help producers recover from production and losses caused by natural disasters or quarantine.
- **Marketing Assistance Loans** provide interim financing for producers to meet cash flow needs without having to sell eligible commodities when market prices are low.
- **Farm Storage Facility Loans** to build or upgrade storage facilities for eligible commodities, such as fruits, vegetables, grains, honey...
- **Rural Youth Loans** are for youths (10-20 years) to establish and operate income producing projects.

[www.fsa.usda.gov/farmloans](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/farmloans)  
[www.fsa.usda.gov/pricesupport](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/pricesupport)

## Conservation: Buffers to Borders

*The Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) is a land conservation program administered by FSA. In exchange for a yearly rental payment, enrolled farmers agree to remove environmentally sensitive land from production and plant species that will improve water quality and wildlife habitat and prevent soil erosion.*

CRP can also apply to buffer zones around organic crops and add value to your operation. Some CRP eligible activities include establishing field windbreaks, shelterbelts, and pollinator habitat. These practices involve planting shrubs and trees to protect soil, crops and farmstead areas, enhance wildlife habitat, and save energy.

Due to Congressionally-mandated nationwide acreage limits, CRP is a competitive program. The strongest applications will provide the broadest benefits to water quality, wildlife, and soil, using a variety of conservation methods.



[www.fsa.usda.gov/crp](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/crp)

## Disaster Assistance

*The Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) is a risk management tool that helps reduce financial losses when natural disasters cause a loss of production or prevented planting.*

- Organic crops are eligible for NAP and may receive the organic average market price, not the conventional crop price.
- Basic coverage with no premiums cover 50% of the yield and 55% of the price, but producers may buy additional coverage from 50 to 65% of production, in 5% increments, at 100% of the average market price. Conditions apply.
- Basic coverage service fees:
  - The lesser of \$250 per crop or \$750 per producer per county, not to exceed \$1,750
  - Limited resource, beginning farmers and traditionally underserved producers are eligible for a waiver of the service fee and discounted premiums for high levels of coverage.

[www.fsa.usda.gov/nap](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/nap)