



*South Dakota Department of Agriculture
Agriculture Development Division*

523 East Capitol Avenue
Pierre SD 57501
(605) 773-5436 or (800) 228-5254

March 3, 2005

To: South Dakota Organic Industry

Due to changes in the National Organic Program Certification Cost Share Reimbursement Program, we are again taking applications for this program. The South Dakota policy for the disbursement of these funds has changed as well. **Please carefully read and review this letter for the changes and then determine your eligibility status.** We have enclosed the necessary forms to be completed for those producers and processors eligible to apply. All funds will be distributed on a first-come first-serve basis until the funds are exhausted.

- Applicants must have obtained NOP certification after October 1, 2002 and before September 30, 2004. (possibly three years of eligibility)
- Applicants may receive 75% of their eligible certification costs not to exceed \$500 per year. (previously, \$500 **total**)
- *Associated fees assessed on revenues by accredited certifier that are necessary for maintaining certification can also be reimbursed* but shall not exceed the \$500 annual total.
- Itemized billing detail and proof of payment will need to accompany all applications for each year of eligibility.
- Proof of actual NOP certification for each year is still required.
- Applicants are entitled to submit amended applications if these changes allow a larger reimbursement for each and every year of eligibility.
- One application is to accompany *each year* of eligibility including those applicants submitting amended applications for previous years. These applications may be copied
- W-9 forms are enclosed to be returned with the application to insure payment through the State fiscal office.

The application forms are also available at the following locations:

Website at http://www.state.sd.us/doa/ag_dev/

Phone request to SD Department of Agriculture, Ag Development Division

Written request at above address

For additional information, contact Robert Weyrich at the numbers provided above.

Sincerely,

Robert Weyrich,
Agriculture Development Specialist
South Dakota Department of Agriculture
robert.weyrich@state.sd.us

Enclosures

go Agriculture!

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South Dakota Department of Agriculture Federal Organic Certification Cost Share Application

To be eligible for reimbursement the certification must have been completed between October 1, 2002 and September 30, 2004. The amount of reimbursement is 75% of certification costs (maximum reimbursement of \$500.00 per year of certification). Submit application to the address above.

SECTION A				
PRODUCER/HANDLER IDENTIFICATION				
First Name	M.I.	Last Name		
Address				
City	County	State	Zip Code	
Organic registration number	Attach a copy of certificate and an itemized invoice for certification costs. <input type="checkbox"/> Certificate No. _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Certified by _____ Effective Date of Certification _____			
Phone Number	Fax Number	Email Address		
SECTION B				
CERTIFICATIONS				
Certification By Producer: I certify that the above information is true and correct, and the organic certification identified above for which cost-share reimbursement is requested was issued between October 1, 2002 and September 30, 2004. <i>Notice of Penalties: Penalty for knowingly making false statements or false entries, or attempts to secure money through fraudulent means, may include fines and/or incarceration and/or forfeiture of agriculture assistance funds under applicable federal and state law.</i>				
_____ Certified Operations Signature				Date ____/____/____ month day year

SECTION C					
(OFFICIAL USE ONLY) IDENTIFICATION OF ELIGIBLE CERTIFICATION COSTS					
Associated expenses:			Date incurred	Amount Paid by operation *	Reimbursed amount 2002-2004
Year	Certification Expense	Reimbursed			Total to accounting _____
2002	\$				Date to accounting _____
2003	\$				