

a Consumer's Guide to Organic Food

Organic farmers do not use synthetic pesticides or fertilizers on crops and do not use antibiotics with animals. Organic farmers focus on building healthy soils and integrating all farming practices to produce healthy crops and livestock.

Food labeled with the **USDA Organic Seal** is produced by farmers who are inspected and certified every year to make sure their farms meet national standards for organic production.

Categories of organic food labeling:

- ★ 100 Percent Organic means all ingredients and processing methods are certified organic.
- Organic may be used on products with at least 95 percent certified organic ingredients. The remaining 5 percent must be approved for use under the USDA organic seal.
- Made with Organic Ingredients may be used on products with at least 70 percent organic ingredients.
- ★ For more info: www.ams.usda.gov/AMSv1.0/nop



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What's important to you? ask your farmer:

Are you certified organic?

If not...

- * Do you use synthetic pesticides or fertilizers?
- * Do you use antibiotics to treat a sick animal?
- * Do you use antibiotics to promote faster growth?
- * Do you use synthetic hormones to promote growth or production?
- * Are your animals pastured?
- * Are they fed grain? (pigs and chickens require grain in their diet; cattle and sheep do not but are commonly fed grain in both organic and conventional systems)
- * Are your chickens cage free? Do they have outdoor access?



Organic farmers are dedicated to environmental stewardship and providing a stable and prosperous local community. The price premium paid for organic food sustains the environment, family farming and healthy rural communities.

Wisconsin Organic advisory Council



http://datcp.wi.gov/Farms/ Organic Farming/Directory/ mk_ad_50.qxp 01/12



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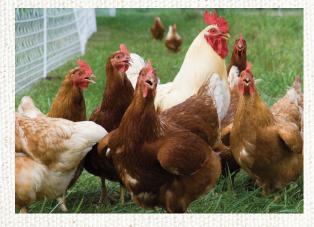


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