



DEMETER® ASSOCIATION, INC.
For Certification of BIODYNAMIC® AGRICULTURE

Name of Organization: _____

Step 1: Certification Renewal (select one option)

1. I wish to continue my certification with Demeter Association, Inc. I am submitting this Update Form along with the following **required** forms.

- Signed Terms of Agreement as applicable for each (Farm, Processor, Compost)
- Organic Certified Operations please submit the following:
 - Current Organic Certificate and Product Profile
 - Last Organic certification determination letter.

For Farms only:

- Fertility Application Worksheet based on what was applied in 2024 - Template can be found at <https://www.demeter-usa.org/forms/>)
- Biodynamic Seed Search – Template can be found at (<https://www.demeter-usa.org/forms/>)

An invoice will be emailed once we receive your renewal documentation.

--- OR ---

2. I **do not** wish to continue Biodynamic® certification with Demeter Association. I am notifying Demeter of my intent to withdraw from the certification program and surrender all certifications with Demeter. I understand that the organization may no longer represent, label, or sell products using the registered certification marks Demeter® and/or Biodynamic®. I understand that to successfully withdraw and not receive a Notice of Noncompliance, licensing fees for the past calendar year’s sales are due per the Demeter Fee Schedule and Terms of Agreement.

- Confirmation of past calendar year’s sales (including value of all remaining inventory of labeled products yet to be sold) – See Step 2.

An invoice will be emailed once we receive your intention to surrender certification.

Step 2: Reporting of Gross Sales of Certified Production

Annual Licensing Fee: Total gross income on certified crops/products or total market value of agricultural product for the preceding year (January 1 - December 31, 2024). *A minimum licensing fee of \$75 (farms) or \$200 (handlers) is due in the event of low or no sales. \$50,000 maximum licensing fees.*

Farms: Total gross income on sales of Demeter certified product (including total market value of certified crops harvested and not sold, further processed into non-certified product, or used internally):
\$ _____

Handlers: Total gross income on sales of Demeter certified product: \$ _____



Step 3: General Information Update

All communications about certification matters are directed to one main contact email address. This main contact will be responsible for distributing correspondence to the appropriate individual(s). This applies to all outgoing emails from Demeter including invoices, renewals, inspection reports, general communication, and follow-up from inspection needs. We can add an email address for sending invoices in addition to sending them to the main contact. Let us know below if you wish to have a different public facing contact for general inquiries.

Any authorized contact from your organization is welcome to email the Demeter office or your Certification Specialist with questions or concerns.

Provide the name of your One Main Contact: _____

Current email address of the Main Contact: _____

Current phone number for the Main Contact: _____

Additional accounting email address: _____

Additional public facing contact for general inquires: _____

Additional public facing email address: _____

Provide current Mailing address (Street, City, State, Zip): _____

Step 4: Update Current Application Information

I am seeking to **add** the following scopes to my existing Biodynamic® certification:

- Crops
- Simple on Farm Processing
- Handling
- Co-Processor
- Livestock
- Trader
- Compost
- Apiary

I wish to add new land to my certification and am including a 36-month land history and map for land to be added. I understand that no crop can be sold, labeled, or represented as Biodynamic® from new land until an inspection has been conducted and Demeter has added this land to my certificate.

New Parcel:

I wish to add new products and/or facilities to my certification. I understand that no product can be sold, labeled, or represented as Biodynamic® until an inspection has been conducted and Demeter has certified the product and/or facility.

New Product and/or Facility:

I will contact Demeter – I need more information to determine if I need to add an additional scope to my current certification (e.g. adding handling for on-farm processing).



Step 5: Specific Confirmations Please confirm the following:

Yes/No

I understand the Biodynamic Standards are revised from time to time and I am responsible for being aware of the changes. Demeter will publish revisions on our website and will provide a summary of the revisions. Biodynamic Standards can be found on the Demeter home page (www.demeter-usa.org).

Comments:

For Crop Production:

Yes/No/N/A

Any hybrid seed I am using for vegetable production, particularly brassicas, have been verified to ensure they are not the product of cytoplasm or protoplasm fusion production techniques.

Yes/No/N/A

I have verified that any manure-based farm inputs, including compost and formulated products, do not contain manure that is sourced from intensive livestock operations/confinement operations. I have documentation on file to support this.

Comments:

Exemption Requests: Farms Only - Exemptions must be revisited each year.

LIVESTOCK – All farms that do not have Demeter Certified Livestock (including bringing on guest animals) or farms that do have Demeter Certified livestock and bring on guest animals **MUST** choose one of the following 3 options.

#1 - Farms without livestock on the farm – Demeter requires integration of livestock

Yes/No/N/A

I am requesting an exemption for the requirement to integrate livestock on my operation. I am attaching information specific to this request on why I cannot currently meet this requirement. This exemption is re-visited annually.

You must provide the reason you do not have livestock on the farm:

#2 - Farms with livestock that are not Demeter certified – Demeter certification is a whole farm certification that permits an exemption for livestock that do not meet the Biodynamic requirements

Yes/No/N/A

I am requesting an exemption to the whole farm certification for the livestock on my operation that I do not certify with Demeter.

You must provide the reason your livestock cannot meet the Biodynamic Farm Standard:



#3 - Farms with Guest Animals/Custom Grazing – Animals of conventional or organic origin not in the possession of the certified farm can be kept on Demeter certified pastures for grazing.

Yes/No/N/A

I am requesting an exemption to the whole farm certification for the guest livestock that I will be bringing onto my farm and I am providing the number and type of guest animals and the written agreement between the owner of the animals and the farm.

This section is only for operations with Demeter Certified Livestock bringing on guest animals while certified livestock are present. Choose one of the following and provide the written agreement between the owner of the animals and your farm along with a clear description of the circumstances including separation measures if applicable.

Yes/No/N/A

Guest animals are kept according to the Biodynamic Farm standard while on farm concerning the management, medicinal treatment and feeding and will be clearly identifiable by earmarks or comparable marking.

Yes/No/N/A

Guest animals are not kept according to the Biodynamic Farm Standard and will be clearly separated in stables and on pastures and feeding of the animals will be clearly separated.

FARM INPUTS

Use of Restricted materials – Appendix I Exemption Request

Yes/No/N/A

If copper products, pyrethrum, ryania, sabadilla, diatomaceous earth, insecticidal soap, spinosad, and beaveria bassiana are used an exemption is required, and use of these materials MUST be within the restrictions detailed in Appendix I.

- Usage of material must be done at times when there is the least likelihood of contact with beneficial organisms.
- Broadcast blanket applications should be avoided and instead control should be based on spot spraying and the use of traps/attractants to lure the pest to the pesticide.
- Prevention and management strategies noted in the *Biodynamic Farm Standard* sections on pest control have been implemented.

Please reference your current input list provided to you. Inputs will have the notation of "Appendix I exemption required."

You must explain how these materials will be used within their restrictions:



Contracted services:

Yes/No/N/A

Do you have a management company perform some or all aspects of work on my farming operation? If yes, then attach the most recent copy of the contract that covers the contracted work. Please ensure that the contract includes acknowledgement of your operation being certified Biodynamic.

- Check here if the previously submitted contract remains active (no need to resubmit).

Yes/No/N/A

Do you have contracted processing, or a co-processor perform some or all aspects of work?

If yes:

- Check here to confirm you have communicated with your co-processor the Biodynamic Standards requirements they must adhere to in performing these contracted services.

--- And/or---

- I am submitting the most recent copy of the contract covering this contracted work. Please ensure the contract includes acknowledgement of your operation being certified Biodynamic.

Comments:

Demeter USA Directory and Biodynamic Federation Demeter International (BFDI) Directory

Please review your current Demeter USA certificate. For farms, this listing of crops is uploaded to the BFDI Product Database quarterly. If you would like to have your crops listed in more detail to assist in product match making, please provide us with those requested updates in the comment box. For processors, the listing of your products as it appears will be uploaded to the BFDI Product Database quarterly.

The Demeter Terms of Agreement indicate that we can publicize your certification data, like name, address, contact information, crops and products certified. This certification data will be included on our US Biodynamic Food Directory - [Biodynamic Farm and Product Directory](#) – and uploaded to the international BFDI Product Database - <https://bfdi.demeter.net/> - unless you opt out. You can let us know if you want to be listed only in the US Directory or if you wish to have your contact details limited in the comments box below.

Check here to opt out

Comments:



Step 6: Continuation of Certification Agreement:

By signing this form, you are stating that:

- 1) You have read the above information and attest that it is true to the best of your knowledge.
- 2) You affirm that you have read, fully understand, and agree to be bound by the standards, procedures, fees, policies, assessments, obligations, requirements, and Terms of Agreement as stated in the Demeter Standards, Demeter Association Policy Manuals, and Demeter Association Terms of Agreement.
- 3) You will continue to operate in accordance with applicable standards and the policies of Demeter Association, Inc.

Name: _____

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Typed signatures are accepted when sent from the Main Contact's email address.

Step 6: Submit your renewal

Submit all forms requested in a single email to info@demeter-usa.org or mail documentation to:

Demeter Association, Inc.
317 Church St.
Phoenixville, PA 19460

Once your application is received by the Demeter Office you will receive an invoice for online payment options or you can mail a check. Once payment is received an updated Certificate will be provided, contact the office if the need is urgent.

Please contact the Demeter office if you have any questions on what is required to complete your renewal or surrender your certification, or if you need a copy of your current documents.

Comments:

Late Application Fees– Renewal Documentation IS DUE BY APRIL 1st, 2025.

- For renewal applications postmarked or received from April 2nd - April 15th, a late fee of \$50 will be assessed.
- For renewal applications postmarked or received from April 16th – May 1st a late fee of \$150 will be assessed.
- For renewal applications postmarked or received May 2nd or later, a late fee of \$200 will be assessed.
- If payment options are needed or special circumstances arise, communication must be received before any late fees or interest are applied to outstanding balances. Late fees or interest applied will not be removed moving forward.