

Global Organic Standard (GOS)

One-Page Guideline for Organic Integrity

Purpose: Provide clear, global guidance for truly organic systems—crop, livestock, wild harvest, processing, packaging—anchored in Health, Ecology, Fairness, and Care.

Key Principles

- **Health:** Preserve the integrity of soil, plant, animal, human, and planetary systems.
- **Ecology:** Align production with natural cycles and biodiversity.
- **Fairness:** Ensure equity, transparency, and justice across the supply chain.
- **Care:** Practice precautionary stewardship for current and future generations.

General Practice Guidelines

- **Inputs:** Only approved natural fertilizers, soil amendments, and biocontrols.
- **Soil & Water:** Employ erosion control, cover crops, efficient irrigation, and water conservation.
- **Biodiversity:** Maintain habitat buffers, pollinator corridors, and diversified rotations.

Module Highlights

- **Crops:** Non-GMO seeds, buffer zones, crop rotation, cover cropping.
- **Livestock:** Pasture access, welfare standards, no routine antibiotics or hormones.
- **Aquaculture:** Water-quality monitoring, disease prevention, sustainable feeds.
- **Wild Harvest:** Regeneration monitoring, ecosystem impact assessments, community agreements.

Processing & Packaging

- Prohibit GMOs, irradiation, and synthetic additives.
- Prioritize biodegradable or reusable materials; minimize single-use plastics.
- Label with “GOS-Aligned” mark, organic content percentage, and origin.

Self-Assessment (Quarterly)

- Maintain traceability logs for inputs, field activities, and processing steps.
- Conduct internal reviews against these guidelines.
- Document gaps, corrective actions, and review progress.

Review this guideline every 3–5 years; incorporate stakeholder feedback and emerging best practices.