

ORGANIC CERTIFICATION

Choosing Your Organic Certifier

Since the establishment of the USDA National Organic Program (NOP) in 2002, more than 100 organizations have been accredited to serve as independent certifiers of organic practices. While all of these organizations must adhere to the basic requirements of accreditation, there are important differences. Whether you are a food producer, food handler, or retailer, you can maximize the benefit of your certification by choosing carefully.

Why SCS?

SCS's agricultural division was among the first organizations to be accredited by USDA. This achievement reflects the fact that SCS has had two decades of experience evaluating and certifying organic agricultural practices.

Among accredited certifiers, no other organization can match SCS's experience evaluating pest management practices in the field, in the packing shed, in the storage facility, or on the shipping dock. Nor does any other accredited certifier have SCS's experience in conducting sophisticated laboratory testing to detect pesticide residues at levels much lower than EPA tolerance levels. SCS's on-the-ground field staff, operating worldwide, is trained to recognize indicators of chemical use, and to stay abreast of regional pest vectors and pest management trends and country-specific maximum residue level (MRLs) for organic producers. At the same time, SCS has also worked extensively with retailers and distributors, gaining an in-depth understanding of the special challenges they face in adopting practical, effective organic handling practices.

Organic & more - Enhance your brand

SCS provides "one-stop" certification, auditing and testing services currently in demand in the food industry. By combining these services with organic certification, SCS can help its clients realize cost-saving efficiencies.

- Pesticide Residue Free
- Sustainably Produced
- Flavor Rich™ Certification



for information about becoming certified
or locating certified products:

SCScertified.com/foodag

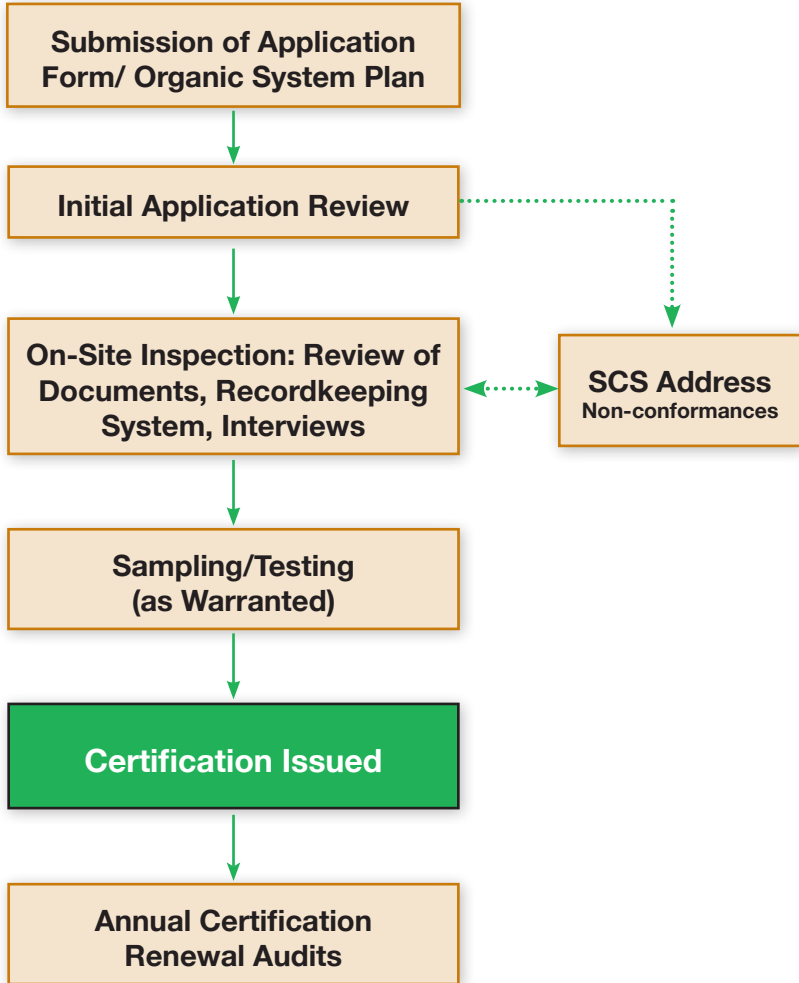
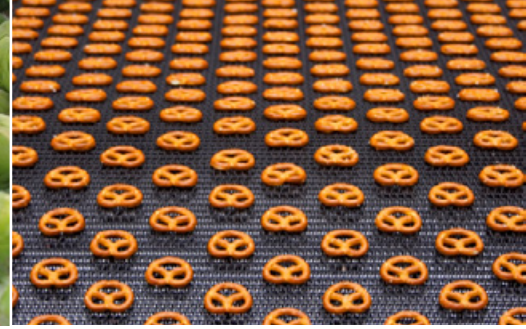
tel +1.510.452.9083

organic@scscertified.com



SCIENTIFIC CERTIFICATION SYSTEMS | *Setting the standard for sustainability™*

Providing global leadership in independent, third-party certification, auditing, testing and standards development for more than 25 years.



Process Flow

While the specifics of certification vary depending on whether the company seeking certification is a food producer, shipper, distributor, wholesaler or handler, the certification process generally involves the following steps:

- Application review
- Physical inspection of the operation
- Review of documents on-site
- Audits of recordkeeping system
- Interviews with operations personnel
- Sampling and testing (as warranted)
- Exit interview with key official (verbal and written)
- Certification report
- Review of report by Certification Committee
- Certification Determination

To simplify the application process, SCS's application form is designed to serve as the Organic Production / Handling System Plan required by the National Organic Program.

Food Safety Audits

- HACCP
- SQF Version 7 (ISO 65 Accredited)
- GAP/GMP
- GlobalGAP
- BRC
- Tesco Nurture



SCIENTIFIC CERTIFICATION SYSTEMS

2000 Powell St., Suite 600, Emeryville, CA 94608 USA
 tel +1.510.452.9083 fax +1.510.452.8001
 SCScertified.com