



**AUSTRALIAN
CERTIFIED
ORGANIC**

CERTIFICATION UPDATE WINTER 2004

*This booklet contains important information
about your organic certification.*

*You should keep this booklet with your other
organic records and files for reference.*

*Please contact the ACO office if you have any
questions about the information in this booklet.*

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LABELLING PROCEDURES

Exactly how certified organic food is labelled is closely controlled. All certified operators are required to comply with Organic Standard labelling requirements. Recently, some operators have lost huge sums of money or even been Suspended as a result of non-compliance as ACO has continued to ensure labelling integrity.

A STANDARD ISSUE

It is up to every operator to ensure that their organic labelling, at a minimum, meets the requirements set out in the Organic Standard. Whilst some red faces and financial losses might be avoided, the biggest payoff with complying may well be increased promotional value and the raising of the certified organic profile amongst a consumer public in desperate need of education about the difference between certified and non-certified organic products.

SIX STEP GUIDE TO ENSURING YOUR LABELLING COMPLIES

According to the organic standard, you must include the following on your packaging.

1. Correct level of certification (*organic, in-conversion, biodynamic, wholesaler*)
2. Certification number (*as provided by your certifier ACO*)
3. ACO LOGO and name of your certifier
4. Name and address of the certified operator
5. Registered mark of the certified operator (currently optional)
6. **Artwork Approval:** The Organic Standard states that you must have your artwork approved in writing by ACO prior to printing. We will also keep a copy of your artwork on your file.

The simple fact is that if you do not comply with any of these requirements, you could face immediate suspension and/or recall of your product from the marketplace. If you

do not comply in any way, the certification office must be informed immediately, and we will be only too happy to help you on the road to compliance.

It is up to certified operators to prominently display their certification symbol not only to meet the requirements of their certification, but also to help consumers know what to look for. By all certified operators drawing attention to their certified status, they are helping to educate the consumer and in so doing, are playing their part in promoting and growing the industry.

The Organic Standard requires the words "certified organic" (or "organic certification") followed by a certification registration code number to be clearly marked on labels. Certified organic products must always carry a certification code - ultimately this code is your only guarantee that a food or drink is truly organic. You should be suspicious of any product that purports to be organic but carries no organic certification number.

It is essential for operators to comply with all legal requirements for labelling in Australia. You must check your labelling responsibilities with the Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code which is a joint set of food labelling and composition standards for New Zealand and Australia. You can download a free copy of these standards from www.foodstandards.gov.au

Frequently organic labels give you much more information than the minimum required by law. Often you will find information on where a product comes from, who has produced it and what makes it special - all part of the increased openness and respect for the consumer that distinguishes certified organic food and drink.

Please do not hesitate to contact the ACO office if you have any questions about labelling and packaging requirements.

WHO CERTIFIES ME?

Consumers and certified operators remain confused about who is providing a certification service in Brisbane – and we receive several calls a week from operators with regard to their ‘BFA’ certification. In order to clarify the matter, we provide a brief outline of your situation and who you are certified with below:

In 2002, in response to the requirements of the United States Department of Agriculture, Biological Farmers of Australia Cooperative Ltd (BFA) formed a subsidiary company to handle the certification of product being exported to the USA.

This subsidiary company was called **Australian Certified Organic Pty Ltd (ACO)**.

Upon reflection it was decided by the BFA Board that it would be advantageous to move all certification to the new company and as of late last year, all accreditations previously held by BFA are now held by ACO (with the exception of JAS certification which is still undergoing the final processes with the Japanese Ministry of Agriculture).

Therefore, all organic operators (excepting JAS) previously certified by BFA are now certified with Australian Certified Organic (ACO).

Your licence agreement and your labelling should reflect this change.

This splitting of functions now enables BFA to promote ACO certified operators without fear of conflict and for ACO to focus on its primary function – the certification of organic operations.



TIME FOR AN ACO LABEL

To reduce confusion in the market place, and to conform to the requirements of your certification, your labels and packaging must reflect your certification.

We understand that changing labels is a time-consuming and costly process and in order to reduce the impact of changing your labels to ACO we have agreed with AQIS that ACO operators have until next year to make the changeover.

Changes may be ‘rolled out’ (ie: made as you finish current stocks of labels, packaging and promotional material).

Any labels, packaging or promotional material relating to your ACO certified product must be approved and in use by 30 June 2005.

Labels must be approved in writing by the ACO office prior to printing and should contain the appropriate certification company (ACO), level of certification (*Organic, In Conversion*) and your certification number.

Failure to have changed your labelling by 30 June 2005 may result in Suspension of your certification.

Please contact the ACO office if you foresee any difficulties in complying with this requirement, or if you have any questions regarding your ACO certification

SELLING YOUR PROPERTY

Increasingly, certified organic properties are coming onto the market - this is a healthy sign that organic management is viewed as a desirable, if not necessary aspect of the sale.

It is important for both vendors and potential buyers of certified organic properties to understand that contrary to popular belief, and in accordance with the Organic Standards section 3.1.16 that the organic status of the property does not automatically transfer to new owners.

The organic status of a property does not automatically transfer to new owners.

Understanding this can help avoid distressing situations for all involved.

WHY DOESN'T IT AUTOMATICALLY TRANSFER?

The key to the reason that the certification status does not automatically transfer is held in your Licence Agreement.

There are two parts to the certification licence:

1. The certification of the organic management of the operation (the **people** who manage the operation).
2. The specified area (the **land** that is actually under organic management).

Therefore if the purchaser is currently certified with an accredited certifying body then potentially the organic status of the operation may be transferred to the purchaser.

However in most cases, the purchaser is either in pre-certification or has never even applied for organic certification. In these instances, ACO must comply with the National Standards requirement that

previous organic management experience be verified or that ongoing organic management of the operation will continue before we can issue (or continue) certification for that property.

GUIDELINES TO HELP MAKE THE TRANSFERENCE EASIER

In order to assist those who wish to enter into organic certification but who do not currently have any verifiable organic management experience, we have set up the following guide to assist operations in potentially continuing to trade as a certified organic operation.

The new owners need to apply for organic certification in their own right, as soon as possible after completion of the sale had been finalised.

They will be responsible for all application; audit and other fees required in relation to the organic certification of the property and will need to submit their own Organic Management Plan and other required documents to the ACO office.

The vendor may decide to continue to be a signatory to the licence agreement following the sale of the property, and in doing so, effectively agrees to become the manager/mentor of that organic operation for a minimum of 12 months, or for such a period as ACO deems necessary.

In signing the licence agreement, the vendor takes on the responsibility of assisting the new owners in becoming familiar with and practiced in the organic management of their operation, so that upon completion of the next annual audit, they can be assessed as having sufficient knowledge and understanding of organic management to enable the removal of the vendor's name from the licence agreement.

This would require the vendor being available for assistance as required, and in addition the appropriate overseeing and training of the new owners.

Under the arrangement outlined above, and assuming there are no outstanding issues,

the property would maintain the current organic status of the property as at transfer of ownership (ie. Pre-certification, In-Conversion or Organic). Unless otherwise approved or instructed by ACO, the property and would achieve full organic status within the normal time frame set by the National Standards.

Should you need any further information, please contact the ACO head office.

EXPORT ISSUES

The demand for the ability to export products continues to grow, particularly from organisations that can offer easy access to the major markets such as Europe, Japan and the United States. Whilst you may not be interested in exporting yourself, your product may end up overseas if you sell to Wholesalers or Exporters.

Last year in Australia for example, some 95% of all products exported were certified under the IFOAM accreditation system. ACO is one of only two certifying organisations in Australia offering this access and last year continued its trend of processing more export documents than any other certifying body in Australia.

As this growth continues, it is worth reminding you of some of the requirements for exporting.

YOU MUST HAVE AN AQIS EXPORT CERTIFICATE

All exporters must complete an Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service (AQIS) export certificate for every shipment of organic product. These certificates are signed by ACO on behalf of AQIS. Export Certificates are AQIS controlled documents and must be traceable. They should be kept under lock and key where only an authorised

personal can access them. Post them in express envelopes to ensure traceability.

YOU MUST HAVE THE CORRECT CERTIFICATE

Depending on the country of import, different certificates are required. There are four different export certificates:

- ▶ **EU Certificate** for exports to European Union countries.
- ▶ **Swiss Certificate** for Switzerland only.
- ▶ **Non-EU certificate** (Organic Produce Certificate – OPC) for exports to Non EU countries such as Japan and USA.
- ▶ **Transaction Certificates** for operators in countries not bound by AQIS exporting laws (i.e. certified operators from outside Australia).

Before you arrange your first export order, it is essential to contact the ACO office to determine the requirements set down by the country you wish to export to.

If help is required with exports (not just export documentation), Export Facilitators are available free of charge via AQIS to visit operators and help with general export procedures.

SOME COUNTRIES HAVE MANDATORY ADDITIONAL CERTIFICATION & LOGOS

JAPAN: Please note that product destined for Japan must also be accredited through our JAS equivalency program. You can apply for use of the JAS seal through the office. The Japanese will not allow products without this seal into their regulated marketplace. This does not apply for livestock products or wine.

UNITED STATES: Product destined for the USA must have USDA NOP certification right through the supply chain - every grower, processor, packer, labeller etc must have USDA NOP accreditation in order for the final product to be exported to the USA bearing the USDA NOP Logo. This certification can be provided by ACO.

ACO OFFERS SAME DAY EXPORT CERTIFICATE PROCESSING

Export certificates are processed on the same day they arrive in our office and the original copy is express-posted back to the operator or agent as required. To assist us in processing export certificates as quickly and accurately as possible, please ensure you check the following before you submit your certificate to us for approval:

- ▶ Check the export certificate is correct for the country of destination.
 - ▶ Check that the certificate is not for any type of salt or water as they are not certifiable products.
- ▶ Check the departure date - the export certificate may not be signed if received at our office more than two days after the departure date (without previous arrangement with AQIS) and the certificate will be cancelled. In certain circumstances we may sign a faxed copy prior to the original being forwarded to the office for signing within 7 days (usually only for air-freighted goods).
- ▶ Check the consignee details and transportation details for any obvious errors.
- ▶ **ALL PRODUCTS** to be exported on the certificate must list the following:
 1. Number of individual product packages (if necessary an additional product list may be attached to the export certificate)
 2. Individual product weights and total weights
 3. Details of certified operators providing products, ie. certification number and agency
- ▶ **EXPORT PRODUCTS TO JAPAN** must incorporate the following:
 1. Check the appropriate certification is in place for goods going to Japan (you must have applied for and been granted use of the JAS seal)

2. Be aware that Japan MAFF does not allow the use of the following inputs:
 - ▶ Homeopathic preparations for use in soil fertilising and soil conditioning.
 - ▶ Wetting agents (of which ingredients are not listed in Table 2 (Annex 2) of the CODEX standard.
 - ▶ Disodium diphosphate, Ammonium phosphate, Ammonium sulphate for use as food additives.
3. Ensure you clearly write in the box for issuing body or authority “Biological Farmers of Australia 766 Gympie Road, Chermide, QLD 4032” **until further notice** (we are awaiting final change of name from BFA to ACO).
 - ▶ **EXPORT PRODUCTS TO EU** must incorporate the following:
 1. EU certificates must be accompanied by a 'commercial document' (Bill of Lading, Purchase Order etc) that clearly shows the consignee and the products relating to the export certificate
 2. EU certificates must also have the appropriate boxes ticked in Box 2:
 - ▶ For goods certified and made in Australia, tick box 11.1
 - ▶ For livestock products (eg: beef, honey) or for goods made outside Australia but certified to Australian Standards, please tick box 11.6 and complete Box 4 with the appropriate authorisation number
 3. Ensure you clearly write in the box for issuing body or authority “Australian Certified Organic, 766 Gympie Road, Chermide, QLD 4032.”

- 4 Box 6 - must say 'as in box 1' or "Australian Certified Organic"

► **EXPORT PRODUCTS TO USA**

must incorporate the following:

1. Ensure that all products on the export certificate are USDA NOP approved (you must have applied for and been granted use of the USDA NOP seal)
2. Ensure you clearly write in the box for issuing body or authority "Australian Certified Organic, 766 Gympie Road, Chermside, QLD 4032."

SIGN THE CERTIFICATE

Ensure you have signed your certificate except if you are sending product to the EU or Switzerland. Ensure you do not sign any export certificate for the EU or Switzerland as it will hold up your product on arrival.

THE OFFICE RETURNS A COPY OF THE CERTIFICATE TO YOU

Once all three copies of the certificate have been signed, the certificate is separated. ACO keeps the pink copy and sends the yellow copy to AQIS. The white copy will be sent back to you, (to be forwarded by you to the importing country with all your other export documents), along with an invoice.

Please do not hesitate to contact the ACO office for further information regarding export procedures or to ask for blank export certificates.

AVOID ERRORS

Choosing to apply for organic certification means agreeing to follow the requirements of the current Organic Standard. Because most farmers and manufacturers understandably prefer to spend their time farming or running their

business instead of reading rules or filling out forms, mistakes can be made.

Unfortunately these mistakes can end up with the operator being denied certification, or, if already certified, having the certification suspended or revoked. At the very least, an operator might receive conditional certification, and be placed under additional scrutiny, because of inadvertent errors.

The following is a list of common mistakes made by certified operators and/or certification applicants and is based on years of organic certification experience.

Hopefully, reading the mistakes of others will help you avoid making costly mistakes on your own operation.

CERTIFIER RELATIONS

- ◆ Getting a product or practice approved by the ACO certification office, but not getting the approval in writing, and then misunderstanding the "approval".
- ◆ Failing to submit requested documentation to the ACO certification office (such as farm maps, Statutory Declarations, Organic Management Plans, soil/tissue/water test results, etc)
- ◆ Not understanding and/or not complying with certification requirements (Corrective Action Requests - CARs).
- ◆ Not understanding that **it is the ACO certification office and NOT the auditor who makes the decision regarding the application and/or continued certification** (auditors are required to be impartial, objective observers, not advisers or decision-makers).
- ◆ Failing to complete required paperwork on time, or at all.
- ◆ Failing to pay application and/or audit fees in the appropriate time frame.
- ◆ Failing to submit levy forms (even if NIL return) and/or payment when requested.

PRE-CERTIFICATION

- ◆ Not understanding that the first 12 month pre-certification period is a minimum time period, and that until a second audit has been completed, reviewed and approved, no certification level will be achieved.
- ◆ Not understanding that the pre-certification period begins once the Statutory Declaration has been received by the ACO certification office and that this pre-certification period cannot be back-dated.
- ◆ Not understanding that if an operation is sold, that the organic status of that operation does not automatically transfer to a purchaser and that the purchaser will have to apply for certification in their own right and that usually the purchaser will also need to go through a pre-certification period.

NON-APPROVED INPUTS

- ◆ Using non-approved substances (including treated seeds) and/or not understanding the requirements.
- ◆ Using non-approved substances, due to trusting an input supplier who gave assurances that the material was "approved" for organic farming.
- ◆ Failing to enquire about the GMO status of inputs, especially inoculants and Bt products.
- ◆ Not having documentation of non-GMO status of inputs, including seeds, inoculants, Bt products and at risk crops such as corn, soy and canola.
- ◆ Not correctly calculating the amount of time from the last date of application of a prohibited input - and the required three years has not passed. The farmer then wrongly thinks that the present year's crop will be saleable as certified organic, when it is not certifiable.

DOCUMENTATION OF ALL INPUTS

- ◆ Failing to obtain and/or retain adequate documentation for purchase of approved inputs.

- ◆ Failing to document attempts to source organic seeds (a new stencil for this is now available).

RECORD KEEPING

- ◆ Lack of adequate detail or clarity on farm maps and/or use of inaccurate maps.
- ◆ Farm maps that do not show hectares, paddock/field identification, and/or adjoining land uses.
- ◆ Not keeping farm activity records up to date.
- ◆ Failing to keep seed and input labels and receipts in an organised and accessible manner.
- ◆ Failing to keep records for contracted services, such as planting, spraying, harvesting, and/or trucking.
- ◆ Failing to keep bin records up to date.
- ◆ Not recording field/row numbers on harvest and/or storage records.
- ◆ Not using batch/lot numbers or not using a consistent batch/lot numbering system.
- ◆ Not providing adequate documentation to buyers when organic products are sold (eg. certification number and level, and clear claim regarding status (eg certified organic or in conversion).
- ◆ Not keeping records of steps taken to inspect and clean transport units or contracted equipment.
- ◆ Not maintaining adequate records for operations with both organic and conventional production.

ORGANIC MANAGEMENT PLANS & ORGANIC HANDLING PLANS

- ◆ Failing to develop an Organic Management/Handling Plan (OMP) and/or to submit this to the office.
- ◆ Failing to follow the operation's organic management/handling plan.
- ◆ Submitting a Certified Client Statement or updated OMP with entries marked "No Change", when there have been

significant changes, such as new leased or purchased fields, discontinued leases, sub-divided fields, new crops, new inputs, changes to field numbers, changes to lot numbering system, etc.

- ◆ Failing to submit sufficient information in the OMP - eg. under the section 'HACCP and Risk' stating 'none' is invariably insufficient.

CO-MINGLING & CONTAMINATION

- ◆ Failing to properly clean harvesting equipment and/or storage units, resulting in co-mingling or contamination of organic crop.
- ◆ Failing to segregate crops harvested from buffer zones (if buffer zones are required).
- ◆ Lack of cleaning logs for spray equipment that is also used for prohibited inputs.
- ◆ Work area contamination for post harvest handling (eg. washing vegetables, cutting vegetables, packing vegetables, etc). All farmers and handlers are strongly advised to undergo HACCP training.
- ◆ Mislabelling or mishandling of crops or livestock by mistake by workers who are not fully informed of organic certification requirements.
- ◆ Misapplication of prohibited materials by workers who are not fully informed of certification requirements.
- ◆ Failing to inform neighbours, utility companies, highway departments and/or other authorities that land adjacent to organic areas should not be sprayed (or sign no-spray agreements when these are available). NB: Whilst this requirement is not mandatory it is highly recommended and again ACO has a stencil letter available for this).

LABELLING

- ◆ Failing to submit artwork for proposed labels to the office for approval in writing prior to printing.

- ◆ Failing to use the appropriate logo or wording on labels.
- ◆ Failing to indicate the correct level of certification on labelling
- ◆ Failing to submit copies of all new labels to the office for keeping on file.

KEEP IN CONTACT!

With the recent move from Toowoomba to Brisbane and as ACO strives to improve its service, many new faces now work in the ACO office. To help you get speedy appropriate advice, we list our team below, along with a brief summary of our experience and how we can help you.

HOLLY VYNER Administrative Officer

Holly has the role of Administrative Officer. In many ways she is the face of the business, working on reception as well as providing customer service and administrative support. Holly can answer general questions in relation to both the ACO certification program and BFA membership.

Holly has had a varied work background, and has brought to the team both Japanese and Spanish language skills having spent time living overseas in Japan and Chile. Holly comes to us with experience in certification programs, her most recent employment with ships' classification society and building certifying company.

Now she is pursuing her interests in the field of organics and sustainable agriculture.

For any general enquiries regarding ACO Certification or BFA Membership, you can email Holly directly at info@aco.net.au

RHONDA VOHLAND Finance Officer

Rhonda is one of our newest recruits to the ACO team, starting in April this year as Finance Officer.

Born and bred in Brisbane, Rhonda has many years experience as a bookkeeper as well as all-round general office skills which have served her well over the past 11 years in her own bookkeeping consultancy business.

Rhonda will be responsible for maintaining accounting systems that demonstrate a clear separation between the accounts of the Biological Farmers of Australia Co-op and its certification arm, Australian Certified Organic.

She will be working with clients on all issues relating to payment of their organic certification fees and levies, and is only too pleased to help out clients who ring to discuss any issues they have with their payments to either ACO or BFA.

For any enquiries regarding accounts, you can email Rhonda directly at accounts@aco.net.au

AKIKO NICHOLS Certification Officer

Akiko is from Kagoshima in Kyushu Island in the south of Japan. She brings extensive certification experience to her position, having worked for US certifier, OCIA Japan in Tokyo for two years as a Certification Coordinator handling JAS and USDA NOP organic certification.

Whilst working at OCIA, she also studied auditing to help her understand the entire certification process from the eyes of the clients as well as the certification office.

As one of ACO's Certification Officers, Akiko is the person clients need to contact if they have any questions regarding their certification - in either the domestic or international marketplace.

She is also the person to contact with questions about any of the following:

- Allocation of the Certification Review Committee (CRC) review
- Reviewing additional products and/or recertification
- Reviewing documents for JAS/USDA NOP/IFOAM
- Seeds/seedlings/propagation materials confirmation
- Labelling approval

For any enquiries regarding certification, you can email Akiko directly at certification@aco.net.au

DAVID HARDWICK Certification Officer

David has come up to Brisbane from the Central West of NSW where he was working as a Landcare Coordinator. In this role he worked mainly with sheep and cattle producers.

Previously he has had a varied career in the organic sector. He completed a traineeship on a Biodynamic dairy, worked with organic horticulture and managed a certified retail bakery in Europe. He has also worked for himself in farm management consulting.

David has a Diploma in Agribusiness and is currently completing a degree in Ecological Agriculture at Sydney University. His passions include sustainable farming systems and contributing toward building more sustainable rural and regional communities.

David can be contacted about the following:

- Livestock and on-farm queries
- Reviewing soil and tissue tests
- Reviewing Allowed Inputs and Approved Products
- Technical queries

He will also assist Akiko with general certification issues and certification review processes.

For any enquiries regarding certification, you can email David directly at technical@aco.net.au

SOMMER WATTS
Audit Coordinator

Sommer has recently returned to Australia from Holland where she has been living and working for the several years.

Sommer brings extensive experience in quality assurance, office administration and document control systems to the ACO Certification team.

Her organisational skills and commitment to providing high quality customer service are key assets in her role as Audit Coordinator. She is responsible for the allocation of audits both Australia wide and internationally, and ensuring this aspect of clients certification is kept on track.

Annual audits are essential to maintain the integrity of the organic standard for our clients, consumers and the industry alike.

For any enquiries regarding audit allocation, you can email Sommer directly at audit@aco.net.au

REBECCA GEARING
Contracts & Export Officer

Rebecca started working for ACO in April 2003 as Finance Assistant, having just finished school and embarking upon external law studies. She put her studies on hold in September last year to concentrate on her work with ACO.

Since moving to Brisbane, she has taken on the position of Contracts Officer, working closely with the certification team in assisting to making the certification process as smooth as possible for clients.

Rebecca handles Licence Agreements and Corrective Action Requests, and will be

providing general backup for the certification team.

Rebecca also looks after administration of export documentation such as Organic Produce Certificates, EU Certificates of Inspection, Swiss Confederation Import Certificates and Organic Transaction Certificates.

For any enquiries regarding certification or export, you can email Rebecca directly on contracts@aco.net.au

JOLENE ADAMS
**Certification Assistant and
Technology & Quality Officer**

Jolene Adams made her start in the organic industry in 1997, when she came to work for the BFA, in the days before the separation of the promotional and organic certification functions.

After the organic certification function was transferred to the newly formed ACO, Jolene's position was transferred to ACO, and she continued her work in the Toowoomba office. Starting as a trainee, Jolene has progressed her way through the company to the position she currently holds in the Brisbane Office of Information Technology and Quality Assurance Officer.

Dealing with many areas during her time with ACO, her main focus remains on the Certification side of the business, where she backs up the experience and knowledge of the certification team.

Jolene also holds responsibility for the maintenance of the ACO database and general Information Technology issues within the office.

For enquiries regarding general certification, to notify ACO of changes to your certification, or for lodgement of complaints, please email Jolene directly on quality@aco.net.au

CATRIONA MILLS
Managing Director ACO

Cat Mills comes to ACO with many years of experience in organic certification, together with financial and administrative management experience both in Australia and England.

Cat's interest in agriculture began whilst growing up on a cattle farm in South Australia. This underlying interest in agriculture and organics has translated into Cat serving as Treasurer of the Soil Association of SA and Coordinator of the National Organic Conference held last year.

She previously worked for some of the largest retailers in Britain developing budgets and financial forecasts for companies with multi-million pound turnovers. During this time, she also was responsible for liaising with clients and implementing promotional materials.

It was during her time in England that Cat became interested in organics, and following her return to Australia, she worked for several years for the certifying organisation NASAA in South Australia (Stirling).

She brings with her advanced analytical skills and the ability to forecast market trends and requirements along with a solid understanding of the Australian organic industry. She is committed to ensuring organic certification systems are as transparent and simple as possible and is adamant that education is the key to growth in the industry.

Cat is looking forward to meeting as many operators as possible in the next few months and welcomes any suggestions for ACO improvements.

You can email Cat directly on manager@aco.net.au

FINDING OUT MORE

Our team aims to provide you with as much information as possible via various sources – for your convenience we have listed them below:

ACO Website

www.australianorganic.com.au

For information and forms regarding certification in general, who to contact and links to related sites.

BFA Website

www.bfa.com.au

For product searches, downloading or referencing the Organic Standard, Membership news and links to related sites.

Australian Organic Journal

A quarterly publication issued by the BFA for members containing general information and news of interest to certified operators and consumers

Organic Business

A quarterly publication issued by the BFA for members containing technical and certification information of particular interest to Australian certified operators

Email Enquires

Please direct email enquiries to the appropriate ACO person in the first instance (refer our contacts above) or contact info@aco.net.au

Postal Address

ACO
PO Box 530
CHERMSIDE QLD 4032

Telephone

(07) 3350 5706

Facsimile

(07) 3350 5996