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Organics Newsletter October 2024

Kia ora,

Welcome to the October 2024 edition of the Organics Newsletter.

Understanding the Organic Standards: Confirming Canada Organic Regime (COR) Boundary Requirements

At AsureQuality, we know how important it is to stay aligned with the latest organic standards to help your business thrive. Recently, some of you have reached out seeking clarification on certain aspects of the COR standard. We reached out to the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) and provided an example of a wire fence boundary with no plantings, to confirm whether or not this meets the boundary standard. The COR team responded with the following statement:

'A fence needs to be sufficient to prevent contamination. This fence does not create a physical barrier.'

Maintaining full compliance with organic standards is crucial not only for your certification but also for your business. Any deviation from these standards, even if unintentional, can jeopardize your organic certification status and, in turn, the wider milk supply. Staying aware of the latest standards and ensuring adherence is the best way to protect your certification and ensure the continued trust and satisfaction of your supply partners.

If you have any questions or concerns, or would like to discuss a specific example, please get in touch via organics@asurequality.com to talk to our Technical Manager – Matt Gallagher.

MyOrganics Update

All OMP's have now been drafted in the new MyOrganics system and are ready for review and submission. As a sign of appreciation, all OMPs that are submitted before Christmas will be processed at no additional cost. We would also like to take this opportunity to remind you that we are currently working to take the old system offline, so this will not continue to be operational.

You can access MyOrganics via the AsureQuality website or directly from this URL <https://myorganics.asurequality.com/>

If you have any issues using MyOrganics please don't hesitate to get in touch through organics@asurequality.com, we are here to help.

Mark Hawker Celebrates 30 years with AsureQuality!



Mark started with MAF Quality Management as a Field Officer in Christchurch back in 1994. As a Field Officer, Mark was involved in Phytosanitary certification for plant products (IVA), quality and assurance inspections for fruit, as well as delivering work in the Biosecurity space.

Mark was the key contact supporting Summerfruit NZ for many years.

He then shifted into organics auditing, where he contributed to the development of the AsureQuality Organic Standard and its launch in 1999/2000. Mark applies the skills and expertise he has built up over the years in his current role as a Senior Auditor for Organics.

His passion for his work and dedication to delivering for customers was recently recognised at the annual Auditing Services conference, where he won the Trusted Value award. We are privileged to have Mark as a member of the team!

Welcome our new Programme Co-ordinator – Andreas Altsarfelt

In other news we are pleased to welcome our Andreas to the Organics team. Andreas comes across from the AsureQuality Plant Exports team and already has a great understanding of our internal systems. He is working closely with his manager (also our previous co-ordinator) Vikki Ogilvie and the rest of the organics team to learn about all the variety in the Organics sector.

Andreas is our primary contact for all initial organic queries and can be reached by emailing organics@asurequality.com, from which he will identify the best placed member of our team to respond.

Ngā mihi

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