

1 NATIONAL ORGANIC STANDARDS BOARD  
2 FULL BOARD AFTERNOON SESSION  
3 THURSDAY, MAY 20, 1993  
4

5 Prepared By: Julie Anton, USDA/AMS

6 The Board convened with a review of the agenda. Mr. Gene  
7 Kahn advised that the Crop Standards Committee would present  
8 positions to be voted upon by the full Board, and the agenda was  
9 adjusted to reflect this.

10 Dr. Rich Theuer presented the Processing and Handling  
11 Committee report. Conference calls will be held on June 8, 17,  
12 and 22, 1993, prior to the July 1993 meeting in Oregon. In  
13 preparation for the July meeting, Mr. Weakley will be revising  
14 the Organic Handling Plan. The Committee will review the  
15 Labeling document and work further on processing standards. Ms.  
16 Merrill Clark and Mr. Gene Kahn are the Committee appointees for  
17 the definition of organic working group. Chair Theuer will  
18 develop the Committee's response to the Codex draft by June 1,  
19 1993.

20 A question was raised as to whether cotton should be  
21 assigned to the Processing Committee or to a specific working  
22 group. It was agreed that cotton production should be addressed  
23 in that cottonseed meal is a livestock feed supplement.

24 The Committee agreed to discuss the small processor  
25 exemption at a later date.

26 Mr. Sligh thanked Mr. Theuer for an extraordinary job as  
27 Chair of the Committee.

28 Ms. Nancy Taylor, Chair of the Materials Committee, informed  
29 the Board that Dr. Tom Stoneback was elected the new Chair of the  
30 Committee, and Dr. Gary Osweiler was elected Vice-Chair. Ms.  
31 Taylor also announced that Ms. Merrill Clark would be joining the  
32 Committee. Input for the July meeting has not yet been  
33 developed. A working group for the Technical Review Panel is  
34 needed. Mr. Sligh suggested that Mr. Stoneback and Dr. Osweiler  
35 work out the details of their respective responsibilities as soon  
36 as possible. Ms. Taylor called for a brief meeting of the  
37 Committee before the Board adjourned for the day.

38 The Accreditation Committee report was delivered by Chair  
39 Margaret Clark. Ms. Clark officially requested that Ms. Julie  
40 Anton be charged with creating a glossary for the Committee's  
41 work. Ms. Clark described the anticipated Crop Standards  
42 Committee role in devising certifying agency qualifications for  
43 reviewing Organic Farm Plans.

44           Acting Chair Stoneback presented a report of the  
45 International Issues Committee meeting, announcing the following  
46 Committee member assignments with regard to review of the Codex  
47 Alimentarius guidelines: Dr. Bob Quinn, crops issues; Mr. Sligh,  
48 accreditation issues; Ms. Taylor, materials issues; Dr. Theuer,  
49 processing and labeling issues; Mr. Jay Friedman, livestock  
50 issues; and Dr. Stoneback, definitions.

51           Dr. Stoneback described the Committee's attempt to draft a  
52 definition of "organic" by adapting the Codex definition for use  
53 by the Board. With reference to the ongoing discussions between  
54 the USDA and the European Commission regarding equivalency in  
55 organic food production laws, International Committee  
56 participation in working groups on differences in the laws were  
57 reported.

58           Finally, import requirements were addressed as situational:  
59 sovereign to sovereign policy will reign if both the exporting  
60 and importing countries have regulations in place; where the  
61 exporting country have no sovereign government involvement in  
62 regulating organic food labeling, special requirements shall be  
63 proposed by the International Committee for adoption by the USDA.

64           Dr. Don Kinsman responded to the International Committee  
65 report by making the point that there are FSIS requirements in  
66 place for equivalency in quality of meat.

67           Mr. Kahn commented that as the different positions of the  
68 Board are refined, the workload of the International Committee  
69 will increase substantially in order to address the comparison of  
70 these positions with foreign country standards. The need for a  
71 Board committee on international issues was officially  
72 reaffirmed.

73           Ms. Merrill Clark, Chair of the Livestock Committee,  
74 presented copies of the Committee's revised version of Standards  
75 for Organic Livestock Production to the Board, and a discussion  
76 of its contents ensued. Mr. Quinn brought forth the issue of  
77 whether or not slaughter stock cattle would be considered  
78 certifiable if not obtained from organic breeder stock but fed  
79 organic feed from birth. Ms. Margaret Clark expressed her  
80 opposition to [lines 305-306.] The discussion centered around  
81 possible points of entry into certifiable organic production. It  
82 was decided that discussion of slaughter stock sources would be  
83 reopened at the July 1993 meeting.

84           Mr. Kahn, Mr. K. Chandler, and Mr. Quinn requested to join  
85 the Livestock Committee.

86           Mr. Don Kinsman offered to investigate the livestock density  
87 issue, reviewing U.S. agency and foreign government laws and  
88 guidelines.

89           The Crop Standards Committee report was given by Chair Kahn.  
90 He described the joint meeting held between the Crop Standards  
91 Committee and the Livestock Committee to discuss split operations  
92 and the emergency spray exception.

93           Mr. Kahn then reviewed Committee work in progress,  
94 announcing that he would provide a written work plan to the Board  
95 in the weeks ahead. The final Committee document on spray drift  
96 policy will be presented at the July 1993 meeting. The crop  
97 production inputs list will be given high priority, with eight or  
98 nine particularly questionable materials to be intensively  
99 reviewed.

100           Furthermore, the Committee plans to address cotton  
101 defoliation.

102           The Committee will work cooperatively with the Processing  
103 and Handling Committee to define the terms, "extraction" and  
104 "synthetic." Specialized standards on mushroom, maple syrup, and  
105 greenhouse production will be drafted.

106           The Committee has yet to decide whether or not to  
107 specifically address soil improvement as a proposed standard or  
108 as merely guidelines to certifying agents. The Committee plans  
09 to recommend policy to the Accreditation Committee regarding how  
110 certifying agencies should handle minor infractions.

111           The Committee plans to resolve all non-agreement materials  
112 and sought to initiate the botanicals special review process.  
113 Guidelines for brand-name products will be developed. Also, a  
114 preamble to the list of crop production inputs will be drafted  
115 for approval by the Board.

116           The organic farm plan will be revised slightly, with a  
117 reworking of the questionnaire. It is clear that the  
118 wildcrafting section is inadequate. Also, the Committee needs to  
119 address farming by neglect.

120           Finally, the Committee will aspire to consolidate all  
121 documents pertaining to crop production, providing a table of  
122 contents.

123           Mr. Kahn pointed out the need for the Board to discuss  
124 genetic manipulation.

125           Mr. Sligh inquired about the small farmer exemption, an  
126 issue that cuts across the areas of accreditation, crops, and  
127 livestock. It was agreed that Mr. Sligh and Mr. Dean Eppley will  
128 work together to formulate language to address the small farmer  
129 exemption within the context of the crop production standards.

130 The Board agreed to officially recommend to the Secretary of  
131 Agriculture that cotton production and processing be included in  
132 the products certifiable under the Organic Foods Production Act  
133 of 1990. The discussion preceding this decision included the  
134 following points: Mr. Theuer stated that cotton seed meal and  
135 cotton seed oil bring cotton defoliation into the Board's  
136 purview, but questioned whether or not the processing of cotton  
137 fiber followed the same logic; Mr. Quinn pointed out that cotton  
138 is only defoliated for the purpose of fiber production; Mr. Kahn  
139 asserted that it would be irresponsible of the Board not to  
140 address cotton; and Mr. Chandler described fiber as a "by-  
141 product" of cotton production. The Board authorized the Crop  
142 Standards Committee to conduct a fact-finding mission about  
143 cotton production, and the request of its members.

144 Mr. Kahn announced that the Committee would not change  
145 chairs at the present time. The primary need for technical  
146 assistance would be in the area of biotechnology.

147 A joint Crop Standards/Livestock Committee document  
148 pertaining to split operations [attached] was presented to the  
149 Board. Prior to a vote, the following discussion and amendments  
150 took place.

151 Mr. Craig Weakley described how the Committees agreed that  
152 full farm conversion would not be mandated but would be  
153 encouraged in the farm plan document. It was agreed that USDA-  
154 accredited certifying agents should be allowed to make the use of  
155 their seal contingent upon full farm conversion. An official  
156 vote was taken to elevate the Committee recommendation to a Draft  
157 Full Board Recommendation: unanimous approval resulted.

158 Mr. Weakley presented a revised version of the Committee's  
159 recommendation to the Board regarding residue testing [see  
160 attached]. He announced that the Committee had been able to  
161 address the concerns expressed by Mr. Sligh and Mr. Theuer on  
162 Monday, when the previous version of the documents was presented,  
163 by making the following amendments: (1) on line 126 on page 5, a  
164 sentence was added; (2) on line 132 on page 5, a sentence was  
165 added; (3) on line 136 on page 5, a paragraph was added.

166 Mr. Stoneback questioned the specificity of the language on  
167 lines 126-127; there may be a laboratory somewhere that may be  
168 able to detect a residue, but it may be far from the site and  
169 impose an unrealistic cost on the producer. Addressing Mr.  
170 Stoneback's concern, it was agreed that after the word "pesticide"  
171 on line 129, a new sentence should be added: "In such situations  
172 the certifying agency shall survey the regionally available USDA-  
173 accredited laboratories and select the laboratories that are  
174 capable of detecting the lowest level for that pesticide." After  
175 Dr. Kinsman question the appropriateness of the bracketed

176 sentence in the same paragraph, the Board agreed that the  
177 bracketed information should appear in the glossary.

178 Mr. Theuer suggested that the residue testing document be  
179 preliminarily reviewed by FDA and FSIS officials. Dr. Hal Ricker  
180 agreed to ask officials of the AMS pesticide residue testing  
181 program to review the document as well. It was explained that  
182 the USDA has program which involves laboratory testing  
183 [accreditation of labs?]; the Board officially requested that the  
184 USDA provide a list of those pesticides that can be tested by the  
185 laboratories and a description of the capabilities of these  
186 laboratories should be drawn up and provided to the Board.

187 An official vote was taken to approve the document,  
188 including the revisions cited above; approval was unanimous.

189 A joint Crop Standards/Livestock Committee document  
190 pertaining to the emergency spray exception [attached] was  
191 presented to the Board. Mr. Kahn summarized Board members'  
192 concerns expressed in the Monday session, and explained that two  
193 sections had been added to the original Crop Standards Committee  
194 document to address those concerns [see lines 8-16, and lines 19-  
195 30]. Prior to a vote, the following discussion and amendments  
196 took place.

197 Mr. Sligh requested that the document be distributed to  
198 other agencies that might be involved in these programs.

199 It was agreed that the phrase, "by the government," on line  
200 27 should be changed to "by the responsible government agency."

201 It was noted that lines 67-68 reflect added references to  
202 pasturage which may not have a production season. Other  
203 references to livestock had been added on lines 95-105, line 109,  
204 line 115, and lines 122-123.

205 The suggestion by Mr. Stoneback that the parentheses be  
206 removed was approved by the Board.

207 Ms. Merrill Clark commented that it is likely that consumer  
208 groups will take issue with the fact that the Board's position on  
209 the emergency spray exception does not require a three-year  
210 organic status reinstatement period.

211 It was agreed that the phrase, "substances allowed under  
212 this title," on line 15 replace the phrase, "National List  
213 substances approved."

214 An official vote was taken to approve the document,  
215 including the revisions cited above; approval by the Board was  
16 unanimous.

217 Mr. Kahn then presented a revised version of the Committee's  
218 recommendation to the Board regarding planting stock [see  
219 attached]. He announced that the Committee had been able to  
220 address some of the concerns expressed public input presenters at  
221 the Monday session.

222 The first revision made was to delete lines 60-65. Mr. Kahn  
223 explained that the Crop Standards Committee views onions, garlic,  
224 potatoes, and strawberry crowns as seeds and therefore allowable  
225 under the OFPA. He also pointed out with reference to the  
226 strawberry crown proposal that State phytosanitary law requires  
227 fumigation with methyl bromide for interstate transport.

228 In reference to the added phrases regarding transplants  
229 destroyed by natural disaster, Mr. Theuer asked about man-made  
230 "disasters," such as fires.

231 Ms. Merrill Clark repeated her concern about the definition  
232 of "compatible synthetic."

233 The phrase, "look for," on line 213 was changed to the word  
234 "develop."

235 It was agreed that the term, "USDA-accredited," should be  
236 added in insert #3.

237 An official vote was taken to approve the document,  
238 including the revisions cited above; approval by the Board was  
239 unanimous, with the exception of Dr. Osweiler, who was absent.

240 Mr. Quinn reported the Committee's position on changes to  
241 the spray drift policy recommendation to the Board, presented on  
242 Monday, summarizing the position as entailing the following  
243 concepts:  
244 1. Losses due to drift or emergency spray should be eligible  
245 for crop or disaster insurance.  
246 2. The consequence of a drift incident should be the same as an  
247 emergency spray event.  
248 a. Visual evidence provides a determination.  
249 b. The next crop may be considered for an "organic"  
250 designation at discretion of the certifying agent or upon the  
251 basis of residue testing.  
252 c. Drift or misapplication by others of any prohibited  
253 material may follow similar procedures.  
254 d. Only crops harvested from the portions of the field hit  
255 by drift should be decertified.  
256 e. Buffer zones shall be established.

257 Ms. Taylor reminded the Board of the importance of making  
258 the producer responsible for notifying the drift applicator (the  
259 potential trespasser) and the relevant government authority(ies)  
260 of the organic status of the farm. Mr. Sligh pointed out that

261 aerial pesticide applicators are of particularly concern. Mr.  
262 Theuer added that a description of how to proceed with a  
263 determination of the material sprayed would be needed.

264 Mr. Kahn noted that the Committee would utilized the same  
265 notification language used in the emergency spray document.

266 Mr. Sligh suggested that the Board request that the  
267 Secretary educate pesticide applicators of the liability in  
268 spraying around or on certified organic farms. Ms. Margaret  
269 Clark commented that such a procedure could work; pesticide  
270 applicators can have their licenses revoked if they spray  
271 pesticides during bee season.

272 Mr. Sligh pointed out the problem with absentee owners who  
273 hire pesticide applicators and do not inform them of the location  
274 of organic farms. Ms. Merrill Clark commented that in Michigan,  
275 a registry of organic producers was created, and applicators were  
276 required to be familiar with the farms in the registry.

277 A "straw" vote was called to approve the concepts put forth  
278 by the Committee; there was complete support from the Board, with  
279 one abstention (M. Sligh).

280 To conclude the Committee's presentation, Chair Kahn  
281 requested that the Board approve the Committee's plan to initiate  
282 the Special Review of Botanicals. Research would be conducted,  
283 with the result of a fact sheet on botanicals to be prepared by  
284 Ms. Anton for the NOSB. Ms. Anton also agreed to contact the  
285 National Agricultural Library to initiate a literature search.  
286 Dr. Ricker reported that the EPA is in the process of screening  
287 the botanical pesticides, utilizing the seven criteria appearing  
288 in the OFPA.

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NATIONAL ORGANIC STANDARDS BOARD  
FULL BOARD SESSION  
MAY 21, 1993

292 Prepared By: Harold Ricker, USDA/AMS

293 Board Members Present: Michael Sligh, Chair; Margaret Clark,  
294 Eugene Kahn, K. Chandler, Merrill Clark, Dean Eppley, Donald  
295 Kinsman, Gary Osweiler, Robert Quinn, Thomas Stoneback, Nancy  
296 Taylor, Richard Theuer, Craig Weakley

297 Missing: William J. Friedman

298 USDA Representatives: Harold Ricker, Staff Director; Julie Anton,  
299 AMS; D. Ted Rogers, AMS, Donald Derr, FSIS.

300 Chairman Sligh called the meeting to order at 8:00 am and asked  
301 Gary Osweiler to serve as Acting Secretary.

302 Approval of Minutes

303 Chairman Sligh called for comments errors or omissions on the  
304 July 1992 minutes. It was noted to strike 9 on line 34 of the  
305 last page of the minutes. No other changes were proffered.  
306 Chairman called for approval. Vote was 12 Yeas and 1 No.

307 Chairman Sligh called for errors and omissions for the September  
308 minutes. It was noted that Mr. Gene Kahn was not present at the  
309 meeting. Chairman Sligh called for approval as amended. Minutes  
310 were approved.

311 Chairman Sligh moved to accept the proforma budget statement with  
312 the proviso that it will be reviewed at the July meeting.

313 LIVESTOCK COMMITTEE PRESENTATION TO THE FULL BOARD  
314 FRIDAY, MAY 21, 1993  
315

316 Prepared By: Julie Anton, USDA/AMS

317 Livestock Committee Chair Merrill Clark circulated copies of  
318 a document entitled, "Comprehensive Livestock Production  
319 Standards Document, Recommendation to the Full Board #3"  
320 [attached], to the Board members present, explaining it as a  
321 truncated version of Recommendation to the Full Board #2. The  
322 Livestock Committee (NOSB-LC), having met briefly the evening  
323 before, sought to present the Board with sections of  
324 Recommendation #2 ready for full Board discussion and vote,  
325 particularly given the short time for presentation allowed on  
326 Friday.

327 An informal agenda was also circulated, outlining the NOSB-  
328 LC's plans: (1) to describe the definitions as for clarification  
329 purposes only; (2) to progress from the last lettered section of  
330 the document to the first and to call for a vote on each; and (3)  
331 to refer sections with more than ten minutes of discussion back  
332 to the NOSB-LC for further work. A "straw" (unofficial) vote  
333 would be taken on the sections described in (3) above.

334 Starting with section G of NOSB-LC Recommendation #3, the  
335 proposed livestock transportation standards were discussed. Ms.  
336 Clark noted that the NOSB-LC removed reference to sick or injured  
337 livestock in NOSB-LC Recommendation #2 because of Mr. Rich  
338 Theuer's previous observation that there are provisions  
339 regulating the transportation of sick or injured livestock in  
340 other Federal law. With little further discussion, the section  
341 was called to an official vote and approved unanimously.

342 Section F, "Recordkeeping for Organic Livestock Producers,"  
343 was discussed next. Mr. Tom Stoneback questioned the purpose of  
344 requiring producers to document their rationale for using  
345 synthetic health inputs appearing on the National List. Dr. Gary  
346 Osweiler explained the purpose of this standard as to provide the  
347 certifying agent with a means of evaluating habitual use.

348 There was some discussion of whether or not this standard  
349 should be removed and designated an Organic Farm Plan guideline.  
350 Ms. Julie Anton noted that the issue is really whether or not a  
351 producer could be decertified if he/she did not document the use  
352 and rationale for use of permissible synthetic health inputs.  
353 Ms. Nancy Taylor pointed out that National List annotations will  
354 cover such producer requirements to some extent.

355 The Board agreed to the rephrasing of lines 123-124: "All  
356 organic livestock while under organic production shall be  
357 traceable through the life cycle."

358 Section F was called to an official vote and adopted  
359 unanimously.

360 Organic Livestock Healthcare Practices, Section E, was then  
361 addressed by the Board. The first issue was whether or not to  
362 prohibit the use of both systemic and topical antibiotics in or  
363 on slaughter stock. In response to a question by Mr. Gene Kahn  
364 about the viability of an antibiotic used in a livestock animal,  
365 Dr. Osweiler briefly explained that elaborate withdrawal times  
366 have been established based on various scientific studies and  
367 that most of the time the antibiotic administered to the animal  
368 will be nondetectable before the withdrawal time is up. However,  
369 he noted that if injections are administered in the wrong place  
370 in the wrong way, there may be more problems with residues.

371 Mr. Michael Sligh referred the issue to the certifying  
372 agencies present at the meeting. Mr. David Haehn of the Ozark  
373 Small Farm Viability project commented that in subtropical areas,  
374 a cut is potentially life threatening, and therefore, he has no  
375 objection to use of topical antibiotics. He stated that the NOSB  
376 had covered his concerns about antibiotic residues with the  
377 recordkeeping requirement that National List materials be cited  
378 along with a rationale for their use. Mr. Eric Ardapple Kindberg  
379 of the same agency, on the other hand, agreed with the NOSB-LC  
380 proposal to prohibit all antibiotic use in slaughter stock.

381 Mr. George Siemon, a representative of the OFPANA/OFAC  
382 livestock committee, reported that their survey indicated clear  
383 support for prohibition of systemic antibiotic use in slaughter  
384 stock (88%) and for the allowance of topical antibiotic use in  
385 slaughter stock (81%).

386 Mr. Brian Baker of California Certified Organic Farmers  
387 indicated that the producers he interviewed would like to be able  
388 to utilize topical antibiotics in slaughter stock but could "live  
389 without" systemic antibiotics.

390 There were concerns expressed by Board members about the  
391 definition of "systemic." The consensus was that no official  
392 vote could be taken until "systemic" was defined. A "straw" vote  
393 was taken on a revision of the NOSB-LC proposal: "The use of  
394 systemic antibiotics for the treatment of slaughter stock is  
395 prohibited." 8 Board members "straw" voted for the proposal, 4  
396 members voted against the proposal, and one member abstained. It  
397 was decided that references to antibiotics would be moved to the  
398 National List section of the comprehensive document.

399 Regarding the second issue under section E pertaining to  
400 contamination by treated livestock and treatment of one animal  
401 not affecting the status of others, the Board expressed unanimous  
402 approval.

403 The third issue under section E regarding the withholding of  
404 treatment to maintain the organic status of a livestock animal  
405 evoked minor discussion of the term, "unavoidable suffering."

406 It was explained by the NOSB-LC that density considerations  
407 under part 4 of section E, the "production environment," had not  
408 yet been developed by the Committee but would be addressed. It  
409 was decided that references to density would be removed from  
410 section E until ready for full Board vote.

411 There was some discussion of the requirement that bedding be  
412 organic if edible, particularly given that newspaper, which is  
413 often used for livestock bedding, will be consumed by livestock  
414 to some extent. Mr. Stoneback argued that it is important that

415 organic standards do not preclude the interrelationship between  
416 municipalities and farms by prohibiting the use of newspapers,  
417 particularly given that agriculture creates a third of the U.S.  
418 waste problem; Mr. Quinn commented that "recycling should not be  
419 done through organic livestock."

420 Mr. K. Chandler noted that the term "crate," as utilized in  
421 part 5 of section E, should be defined; Mr. Quinn noted that  
422 "farrowing period" should also be defined.

423 Regarding part 6 of section E, it was agreed that the  
424 parenthesis utilized in lines 114-115 be removed and that the  
425 word "outdoors" would be followed with the phrase, "with the  
426 following exception:".

427 An official vote on section E, lines 84-106 and 109-120 was  
428 called and resulted in unanimous approval.

429 Section D, Sources of Drinking Water, was discussed next,  
430 with no official votes on the language taken. The Board agreed  
431 to drop the term, "by the National List," and discussed how  
432 prohibited substances would be detected and procedures in case of  
433 detection. It was pointed out that there is no EPA tolerance  
434 level set for livestock drinking water. In conclusion, the Board  
435 agreed that the Livestock and Crop Standards Committees should  
436 work together to develop a joint recommendation to the full Board  
437 on water quality.

438 Section C, Sources of Feed, Feed Supplements, and Feed  
439 Additives, brought a few issues of contention among Board  
440 members. Ms. Margaret Clark stated her preference for a phase-in  
441 to the 100% certified organic feed requirement. Dr. Quinn  
442 suggested a provision for cases of disaster, giving the example  
443 of a livestock barn that burns down in the middle of a blizzard,  
444 with alternative feed sources three days travel away. Dr.  
445 Stoneback recommended that land not treated with prohibited  
446 substances (i.e. fallow) for three years be acceptable as  
447 pasturage for organic livestock.

448 "Straw" votes were taken to assess the will of the Board.  
449 Section C, written as is, received only one vote of approval.  
450 With a disaster clause written in, 10 Board members expressed  
451 support. With an allowance for untreated pasture land written  
452 in, 9 members expressed support, 2 abstained, and 2 were opposed.  
453 It was agreed that the Board should spend time discussing feed  
454 requirements further.

455 To conclude the discussion of livestock feed supplements and  
456 feed additives, the Board expressed no objections to lines 70-71,  
457 and no objections to lines 72-73.

458 Section B, Livestock Sources, evoked extensive discussion.  
459 A "straw" vote was taken regarding the language in lines 20-30,  
460 and unanimous approval was achieved. The term, "substances  
461 prohibited by the National List," was replaced by the term,  
462 "prohibited substances."

463 Discussion of (1) under Breeder Stock was referred to a  
464 later discussion of slaughter stock. There were no objections to  
465 (2), as rewritten from Committee Recommendation #2. Mr. Kahn,  
466 Dr. Kinsman, and Ms. Taylor likened (3) to the split operations  
467 language, and the concept was approved by the majority of the  
468 Board. Regarding (4), it was noted that the intent is to prevent  
469 the cycling of breeder stock in and out of organic status when  
470 kept on a certified organic farm; (4) received unanimous approval  
471 by the Board. (5) also received unanimous approval, with no  
472 discussion.

473 The issue at hand in the Board's discussion of slaughter  
474 stock sources is whether or not to allow day-old or week-old  
475 calves, which are not born from organic breeder stock. Three  
476 Board members, Ms. Merrill Clark, Dr. Osweiler, and Mr. Sligh,  
477 expressed support for the requirement as written; nine Board  
478 members disapproved of the requirement; Dr. Kinsman abstained  
479 from the "straw" vote.

480 A "straw" vote was taken on lines 51-61, the Poultry Stock  
481 section, and unanimous approval was achieved.

482 The Dairy Stock section was not discussed.

483 In conclusion, the Board agreed that a legal definition of  
484 "raised" and of the breeder stock requirements was needed prior  
485 to further discussion of livestock sources issues.

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NATIONAL ORGANIC STANDARDS BOARD  
FULL BOARD SESSION (CONTINUED)  
MAY 21, 1993

489 July Meeting Agenda: Three versions of a proposed agenda for the  
490 July meeting had been circulated for approval. Chairman Sligh  
491 asked for discussion and approval. Margaret's second agenda was  
492 approved unanimously.

493 September Meeting Dates and Location: Three locations were  
494 considered: Baltimore, Fargo, Arkansas, and Lubbock, Texas. It  
495 was noted that Baltimore would be too expensive, given the  
496 limited budget, and necessitate people being away from work too  
497 long if they had to participate in Expo East just prior to the  
498 meeting.  
499 After brief discussion on the three locations, Chairman Sligh  
500 asked for a vote. The results were Baltimore (1), Arkansas (6),  
501 Texas (6). There was further discussion on Arkansas and Texas  
502 and it was noted that Arkansas would draw people from a number of  
503 as yet unheard from southern states and would offer a low cost  
504 facility and arrangements similar to Rodale. The Board approved  
505 the selection of Arkansas with dates of September 14-17, 1993  
506 with an optional tour on September 13.

507 Timetable: A question was raised about the implementation of the  
508 program and the need for a timetable. It was also asked that  
509 USDA clarify the impact of missing the October 1, 1993 deadline  
510 with OGC, and whether an interim program is needed.

511 Mr. Weakley indicated he would work with OFPANA to get the  
512 processors together at Expo East in Baltimore to meet with Board  
513 members participating in the show.

514 By-Law Proposal: Mr. Chandler moved the Board consider modifying  
515 how Robert's Rules are used. He thinks they should be used as a  
516 guide so as not to tie up the process. Certain things mandated  
517 in the law should be kept, but keep the process as simple as  
518 possible. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

519 Crops Committee Papers: It was noted that the four papers  
520 presented by the Crops Committee yesterday had not been formally  
521 approved as draft recommendations. Stoneback moved adoption of  
522 them, and Quinn Seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

523 Committee Changes: Mr. Kahn and Mr. Chandler asked to be  
524 appointed to the Livestock Committee in addition to current  
525 assignments. Mr. Quinn also expressed interest, but was not sure  
526 he would be able to find the time. Mr. Kahn and Mr. Chandler  
527 were appointed to the Livestock Committee.

528 Election of Officers: Chairman Sligh called for the election of  
529 Officers and recommended that the office of Secretary be consider

530 first since Mr. William J. Friedman indicated his desire to no  
531 longer serve in that capacity. Chairman called for nominations.  
532 Ms. Margaret Clark nominated Mr. Craig Weakley. The nomination  
533 was seconded and a motion was made to close nominations. Motion  
534 passed unanimously and Craig Weakley was appointed Secretary.  
535  
536 Chairman called for nominations for Treasurer. It was noted that  
537 the position does not have any requirements now since there is no  
538 budget, but might have if money becomes available. Mr. Gene Kahn  
539 was nominated by Mr. Chandler and seconded. Mr. Quinn was  
540 nominated by Ms. Margaret Clark, but asked that his name be  
541 withdrawn. Nominations were closed and Mr. Kahn was re-elected  
542 as Treasurer unanimously.

543 Chairman called for nominations for Vice Chair. Ms. Taylor  
544 nominated Ms. Margaret Clark. Mr. Eppley moved nominations be  
545 closed, and Dr. Osweiler seconded. Unanimously approved, and Ms.  
546 Clark was re-elected Vice Chair.

547 Nominations were called for Chair. Mr. Weakley nominated Michael  
548 Sligh. Mr. Chandler moved that nominations be closed. This motion  
549 was seconded, and approved unanimously. Mr. Michael Sligh was  
550 re-elected Chair.

551 Other Business: Chairman Sligh asked all Committee Chairs to  
552 limit their use of conference calls to one or two a month, and to  
553 keep them focused.

554 The Chairman called for a standing ovation for the hospitality  
555 shown by the people at Rodale.

556 The Vice Chair also called for recognition for those members of  
557 the public that attended through all or most all of the week.

558 Meeting was adjourned at 11:30 am.

1 NATIONAL ORGANIC STANDARDS BOARD  
2 LIVESTOCK COMMITTEE  
3 COMPREHENSIVE LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION STANDARDS DOCUMENT  
4 RECOMMENDATION TO THE FULL BOARD #3  
5 NATIONAL STANDARDS FOR ORGANIC PRODUCTION

6 Approved By Livestock Committee: May 20, 1993  
7 Distributed By: Julie Anton, USDA/AMS  
8 For presentation to the Full Board on May 21, 1993

9 A. DEFINITIONS

10 These definitions are provided only for the purpose of  
11 clarification.

12 Breeder Stock. Female parent of organic livestock.

13 Manure Refeeding. The intentional addition of manure or  
14 livestock litter to the ration.

15 Organic Production Methods. Fed 100% organic feed and under  
16 organic methods as defined by the recommended standards.

17 Organically-Raised. Fed 100% organic feed and under organic  
18 production methods as defined by the recommended standards.

19 B. LIVESTOCK SOURCES

20 (1) Livestock which do not meet the standards for organic  
21 livestock shall not contaminate organic livestock remaining in  
22 the farming operation with substances prohibited by the National  
23 List.

24 (2) Livestock and/or the products of livestock which do not meet  
25 the standards for organic livestock shall be diverted to the  
26 conventional market when sold.

27 (3) The USDA-accredited certifying agency shall include a  
28 section in the Organic Farm Plan questionnaire which addresses  
29 the producer's progress toward full conversion of the farming  
30 operation to organic production.

31 1. BREEDER STOCK

32 (1) Only slaughter stock that are progeny of female breeder  
33 stock under organic production methods from the last third of  
34 gestation or longer shall be considered organic.

35 (2) Breeder stock purchased for the purpose of producing organic  
36 slaughter stock shall be organically raised, with the following  
37 exception: if the producer can document to the satisfaction of  
38 an USDA-accredited certifying agent that organically-raised  
39 breeder stock of acceptable quality and genetic potential are not  
40 commercially available, non-organic breeder stock shall be  
41 permitted.

42 (3) Purchased breeder stock shall be under organic production  
43 methods from such time such stock is brought onto a certified  
44 organic farm.

45 (4) On-farm breeder stock shall be under organic production  
46 methods from birth.

47 (5) Artificial insemination is allowed.

48 2. SLAUGHTER STOCK

49 Slaughter stock shall be born to organic breeder stock and be  
50 raised under organic production methods.

51 3. POULTRY STOCK

52 (1) All poultry from which meat or eggs will be sold as  
53 organically produced shall be raised under organic production  
54 methods from day old.

55 (2) Day-old poultry purchased for the purpose of producing  
56 organic poultry stock shall be organically raised, with the  
57 following exception: if the producer can document to the  
58 satisfaction of an USDA-accredited certifying agent that  
59 organically-raised chicks of acceptable quality and genetic  
60 potential are not commercially available, non-organic chicks  
61 shall be permitted.

62 4. DAIRY STOCK

63 [Position under consideration.]

64 C. SOURCES OF FEED, FEED SUPPLEMENTS, AND FEED ADDITIVES

65 (1) All certified organically produced livestock must be fed  
66 100% certified organically produced feeds and feed supplements.

67 (2) Land upon which livestock feed is produced and upon which  
68 livestock are grazed or pastured shall be under organic  
69 production methods.

70 (3) Feed supplements utilized in the livestock ration shall be  
71 100% certified organic.

72 (4) Feed additives utilized in the livestock ration may be from  
73 any source unless prohibited by the National List.

74 D. SOURCES OF DRINKING WATER

75 Water quality shall not compromise the organic integrity of  
76 livestock. Water for livestock shall not contain substances  
77 prohibited by the National List. The farm plan shall address  
78 remediation action to be taken by the farmer either to provide  
79 alternative drinking water sources or correct the water quality  
80 problem.

81 E. ORGANIC LIVESTOCK HEALTHCARE PRACTICES

82 (1) The use of systemic and topical antibiotics in or on  
83 slaughter stock is prohibited.

84 (2) Livestock which are treated with or fed prohibited materials  
85 for healthcare purposes shall not contaminate organic livestock  
86 remaining in the farming operation. Use of prohibited materials  
87 on individual livestock shall not result in a change of status  
88 for the remaining organic livestock.

89 (3) The action of a producer to withhold treatment to maintain  
90 the organic status of an individual livestock animal which  
91 results in the otherwise avoidable suffering or death of the  
92 animal shall be grounds for decertification.

93 (4) A production environment which minimizes livestock stress  
94 and maximizes livestock health shall be provided; it must include  
95 the following factors:

96 (a) access to shade, shelter, natural air, and daylight  
97 suitable to the species, the stage of production, the climate,  
98 and the environment;

99 (b) clean and dry bedding, which is of organic origin if  
100 consumable, suitable to the species and where applicable to the  
101 husbandry system;

102 (c) housing design which allows for the conduction of  
103 natural maintenance and comfort behaviors and for the opportunity  
104 to exercise; and

105 (d) housing design which provides a temperature level,  
106 ventilation, and air circulation suitable to the species.

107 (e) [Density considerations to be developed upon research  
108 of recommended allotments.]

109 (5) The following types of intensive confinement production  
110 systems shall be specifically prohibited:

111 (a) Poultry raised in battery cages;

- 112 (b) Veal raised in crates;  
113 (c) Sows raised in crates, except during farrowing periods.
- 114 (6) Continuous confinement of livestock to an indoor housing  
115 facility without the opportunity for daily exercise and access to  
116 the outdoors (with the exception of extreme climatic conditions,  
117 including those which would incur or cause ecologically damage)  
118 shall be prohibited. Stanchion barns or tie stalls to which  
119 livestock are confined without daily outdoor access and the  
120 opportunity for exercise are prohibited.

121 F. RECORDKEEPING FOR ORGANIC LIVESTOCK PRODUCERS

122 1. ANIMAL SOURCE AND LIFE CYCLE RECORDS

- 123 (1) An identification system must ensure the identity of organic  
124 livestock.  
125 (2) Each slaughter animal/poultry flock/fish lot must be  
126 traceable through the life-cycle.  
127 (3) A producer shall document all livestock sales and purchases.

128 2. HEALTHCARE RECORDS

- 129 (1) Producers must document use and rationale for use of all  
130 synthetic health inputs appearing on the National List.

131 3. FEED AND FEED SUPPLEMENT RECORDS

132 4. FEED ADDITIVE RECORDS

133 G. TRANSPORTATION

- 134 (1) Audit trail must remain verifiable throughout  
135 transportation.  
136 (2) Contamination by prohibited materials shall not occur during  
137 transport.