National Organic Program Notice to Stakeholders and Interested Parties

To: Stakeholders and Interested Parties

Miles McEvoy, Deputy Administrator From:

Subject: Neotame Not Allowed in Organic Foods

Date: January 6, 2011

The National Organic Program has received inquiries concerning Internet claims that the artificial sweetener Neotame is allowed in organic foods.

To clarify, it is NOT permitted in organic foods or foods labeled "made with organic [specified ingredient or food group]," nor is it permitted in organic livestock feed.

All additives used as ingredients or processing aids for foods labeled "organic" or "made with organic [specified ingredient or food group]" must appear on the National List (7 CFR 205.605-205.606).

The NOP is not aware of any complaints at present regarding Neotame in organic food products. Complaints may be filed by phone or e-mail to the NOP Compliance and Enforcement Division:

NOP Compliance and Enforcement USDA Agricultural Marketing Service 1400 Independence Ave., SW Mail Stop 0268 Washington, D.C. 20250

Phone: 202-720-3252 Fax: 202-205-7808

E-mail: nopcompliance@ams.usda.gov