

STATE OF ALASKA

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

DIVISION OF AGRICULTURE

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August 17, 2010

Dear Organic Producer:

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), under the National Organic Certification Cost Assistance program, will make cost-share funds available again this year for organic certification costs incurred between October 1, 2009, and September 30, 2010.

Individual producers and handlers may apply now for reimbursement of costs incurred for certification of organic products. Payments to eligible producers will be limited to 75 percent of an individual producer's or handler's certification costs up to a maximum of \$750. **Applications for cost share funds will be reimbursed in the order they are received until the funds are exhausted or the eligibility period ends, whichever comes first.**

This year, all completed cost-share program applications must be submitted to USDA by our office by September 30, 2010. Therefore, it is important that The Division of Agriculture receive your completed application for reimbursement, and all required documents (see below) **as soon as possible.**

Please submit the following items with your application:

1. National Organic Certification Cost-Share Program Application Form (enclosed)
2. Copy of current Certificate of Organic Operation
3. Copy of all itemized invoices showing fees assessed for certification.

Your application must contain your Employer Identification Number, Social Security Number, or a Form W-9. Incomplete applications will be returned to the applicant for correction.

Mail to:

Alaska Division of Agriculture
Re: Organic Certification Cost-Share Program
1800 Glenn Highway, Suite 12
Palmer, Alaska 99645-6735

Sincerely,

Barbara Hanson
Agricultural Inspector

Cc: Doug Warner

"Develop, Conserve, and Enhance Natural Resources for Present and Future Alaskans."