

# Plant Production

## Frequently Asked Questions about Organic Certification under Mexico's Organic Product Law

### **Which seeds are allowed for organic production?**

Preferably, seeds of organic origin or criolla seeds must be used, as they are the best adapted to local conditions, and the organic plant propagation material must be developed.

### **¿Where can I get organic seeds?**

Consult the [Register of Seed Producers](#)

### **What if I cannot get certified organic seeds?**

There are exceptions to allow the use of conventional seeds, as long as it is demonstrated with evidence that there are no varieties available in the market in their organic form, and that they have not been treated with prohibited substances.

### **Is it necessary to implement soil and water preservation practices in organic production?**

Yes, to comply with the organic production practices established in articles 23 to 34 of the Guidelines, it is necessary to implement soil and water preservation practices.

### **What are some of the practices to be implemented in organic production?**

Crop rotation, use of composted organic fertilizers, green manures, minimum tillage, cover crops, integrated pest and disease management, prevention culture through cultural practices, windbreaks with native flora, as examples.

### **What tools and machinery can I use in organic production?**

All tools and machinery are accepted, as long as they are consistent with the cultural practices of conservation tillage, and care is taken not to contaminate organic production with prohibited substances. Tools and machinery used for organic production should be differentiated from those used in conventional production; if this is not possible, they should be cleaned before being used in organic operations.

### **How should I manage crop nutrition in organic production?**

Before resorting to the use of inputs from the National List it is necessary, as far as economic thresholds allow, to exhaust all crop nutrition management resources through the implementation of cultural practices that promote soil fertility and crop nutrition, such as: tillage that minimizes soil loss by erosion and leaves unprotected soils vulnerable to nutrient loss by runoff or wind action.

### **What pest and disease control should I implement in organic production?**

Ecological management of pests and diseases should be implemented; focused on prevention; through timely cultural work, with natural control, use of traps and / or predators, natural preparations of plant, animal and mineral origin, biological control, physical and mechanical control through color traps, for example.

## **How should I manage weeds in organic production?**

Organic operators will be able to remove weeds manually or mechanically, using appropriate tools, mulching, covers (against biotransmitters), cover crops such as legumes and wild vegetables. Thermal control (fire) will be allowed in borders or guardrails.