



Vermont Organic Farmers, LLC (VOF)

The USDA Accredited Certification Program of NOFA Vermont

802-434-3821 vof@nofavt.org www.nofavt.org/VOF

## **Frequently Asked Questions for Organic Certification of Hemp & Hemp Products**

### **Is it legal to get my hemp crop or product certified organic?**

Yes! Thanks to the 2018 Farm Bill hemp is no longer a controlled substance and therefore farmers and processors may certify eligible hemp crops and hemp derived products (hemp seeds, hemp seed meal, hemp flower extracts, etc.). Certified organic hemp & hemp product producers must continue to comply with all relevant state and federal laws.

### **Can non-organic hemp seeds be used to grow organic hemp?**

Yes! The organic standards allow for the use of non-organic seed, provided that the grower keeps documentation that they attempted to find an organic alternative but were unable to obtain organic seed in the form, quality, or quantity necessary. Please note, however, that seedlings (excluding clones) used to produce an organic crop must be grown on-farm or by a certified organic operation.

### **Can feminized seeds be used in organic production?**

Yes! Feminization methods leave no application of a prohibited substance on the seed itself so they fall into the general category of non-organic seeds.

### **Are hemp clones allowed?**

Hemp clones may be allowed provided the grower obtain documentation that no substances prohibited in organic production were applied to the clone after rooting.

### **Can cannabidiol (CBD) products be certified organic?**

If the CBD is extracted from a certified organic hemp plant, is extracted and handled in a compliant manner, and is processed in a certified organic facility, the CBD or hemp flower extract may be certified organic. Any carrier oils or processing aids must be certified organic.

### **What hemp extraction methods (for extracting CBD) are approved in organic processing?**

Vermont Organic Farmers has reviewed supercritical CO<sub>2</sub> and ethanol extraction methods. These methods have the ability to comply with organic standards. Lipid extraction may also qualify.



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**If you are interested in applying for organic certification, or if you have additional questions, please contact Vermont Organic Farmers at 802-434-3821 or email [brian@nofavt.org](mailto:brian@nofavt.org)**