



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
HEALTH / AGRICULTURE BUILDING
PO BOX 330
TRENTON NJ 08625-0330

CHRIS CHRISTIE
Governor
KIM GUADAGNO
Lt. Governor

DOUGLAS H. FISHER
Secretary

7/6/11

To: New Jersey Organic Operations

Re: **USDA ORGANIC CERTIFICATION COST SHARE PROGRAM**

The New Jersey Department of Agriculture is participating in USDA's Organic Certification Cost-Share program and you may be eligible for reimbursement.

To qualify for reimbursement under this program an organic handler or producer must have received their first certification or have incurred expenses related to the renewal of certification between **October 1, 2010 and September 30, 2011**. Operations must possess a current organic certification through a USDA-Accredited certifying agent.

Each qualified operation is eligible for a reimbursement of up to 75 percent of its costs of certification, not to exceed \$750.00. (In the event that demand exceeds the amount of funds allocated to New Jersey, applications will be processed on a first come, first serve basis).

Certification costs include fees and charges levied by the certifying agent for certification activities. Further information on allowable /unallowable costs is available on USDA's website at <http://www.ams.usda.gov/AMSV1.0/getfile?dDocName=STELPRDC5090146> (See Appendix A- Page 16)

Operations may receive one reimbursement per certification/scope of certification.

APPLICATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE NO LATER THAN MONDAY NOVEMBER 14, 2011.

Applications are available on the New Jersey Department of Agriculture's website. If you have questions in regard to this program please contact Nichole Steward by calling 609-292-5576 or via e-mail at Nichole.Steward@ag.state.nj.us