

The following are the requirements for declaring organic ingredients on US food and beverage product labels.

Click here to link to [DDW Certified Organic Caramel Color 812](#)



## The National Organic Program

AMS USDA SEARCH

### Labeling Packaged Products

These requirements do not preempt Food and Drug Administration; USDA, Food Safety and Inspection Service; or the **Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms** labeling regulations or label approval requirements.

Letter Codes for the information below indicate position on package and are defined as follows:

- PDP:** Principal Display Panel
- IP:** Information Panel
- IS:** Ingredients Statement
- OP:** Any Other Panel

<b>If you want to claim:</b>	<b>"100 percent Organic"</b> (or similar statement)
<b>Your product:</b>	<b>Must</b> contain 100 percent organically produced ingredients, not counting added water and salt.
<b>Your label MUST:</b>	Show an ingredient statement when the product consists of more than one ingredient. Show below the name and address of the handler (bottler, distributor, importer, manufacturer, packer, processor, etc.) of the finished product, the statement: "Certified organic by ____" or similar phrase, followed by the name of the Certifying Agent. Certifying Agent seals may not be used to satisfy this requirement. (IP)
<b>Your label MAY show:</b>	The term "100 percent organic" to modify the product name. (PDP/IP/OP)  The term, "organic" to identify the organic ingredients <sup>1</sup> . Water and salt included as ingredients must not be identified as organic. (IS) The USDA organic seal and/or certifying agent seal(s). (PDP/OP) The certifying agent business/Internet address or telephone number. (IP)
<b>Your label MUST NOT show:</b>	Not applicable

<sup>1</sup> To identify an ingredient as organically produced, in the ingredients statement, use the word, "organic" in conjunction with the name of the ingredient, or an asterisk or other reference mark which is defined below the ingredient statement.

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<b>If you want to claim:</b>	<b>"Organic"</b> (or similar statement)
<b>Your product:</b>	<p><b>Must</b> contain at least 95% organic ingredients, not counting added water and salt.</p> <p><b>Must</b> not contain added sulfites.</p> <p><b>May</b> contain up to 5% of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. nonorganically produced agricultural ingredients which are not commercially available in organic form; and/or</li> <li>b. other substances allowed by 7 CFR 205.605.</li> </ul>
<b>Your label MUST:</b>	<p>Show an ingredient statement. List the organic ingredients as "organic" when other organic labeling is shown.<sup>1</sup> Water and salt included as ingredients must not be identified as organic. (IS) Show below the name and address of the handler (bottler, distributor, importer, manufacturer, packer, processor, etc.) of the finished product, the statement:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">"Certified organic by ____" or similar phrase, followed by the name of the Certifying Agent. Certifying Agent seals may not be used to satisfy this requirement. (IP)</p>
<b>Your label MAY show:</b>	<p>The term "Organic" to modify the product name. (PDP/IP/OP) "X% organic" or "X% organic ingredients." (PDP/IP/OP) The USDA Organic seal and/or certifying agent seal(s). (PDP/OP) The certifying agent business/Internet address or telephone number. (IP)</p>
<b>Your label MUST NOT show:</b>	Not applicable

<sup>1</sup> To identify an ingredient as organically produced, in the ingredients statement, use the word, "organic" in conjunction with the name of the ingredient, or an asterisk or other reference mark which is defined below the ingredient statement.

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<b>If you want to claim:</b>	<b>"Made with Organic Ingredients"</b> (or similar statement)
<b>Your product:</b>	<p><b>Must</b> contain at least 70% organic ingredients, not counting added water and salt.</p> <p><b>Must</b> not contain added sulfites; except that, wine may contain added sulfur dioxide in accordance with 7 CFR 205.605.</p> <p><b>May</b> contain up to 30% of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. nonorganically produced agricultural ingredients; and/or</li> <li>b. other substances, including yeast, allowed by 7 CFR 205.605.</li> </ul>
<b>Your label MUST:</b>	<p>Show an ingredient statement. List the organic ingredients as "organic" when other organic labeling is shown.<sup>1</sup> Water and salt included as ingredients must not be identified as organic. (IS) Show below the name and address of the handler (bottler, distributor, importer, manufacturer, packer, processor, etc.) of the finished product, the statement:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">"Certified organic by ____" or similar phrase, followed by the name of the Certifying Agent. Certifying Agent seals may not be used to satisfy this requirement. (IP)</p>
<b>Your label MAY show:</b>	<p>The term "Made with organic ____ (specified ingredients or food groups)." (PDP/IP/OP) "X% organic" or "X% organic ingredients." (PDP/IP/OP) The certifying agent seal(s). (PDP/OP) The certifying agent business/Internet address or telephone number. (IP)</p>
<b>Your label MUST NOT show:</b>	The USDA Organic seal

<sup>1</sup> To identify an ingredient as organically produced, in the ingredients statement, use the word, "organic" in conjunction with the name of the ingredient, or an asterisk or other reference mark which is defined below the ingredient statement.

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<b>If you want to claim:</b>	That your product has some organic ingredients
<b>Your product:</b>	<p><b>May</b> contain less than 70% organic ingredients, not counting added water and salt.</p> <p><b>May</b> contain over 30% of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. nonorganically produced agricultural ingredients; and/or</li> <li>b. other substances, without being limited to those in 7 CFR 205.605</li> </ul>
<b>Your label MUST:</b>	<p>Show an ingredient statement when the word organic is used.</p> <p>Identify organic ingredients as "organic" in the ingredients statement<sup>1</sup> when % organic is displayed. Water and salt included as ingredients must not be identified as organic. (IS)</p>
<b>Your label MAY show:</b>	<p>The organic status of ingredients in the ingredients statement.<sup>1</sup> Water and salt included as ingredients must not be identified as organic. (IS)</p> <p>"X% organic ingredients" when organically produced ingredients are identified in the ingredient statement. (IP)</p>
<b>Your label MUST NOT show:</b>	<p>Any other reference to organic contents.</p> <p>The USDA Organic seal.</p> <p>The certifying agent seal.</p>

<sup>1</sup> To identify an ingredient as organically produced, in the ingredients statement, use the word, "organic" in conjunction with the name of the ingredient, or an asterisk or other reference mark which is defined below the ingredient statement.

**January 9, 2003**

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