



Organic Farming Certified or Not

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MSU Organic Farmer Training Program
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Decide

- Do I want to certify organic?
- Do I prefer another certification?

Go Organic

- Farm organically for 3 years **–OR–** Sign Prior Land Use Affidavit
- Review requirements and choose a certifier for questions

Apply

- Choose a Certifier
- Send Organic Systems Plan (OSP), application form, records & pay fee

Review

- Certifier reviews OSP, application and records
- May request additional records

Inspection

- Records & Seed to Sale
- Farmwalk, pesticide and seed/produce storage, management

Compliance review

- Certification Agency may request additional records or clarification

Certificate

- Organic Certificate **–OR--** Non-compliance **–OR–** Revoke
- Apply for Cost-Share

Certification Options

Certification Options				
Certification	Requirements	Logo	Cost	Website
Organic	Annual application to 3 rd party certifier with Organic Systems Plan, annual inspection		\$400-\$2,000; 75% refund by USDA cost share	https://www.usda.gov/topics/organic
Organic Exempt	Follow organic standards; Sales under \$5,000; Can say "organic", but can't use USDA organic logo	NA	\$0	https://www.ams.usda.gov/services/organic-certification/need-be-certified
Certified Naturally Grown	Application with list of inputs, Inspection by a CNG farmer or by an extension agent or farm educator		\$400	https://www.cngfarming.org/
MAEAP (Michigan Agriculture Environmental Assurance Program)	Prevention of water pollution on organic and conventional farms in Michigan		\$0 Not certification but verification	https://maeap.org Great for all farmers to ID placed to improve on ecological farming practices
Animal Welfare Approved/ Non-GMO/Grassfed/etc.	Online application and annual inspection Livestock welfare standards, access to pasture,		\$100 for 1, \$190 for 2 and \$270 for all 3 certifications	https://agreenerworld.org/certifications/ https://agreenerworld.org/certifications/animal-welfare-approved/
Real Organic Project	Online application; Organic standards plus hydroponics ban, etc.		\$0	https://www.realorganicproject.org/
Regenerative Organic Certified (ROC)	1.Certify organic 2.Online application & fee 3.Audit		\$350	https://regenorganic.org/
GAP	Food safety plan, extensive food safety records, annual inspection; 80% to pass		Varies, pay inspector \$90/hour	https://www.ams.usda.gov/services/auditin/g/gap-ghp
Group GAP	GAP standards, some		Split GAP costs	https://www.ams.usda.gov/services/auditin/g/groupgap

Decide

- Do I want to certify organic?
- Do I prefer another certification?

Organic Transition: Prior Land Use Affidavit (3 years without non-organic inputs)



OEFFA

41 Crosswell Rd Columbus, Ohio 43214

Phone: (614) 262-2022 • Fax: (614) 421-2011 • E-mail: organic@oeffa.org

PRIOR LAND USE AFFIDAVIT

This declaration is required for all applicants who have farmed their land for less than 3 years prior to applying for certification. Use it whenever you purchase or rent land from another landowner. It is essential that the field histories be filled out completely. Remember to update your farm map to include this land.

Field Numbers must correspond with number on map. List all inputs or soil/crop treatments (fertilizers, insecticides, herbicides, seed treatment, soil builders, etc.) used. Include the rate applied per acre. Please note if crop is a genetically modified strain. If the land was left idle and not farmed, note that.

Field No.	No. of Acres	Year 2009				Year 2010				Year 2011				Year 2012			
		Month	Crop	Input	Rate applied per acre	Month	Crop	Input	Rate applied per acre	Month	Crop	Input	Rate applied per acre	Month	Crop	Input	Rate applied per acre
P	10		Fallow														

I, J. Hammerly, declare that I farmed the above parcel(s) of land situated on polk st. w. from 10/09 (date) to 3/12 (date) and that the above information regarding inputs or soil/crop treatment(s) to the land is correct to the best of my knowledge at time of transfer on 4/09/12 (date) to _____ (buyer or renter).

J. Hammerly
Land Seller/Owner Name

[Signature]
Land Seller/Owner Signature



- Farm organically for 3 years **—OR—** Sign Prior Land Use Affidavit
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Crops: Organic Rules

- Organic inputs
 - Approved by OMRI and/or your certifier
 - NO synthetic fertilizers or pesticides
 - NO prohibited non-synthetic inputs (rotenone, etc.)
 - NO GMO
 - NO treated seed
 - Organic Seed if available (check 3 sources)
 - Only organic seedlings
 - NO treated wood in contact with growing soil
 - Manure – Composted with temp. records OR 90/120-day rule
- Recordkeeping
- Soil & Water Tests
- Buffers



Boro OG
Organic (F1) Beet Seed
Fast maturing and Cercospora resistant.



American Dream
Treated (F1) Corn Seed
Full-season bicolor (sh2) with premium flavor and tenderness.



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Organic Rules for Livestock



- Access to outdoors
- Sick animals must be treated
 - If use non-approved drugs, animal never returns to organic
 - Milk and meat sell as conventional, may need to segregate animals
- Check OMRI for approved vitamins & minerals
- Dairy
 - Can convert a herd to organic in 1 year if on certified land
 - Teat dips & udder washes OK if non-synthetic, soap OK if NOT antibacterial
- Poultry
 - No debeaking (minimal trimming OK to protect flock)
 - Access to outdoors if over 8 wks old, between 50 – 85 degrees, OK for soil & water quality (ie field not recently seeded), exception if animal is sick



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Inputs

- Talk to certifier before using new input
- Look for OMRI logo or listing
- NO synthetic pesticides or fertilizers
- Manure
 - OK if composted at 131°F for 15 days with 5 turns
 - 90/120 day rule for food crops
 - Use in fall for most spring/summer crops
- Be aware of treated wood contacting soil where crops are grown



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Choose a Certifier

Organic Certifiers				
Certifiers	Region & Certifications offered	Logo	Cost* *USDA Cost-share lowers cost by 75% up to \$750	Website
OEFFA – Ohio Ecological Food and Farm Association	IA, MO, IL, IN, OH, PA, KY, WV, VA Organic		\$1,450 MI if apply by March 15 (less in OH, etc.)	https://certification.oeffa.org/
MOSA – Midwest Organic Services Assoc.	Midwest Organic		\$1375 1 st yr; sliding scale from \$1250+ (based on gross organic sales \$)	https://mosaorganic.org/certification
OCIA – Organic Crop Improvement Assoc.	All US & International Organic, Smithsonian Bird Friendly, Shade-Grown Coffee		\$435+ farm, acres and sales – complex!	https://ocia.org/get-certified-2/
GOA – Global Organic Alliance	All US & International Organic		\$405+	https://www.goa-online.org/
CCOF – California Certified Organic Farmers (Regenerative Organic Certified also)	All US & International Organic, GlobalGAP, Primus, Cannabis, Grass-Fed & ROC (Regenerative Organic Certified)		\$1,150+ sliding scale	https://www.ccof.org/ https://www.ccof.org/webform/apply-certification-get-your-custom-packet
Oregon Tilth	All US, Mexico Organic, Bee Better, Salmon Safe, Grass-Fed		\$299 to \$1600	https://tilth.org/certification/

Apply

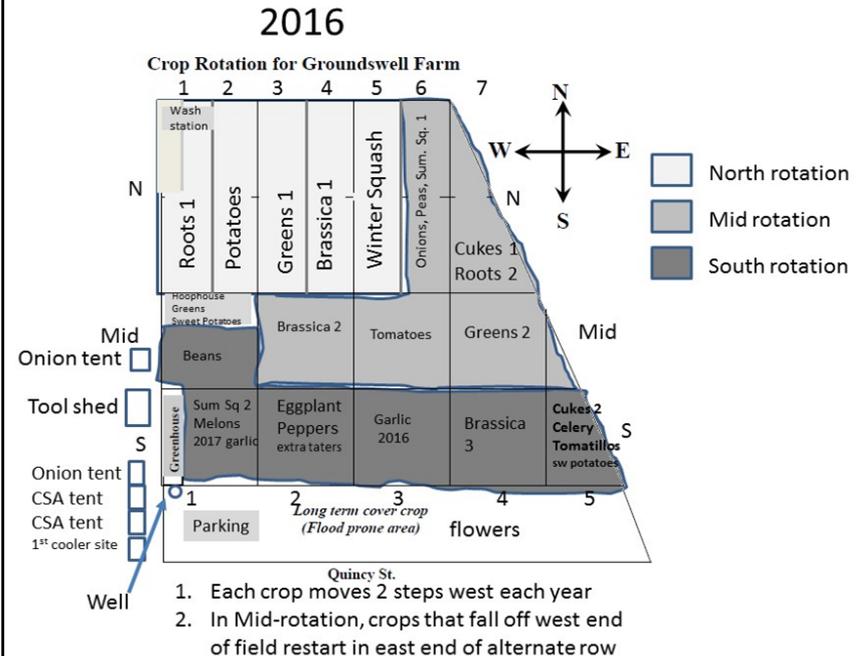
- Choose a Certifier
- Send Organic Systems Plan (OSP), application form, records & pay fee

Farm Map

- Field labels, acreages, crops
- Buildings/facilities, storage, livestock housing
- Buffers
 - 25 ft for veggies but depends on your location
- Neighboring land use

Farm Map

Attach or draw in the space below a map/map of your entire operation including all farms and fields requested for certification. Each field should be labeled with a name or number that matches your Field History and Farm Plan information section on page 1. Also include acreage, buildings/facilities, storage, livestock housing, buffers, and neighboring land use.



- Each section is 0.25 acres
- 25 foot buffer on all sides
 - Ditch + Driveway
- Neighbors are conventional farmers

Apply

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Recordkeeping

- 5 Years
 - Field activity log
 - Inputs
 - Seed & seedling sourcing
 - Compost production
 - Monitoring (soil tests, water test, etc)
 - Equipment cleaning
 - Harvest records w/field #s, dates, amounts
 - Labor records
 - Storage records
 - Transport records
 - Sales records
 - Shipping records
 - Transport certificates
 - Audit
 - Other

Recordkeeping **NOP §205.103**

NOP standards require that records disclose all activities and transactions of the operation and demonstrate compliance with the NOP regulations. Records must be kept for at least 5 years after their creation. All records must be accessible to the Inspector, OCEPPA, and the NOP.

Do you keep, or plan to keep, all records for at least 5 years? Yes No

Which of the following records do you keep for organic production?

- field activity records – (including preparation, planting, input application, etc.)
- input records for soil amendments, seeds, manure, foliar sprays and pest control products (keep all labels and receipts)
- documentation of attempts to source organic seeds and/or planting stock
- documentation of organic seedlings
- residue analyses of inputs (i.e. manure sourced off-farm)
- compost production records
- monitoring records (soil tests, tissue tests, water tests, quality tests, observations)
- equipment cleaning records
- harvest records that show field numbers, date of harvest, and harvest amounts (including custom harvest records)
- labor records
- storage records that show storage location, storage identification, field numbers, amounts stored, and cleaning activities
- clean transport records
- sales records (purchase order, contract, invoice, cash receipts, cash receipt journal, sales journal, etc.)
- shipping records (scale ticket, dump station ticket, bill of lading)
- transaction certificates
- audit control summary
- other (specify): _____
- other (specify): _____
- other (specify): _____
- other (specify): _____

Please have all records available for your inspector to review.

Apply

- Choose a Certifier
- Send Organic Systems Plan (OSP), application form, records & pay fee

Inspection!

- Have records ready (computer, app or paper)
- Seed to Sale
- Farmwalk

Review

- Certifier reviews OSP, application and records
- May request additional records

Inspection

- Records & Seed to Sale
- Farmwalk, pesticide storage, management

Compliance review

- May request additional records

Organic Certificate

- Decision Letter
 - Certificate
 - Notice of Noncompliance
 - Revoke Certification

OHIO ECOLOGICAL FOOD and FARM ASSOCIATION
 41 Croswell Rd : Columbus OH 43214 : (614) 262-2022 : organic@oeffa.org : www.oeffa.org
ORGANIC CERTIFICATE



MSU Student Organic Farm
 Darby Anderson
 3291 College Rd
 Holt Michigan 48842
 Operation #1095



The operation above is certified to the USDA organic regulations, 7 CFR Part 205. This certified operation is inspected annually by an agent of OEFA to verify to the best of its knowledge the regulations have been met. Once certified, a production or handling operation's organic certification continues in effect until surrendered, suspended or revoked.

Certification Scope(s): USDA NOP Crop

Certificate Issued: 10/11/2023
NOP Effective Date: 11/21/2007
OEFA Certified Since: 11/21/2007
Anniversary Date:* 06/15/2024



Sam Tannenbaum

Farm/Facility Address(es):
 3291 College Road, Holt MI 48842

*The Anniversary Date is the date by which the certified operation must submit its annual update to OEFA. It is not an expiration date.

USDA NOP Crop

Crop(s)	Area	Type(s) Of Use
Other	0.12 Acre(s)	Greenhouse(s)
Other	5.72 Acre(s)	Land Eligible for Organic Production
Vegetables	4.91 Acre(s)	
Vegetables	0.36 Acre(s)	Greenhouse(s)

Page 1 of 1



- Organic Certificate **—OR—** Non-compliance **—OR—** Revoke
- Apply for Cost-Share

Noncompliance

- Decision Letter
 - Notice of Noncompliance
 - Corrective Actions Report
 - Revoke Certification
 - For farm
 - For a field or part of the farm

Follow-Up to Noncompliance

Please refer to the attached Corrective Actions Report.

Operation #: 1095
Report Issued: 10/28/2021



Corrective Actions Report								
Number	Status	Category	Finding Level	Finding	Corrective Action	Description Corrective Action	Comment	Due Date
00011434	Resolved	Correct by next inspection	Minor non-compliance	[NOP §205.105(a)] STATUS: Resolved You were originally issued this noncompliance because your inspector reported that you were using "90% Sulfur Dispersal Pastille" from Martin Operating Partnership, a product for which OEFFA has been unable to obtain full product/ingredient information.	Your 2020 inspector was able to verify that you are no longer using the unapproved sulfur product.		Your 2020 inspector was able to verify that you are no longer using the unapproved sulfur product. This noncompliance is considered resolved and no further action is needed.	
00016014	Pending verification	Correct by next inspection	Condition for continuing certification	The inspector reported that although you cleaned equipment between organic and nonorganic crops, this was not documented. [NOP §205.103]	Your next inspector will verify that you are maintaining equipment cleaning records.			

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Corrective Actions Report								
Number	Status	Category	Finding Level	Finding	Corrective Action	Description Corrective Action	Comment	Due Date
00017924	Open	Correct by next inspection	Information request	In 2020, OEFFA started collecting information on the annual organic gross sales for all operations we certify. This information is an important and useful tool for identifying potential fraud. We had already been collecting this information for all operations certified for handling. If you have any questions, please	Starting this year, we have asked our inspectors to verify your previous year's gross income from organic sales, so please have your records prepared and ready for audit. Some examples of these types of records include sales invoices, sales logs, financial statements (such as income statements or end-of-year statements), year-end summary from buyers, tax forms that identify sales totals or summaries, etc.			



- Organic Certificate **—OR—** Non-compliance **—OR—** Revoke
- Apply for Cost-Share

Organic Cost Share

- USDA pays 75% of certification costs up to a \$750 payment
- Apply annually through FSA
- 2 page form
- Funding for all who

This form is available electronically

Form Approved - OMB No. 0560-0269
Expiration Date: 03-31-2020

CCC-884 (03-20-17)		U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE Commodity Credit Corporation		1. County FSA Name and Address (including ZIP Code)	
ORGANIC CERTIFICATION COST SHARE PROGRAM (OCCSP) (For 2017 and Subsequent Years)					
NOTE: The following statement is made in accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974 (5 USC 552a - as amended). The authority for requesting the information identified on this form is 7 CFR Part 205, the Commodity Credit Corporation Charter Act (16 U.S.C. 714 et seq.), the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1601 et seq. - as amended), the Organic Foods Production Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 6801 et seq. - as amended), the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (Pub. L. 107-171), and the Agricultural Act of 2014 (Pub. L. 113-79). The information will be used to determine applicant ability to participate in and receive benefits under the Organic Certification Cost Share Program. The information collected on this form may be disclosed to other Federal, State, Local government agencies, Tribal agencies, and nongovernmental entities that have been authorized access to the information by statute or regulation and/or as described in applicable Routine Uses identified in the System of Records Notice for USDA/FSA-2, Farm Records File (Automated). Providing the requested information is voluntary. However, failure to furnish the requested information will result in a determination that the applicant is unable to participate in and receive benefits under the Organic Certification Cost Share Program.					
According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 0560-0269. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 60 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. The provisions of criminal and civil fraud, privacy, and other statutes may be applicable to the information provided. RETURN THIS COMPLETED FORM TO YOUR COUNTY FSA OFFICE.					
PART A - APPLICANT INFORMATION					
2. Applicant Name		3. Applicant's Address (including ZIP Code)		4. Have you recently participated in FSA programs? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO (If "NO" please fill out an AD-2047 and SF-3881)	
				5. Applicant's Phone Number (including Area Code)	
				6. Email Address	
PART B - CERTIFICATION INFORMATION					
7. Name of Organic Certifier		8. Certification Number/Certifier Client ID		9. Current Date of Certification/Certificate Issued	
10. Program Year (Select only one) <input type="checkbox"/> 2017 (expenses paid between October 1, 2016, and September 30, 2017) <input type="checkbox"/> 2018 (expenses paid between October 1, 2017, and September 30, 2018)					
11. Scope of Activity (Check all that apply) and Associated Costs:					
<input type="checkbox"/> Crops \$		<input type="checkbox"/> Livestock \$		<input type="checkbox"/> State Organic Program Fees (CA Only) \$	
<input type="checkbox"/> Wild Crops \$		<input type="checkbox"/> Processing/handling \$			
12. Have you applied for cost share funds with your State for the program year in Item 10 and for the Scopes selected in Item 11? (If "YES", you will be ineligible for cost share benefits with FSA.) <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO					

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity (including gender expression), sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity, in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA (not all bases apply to all programs). Remedies and complaint filing deadlines vary by program or incident.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.) should contact the responsible Agency or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-5336. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program discrimination complaint, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, AD-3027, found online at http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html and at any USDA office or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (800) 832-0002. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by: 1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights 1400 Independence Avenue, SW Washington, D.C. 20260-9410; 2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or 3) email: program.intake@usda.gov. USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

CCC-884 (03-20-17) Page 2 of 2

PART C - APPLICANT CERTIFICATION STATEMENT

Each applicant must submit a complete application to an FSA county office to be eligible to receive program benefits. A complete application includes form CCC-884, a copy of the applicant's organic certificate, itemized documentation of certification expenses paid by the applicant, and forms AD-2047 and SF-3881 if not previously filed with FSA. By signing this application, applicant:

1. Agrees to provide FSA any documentation required to determine eligibility and to verify and support all information provided, including applicant's organic certificate;
2. Understands the application may be disapproved if the applicant fails to provide a complete application or any information requested by FSA;
3. Agrees to comply with, and acknowledges the applicant is subject to, all provisions of OCCSP as published in the Notice of Funds Availability published in the Federal and all applicable rules and regulations;
4. Understands that OCCSP payments are provided on a first come, first served basis until all available funds are obligated, and applications received after all funds are will not be paid;
5. Acknowledges that if determined eligible and funding is available, the applicant will receive the lesser of \$750 per scope of activity or 75 percent of the applicant's cost, which may be adjusted from the amount entered in Item 11 to reflect eligible allowable costs indicated by the documentation submitted to support the application.

I certify that:

1. The above information provided by me or my legal representative is true and correct.
2. I understand that failure to provide true and correct information may result in the invalidation of this application, a determination of noncompliance or ineligibility, or other remedies or sanctions.



- Organic Certificate **—OR—** Non-compliance **—OR—** Revoke
- Apply for Cost-Share

Support!

TOPP - Transition to Organic Partnership Program

- ❖ Mentorship
- ❖ Technical Assistance
 - ❖ Conservation Districts
 - ❖ MSU Extension
 - ❖ Network Partners
- ❖ Learning
 - ❖ Field Days in Detroit/A2 (June 8), Kalamazoo & the UP!
 - ❖ Webinars for farmers & educators
 - ❖ Workshops @ GLEXPO & other conferences
- ❖ Community!



MIDWEST TRANSITION TO ORGANIC PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

Transitioning Farmers = New Farmers or Farmers aiming to Transition to certified Organic farming
Mentors = Current & Retired Farmers with at least 3 years of experience as Certified Organic Farmers

Mentors & Mentees

TOPP Mentors & Mentees will complete:

- Signup Form
- Training
 - 5 hour video for mentors
 - 1 hour video for mentees
- Paperwork: W9, Mentorship contract
- **Mentorship Meetings (40 hours per year)**
 - Visiting each other's farms annually
 - Monthly meetings
 - Attending an educational event together
 - Asking & answering questions as needed
- Evaluation survey and community input meeting
- Quarterly check ins with the coordinator
- Tracking meeting hours

\$3,000 Payment for Mentors
\$500 Stipend for Mentees



<https://www.organictransition.org/>

Sign up for to be a mentor or transitioning farmer mentee using the QR Code below!

MICHIGAN TOPP
TRANSITION TO ORGANIC
PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

Mentee Signup



Connect with an experienced organic farmer on your path to organic!

MICHIGAN TOPP
TRANSITION TO ORGANIC
PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

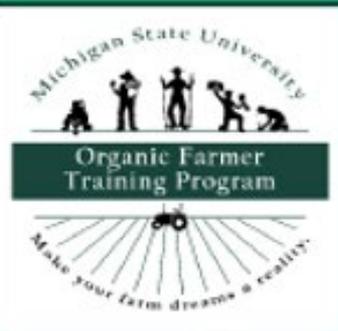
Mentor Signup



Get paid \$3,000 to share your organic farming experience with a new organic farmer!

Support!

MSU Organic Farmer Training Program



Join the 2024 learning community!

- ✓ **Field trips to 20+ farms**
- ✓ **Online peer-to-peer learning** where all can learn and contribute to topics from soils & ecology to marketing & business planning
- ✓ **Hands-on learning** at one of two awesome farms:
 - ☐ **Keep Growing Detroit** – Learn to grow vegetables, transplants and native perennials at this model urban farm
 - ☐ **MSU Student Organic Farm in East Lansing** – Grow food year-round with tractors & hand tools in fields & hoopouses
- ✓ **Write a Farm Business Plan** to fit YOUR values, goals & site



Katie Brandt Akello Karamoko Kido Pielack Molly Hubbell Rosebud Schneider

Meet the OFTP Instructors

Katie Brandt coordinates online learning, field trips, advising & East Lansing activities. Four KGD farmers will lead Detroit hands-on activities with a wealth of expertise.



*"Before OFTP I had a vision, but when I left I had a plan."
2019 OFTP graduate*





Questions?

Katie Brandt

MSU Organic Farmer Training Program

brandtk7@msu.edu

Vicki Morrone

MSU Organic & Beginning Farmer Educator

sorrone@msu.edu