



CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF
FOOD & AGRICULTURE

A. G. Kawamura, Secretary

November 26, 2008

ORG-08-003

TO: COUNTY AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONERS
ACCREDITED CERTIFICATION AGENTS
ORGANIC REGISTRANTS

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) has provided funds to the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) to be distributed to operations that have been certified organic by a USDA accredited certifier.

Eligible entities will be reimbursed up to 75 percent of their organic certification costs, not to exceed \$750 per year. Any operation in California that has received organic certification on or between October 1, 2007 and September 30, 2008 **and/or** October 1, 2008 and September 30, 2009 may apply for reimbursement.

The applicant must submit the application form(s) along with a copy(s) of certification and copy(s) of the associated expenses required to obtain and/or maintain certification.

Cost Share applications will be processed on a first come, first serve basis. Any incomplete applications will be returned, and will lose its' place in line. Therefore, it is very important all information is included, and that the applications are filled out accurately and signed. When the funds provided by USDA to California have been expended no more applications will be processed.

Copies of this letter and the application forms are being provided to all the County Agricultural Commissioners Offices, all the Accredited Certification Agents that operate in California, and is available to be downloaded at the CDFA website at url:

http://www.cdfa.ca.gov/is/apply_register.html

For additional information contact Ray Green at (916) 445-2180.

Sincerely,

David Carlson, Organic Program Supervisor
Inspection and Compliance Branch
Inspection Services

DC/dc

Enclosures

