



## A Crosswalk of the National Organic Program (NOP) with the Leading Harvest Farmland Management Standard 2020 Program

The Leading Harvest Standard Program 2020 (“LH Standard”) is a third-party audited certification program that provides assurance for the sustainability of farmland management. The LH Standard was designed to harmonize with other sustainability programs and frameworks, such as the National Organic Program (NOP), to create more transparency, efficiency, and greater outcomes for agriculture. This crosswalk uses the National Organic Program requirements in Title 7, Subtitle B, Chapter I, Subchapter M, Part 205 found in the Code of Federal Regulations, accessed on March 8th, 2023.

Participation in the National Organic Program can provide alignment with the LH Standard. 7 out of 16 (44%) of the NOP requirement categories can provide alignment with the LH Standard. Of the 7 requirement categories that are aligned, 6 are generally aligned with the LH Standard while 1 is narrowly aligned. There are 9 NOP requirement categories that are not included within the scope of the LH Standard.

NOP Requirement	Generally Aligned with LH Standard	Narrowly Aligned with LH Standard	Out of Scope with LH Standard
205.201 Organic production and handling system plan	LH Standard has management system requirements for its equivalent themes		
205.202 Land requirements			LH Standard does not prohibit substances, thus no requirements for “organic” representation
205.203 Soil fertility and crop nutrient management practice standard	Soil health is addressed in the LH Standard, including monitoring characteristics, nutrient management, crop residues, and applying best management practices		
205.204 Seeds and planting stock practice standard			LH Standard does not restrict nonorganic seeds/seedlings/planting stock, thus no requirements for “organic” representation
205.205 Crop rotation practice standard	Soil health is addressed in the LH Standard, including monitoring characteristics, nutrient management, crop residues, and applying best management practices		
205.206 Crop pest, weed, and disease management practice standard	LH Standard requires operations to implement an Integrated Pest Management program using best management practices. Crop protection and nutrient management is also included in the LH Standard		
205.207 Wild-crop harvesting practice standard			LH Standard does not restrict nonorganic crop, thus no requirements for “organic” representation
205.236 Origin of livestock			LH does not have livestock in the scope of the Farmland Management Standard
205.237 Livestock feed			LH Standard does not restrict nonorganic crop, thus no requirements for “organic” representation. Furthermore, LH does not have livestock in the scope of the Farmland Management Standard
205.238 Livestock health care practice standard			LH does not have livestock in the scope of the Farmland Management Standard
205.239 Livestock living conditions			LH does not have livestock in the scope of the Farmland Management Standard
205.240 Pasture practice standard			LH does not have pasture in the scope of the Farmland Management Standard
205.270 Organic handling requirements		LH does not specifically include post-harvest handling in the scope of the Farmland Management Standard, but public health and safety is addressed	
205.271 Facility pest management practice standard	LH Standard requires operations to implement an Integrated Pest Management program using best management practices		
205.272 Commingling and contact with prohibited substance prevention practice standard			LH does not restrict substances in the Farmland Management Standard, thus commingling is not in the scope
205.290 Temporary variances	LH Standard allows the substitution or modification of indicators according to Section 2, 5.3 Substitution and Modification of Leading Harvest Farmland Management Standard 2020 Indicators		

