



**Guide to Certification to the
Regeneration International Standard
with OFC**



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This guide will be updated as additional processes are added to OFC's regenerative program.

Who is Regeneration International?

In June 2015, about 60 people from 21 nations, representing businesses, the farming and scientific communities, educational institutions, policymakers and NGOs, convened in Costa Rica to draw up a blueprint for an international movement united around a common goal: to reverse global warming and end world hunger by facilitating and accelerating the global transition to regenerative agriculture and land management.

In January 2017, Regeneration International (RI) achieved 501(c)(3) nonprofit status. Today, RI engages with a network of more than [600 international partners](#) and a growing number of [Regeneration Alliances](#) throughout the world. OFC is a partner with Regeneration International.

You can find out more about Regeneration International on their [webpage](#).

What is the Regeneration International Standard?

This standard was initially developed as a fit-for-purpose standard for Regeneration International's Agroecological, Regenerative, and Organic Ecosystem Services (AROES) project.

Even though AROES is still under development after the results of pilot programs, Regeneration International have decided to publish this standard to counter the greenwashing of Regenerative and Organic.

The primary goal of this standard is to facilitate a paradigm shift from the current degenerative industrial-agricultural systems to ones that regenerate soil, biodiversity, climate, community, fairness, care, and health. The standard empowers operators to drive and make decisions about their personal paradigm shifts.

Prohibitions of the Regeneration International Standard

- Synthetic pesticides
- Synthetic animal feed supplements
- Synthetic food additives
- Water-soluble chemical fertilizers, except for correcting deficiencies with trace elements
- Sewerage sludge/biosolids
- GMOs, including gene editing and GMO vaccines
- Nanotechnology
- Animal cruelty - all animals must be able to express their natural habits.
- Confined animal feeding operations - all animals must spend adequate time on pasture and/or their natural habitat
- Hydroponics - all systems must be soil-based
- Clearing old growth and high-value ecosystems
- Damaging tillage
- Burning crop residues, except for cool-season mosaic burns in First Nation agroecosystems
- Grazing that produces bare soil



I'm not certified organic/biodynamic. Can I get certified to the Regeneration International Standard?

Certification is available to farmers currently certified organic or bio-dynamic to the Australian National Standard for Organic and Bio-Dynamic Produce (National Standard). The regenerative certification is in addition to the organic/bio-dynamic certification.

Certification is also available to farmers that are not currently certified organic or biodynamic to the National Standard. The regenerative certification is offered as a standalone certification.

Regenerative certification will only be available to all types of land/soil-based horticulture and livestock agricultural production systems and managers. It will not be available to landless production systems such as mushrooms, sprouts and wheat/barley grass, aquaculture and algae.

Regenerative certification of products will be available to processors in the near future. Off-farm processors must be certified organic to the National Standard to carry a Regeneration International logo. The products that they process will be able to make claims of 'Regenerative A Grade', 'Regenerative In Transition' and 'Made with Regenerative'. Before one of these regenerative claims can be made on products, and the relevant Regeneration International logo used, the formulation/recipe and label must be approved by OFC.

Regenerative certification will not be available to wholesalers.

Operators can achieve certification to the following levels:

Regenerative A Grade - meeting all the requirements

Regenerative In Transition - in the process of meeting all the requirements

My farm is using some of the prohibited practices in Section 3. Can I get certified?

Yes, you can still get certified. When any of the prohibited practices in Section 3 are used, or any other requirements of the Standard are not achieved, you may achieve certified Regenerative In Transition.

Your regenerative agriculture management plan (RAMP) will need to outline the timeline for reducing and eliminating any prohibited products or production methods. There is no set period for operators to transition to Regenerative A Grade. However, all operators certified to Regenerative in Transition must outline time frames and methods for eliminating prohibited inputs and practices. This should be revised annually, with an emphasis on continual improvement.

What do I need to do to demonstrate compliance for fair wages and gender equity?

In Australia, employees are covered by the [Fair Work Ombudsman](#). The Fair Work Ombudsman is Australia's workplace regulator, ensuring everyone in Australia follow the laws that make all workplaces equal and fair. They mainly work with the Fair Work Act and the Fair Work Regulations. As long as you are complying with the requirements of the Fair Work Ombudsman, you will be compliant. If you have employees, including family members who are children, be prepared to demonstrate that you have the relevant [award](#) on hand and that you are paying according to the award, regardless of gender.



I don't have a financial management plan. Can I get certified?

Yes, you can still get certified. When any requirements of the Standard are not achieved, you may achieve certified Regenerative In Transition. When you have been assessed as meeting all requirements, you may be certified Regenerative A Grade.

I don't have a marketing management plan. Can I get certified?

Yes, you can still get certified. When any requirements of the Standard are not achieved, you may achieve certified Regenerative In Transition. When you have been assessed as meeting all requirements, you may be certified Regenerative A Grade.

I'm certified organic or certified bio-dynamic, and think my property meets all the other requirements. Can I get A Grade certification straight away?

If you are certified organic or certified bio-dynamic, OFC generally requires a minimum of 1 year Regenerative In Transition. If you supply us with supporting documents that your property can achieve A Grade certification, we will assess these case by case to determine whether A Grade can be achieved upon successful inspection outcome.

I'm certified regenerative with another organisation. Can I get A Grade certification straight away?

If you currently hold another regenerative certification recognised by OFC, and have done so for at least 12 months, OFC will consider your application to achieve Regenerative A Grade upon successful inspection outcome.

How long is the transition period to Regenerative A Grade?

Section 4.5.2 of the Standard covers this. There is no set period for operators to transition to Regenerative A Grade. However, all operators certified to Regenerative in Transition must outline time frames and methods for eliminating prohibited inputs and practices. This should be revised annually, with an emphasis on continual improvement. OFC requires a minimum of 1 year In Transition.

How long will it take to get certification?

Achieving regenerative certification is a process that can take as little as a two months from application, depending on what regenerative practices you have established prior to applying for certification to the Regeneration International Standard.

- Your farm may achieve Certified Regenerative In Transition in two months or less.
- Your farm may achieve Certified Regenerative A Grade after at least one year of certification to The Regeneration International Standard.
- If you also process on-farm, your processing facility may achieve the same level of certification for products as your farm at the same time as your farm.
- Regenerative certification is not available to off-farm processors or wholesalers.



Examples of processes that can be certified as Regenerative A Grade or Regenerative In Transition

Example 1

A vegetable farmer is certified as **Regenerative A Grade**. They use the Regeneration International logo to market their products.

The farmer also does on-site processing to make powdered vegetables.

The processed powdered vegetables are also called **Regenerative A Grade** and can use the logo.

The production side is certified **Regenerative A Grade**, the processing side is not.

Example 2

A beef cattle farmer is certified as **Regenerative In Transition**. They use the Regeneration International logo to market their products.

The products are processed in a facility that is certified organic to the National Standard..

The products that are processed are also called **Regenerative In Transition** and can use the logo.

The National Standard certified organic facility cannot be certified **Regenerative In Transition**, however the products processed can be certified **Regenerative In Transition**.

The facility undergoes the certification processes as required under the National Standard.

[Same applies if it's **Regenerative In Transition** horticulture].

Example 3

An apiary is located in a state forest.

The National Standard certified organic processing facility cannot be certified **Regenerative A Grade**, however the products processed can be certified **Regenerative A Grade**.

The facility undergoes the certification processes as required under the National Standard.

The apiary and the apiary products can be certified **Regenerative A Grade**.

Example 4

A National Standard certified processor purchases certified **Regenerative A Grade** produce to use in a product that is at least 70% National Standard certified organic ingredients.

They can't use the **Regenerative A Grade** logo but they can say that their ingredients x and y are certified **Regenerative A Grade**.

The facility undergoes the certification processes as required under the National Standard.

Ingredients are identified the same way as organic/bio-dynamic ingredients are identified on a label in Made With Organic/Bio-Dynamic products.



Will there be a logo to use?

A logo will be made available to an operator who achieves certification. The logos will be displayed on the OFC website.

Regenerative In Transition	Regenerative A Grade	Made with Regenerative
		Coming soon
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applies to agricultural production. • In the process of meeting all of the requirements of the Standard. • There is no set period for operators to transition to Regenerative A Grade. However, all operators certified to Regenerative In Transition must outline time frames and methods for eliminating prohibited inputs and practices. This should be revised annually, with an emphasis on continual improvement. • Can use the <i>Regenerative In Transition</i> label. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applies to agricultural production. • Meeting all of the requirements of the Standard. • Can use the <i>Regenerative A Grade</i> label. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specifically for products, rather than agricultural production. • Products made mostly of certified regenerative ingredients can use the <i>Made with Regenerative A Grade</i> or <i>Made with Regenerative In Transition</i> labels, as applies. • This must be the same as the <i>Made with Organic</i> criteria in the country where it is marketed. • The processor must be certified to a recognised national organic standard.



How can I start the process?

We want to make the certification process as simple as possible for you.

1. Register an [expression of interest](#) for certification to the Regeneration International standard.
2. We will contact you.
3. You will receive an application form and RAMP template.
4. Complete the application form and RAMP and submit to OFC for approval.

What's next?

1. Application is reviewed and you are advised if application is successful.
2. Inspection is organised with one of our regenerative inspectors
3. An initial inspection is conducted for those new to regenerative certification as well as those transferring from another regenerative certifying body. Samples of soil, plant or product will be taken for testing at a NATA ISO17025 accredited lab.
4. An inspection report is written by OFC's inspector.
5. The inspection report is reviewed by OFC certification staff for compliance to the Standard and a determination of **Regenerative A Grade** or **Regenerative In Transition** is made.
6. Certification is granted or a Corrective Action Request (CAR) is issued. Generally, CAR's need to be addressed before certification can be granted.
7. A certification agreement and a logo agreement will be sent to you for signing and return to us prior to certificate issue.
8. A certificate is sent to you once certification is granted, together with your inspection report and the applicable logo that you can use.

What happens after I get my certificate?

1. Before regenerative claims can be made on products, and the relevant Regeneration International logo used, the formulation/recipe, where applicable, and label need to be approved by OFC.
2. Ongoing annual inspections will occur in accordance with the requirements of the Standard.
3. Sampling of soil, plant or product, will occur periodically to determine compliance to the Standard in order for you to maintain regenerative certification.
4. Other random or unannounced inspections may occur.
5. You must submit an annual RAMP and current map/s of certified property.
6. All records must be kept for a minimum of 5 years.

Contact

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