

Fiscal Year 22/23, Quarter 3 update

Organic Soil Integrity

During organic production inspections, AWM inspectors document what practices growers are using to improve soil health and minimize erosion¹:

1. Physical – no tillage methods implemented, contour cropping, cover crops, mulches.
2. Chemical – monitoring for nutrient deficiencies, adding nutrients (if needed) through the addition of fertilizers, plant and/or animal residues.
3. Biological – diversity of cover crops, compost applications to increase soil health and microbial/fungal diversity.
4. Several cultural practices can meet all these needs, such as cover crops and compost applications.

To learn more: [Soil Fertility Management for Organic Crops \(ucanr.edu\)](https://ucanr.edu/soil-fertility-management-for-organic-crops)



AWM Inspectors also ensure that all inputs are following the Federal and State Organic Program requirements.

They do this by reviewing all receipts and records of applications related to the agricultural operation as well as inspecting all storage sites to ensure the receipts match the products on the shelf.

By doing an audit of the amount purchased, the amount applied, and the amount remaining as well as an overview of the health of the crop, our inspectors ensure organic application integrity.



Facts about enriching soil: Crops can more easily resist disease, survive drought, and tolerate insects when grown in good soil. Organic crop producers build soil quality by adding compost, animal manures, or green manures. As soil organisms break down these inputs, they convert nutrients into forms plants can absorb and create humus that sustains soil quality. Additionally, organic crop producers use cover crops to protect the soil from wind and water erosion. To learn about how you can improve your soils: [Healthy Soils for a Healthy California \(ucanr.edu\)](https://ucanr.edu/healthy-soils-for-a-healthy-california)

1. Required pursuant to Title 7 of the Code of Federal Regulations (7CFR) 205.203(a)

FY 22/23

ROUTINE INSPECTIONS SUMMARY

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Total
Certified Farmers' Market:	16	17	21		54
In Violation:	2	0	1		3
Production Site:	19	22	23		64
In Violation:	0	0	0		0
Handling Facility:	7	8	8		23
In Violation:	1	1	0		2
Retailer:	34	13	8		55
In Violation:	0	4	0		4
Total Inspections:	67	60	60		196
In Violation:	3	5	1		9

RANDOM SAMPLING SUMMARY

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Total
Certified Farmers' Market:	3	1	1		5
Residues Detected	0	0	0		0
Production Site:	13	13	13		39
Residues Detected:	0	0	0		0
Handling Facility:	6	4	4		14
Residues Detected	1**	1* 1**	1*1**		5
Retailer:	35	9	7		51
Residues Detected:	3*1**	0	1**		5
Total Random Samples:	57	27	25		109
Residues Detected:	5	2	3		10

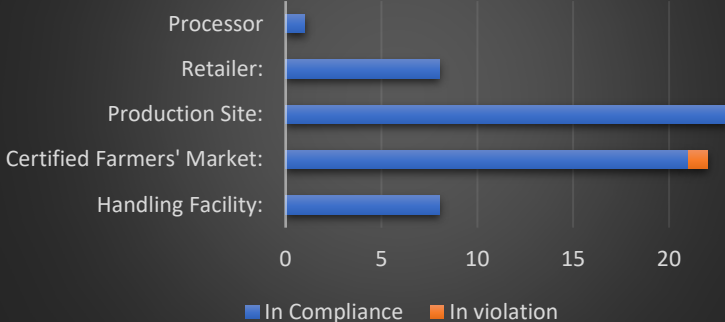
COMPLAINT/INVESTIGATION SUMMARY

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Total
Investigated:	3	0	1		4
Found to be in violation:	2	0	0		2
Investigative Samples:	7	1	0		8
Residues Detected:	3**	0	0		3

* Natural pesticide detected - in compliance

** Synthetic pesticide detected – referred to the CDFA State Organic Program for investigation

**Routine Organic Inspections
Q3 Jan - March 2023**



Organic Sampling Summary

