



## ORGANIC LABELING GUIDANCE - PRODUCERS

### Packaged Retail Product Labeling

If you package your organic crop for retail sales, include the labeling statement "Certified Organic by Washington State Department of Agriculture." The name "Washington State Department of Agriculture" must be spelled out in its entirety and cannot be abbreviated, i.e. "WSDA." This statement must be located directly adjacent to the name of the manufacturer or distributor of the product.

In addition to this statement, you can use any of the following labeling *options*:

- The USDA Organic Seal in the colors set forth by the National Organic Program\*
- The WSDA Organic Producer Seal\*
- The term "organic" to modify your certified crop name

### Packaged Wholesale Product & Shipping Container Labeling

If you package your organic crop for wholesale sales or into shipping containers, you **must** display the production lot number of the product and **may** use any of the following additional labeling *options*:

- The USDA Organic Seal in the colors set forth by the National Organic Program
- The WSDA Organic Producer Seal
- The term "organic" to modify your certified crop

\*Our office can provide digital copies of the USDA and WSDA seals upon request.

If you plan to package product on your farm, it is important to submit your draft packaging label to our office for before you print your labels. This step will save you the time and expense of correcting noncompliant labels.

Your labels will also be reviewed during your inspection. Please have both retail and wholesale labels available.

### Packing Procedures

If you package your own crop, provide a description of your process for packing and shipping fruit. Please include the following information:

- Flow chart for your packing line
- A list of sanitizers and or any post harvest materials that you intend to use.
- Description of boxes or shipping containers of the final product (include label example)

Clear and accurate labeling can also help ensure compliance with the commingling and contact with prohibited substance prevention standard. This standard requires measures to prevent commingling of organic and nonorganic products and protect organic products from contact with prohibited substances.

For example, printing the word *organic* on all organic product labels in a manner that easily distinguishes organic from conventional products will cut down on employee or contractor error.