

JAS Alert



East meets West at Pro-Cert's Saskatoon Head Office, January 13, 2010

Left to Right: Chiyo Sakasegawa, FAMIL Inspector
Masafumi Tsubone, FAMIL Chief Inspector
Dave Lockman, Pro-Cert Certification Manager, Eastern North America
Wallace Hamm, Pro-Cert President
Byron Hamm, Pro-Cert Certification Manager, Western North America

Pro-Cert was recognized as a Registered Overseas Certification Body (ROCB) by the Japan Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries on May 31, 2010. Pro-Cert's registration number is 27 and the certification categories include Jidoriniku, organic agricultural products, organic processed foods, organic feed and organic livestock products.

Japan's appetite for organic produce, produced foods, fibre and textiles, etc. continues to grow. Entry into this potentially lucrative market is complex but rewarding once achieved.

Pro-Cert welcomes all North American operators to consider Pro-Cert as their JAS, as well as over-all organic, certifier. Pro-Cert now has a professional staff of some 40 persons in two strategically located offices:



Western North America
Box 100A, RR 3, 475 Valley Road
Saskatoon, SK S7K 3J6
T: (306) 382-1299 F: (306) 382-0683
Email: info@pro-cert.org

Eastern North America
2311 Elm Tree Road
Cambray, ON K0M 1E0
T: (705) 374-5602 F: (705) 374-5604
Email: infoebo@pro-cert.org

See the reverse for an overview of Pro-Cert's JAS Certification Program



JAS Certification Program Overview

North American Organic Producers, Processors & Repackers

Introduction

The Japan Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF) initiated the regulation of the sale of all organic plant based products within Japan on April 1, 2001. The JAS standard was revised in 2005 and now includes voluntary JAS standards for livestock and feed products. Currently there are no JAS organic standards for alcohol, non-plant based agricultural products (mushrooms on wood), and personal care products. The legal basis of the JAS program involves five components:

- The JAS Law (administered by the Japanese Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF)).
- The JAS Regulation (administered by the Japanese Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF)).
- The JAS Standards (provided to the operator by the Pro-Cert during the training workshop).
- The JAS Technical Criteria (provided to the operator by the Pro-Cert during the training workshop).
- The JAS Rules (imbedded in Pro-Cert standard operating policies and procedures).

Unique Requirements

The JAS Program differs from other government organic regulatory programs in several ways:

- Foreign applicants are classified as Producers, Processors and Repackers.
- Applicants must comply with JAS Standards as well as with JAS Technical Criteria.
- Applicants must have an internal grading (organic compliance verification) system.
- Labeling requirements are different from those of the COR, NOP and the EU.
- JAS training is mandatory for production managers and graders.

The major difference between the JAS organic program and Canadian, USA, and EU programs is the JAS requirement for an internal “grading” procedure in the operation as discussed below and for training of production managers and graders. These differences are discussed in detail during the JAS Training Workshops.

Pro-Cert Program Options

Pro-Cert’s JAS Certification program features two options:

1. **JAS Only Option**
2. **JAS Add-on Option**

Competitive fees are proportional to the size and complexity of the operation AND without royalties or hidden costs!

Pro-Cert provides JAS training workshops for operators on a flexible, cost and time effective basis. These are held as required and range from one-on-one conference/webcam sessions to larger public sessions. A [Pro-Cert JAS Training Manual](#) is provided in advance of the workshops. This manual contains: (i) JAS Standards, (ii) JAS Technical Criteria, (iii) JAS Grading Requirements and (iv) JAS Labeling Requirements.

JAS Cost Quotations & Application Packages

Contact one of our offices for a JAS cost quotation and/or application and contract.