

CHAPTER 31

FOOD LAW

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31.92 DEFINITIONS.

Subdivision 1. **Scope.** As used in sections 31.92 to 31.94, the terms defined in this section have the meanings given.

Subd. 2. **Department.** "Department" means the department of agriculture.

Subd. 3. **Organic food.** "Organic food" means any food product, including meat, dairy, and beverage, that is marketed using the term "organic" or any derivative of "organic" in its labeling or advertising.

Subd. 4. **Producer.** "Producer" means a person who is responsible for growing or raising organic food.

Subd. 5. **Vendor.** "Vendor" means anyone who sells organic food to the consumer or another vendor.

History: 1985 c 237 s 3

NOTE: This section is effective April 1, 1986. See Laws 1985, chapter 237, section 6.

31.93 REQUIREMENTS.

Subdivision 1. **Growth; composition.** Organic food must be grown, raised, or composed of ingredients that were grown or raised without the use of synthetic fertilizers, pesticides, hormones, antibiotics, growth stimulants, and arsenicals. Other natural substances, such as diatomaceous earth, soaps, elemental sulfur, lime sulfur, and basic copper sulfate may be used in the growing of organic food.

Where untreated seed is unavailable, treated seed may be used.

Soil on which organic food is grown or raised must have been free of synthetic fertilizers, pesticides, hormones, antibiotics, growth stimulants, and arsenicals for at least one year. After March 31, 1987, the soil must have been free of those synthetics for at least two years. After March 31, 1988, the soil must have been free of those synthetics for at least three years.

Subd. 2. **Information.** Growers, manufacturers, and sellers of products regulated by sections 31.92 to 31.94 shall provide the department, upon demand, with relevant information from records required under subdivision 2.

Subd. 3. **Storage.** Organic food may be stored in a regular, cold, or controlled atmosphere. If fumigation is needed, only diatomaceous earth or inert gas may be used.

History: 1985 c 237 s 4

NOTE: This section is effective April 1, 1986. See Laws 1985, chapter 237, section 6.

31.94 DEPARTMENTAL DUTIES.

The department shall enforce sections 31.92 to 31.94. The department shall withhold from sale or trade any product sold, labeled, or advertised in violation of sections 31.92 to 31.94.

The department shall investigate the offering for sale, labeling, or advertising of an article or substance as organically grown, organically processed, or produced in

an organic environment if there is reason to believe that action is in violation of sections 31.92 to 31.94.

The department may adopt rules, including emergency rules, that further clarify organic food standards and marketing practices.

History: 1985 c 237 s 5

NOTE: This section is effective April 1, 1986. See Laws 1985, chapter 237, section 6.