### **ABOUT THE NOP STANDARD**

### 1. National Organic Program (NOP)

- NOP is a federal regulatory program that develops and enforces <u>consistent national</u> <u>standards</u> for organically produced agricultural products sold in the United States.
- NOP also accredits third-party organizations to certify that farms and businesses
  meet the national organic standards. These certifiers and USDA work together to
  enforce the standards, ensuring a level playing field for producers and protecting
  consumer confidence in the integrity of the <u>USDA Organic Seal</u>.
- The NOP organic certification ensures that the organic products are produced under the system of agriculture where there is no use of chemical fertilizers & pesticides to demonstrate an environmental & socially responsible approach.
- By implementing the NOP certification the farming technique used does not hamper
  the reproductive and regenerative capacity of the soil, and facilitates good plant
  nutrition, along with sound soil management which helps to produce nutritious food
  which has resistant to diseases.

#### 2. What is the difference between NOP and NPOP

 Organic products must be certified by a USDA-accredited certification agency, such as Escort, before they can be sold, labeled, or represented in the United States. USDA NOP applies to food, feed, and personal care products labeled "100% Organic," "Organic," or "Made with Organic." Whereas NPOP is a program launched by the Indian government which provides standards for organic production, systems, criteria, and procedures for licensing Certification Bodies, the National (India Organic) Logo, and the regulations governing its use.

#### 3. What Benefits will the standard bring to business.

- Meet precise standards for organic agriculture, including aquaculture, livestock and live produce, wild harvest, etc., and the resulting products
- Promote the growth and development of organic farming and processing
- Promotes safe, sustainable and profitable farming

# 4. Standard Applicable to

• The NOP are applicable to the farmer groups, processors of crops, Traders/exporters of foods, apiculture, livestock & poultry units.

## 5. Where can I down load the standard copy

• You can visit www.ams.usda.gov and down load the copy free of cost