



The support from government can be seen from the regulation. With support by awareness from the consumer about healthy life style, combine by the government regulation could make organic food developing into further level. Although the price is rather high than the conventional food, the national campaign for organic food also give significant effect to the development of organic food. The government also socializing eco farming to the farmer, ensuring and keeping the buying price for the farming product high.

**N**OWADAYS the understanding of farming product is growth from knowledge increasing quantity production to fulfil the food needs into the increasing of quality and the safety of food itself. Quality that consist of taste, nutrient and vitamin contents. Food safety cover of the chemical residual contain in the food caused from the farming process, pesticide, herbicide which endanger human health.

Before starting business in organic product we need to pay more attention to the regulation that

valid in the nation that we want to start business. We should concern about domestic regulation, however as a developed country and reputed as modern agriculture industry, United States regulation usually seen as guideline by the other countries.

The United States organization who regulate the farming, particularly organic farming is known as United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). This organization recognize four categories of organic products, the first one is crops, means: food harvested from plant, livestock feed, fiber, or any

# POLICIES AND REGULATIONS 3

used substances to add nutrients to the field. Second is livestock means food coming from animals or in the production of food. Third is processed products which consist of all items that have been handled and packaged, processed, and packaged. The last is wild crops or plants from a growing site which not cultivated. For this regulation we are more focus on the crops regulation.

## Farming regulation

A description of the monitoring practices and procedures to be performed and maintained, including the frequency for what they will be performed. It also discussed how to implement cultivation practices which maintain the chemical, physical and biological condition of soil, and minimize soil erosion as well.

One important thing from farming regulation is about the crop rotation. The practice of alternating the annual crops grown on a specific field in a planned pattern or sequence in successive crop years so that crops of the same species or family are not grown repeatedly without interruption on the same field.

The producer must implement a crop rotation, green manure, improve soil organic matter content, then providing pest management in crops, finally managing the deficient or excess plant nutrients and provide erosion control.

This regulation hope that having well defined boundaries to prevent the unintended application of a prohibited substance to the crop or contact with a prohibited substance that is not under organic management.

## Substance

The criteria in the evaluation of substances or ingredients for the organic production: Synthetic and non-synthetic substances considered for inclusion from the National List of allowed and prohibited substances.

The usage of synthetic substance used as a processing aid will consider these criteria: first is that this substance cannot be produced from a natural source and there are no organic substitutes. Then

substance which is allowed if it don't have adverse effects on the environment and has compatible with organic handling, and also the nutritional quality of the food is still maintained when the substance is used, and the substance itself doesn't have an adverse effect on human health as defined by applicable Federal regulations. The other condition that synthetic substance allowed is the primary use is not as preservative. Moreover the substance is listed as generally recognized as safe (GRAS) by Food and Drug Administration (FDA). Another requisite is the substance that essential for the handling of organically produced agricultural products.

While Non-synthetics used in organic processing will be evaluated.

## Certification and labelling Process

### Cost for certification

The certification costs is depending on the certifying agent and the size, type and complexity from the farming operation. According to USDA website, the costs has range from few hundred to thousand dollars. Before applying they suggested to understand the fee structure and billing cycle. Generally, the fee is an application fee, annual renewal fee, assessment on annual production or sales, and inspection fees. The benefit of certification is after you are certified, the USDA Organic Certification gives Cost-Share Programs which farmer can reimburse operations up to 75 percent of their certification costs.

### Labelling

In United Stated if we want to seek for organic products in the marketplace, consumers should find for the USDA Organic Seal or a certifier name on the label. The U.S. Department of Agriculture categorized four kind of organic labels. This labelling based on the percentage of organic content in that product. This means that not only the organic ingredients in processed products certified, but also the facilities that handle and process the products are inspected and certified as well.