

# ORGANIC



# TRUST LTD

Inspection • Certification

Training • Education

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**GUARANTEEING ORGANIC INTEGRITY SINCE 1992**

## Notice to Members

### Rules relating to the use of Untreated Non-Organic Seeds for 2015 – for both single varieties of untreated non-organic seed and seed mixtures containing a proportion of untreated non-organic seed

#### Organic Seed Database

The Organic Seed Database can be found on the website of the Department of Agriculture, Food & The Marine – <http://www.agriculture.gov.ie/farmingsectors/crops/seedcertification/organicseeddatabase/>

The general principle of producing organic food requires that seed and vegetative propagating material produced by the organic production method be used. Due to unavailability of certain seeds within the European Union, it may be possible to use seed and vegetative propagating material not produced by the organic production method, however, producers wishing to use such **non-organic untreated seed** must apply for a seed derogation from the Organic Trust Ltd via use of the Organic Trust Non-Organic Seed Derogation Request form **prior** to any purchase or use of such untreated non-organic seed.

A database has been developed by DAFM to show the seed and vegetative propagating material which is registered and available for use in Ireland.

#### Searching the database:

In order to search the database, the following instructions should be followed:

The database is available on the DAFF website which is accessible on the following link: <http://www.agriculture.gov.ie/farmingsectors/crops/seedcertification/organicseeddatabase/>. If the seed you require is unavailable (*as verified on screen*), you may then apply to the Organic Trust for a non-organic seed derogation via use of the Untreated Non-Organic Seed Derogation Request Form. Please note that in 2012 the same seed derogation request form may be used for both single varieties of untreated non-organic seed and seed mixtures containing a proportion or percentage of untreated non-organic seed. Operators who wish to apply for multiple derogations must list each variety for which permission is required on a separate line on the seed derogation form.

#### Members please note that:

- In the first instance organically certified seed must be sourced;
- If organically certified seeds are not available for the variety and/or species required, the non-organic seed derogation request form should be sent to the Organic Trust Ltd for approval prior to purchase of non-organic untreated seed;
- Permission for use of treated non-organic seeds cannot be granted under any circumstances.

Thank you for your co-operation.

Helen Scully  
NATIONAL CO-ORDINATOR & CERTIFICATION MANAGER