



# Food Notice

## Approved Food Control Plan Template (OrganicFarmNZ)

Template approved under section 40

24 April 2019

Draft for  
Consultation

## **TITLE**

Food Notice: Approved Food Control Plan Template (OrganicFarmNZ)

## **COMMENCEMENT**

This Food Notice comes into force on [Effective Date]

## **ISSUING AUTHORITY**

This Food Notice is issued under sections 40 and 405 of the Food Act 2014.

Dated at Wellington,

Peter Thomson  
Peter Thomson, Director Plants & Pathways  
Regulation & Assurance  
Ministry for Primary Industries  
(Acting under delegated authority of the Director-General)

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## Introduction

This introduction is not part of the Food Notice, but is intended to indicate its general effect.

## Purpose

The purpose of this Food Notice is for the Chief Executive (CE) of the Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) to approve a Food Control Plan template that has been developed by OrganicFarmNZ.

## Background

The purposes of the Food Act 2014 (the Act) include achieving the safety and suitability of food for sale, maintaining confidence in New Zealand's food safety regime and providing for risk-based measures that minimise and manage risks to public health.

The Act requires certain food businesses to operate under a registered Food Control Plan (FCP) to ensure that food produced by that business is safe and suitable.

Section 40 of the Act allows the CE of MPI to:

- approve, by Notice, template or model FCPs developed by people other than the CE for up to 3 years;
- set conditions subject to which approval is given;
- issue a new Notice approving an approved template or model for a further period of up to 3 years;
- issue a Notice suspending or withdrawing approval of a template or model.

The template approved by this Food Notice has been approved by MPI as it meets the requirements of the Act. MPI is satisfied that the template specified in this Food Notice enables OrganicFarmNZ (OFNZ) to grow, harvest, sort and pack horticultural produce. In particular, the template identifies:

- hazards that are reasonably likely to occur;
- appropriate controls for those hazards;
- steps for monitoring of appropriate limits;
- what to do when situations arise that require corrective actions.

Approval for this template expires within 3 years of the date that this Notice is issued. Before this date, OFNZ can apply for a new approval for a further period of up to 3 years.

## Who should read this Food Notice?

This Food Notice applies to any business that is authorised by OrganicFarmNZ to use this template to register an FCP under the Food Act 2014.

## Why is this important?

The template is specifically developed to be used in conjunction with OrganicFarmNZ (OFNZ) Food Control Plan Form. The template covers a wide range of horticulture activities including growing, harvesting, sorting, grading, minimal processing and packing of horticultural produce. If a business is eligible to use this template, the business may register a FCP based on this template. If a business chooses to register a FCP based on the template, the business cannot amend the template or add additional material to the template.

A business that registers a FCP based on this template is responsible for ensuring that its operations are verified by a person or an agency who/which has suitable expertise for verifying horticultural businesses.

## **Part 1: Requirements**

### **1.1 Application**

- (1) This Notice applies to any business or member of OrganicFarmNZ using the template.

### **1.2 Definitions**

- (1) All terms defined in the Food Act 2014 (Act) or the Food Regulations 2015 (Regulations), have the same meaning within this Notice as defined in that Act and Regulations.

### **1.3 Approval of template**

- (1) The template titled 'OrganicFarmNZ Template Food Control Plan' and dated 11 January, 2019 is approved under section 40 of the Food Act 2014.
- (2) Approval for this template ends 3 years from the date that this Notice is issued.
- (3) The reference number for this template is S40-00009.
- (4) The template may only be used for growing, harvesting, and undertaking of minimal processing including packing of horticultural produce. This includes bottling edible oil after it has been processed by a National Programme 3 business and supplied in bulk containers.
- (5) The template may only be verified by a person or agency who is recognised to verify template Food Control Plans and who has suitable expertise for verifying horticultural businesses. Where a business registers as a multi-site business, all sites must be verified at the first verification.
- (6) The template may only be used by any business that is authorised by OrganicFarmNZ.