



For more information regarding California's CFM and Organic Programs, please contact:

CDFA Inspection & Compliance Branch

(916)900-5030 or go to

[https://www.cdfa.ca.gov/is/i\\_&\\_c/](https://www.cdfa.ca.gov/is/i_&_c/)



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES



Department of  
Agricultural Commissioner /  
Weights & Measures

[acwm.lacounty.gov](http://acwm.lacounty.gov)

PEST EXCLUSION &  
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Department of  
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**CONSUMER'S GUIDE  
TO CERTIFIED  
FARMERS' MARKETS**



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

## CERTIFIED FARMERS' MARKET

### What is a Certified Farmers' Market (CFM)?

CFM's are places at which California producers may sell their own crops directly to the public. Before a grower is permitted to sell at a CFM, the local County Agricultural Commissioner inspects the producer's growing grounds and, then, issues a certificate (hence, "certified") listing the types and amounts of crops being grown by the farmer. This certificate must be available at the CFM.

### Is any "Farmers' Market" just the same thing as a "Certified" Farmers' Market?

No. Vendors at Farmers' Markets can buy and resell commercially-packaged agricultural products. These products may not have been grown by the vendor and may be from other states or countries.



### Who can operate a CFM?

Certified Farmers' Markets may be operated only by one or more Certified Producers, a nonprofit organization, or a local government agency. Both the CFM and all participating Certified Producers must be certified by the State of California through the County Agricultural Commissioner.

## CALIFORNIA FARM DIRECT



### What can be sold at a CFM?

Only California-grown commodities, such as fruits, vegetables, eggs, honey, cut flowers, plants, meat and dairy products, may be sold, and only by the farmer or persons authorized by him/her to sell. Certified Producers are exempt from specific commercial packaging and labeling requirements and may sell their own processed fruit and vegetable products.

### Who regulates CFMs and their activities?

The County Agricultural Commissioner certifies and routinely inspects both farmers and CFMs.

We make sure that farmers only  
**"SELL WHAT THEY GROW"**



## ORGANIC VS. CONVENTIONAL

### Organic vs. Conventional products.

Conventionally-produced agricultural products are not organic. At CFMs, organic products must be separated from conventionally-grown products and are to be identified as "Organic." No co-mingling is allowed.



### Are all products sold at CFMs organic?

No. If a farmer advertises products as organic, the farmer must be registered as an organic producer with the State Organic Program. At the grower's CFM booth, the State Organic Registration must be available for review.

### What is the difference between "Organic" and "Certified Organic?"

Limited-scale organic producers with annual sales of less than \$5,000 per year are exempt from requirements for organic certification. They can advertise their products as "organic," but may not use the term "Certified Organic." Those exceeding \$5,000 in annual sales must be certified by a USDA-accredited certifier, and such certification must be available at a CFM.