National Organic Program buffer zone definition From Department of Agriculture, 7 CFR Part 205, [Docket Number:TMD-00-02-FR], RIN:0581-AA40, National Organic Program, pgs. 352-353.

§ 205.2 Terms defined.

Buffer zone: An area located between a certified production operation or portion of a production operation and an adjacent land area that is not maintained under organic management. A buffer zone must be sufficient in size or other features (e.g., windbreaks or a diversion ditch) to prevent the possibility of unintended contact by prohibited substances applied to adjacent land areas with an area that is part of a certified operation."

§ 205.202 Land requirements.

Any field or farm parcel from which harvested crops are intended to be sold, labeled, or represented as "organic," must:

- (a) Have been managed in accordance with the provisions of §§ 205.203 through 205.206;
- (b) Have had no prohibited substances, as listed in § 205.105, applied to it for a period of 3 years immediately preceding harvest of the crop; and
- (c) Have distinct, defined boundaries and buffer zones such as runoff diversions to prevent the unintended application of a prohibited substance to the crop or contact with a prohibited substance applied to adjoining land that is not under organic management.