**Complete this form to apply for Grass-Fed Ruminant Animal Certification under the Organic Plus Trust Inc. (OPT) Grass-Fed Standards. Please note, you must be certified organic with MCIA (or concurrently applying for organic certification with MCIA) in order to complete this addendum. Contact MCIA prior to completing this form if you are certified organic by another Organic Accredited Certifying Agency. Please see the current Fee Schedule and Scale of Sanctions for pricing.**

**Applicant Name:  Applicant Number:**

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| SECTION 1: General Information  |  |
| Certification Requested - Production of Organic, Grass-Fed:  [ ]  Dairy: Milk buyer: [ ]  CROPP/OV [ ]  Westby [ ]  Other, list:  List species: [ ]  Bovine [ ]  Other, list:  [ ]  Meat: Meat Buyer: [ ]  CROPP/OV [ ]  Other, list:  List species: [ ]  Bovine [ ]  Other, list:  |  |
| Operations are required to participate in an animal welfare verified program that includes an on-site inspection and is approved by the Certified Organic Grass Fed Program. List the animal welfare program standard your operation is inspected to and attach a current certificate:   |  |
| Do you have access to the current OPT Grass-Fed Standards? Is access online?  | [ ]  Yes [ ]  No [ ]  Yes [ ]  No |
| Are you currently Certified Grass-Fed under the OPT standards? If yes, list date of initial certification:  If yes, and you are transferring to MCIA, attach a current Grass-Fed certificate.  | [ ]  Yes [ ]  No |
| Have you ever been certified Grass-Fed before (through any program?)  If yes, list which program and date:  Attach a copy of your certificate, decision letter and inspection report.  | [ ]  Yes [ ]  No |
| Have you ever had a negative report or denial of certification by an Animal Welfare Inspection or other Certification Program? If yes, attach copy of the report and findings.  | [ ]  Yes [ ]  No[ ]  N/A |

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| SECTION 2: Source and Identity of Animals  |
| Do you plan to transition your currently certified organic animals to Grass-Fed Dairy production?  If yes, on what date will the 90-day transition begin?  If yes, will all animals on the farm be transitioned beginning on this day? If no, explain:  | [ ]  Yes [ ]  No[ ]  Yes [ ]  No |
| Do you plan to raise Grass-Fed Beef animals, born on your farm, Grass-Fed from birth? | [ ]  Yes [ ]  No |
| Do you plan to purchase certified Grass-Fed animals? If yes: List number of animals:  Source:Organic Certifier (attach current Organic Certificate):Grass-Fed Certifier (attach current Grass-Fed Certificate): | [ ]  Yes [ ]  No |
| Do you plan to purchase certified organic animals that are not certified Grass-Fed? If yes,explain how you comply with commercial availability requirements:Note: your Organic *Livestock List* must list the identity and source of all animals in the herd.  | [ ]  Yes [ ]  No |

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| SECTION 3: Livestock Diet – Grazing, Allowed, and Restricted Feedstuffs |
| NOTE: rations for each group of livestock must be listed on your MCIA *Organic System Plan*. A. GRAZINGOPT Policies require that you minimize non-forage feed and maximize the use of animal harvested feed. Describe how you do this, including any plans for improvement:  |  |
| What is your plan to ensure you maintain herd health including energy needs and adequate body condition under Grass-Fed management?  |  |
| Describe how your pasture plan provides for rest and re-growth and prevents overgrazing.  |  |
| I understand and can and will comply with the requirement that Grass-Fed Certification requires that all animals (limited exemptions described below) be fed: A minimum of 60% Dry Matter from Pasture during the grazing season  Must be grazed for a minimum of 150 days per year  | [ ]  Yes [ ]  No[ ]  Yes [ ]  No |
| Do you plan to plant any cereal grains, corn, soybeans or other grain producing annual species for pasture, fodder, or feed?  If yes, describe how you will ensure cereal grains are harvested/grazed pre-boot stage, corn pre-tassel and soybeans, pre-bloom?  How will you document this?  | [ ]  Yes [ ]  No |
| Are you raising any grain crops on your farm that will be harvested as grain?  If yes, how will grain be kept separate from Grass-Fed animals:  | [ ]  Yes [ ]  No |
| Are there any other animals on the farm that are fed grain?If yes, list species and type of feed:   If yes, describe how this grain will be kept separate from Grass-Fed animals:  | [ ]  Yes [ ]  No |
| **I understand that any animal intentionally or unintentionally fed grain or grain by-products is at risk for losing certification and that I must contact MCIA immediately.**  | [ ]  Yes [ ]  No |
| **B. RESTRICTED GRAIN-FREE FEEDSTUFFS**Check if you feed any of the following (all products/inputs must be listed on your *Materials Request and Review form*):[ ]  Molasses [ ]  Sugar, dry or liquid *The above items can be fed at no more than 4# dry matter/head/day and only one of these can be fed per day.* Describe how you ensure your feeding program complies with this: [ ]  Beet pulp [ ]  Citrus pulp [ ]  Sugar Beets  [ ]  Alfalfa pellets [ ]  Other (including other forage pellets), describe:  *The above items can be fed at no more than 5# dry matter/head/day.*  Describe how you ensure your feeding program complies with this requirement: [ ]  Fodder Sprouts, list type:  *If fed, fodder sprouts can be fed at no more than 1.75% of animals body weight or not more than 20#/day, the roots must be removed, and they may only be fed during the non-grazing season.*  Describe how your feeding program complies with these requirements: [ ]  Minerals and salt (must be verified grain free)  **I confirm I have listed all minerals and salts on my *Materials List and Review* *Request* form.**  | [ ]  Yes [ ]  No |
| **C. LIMITED EXEMPTIONS***Dairy Animals under 6 months of age may be fed grain on a non-routine basis until 12/31/2020, provided a plan is written for how grain feeding will be terminated.* Do you feed grain to dairy youngstock (under 6 months of age)? If yes, describe how often/how much grain is fed: What is your plan to end grain feeding by 12/31/20? *Temporary Health and Welfare Exception* **I understand that if an animal’s health becomes compromised, the standards allow a temporary exemption. To utilize this exemption, I must contact MCIA for approval immediately.**  | [ ]  Yes [ ]  No [ ]  N/A (beef animals only)[ ]  Yes [ ]  No |

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| SECTION 4: Exclusion of Milk and Meat from Disqualified Animals |
| **A. DAIRY***If an animal is disqualified, it must be removed from the farm within 7 days.* How will you comply with the requirement to remove the animal from your operation and document the removal? If a disqualified animal is milking:How will you keep the milk separate from Grass-Fed milk and animals until it is removed from the farm?  How will you maintain records documenting this? | [ ]  N/A (beef animals only) |
| **B. MEAT** If a meat animal is disqualified, but remains on the farm, how will you identify it?  What records will you keep to document this? | [ ]  N/A (no meat animals) |

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| SECTION 5: Livestock Healthcare and Living Conditions |
| If grain or a grain by-product is needed to restore animal health, I understand and will not withhold grain from an animal to maintain its Grass-Fed status.  | [ ]  Yes |
| Bedding may not contain prohibited feedstuffs (including grain). I confirm that all bedding materials are listed on my Organic System Plan and that no bedding material contains grain. | [ ]  Yes |

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| SECTION 6: Recordkeeping |
| In addition to records described above, I keep the following records to verify compliance with Grass-Fed Standards: [ ]  Records of days on pasture (for each livestock group) showing they are grazed a minimum of 150 days. [ ]  Records of feed harvested, purchased (as applicable), and fed verifying no grain is fed. [ ]  Records of feed fed showing animals are fed no more than 40% of their feed from stored feeds during the grazing season. [ ]  Verification of purchase of Grass-Fed animals (including Grass-Fed Certificate, individual identification of animals, date of purchase and source of animals.  [ ]  Other:  |  |

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| SECTION 7: Additional Comments |
| Please add any comments or descriptions to better help us understand your Grass-Fed production system or complete your answers from above (if you did not have enough space).  |

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| SECTION 8: Affirmations |
| I affirm that all statements made in this application are true, correct, and complete. No prohibited products have been applied to any of my organically managed grazing areas and/or used in the production of my organic livestock. I understand that the operation may be subject to unannounced inspection and/or sampling for residues at any time as deemed appropriate. I understand that acceptance of this questionnaire in no way implies granting of certification by MCIA. I agree to abide by OPT and MCIA Guidelines and the certification standards and/or certification requirements applicable to my operation. I agree to notify MCIA in writing of changes in any of the following: farm contact information, applicant contact information, legal status, ownership or control of operation, and any change to my system that could affect compliance. I agree to pay all fees assessed by MCIA.I authorize the release of the following information to OPT/Earth Claims: [ ]  All Organic Certification related documents. [ ]  Other, specify:  Applicant Signature: Date: I have attached the following documents: [ ]  OPT Grass-Fed Certificate [ ]  Animal Welfare Program Certificate [ ]  Payment for Grass-Fed Certification *(please note additional inspection charges may apply)* [ ]  Other: **I have made copies of this questionnaire and other supporting documents for my records:** [ ]  Yes [ ]  No*Submit completed form, supporting documents, and fees to:***Minnesota Crop Improvement Association****1900 Hendon Avenue****St. Paul, MN 55108** **or: mncia@mncia.org** |