

The National Organic Certification Mark

The demand for organic food is increasing rapidly worldwide. Many countries have moved into organic agricultural production by following organic principles introduced by the International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movements (IFOAM). Some countries have developed their organic standards.



Sri Lanka is a tropical country rich in biodiversity and has practiced a sustainable agricultural production system from ancient times. The traditional Sri Lankan farmers practiced eco-friendly agriculture methods based on the four principles of organic agriculture: health, ecology, fairness, and care.

Sri Lanka has developed National Organic Standards considering our traditional agricultural knowledge, climate, cropping patterns, and the current agricultural practices. The National Organic Control Unit (NOCU) has facilitated the Sri Lanka Standards Institution (SLSI) to develop and publish the Sri Lanka Organic Standard SLS 1324:2018. with expert



National Organic Certification Mark (NOCM) will be granted based on compliance with the Sri Lanka Organic Standard SLS 1324: 2018 for products that follow genuine practice in manufacturing.

opinion from the public and private stakeholders engaged in organic agricultural practices. SLS standard entails the principles of organic production and processing. The Sri Lanka Accreditation Board will conduct an assessment according to ISO 17065 and grant accreditation for certification bodies to issue an organic certificate as per SLS 1324:2018.

The National Organic Certification Mark (NOCM) will be granted based on compliance with the Sri Lanka Organic Standard SLS 1324: 2018 communicating the genuineness and the origin of the product.

NOCU, established under the Sri Lanka Export Development Board (SLEDB), is the sole, absolute, and

exclusive owner of the National Organic Certification Mark (NOCM). It is registered with the National Intellectual Property Office-Under Class Nos.29, 30, 31, and 32.

NOCU will grant the license to issue this NOCM only to the accredited certification bodies operating in Sri Lanka, subject to compliance with the guidelines issued by NOCU.

The main objective of introducing the NOCM is to increase the availability of genuine organic products in the local market and increase the credibility of consumer awareness.

NOCU is undertaking many activities to prevent the entry of fake organic products to the international

and local market and conduct market surveillance in collaboration with the Consumer Affairs Authority to analyze and verify the organic products sold in the local market and export market.

The farmers/processors certified under the SLS 1324:2018 can display the NOCM on their product packaging, and it could be used as a government endorsement for the genuineness of their products. The logo users have to follow a set of guidelines issued by NOCU to assure product authenticity. ☐

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