



**BARTELS PACKING COMPANY, DBA BARTELS FARMS, EST. # 497 & 497A**



### **ANIMAL CRITERIA FOR ORGANIC GRASS FED BEEF**

The cattle represented by this document adhere to the following criteria for Organic Grass Fed Beef processed at Bartels Packing Company, dba Bartels Farms, specifically:

- **Animal Origin:** Animals must be born and raised in the United States.
- **Animal Husbandry:**
  - Animals covered by this statement are in full compliance with the organic certification set forth by the National Organic Program (NOP), and comply with recent changes set forth by the USDA; which state that “Organic livestock must graze on pasture for at least four (4) months of the year and that thirty (30) percent of their ration must be grass or forbs based (grass, hay or silage).”
  - Grass and forage shall be the feed source consumed for the lifetime of the ruminant animal, with the exception of milk consumed prior to weaning. The diet shall be derived solely from forage consisting of grass (annual and perennial), forbs (e.g., legumes, *Brassica*), browse, or cereal grain crops in the vegetative (pre-grain) state. Animals cannot be fed grain or grain byproducts and must have continuous access to pasture during the growing season. Hay, haylage, baleage, silage, crop residue without grain, and other roughage sources may also be included as acceptable feed sources. Routine mineral and vitamin supplementation may also be included in the feeding regimen. If incidental supplementation occurs due to inadvertent exposure to non-forage feedstuffs or to ensure the animal's well-being at all times during adverse environmental or physical conditions, the producer must fully document (e.g., receipts, ingredients, and tear tags) the supplementation that occurs including the amount, the frequency, and the supplements provided. Animal diets are 100% vegetarian.
  - Animals have never been administered implants, synthetic hormones, ionophores, antibiotics (injected or fed) or beta-agonists.
  - Animals are raised using humane handling practices and subject to random on-site inspections by Bartels Packing Company employees, including Dr. Robert Wright, who is responsible for conducting farm audits to validate Organic protocols. Attempts to minimize animal stress and promote animal socialization are ongoing.
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  - Animals who are treated for illness are removed from the organic program.
- **Animal Traceability:**
  - Animals are identified with an ear tag or back tag.
  - Back tag and/or ear tag numbers are recorded on a shipping manifest.
  - Back tag and/or ear tag numbers are recorded and correlated to a carcass tag number at the slaughter facility.
  - Organic carcasses are stored in coolers with clear separation from other carcasses.
- **Veterinary Interventions:**
  - Any and all veterinary treatments to animals represented by this affidavit must be documented and maintained for 1 year and made accessible to Bartels Packing Company upon request.

• Date of Animal Dispatch: \_\_\_\_\_

• Location of Animal Dispatch: \_\_\_\_\_

• Signature of Owner or Agent: \_\_\_\_\_