

General ROA Terms and Definitions

1. **Agreement:** Shall mean the ROC Licensing Agreement between the ROA and Organization.
2. **Authorized licensee:** An authorized licensee includes, but is not limited to, any brand, broker, finished goods manufacturer, or wholesaler who is making a ROC claim and has a valid License Agreement with the ROA.
3. **Brand:** A brand is a name, term, design, symbol, or any other distinctive feature that identifies a product as distinct from other products.
4. **Brand Owner:** The brand owner is a person or company who sells any commodity under a registered brand label. Brand owners will be referred to as brands.
5. **Certification level:** The ROC level to which a product is certified, i.e. Bronze, Silver, or Gold.
6. **Certified product:** Raw material and/or packaged or processed goods that are certified under the Regenerative Organic Certified (ROC) program that is eligible for and intended to carry labeling claims
7. **Certified producers:** An operation that has achieved ROC certification status and is making a ROC claim. Certified producers must have a valid Operation Information & Certification Contract with the ROA.
8. **Certified operation:** See certified producer.
9. **Chain of custody:** The set of practices and documentation required to ensure that certified product (i.e., ROC plant or animal products) is segregated, identifiable, and traceable throughout the supply chain. Post-farm processors and handlers must maintain the proper chain of custody standards in order for a final consumer product to carry ROC claims.
10. **Claimed material:** The portion of a product that is intended to be used and eligible for ROC claims; see certified product.
11. **Consumer facing content claims for textiles:** These include but are not limited to hang/swing tags, claims displayed permanently on product, and alternative packaging.
12. **Exempt organization:** An organization that meets the exemption criteria of the NOP Organic certification program and is also exempt from certification requirements and auditing. Exempt organizations include those that store, or transport only packaged, segregated raw or finished goods; and retailers that sell packaged, labeled product(s) to consumers.
13. **Governing Documents:** The Governing Documents consist of: License Agreement, the ROC Framework, the Program Manual, the Operation Information

& Certification Contract, the Supply Chain Guidelines, the Cost & Fee Structure, and the Labeling Guidelines & Terms of Use. The Governing Documents are subject to change. Any expansion of or updates to the Governing Documents will be available at RegenOrganic.org/Resources).

14. **Handler:** Any person engaged in the business of selling, processing, or packaging agricultural products except for final retailers that do not process agricultural products.
15. **Information panel:** The labeled panel immediately to the right of the principal display panel, as displayed to the consumer. If the panel is not usable, due to package design and construction, then the information panel is the next label panel immediately to the right.
16. **Low Risk Social Fairness Audit:** A low-risk farmer and worker fairness audit is defined as an audit of a family owned and operated farm or ranch located in the global north with less than 5 direct hire employees in a calendar year with no third-party contract laborers; no H2A workers; and no hired adolescent labor under age 16.
17. **Operation:** The farm or ranch that grows or raises crops, botanicals, and/or animals to be used for a food, cosmetics, or textile product. Typically, the first stage in the raw material supply chain.
18. **Organization:** Shall mean the Farm, Producer, Operation, Brand, Finished Goods Manufacturer, Supply Chain Actor, or other entity that executed a License Agreement.
19. **Principal display panel:** The portion of a product packaging or label that is most likely to be displayed, presented, shown, or examined under customary conditions of display for sale.
20. **Processing:** Any stage in the supply chain where ROC materials (i.e., plant or animal products) are modified. Processing may include activities such as slaughter, milling, cooking, mixing, and packaging a final product. Processing may occur at a separate facility or on-farm. If the latter, then the farm or ranch is both producer and processor.
21. **Producer:** The farm or ranch that grows or raises crops and/or animals to be used for a food or textile product. The first stage in the raw material supply chain.
22. **Regenerative organic ingredient(s):** Agricultural material from a ROC Bronze, Silver, or Gold certified operation or portion of an operation.
23. **ROC mark(s):** Refers to the Regenerative Organic Certified seal and name and all other trademarks, certification seals, logos, or any other proprietary designations owned by the Regenerative Organic Alliance.

24. **Smallholder:** Small farming operations where land and labor productivity are comparatively low due to limited resources. Smallholder farmers often rely on farming as a primary means of livelihood and are at greater risk of vulnerability in the supply chain. Smallholders rely primarily on family labor for farm operations. Smallholder size may vary by farm type and commodity; however, some certifications set thresholds so confirm with your certification program, if applicable. Most smallholders are organized by Internal Control System (ICS) for certification purposes. Contact the ROA for additional guidance on determining if your operation is considered a smallholder under the ROC.
25. **Supply Chain:** Any steps taken to deliver food, fiber, or botanical products from the farm to the end consumer. Raw agricultural materials are transformed into saleable goods by processing, packaging, transporting, storing, or distributing to final sales outlets.
26. **Supply Chain Actor:** Any organizations that process or handle certified product that are not fully packaged or contained and/or take legal ownership of ROC product; including but not limited to any stage in the supply chain where ROC materials (i.e. plant or animal products) from the producer are modified, which may include the final stage of production. For ROC, the scope for Supply Chain Actors (SCAs) begins with the first legal change in ownership after harvest of crop.