

Organic certification

Category:	Gardens and Site	Version:	1
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Purpose

To provide information about Northey Street City Farm as an advocate for sustainable living in the city, following the principles of permaculture, which in turn, support organic systems. Australia Certified Organic describes organic systems in the following way:

Organic systems work in harmony with nature, keeping harmful chemicals out of our land, water and air, creating a healthy environment rich in wildlife, woodlands and nutrients.

The organic standards place great emphasis on building and maintaining healthy soil, nutritious crops and animal welfare.

Policy

1. The Farm uses permaculture farm management techniques to establish and maintain sustainable farming systems such as the standards for soil, pest and disease control, the prohibition of genetically modified organisms and land conservation, as set out by Australia Certified Organic.
2. The Farm also strives to implement best practice sustainable behaviour by reducing power consumption, operating at zero waste level, being water wise, etc.
3. The Farm aims to be a place to showcase sustainable living and therefore all members and workers must abide by The Farm's fundamental principles of permaculture and sustainability (see the Northey Street City Farm TREE on the front of this manual).

Procedures

1. The Green Team in consultation with other teams is responsible for:
 - a. managing soil and plant health and sustainability,
 - b. strategic planning of conservation areas and for planning sustainable operating practices and environmentally friendly buildings and gardens.
2. The Nursery Team, in consultation with other teams, is responsible for:
 - a. adhering to the Australia Certified Organic standards and handling the associated paper work on behalf of The Farm. This is because the Nursery manages many of the inputs associated with The Farm, i.e., seedlings, mulch, etc.

