

Guideline No. POS1/2015

Pacific Organic Standard(POS): Microwave Use

1. Purpose

This guideline provides clarification with regard to the use of microwave ovens for processing organic produce under the Pacific Organic Standard.

2. Scope

This guidance applies to all POETCom Approved Certification Partners (ACPs) and Registered Participatory Guarantee Systems (RPGS).

3. Background

The POS states in 7.3.3 Irradiation is not permitted.

The POS does not reference use of microwaves for processing purposes.

4. Guidelines

Microwave technology is not considered irradiation, however microwave use for processing of organic produce will not be allowed under the POS based on issues of consumer perception and on the precautionary principle regarding potential health risks.

This may be reviewed at a later date

5. References

Pacific Organic Standard (2008)