

The Organic Decision: Transitioning to Organic Dairy Production

This workbook helps you explore the possibilities of transitioning from conventional dairy farming to organic production. If you are considering the transition, this workbook will help you answer some preliminary questions:

- **How stable is the market for organic milk?** A discussion on the trends in milk marketing and organic milk will give you a realistic view of future organic milk price possibilities.
- **How much will it cost?** Budget worksheets explore what transitioning to organic production may cost your dairy farm.
- **What are the yield reductions in forage production?** An inventory balance calculator to determine forage needs before, during, and after transition.
- **What are some herd health/cull rate considerations?** What milk production, cull rate, and disease incidence is reasonable to expect during your transition period?

After completing the workbook, you should have a business plan, a budget, and an action plan which to follow during this challenging time. To order a copy (\$9.50 plus postage), please call Faye Butts at 607-254-7412 or email to fsb1@cornell.edu.

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