**100 Level Courses**

***COR Self Directed Online Series***

**The Canada Organic Regime (COR) - Our Organic Certification System
Course 1 - Regulation**

The organic certification program in Canada – the Canada Organic Regime (COR)– can be a somewhat daunting system at first glance: six primary documents and numerous organizations and committees that revise and interpret the standard.  This course is about directing you to resources and providing context. The premise is that, by providing insight into why the system is the way it is,  explaining the ‘how’ and ‘why’ of documents, not just the ‘what’ of particular documents, you will fully understand, appreciate, and be better equipped to navigate and interpret the organic rules and regulations.

The ongoing development of the organic certification system in Canada is a unique, volunteer driven process. In this course, we will speak to organic verification officers (VOs) who have served on various national committees, to gain insight into this process. Organic VOs are not only a vital component in the verification of standards in the field, but have contributed greatly to the ‘behind the scenes’ development of an organic certification system in Canada.

This first course introduces the players, roles, and documents in the Canada Organic Regime, explains the relationship between all COR documents, and examines the regulatory and administrative documents in more detail. Packaging and labeling for all organic products is covered as part of the organic regulation. Equivalency agreements with other countries are also discussed for all commodity groups.

Taught by IOIA Trainer and organic inspector [Lisa Pierce](https://www.ioia.net/trainer_bios.html#pierce).

The course is approximately 3 hours in length.

Cost is **US** $175 per person with a US $25 discount for IOIA members

***The Regulation course is a pre-requisite for the crop production course and, when available, the livestock, processing and aquaculture standard courses****.*

**COR Course 2 - Crop Production Standards**

Part of IOIA's Self Directed Learning COR Series on the Canada Organic Regime, covering crop production standards.

The Crop Production Standards course is also a pre-requisite for the COR Series Livestock Production Standards course.

The course is approximately 3 hours in length.

Cost is **US** $175 per person with a US $25 discount for IOIA members.

Taught by IOIA Trainer and organic inspector [Lisa Pierce](https://www.ioia.net/trainer_bios.html#pierce).

**PARTICIPANTS: WHO SHOULD ATTEND?**

IOIA Live Online Basic Organic Inspection Training courses are recommended for inspector trainees, certification agency staff, regulatory agency staff, farmers, quality control personnel, consultants, and technical service providers who want to better understand the organic inspection and certification process.

**COR Course 3 - Online Basic Crop Inspection Training - Canada Organic Regime**

The Time Zone used for IOIA Zoom training events are all listed in Pacific Time.

There are three steps required to be accepted into and participate in the IOIA LOL course.

**Step 1:** LOL Registration via Zoom when course is offered. Thank you!

**Step 2:** COMPLETE AND SUBMIT THE COURSE APPLICATION by specified deadline to be considered for acceptance to the basic crop inspection course.

**Step 3:** If accepted into the course, there is a **REQUIRED Canadian Organic Crop Standards Online Course**(delivered in an on-demand Self-Directed Learning format for your convenience). The registration link to sign up will be sent to each participant. This requirement does not apply if you have taken the 100-level Canadian Organic Crop Standards webinar (delivered in two 3-hour sessions).

The IOIA Live Online Basic Inspection Training in class sessions are scheduled to begin and end:

**START:** 7:30 am Monday – Friday.
**END**: Monday – Thursday 2:30pm
**END:**Friday 11:30am

There are evening assignments Monday – Thursday, due by 6:00pm Pacific Time

***Cost is $1800 USD per person with a $50 USD discount for IOIA members***.

A minimum of 6 participants is required for the course to go forward.

Taught by IOIA Trainer and organic inspector [Garry Lean](https://www.ioia.net/trainer_bios.html#lean)

The course provides basic level training to develop skills required for inspecting and reporting on the management of an organic crop operations according to a specified set of standards. For courses conducted in Canada, the standard is CAN/CGSB-32.310-2020 and Permitted Substance Lists CAN/CGSB-32.311-2020.

The Basic Crop Inspection Training follows IOIA's curriculum requirements which include: instruction on applying the organic standards; working with organic system plans; how to inspect organic farms; audit trail requirements; risk assessment and organic control points; investigative skills; report writing; understanding input materials; assessing natural resource management; inspector conduct, confidentiality, and ethics; understanding the difference between inspecting and consulting; and effective communication.

The course requires all participants to use Google Chrome, set up Google Drive and use a gmail account so that everyone can participate in the course activities and assignments, including the exam, inspection report and to work together on in-class assignments.

This training meets 5 times. Attendees are expected to attend all 5 sessions.

**APPLICATION ACCEPTANCE CRITERIA**

Applications for participation in IOIA courses are evaluated and ranked according to the applicant’s relevant education, training and life experiences. Attendance to IOIA courses is limited. If you are accepted into the course, an instructional letter and the curriculum materials including pre-course readings and assignments will be mailed to you. Applicants to IOIA trainings must meet the following acceptance criteria.

**All Courses:**

* Submission of complete registration, application, résumé, and fees.
* Fluency of the language in which the course is given.
* Demonstration of good communication skills (written, verbal and listening).
* Understanding of and commitment to, enforcement of organic certification principles.
* Demonstration of related continuing education.

**Additional Course Acceptance Criteria**

**Basic Organic Crop Inspection Training**

* A minimum of 1-year training and/or 1-year experience in organic agriculture, with knowledge of conventional agricultural practices.
* Knowledge of basic accounting and ability to solve mathematical problems.
* The 100-Level self-directed COR Crop Standards online course. If you have already completed this webinar, you are not required to retake it.