In furtherance of our mission to support the practitioners of biologically sound agriculture, Oregon Tilth, Inc. ( herein after “Oregon Tilth” or “OTCO”) has teamed up with The Xerces Society, Inc. (Xerces), a nonprofit organization working to protect invertebrates and their habitats. Xerces has approved Oregon Tilth as a certification body authorized to offer certification to the Bee Better Certified™ Production and Labeling (Bee Better) Standards to farmers and can assist farms with their verification needs to meet these standards.

► Bee Better Certified Production Standards may be viewed at http://beebettercertified.org or requested directly from info@beebetter.org

► Bee Better certification is entirely optional and is independent of organic certification.

► In order to begin the process, return this completed form along with a completed Bee Better Conservation Plan to Oregon Tilth via email to: beebetter@tilth.org or by mailing copies to Oregon Tilth, PO Box 368, Corvallis, OR 97339

# Oregon Tilth will conduct the audit and review for applying parties and will communicate directly to you any findings. Oregon Tilth requires payment of the certification fee in the amount of $400 to begin the process. Costs of the inspection will be billed directly to you after the inspection has been completed. Rates are $65 per working hour (includes on-site audit time, report writing, and preparation) or $45 per hour of travel.

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| Operation/Company Name: |       |
| DBA’s (if any): |       |
| Contact Person:(Person with authority to address questions regarding this application, audit process and review) |       |
| Mailing/Billing Address:(Street, City, State and Zip Code) |       |
| Physical Address(es):(Street, City, State and Zip Code) |       |
| Phone Number(s):(land, cell, other) |       | Email Address: |       |

1) Do you have any other certifications? If yes, list:

2) Are you enrolled in any NRCS insect conservation programs? If yes, please list the program(s) and total acres:

3) If Xerces has prepared a Pesticide Risk Mitigation Plan for you, will you be following all recommendations?

[ ]  Yes [ ]  No

If no, please identify which practices will not be implemented and explain why:

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4) Membership

Oregon Tilth, Inc. is a membership-based organization. A certified operator may choose to be a member of Oregon Tilth for no additional charge, and membership is not required for certification. The benefits of Oregon Tilth membership include the following:

* A subscription to our ad free magazine, *In Good Tilth* (IGT)
* Discounts to Oregon Tilth events
* One (1) vote for board director appointments
* Support for our Social Investment Project

 a) Do you wish to become a member of Oregon Tilth, Inc.? [ ]  Yes [ ]  No

5) Certification Services

Oregon Tilth is committed to providing quality certification services. Visit our website at www.tilth.org for program updates. Please comment below on the areas where Oregon Tilth is succeeding in providing quality service as well as points you feel may still need improvement. Comments may also be submitted via email to beebetter@tilth.org.

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6) SIGNATURE AND AFFIRMATIONS

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| By signing below, I am authorizing Oregon Tilth to conduct the assessment and review to Bee Better Certified Production Standards (Standards) for my operation and share findings and certification documents with The Xerces Society, Inc. I acknowledge my understanding of the audit and inspection fees outlined above and agree to pay Oregon Tilth directly for these expenses once invoiced. I further agree to the following:* I am authorized to act on behalf of the company and affirm that all information represented here and within the Bee Better Conservation Plan are an accurate account and full representation of all materials and methods used in the production of certified products.
* I agree to maintain records as required to demonstrate compliance with the Standards and to make those records available to Oregon Tilth and/or Xerces upon request.
* I confirm that I have reviewed the Standards and am familiar with the certification process including the process for noncompliance and corrective actions. I understand that unsanctioned actions and willful violations of the Standards may result in denial of my certification application or suspension or termination of my certification.
* I understand that once certified I may be eligible to use the Bee Better Certified seal and/or logo in marketing of my farm and/or products, subject to a separate license agreement. I understand that the seal/logo is a trademark of The Xerces Society, Inc. and all proposed uses of it must be submitted to The Xerces Society, Inc. or its delegate for approval prior to use in accordance with the terms of that license agreement.
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| **Important Information Regarding Electronic Signatures:** Oregon Tilth recognizes and permits the use of electronic signatures in the conduct of its business. By checking the box below, you willingly consent to the use of electronic signatures in the conduct of your business with Oregon Tilth.[ ]  **AGREE** |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Signature: |       | Date: |       |
| Printed Name: |       |