



## All you need to know to market seeds: a guide for Ireland

### Check for available organic seeds and ask for derogations

**For organic seeds production:** if you want to produce organic seeds you first must check if the variety you want to produce is available organically. You can check on [OrganicX](#) list (if web access is not available then variety availability can be checked by calling the Organic Food Federation 01760 720444); through [Organic Trust Website](#); or directly in the [Organic Seed Database](#) of DAFM. If the variety you are searching for is on the list you must obtain your seeds from the supplier that has the seeds you want to produce. Otherwise, in the following cases you can apply for a derogation to use non-organic seeds in order to obtain organic seeds (and produce) in the future:

- No varieties of the species, which I want to use, are registered in the UK organic seed database.
- The seed supplier is unable to deliver the seed or seed potatoes before sowing or planting despite ordering the seed or seed potatoes in reasonable time.
- The variety, which I want to use, is not registered in the database and I can demonstrate that none of the registered alternatives of the same species are appropriate for my production (you will need to indicate the reason they are not appropriate).
- For research purposes:
  - To test in small scale field trials
  - For variety conservation purposes.

Application for derogation are held by official bodies such as [Organic Certifying Body \(OCB\)](#) (formerly known as Irish Organic Farmers and Growers Association, and now as IOA Irish Organic Assoc), [Organic Trust](#) . Find in the following link the derogation application forms held respectively by [DAFM](#) and [Organic Trust](#).

If you want to get certified as an organic farmer or processor, you can find all the information [here](#).