

USDA Good Agricultural Practices Audit Verification Checklist



This program is intended to assess a participant's efforts to minimize the risk of contamination of fresh fruits, vegetables, nuts and miscellaneous commodities by microbial pathogens based on the U.S. Food and Drug Administration's "Guide to Minimize Microbial Food Safety Hazards for Fresh Fruits and Vegetables," and generally recognized good agricultural practices.

AUDITEE INFORMATION

Company Name: Northwest Onion Company, Inc.	
Audit Location Address	GPS (Optional)
Street: 11235 Portland Rd. NE	City, State, Zip: Brooks, OR, 97305
Multiple sites covered by this audit? (If Yes, provide details in Additional Comments)	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mailing/Business Address <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Same as above	Federal Account Number: 3417547
Street:	City, State, Zip:
Company Contact: Cynthia Brault	Contact Title: Manager
Phone Number: 503-792-3781	Fax Number: 503-792-3789
E-Mail Address: cynthia.nwonion@gmail.com	
Company uses USDA GAP Logo on packaging or marketing materials?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Is this company currently subject to the Produce Safety Rule (21 CFR Part 112)?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

AUDIT INFORMATION

Date & Time of Audit	Beginning	Date: January 14, 2025	Time: 9:45 AM
	Ending	Date: January 14, 2025	Time: 11:15 AM
Description of Operation:	Onion Packing		
Harvest Company Name (if applicable):	NA		
Other Contractors:	Sierra (bottled water supplier) and Western Exterminator Company		
Commodities Covered by Audit:	Onions		
Commodities Produced During Audit:	Onions		
Total Acres Covered by Audit:	N/A		
Total Square Feet Covered by Audit:	20,000 square feet		

AUDITOR INFORMATION

United States Department of Agriculture Agricultural Marketing Service Specialty Crops Program Specialty Crops Inspection Division	Field Office: Salem, OR
	Auditor Name(s): Nathan Miller
	Oregon Department of Agriculture

OTHER INFORMATION

Person(s) Interviewed:	Adrian Ojeda, Cynthia Brault, Diana Lott, and. Bob Papadakes
Audit Requested by:	
Distribute Audit Report to*(if known):	

**Supplying names of retail and food service buyers is not mandatory, however it is useful to know in the event the buyer requires USDA-AMS to send a copy of the audit report directly. No audit results are sent to a 3rd party without the written consent of the auditee.*

Did the auditee participate in GAP training?

Yes

No

Is there a map that accurately represents the farm and/or facility operations?

Yes

No

N/A

Does the company have more than one packing facility?

Yes

No

N/A

Is there a floor plan of the packing house facility(s) indicating flow of product, storage areas, cull areas, employee break rooms, restrooms, offices?

Yes

No

N/A

Is any product commingled prior to packing?

Yes

No

Audit Scope: (Please check all scopes audited)

General Questions (All audits must begin with and pass this portion)

Part 1 – Farm Review.....

Part 2 - Field Harvest and Field Packing Activities.....

Part 3 - House Packing Facility.....

Part 4 – Storage and Transportation.....

Part 5 – Preventive Food Defense Procedures.....

Logo Use Addendum.....

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

The audit took less than 2 hours because the applicant was well organized and the facility was easy to tour.

Empty table rows for additional comments.

Conditions Under Which an Automatic "Unsatisfactory" Will be Assessed:

- An immediate food safety risk is present when produce is grown, processed, packed or held under conditions that promote or cause the produce to become contaminated.
- The presence or evidence of rodents, an excessive amount of insects or other pests in the produce during packing, processing or storage of produce.
- Observation of employee practices (personal or hygienic) that have jeopardized or may jeopardize the safety of the produce.
- Falsification of records.
- Answering of Questions P1 or P2 as "NO".

Auditor Completion Instructions

- For clarification and guidance in answering these questions, please refer to the Good Agricultural Practices & Good Handling Practices Audit Verification Program Policy and Instruction Guide.
- Farm/Facility must be in operation during audit. This means for a farm audit, perform the audit while the crop is actively being grown, a field harvest/field harvesting activities audit shall be performed while the product is being harvested, etc.
- Place the point value for each question in the proper column (Yes, No, or N/A).
- Gray boxes in the "N/A" column indicate that question cannot be answered "N/A".
- Any "N/A" or "No" designation must be explained in the comments section.
- The "Doc" column:
 - A "D" indicates that a document(s) is required to show conformance to the question. A document may be a combination of standard operating procedures outlining company policy as well as a record indicating that a particular action was taken.
 - A "R" indicates that a record is required to be kept showing an action was taken.
 - A "P" indicates that a policy/standard operating procedure (SOP) must be documented in the food safety plan in order to show conformance to the question.

For further information regarding the USDA GAP Audit Program, please contact:

**USDA Specialty Crops Program, Specialty Crops Inspection Division, Audit Services Branch at
202-720-5021, or SCAudits@usda.gov**



General Questions

Implementation of a Food Safety Program

Questions	Points	Yes	NO	N/A	Doc
P-1 A documented food safety program that incorporates GAP has been implemented.		✓			D
P-2 The operation has designated someone to implement and oversee an established food safety program. Name: <i>Greg Bennett and Diana Lott</i>		✓			D

Traceability

Questions	Points	Yes	NO	N/A	Doc
G-1 A documented traceability program has been established.	15	15			D
G-2 The operation has performed a "mock recall" that was proven to be effective.	10	10			R
<i>A successful mock recall was conducted on 12/30/24, with onions identified by grower and field.</i>					

Worker Health & Hygiene

Questions	Points	Yes	NO	N/A	Doc
G-3 Drinking water is available to all workers.	10	10			R
<i>Drinking water is delivered by Sierra Springs and a receipt was available for review.</i>					
G-4 All employees and all visitors to the location are required to follow proper sanitation and hygiene practices.	10	10			P
G-5 Training on proper sanitation and hygiene practices is provided to all staff.	15	15			D
G-6 Employees and visitors are following good hygiene/sanitation practices.	15	15			
G-7 Employees who handle or package produce are washing their hands before beginning or returning to work.	15	15			

Questions		Points	Yes	NO	N/A	Doc
G-8	Readily understandable signs are posted to instruct employees to wash their hands before beginning or returning to work.	10	10			
G-9	All toilet/restroom/field sanitation facilities are clean. They are properly supplied with single use towels, toilet paper, hand soap or anti-bacterial soap, and water for hand washing meets the microbial standards for drinking water.	15	15			
G-10	All toilet/restroom/field sanitation facilities are serviced and cleaned on a scheduled basis.	10	10			R
G-11	Smoking and eating are confined to designated areas separate from where product is handled.	10	10			P
G-12	Workers with diarrheal disease or symptoms of other infectious diseases are prohibited from handling fresh produce.	15	15			P
G-13	There is a policy describing procedures which specify handling/disposition of produce or food contact surfaces that have come into contact with blood or other bodily fluids.	15	15			P
G-14	Workers are instructed to seek prompt treatment with clean first aid supplies for cuts, abrasions and other injuries.	5	5			P
G-15	Company personnel or contracted personnel that apply regulated pre-harvest and/or post-harvest materials are licensed. Company personnel or contracted personnel applying non-regulated materials have been trained on its proper use.	10			10	R
<i>No materials are applied during packing.</i>						

Additional Comments:	

Total Points earned for General Questions = 170

Total Possible = 180 *The total number of points possible for this section.*

Subtract "N/A" = 10 *Enter the additive number of N/A points (+points) here.*

Adjusted Total = 170 *Subtract the N/A points from the Total possible points*

X .8 (80%) *Multiply the Adjusted Total by .8 and show it as the Passing Score*

Passing Score = 136

Pass **Fail** **(please mark one)**

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 202-720-5021, or SCAudits@ams.usda.gov**



Part 3 - HOUSE PACKING FACILITY

Receiving

Questions		Points	Yes	NO	N/A	Doc
3-1	Product delivered from the field which is held in a staging area prior to packing or processing is protected from possible contamination.	5	5			
3-2	Prior to packing, product is properly stored and/or handled in order to reduce possible contamination.	5	5			

Washing/Packing Line

Questions		Points	Yes	NO	N/A	Doc
3-3	Source water used in the packing operation meets the microbial standards for drinking water.	15	15			R
3-4	If applicable, the temperature of processing water used in dump tanks, flumes, etc., is monitored and is kept at temperatures appropriate for the crop.	10			10	D
	<i>Water is not used in processing.</i>					
3-5	Processing water is sufficiently treated to reduce microbial contamination.	10			10	D
	<i>Water is not used in processing.</i>					
3-6	Water-contact surfaces, such as dump tanks, flumes, wash tanks and hydro coolers, are cleaned and/or sanitized on a scheduled basis.	10			10	D
	<i>Water is not used in processing.</i>					
3-7	Water treatment (strength levels and pH) and exposure time is monitored and the facility has demonstrated it is appropriate for the product.	10			10	D
	<i>Water is not used in processing.</i>					

Questions		Points	Yes	NO	N/A	Doc
3-8	Food contact surfaces are in good condition; cleaned and/or sanitized prior to use and cleaning logs are maintained.	15	15			D
3-9	Product flow zones are protected from sources of contamination.	10	10			
3-10	The water used for cooling and/or making ice meets the microbial standards for drinking water.	15			15	R
	<i>Ice is not used in processing.</i>					
3-11	Any ice used for cooling produce is manufactured, transported and stored under sanitary conditions.	10			10	R
	<i>Ice is not used in processing.</i>					

Packing House Worker Health & Hygiene

Questions		Points	Yes	NO	N/A	Doc
3-12	Employee facilities (locker rooms, lunch and break areas, etc.) are clean and located away from packing area.	10	10			
3-13	When there is a written policy regarding the use of hair nets/beard nets in the production area, it is being followed by all employees and visitors.	5	5			P
3-14	When there is a written policy regarding the wearing of jewelry in the production area, it is being followed by all employees and visitors.	5	5			P

Packing House General Housekeeping

Questions		Points	Yes	NO	N/A	Doc
3-15	Only food grade approved and labeled lubricants are used in the packing equipment/machinery.	10	10			R

Questions		Points	Yes	NO	N/A	Doc
3-16	Chemicals not approved for use on product are stored and segregated away from packing area.	10	10			
3-17	The plant grounds are reasonably free of litter and debris.	5	5			
3-18	The plant grounds are reasonably free of standing water.	5	5			
3-19	Outside garbage receptacles/dumpsters are closed or are located away from packing facility entrances and the area around such sites is reasonably clean.	5	5			
3-20	Packing facilities are enclosed.	5	5			
3-21	The packing facility interior is clean and maintained in an orderly manner.	5	5			
3-22	Floor drains appear to be free of obstructions.	5	5			
3-23	Pipes, ducts, fans and ceilings which are over food handling operations, are clean.	5	5			
3-24	Glass materials above product flow zones are contained in case of breakage.	10	10			
3-25	Possible wastewater spillage is prevented from contaminating any food handling area by barriers, drains, or a sufficient distance.	10	10			
3-26	There is a policy describing procedures which specify handling/disposition of finished product that is opened, spilled, or comes into contact with the floor.	15	15			P
Questions		Points	Yes	NO	N/A	Doc
3-27	Only new or sanitized containers are used for packing the product.	10	10			D

3-28	Pallets and containers are clean and in good condition.	5	5			
3-29	Packing containers are properly stored and protected from contamination (birds, rodents and other pests).	10	10			

Pest Control

Questions		Points	Yes	NO	N/A	Doc
3-30	Measures are taken to exclude animals and pests from packing and storage facilities.	10	10			D
3-31	There is an established pest control program for the facility.	10	10			D
3-32	Service reports for the pest control program are available for review.	5	5			R
3-33	Interior walls, floors and ceilings are well maintained and are free of major cracks and crevices.	5	5			

Traceability

Questions		Points	Yes	NO	N/A	Doc
3-34	Records are kept recording the source of incoming product and the destination of outgoing product which is uniquely identified to enable traceability.	10	10			D

Additional Comments:	

Total Points earned for House Packing Facility = 225

Total Possible = 290 *The total number of points possible for this section.*

Subtract "N/A" = 65 *Enter the additive number of N/A points (+points) here.*

Adjusted Total = 225 *Subtract the N/A points from the Total possible points*

X .8 (80%) *Multiply the Adjusted Total by .8 and show it as the Passing Score*

Passing Score = 180

Pass **Fail** **(please mark one)**

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Part 4 - STORAGE AND TRANSPORTATION

Product, Containers & Pallets

Questions		Points	Yes	NO	N/A	Doc
4-1	The storage facility is cleaned and maintained in an orderly manner.	5	5			
4-2	Bulk storage facilities are inspected for foreign material prior to use and records are maintained.	5	5			R
4-3	Storage rooms, buildings, and/or facilities are maintained and sufficiently sealed or isolated and are protected from external contamination.	10	10			
4-4	Storage grounds are reasonably free of litter and debris.	5	5			
4-5	Floors in storage areas are reasonably free of standing water.	5	5			
4-6	Possible wastewater spillage is prevented from contaminating any food handling area by barriers, drains, or sufficient distance.	10	10			
4-7	There is a policy describing procedures which specify handling/disposition of finished product which is opened, spilled, or comes into contact with the floor.	15	15			P
4-8	Packing containers are properly stored and sufficiently sealed, to be protected from contamination (birds, rodents, pests, and other contaminants).	10	10			
4-9	Pallets, pallet boxes, tote bags, and portable bins, etc. are clean, in good condition and do not contribute foreign material to the product.	5	5			

Questions		Points	Yes	NO	N/A	Doc
4-10	Product stored outside in totes, trucks, bins, other containers or on the ground in bulk is covered and protected from contamination.	10			10	
	<i>Product is not stored outside.</i>					
4-11	Non-food grade substances such as paints, lubricants, pesticides, etc., are not stored in close proximity to the product.	10	10			
4-12	Mechanical equipment used during the storage process is clean and maintained to prevent contamination of the product.	5	5			D

Pest Control

Questions		Points	Yes	NO	N/A	Doc
4-13	Measures are taken to exclude animals and pests from storage facilities.	10	10			D
4-14	There is an established pest control program for the facility.	10	10			D
4-15	Service reports for the pest control program are available for review.	5	5			R
4-16	Interior walls, floors, and ceilings are well-maintained and are free of major cracks and crevices.	5	5			

Ice & Refrigeration

Questions		Points	Yes	NO	N/A	Doc
4-17	The water used for cooling, humidity, and/or making ice meets the microbial standards for drinking water.	15			15	R
	<i>Water/Ice is not used in storage.</i>					
4-18	Manufacturing, storage, and transportation facilities used in making and delivering ice used for cooling the product have been sanitized.	10			10	R
	<i>Water/Ice is not used in storage.</i>					

Questions		Points	Yes	NO	N/A	Doc
4-19	Climate-controlled rooms are monitored for temperature and logs are maintained.	5			5	D
	<i>There are no climate control rooms.</i>					
4-20	Thermometer(s) are checked for accuracy and records are available for review.	5			5	D
	<i>Temperature is not monitored.</i>					
4-21	Temperature control equipment condensation does not come in contact with produce.	10			10	
	<i>Temperature is not controlled.</i>					
4-22	Refrigeration equipment (condensers, fans, etc.) and dehumidifiers are cleaned on a scheduled basis.	10			10	D
	<i>There is no refrigeration in use.</i>					
4-23	Iced product does not drip on pallets of produce stored below.	10			10	
	<i>Ice is not used in storage.</i>					

Transportation

Questions		Points	Yes	NO	N/A	Doc
4-24	Prior to the loading process, conveyances are required to be clean, in good physical condition, free from disagreeable odors and from obvious dirt/debris.	10	10			P
4-25	Produce items are not loaded with potentially contaminating products.	10	10			P
4-26	Company has a written policy for transporters and conveyances to maintain a specified temperature(s) during transit.	10	10			P
4-27	Conveyances are loaded to minimize damage to product.	5	5			P

Worker Health and Personal Hygiene

Questions		Points	Yes	NO	N/A	Doc
4-28	Employee facilities (locker rooms, lunch and break areas, etc.) are clean and located away from storage, shipping, and receiving areas.	10	10			



Questions		Points	Yes	NO	N/A	Doc
4-29	When there is a written policy regarding the use of hair/beard nets in the storage and transportation areas, it is being followed by all affected employees and visitors.	5	5			P
4-30	When there is a written policy restricting the wearing of jewelry in the storage and transportation areas, it is being followed by all affected employees and visitors.	5	5			P

Traceability

Questions		Points	Yes	NO	N/A	Doc
4-31	Records are kept regarding the source of incoming product and the destination of outgoing product which is uniquely identified to enable traceability.	10	10			D

Additional Comments:

Total Points earned for Storage & Transportation = 180

Total Possible = 255 *The total number of points possible for this section.*

Subtract "N/A" = 75 *Enter the additive number of N/A points (+points) here.*

Adjusted Total = 180 *Subtract the N/A points from the Total possible points*

X .8 (80%) *Multiply the Adjusted Total by .8 and show it as the Passing Score*

Passing Score = 144

Pass **Fail** **(please mark one)**

This program is intended to assess a participant’s efforts to minimize the risk of contamination of fresh fruits, vegetables, nuts and miscellaneous commodities by microbial pathogens based on the U.S. Food and Drug Administration’s “Guide to Minimize Microbial Food Safety Hazards for Fresh Fruits and Vegetables,” and generally recognized good agricultural practices.

**Good Agricultural Practices
 Audit Verification Program Scoresheet**



Company Name:	Northwest Onion Company, Inc.				
Street Address :	11235 Portland Rd. NE	City, State, Zip:	Brooks, OR, 97305		
E-mail Address:	cynthia.nwonion@gmail.com	Phone Number:	503-792-3781	Date Audit Requested:	December 11, 2024
		Fax Number:	503-792-3789	Date of Previous Audit :	October 22, 2024
Date Audit Began:	January 14, 2025	Date Audit Completed:	January 14, 2025	USDA Commodity Procurement Audit?	
Time Audit Began:	9:45 AM	Time Audit Completed:	11:15 AM	Check One	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

EVALUATION ELEMENTS

Scopes Requested	Element	Possible Points	Less N/A Points	Adjusted Points	Passing Score*	Facility Score	%	Pass Fail	Date Passed	General Questions	Reviewing Official Int.	Unannounced
✓	General Questions (Initial Audit)	180	10	170	136	170	100%	Pass	1/14/2025		DJE	
	General Questions**	180	0	180	144	0						
	Part 1 – Farm Review	190	0	190	152	0						
	Part 2 – Field Harvesting & Field Packing Activities	185	0	185	148	0						
✓	Part 3 – House Packing Facility	290	65	225	180	225	100%	Pass	1/14/2025		DJE	
✓	Part 4 – Storage and Transportation	255	75	180	144	180	100%	Pass	1/14/2025		DJE	
	Part 5 – Preventive Food Defense Procedures	180	0	180	144	0						
	Logo Use Addendum											

*A Passing Score is 80% of the Possible Points, or the Adjusted Points if adjustments are necessary, with no "automatic unsatisfactory" conditions.

** If applicable, General Questions assessed at a later date for a scope not covered during the initial audit.

Crops:	Onions
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Lead Auditor Name (Print): Nathan Miller Signature & Date: Signature on file 1/14/25

Duty Station: Salem, OR All Scopes Completed: Yes

For USDA HQ use:

Reviewing Official Name (Print): Dorothy Estabrook

Signature & Date: 10-Feb-25