

Bailey Marshall

Per the NOSB's recommendations, both low-acyl gellan gum and paper-based crop planting aids qualify to be added to the National List of Allowed and Prohibited Substances. The addition of paper-based crop planting aids to the National List greatly contributes to the sustainability of organic agricultural production; their biodegradable nature will appeal to the niche consumer market that the organic sector attracts. The approval of low-acyl gellan gum to the National list may at first make consumers weary because of its synthetic nature, however, when reading this report, it was a great comfort to me that the FDA deems low-acyl gellan gum permissible for direct consumption when used as a food additive. Both of these amendments will allow for a more diverse organic agriculture industry, making organic handling more appealing to the consumer and more efficient for the farmer.