

## **T.O.P Fee Structure and Certification Costs**

The T.O.P. fee structure is formulated so that it assists producers and processors in keeping their certification costs to a minimum, but so that it also supports and maintains the T.O.P. Quality System and the AQIS Organic Accreditation program. T.O.P. does not impose production levies as a percentage basis, but instead has a staggered fee structure.

First Year Application for Membership: \$350

In Transition members: \$300

In Conversion and Fully Certified Members: Fees are based on the previous year's turnover as listed below.

Grower/Processor Turnover	Annual Fee	Quarterly Payment	Payment if paid in full by due date
Up to \$10 000	\$400	\$100	\$380
Up to \$15 000	\$500	\$125	\$475
Up to \$25 000	\$700	\$175	\$665
Up to \$35 000	\$850	\$212.50	\$807.50
Up to \$55 000	\$1050	\$262.50	\$997.50
Up to \$75 000	\$1250	\$312.50	\$1187.50
Up to \$100 000	\$1450	\$362.50	\$1377.50
Up to \$125 000	\$1650	\$412.50	\$1567.50
Up to \$150 000	\$1850	\$462.50	\$1757.50
Up to \$175 000	\$2050	\$512.50	\$1947.50
Up to \$200 000	\$2250	\$562.50	\$2137.50
Up to \$250 000	\$2450	\$612.50	\$2327.50
Up to \$300 000	\$2650	\$662.50	\$2517.50
Greater than \$300 000	\$2850	\$712.50	\$2707.50

Friends of T.O.P.: \$30

## **Guidelines for Certification and Assessment Costs**

The cost of certification varies depending on the complexity of the operation.

There are some basic charges as listed below. Initial inspections also consist of samples being collected for analysis.

### **1. Initial Inspection**

Service	Typical cost
On-site time @ \$30 per hour	2-3 hours \$60-\$90
Testing (e.g. OC-OP in soil) including postage	\$156.45
Final report writing	\$25
Administration fee	\$50
Travel @ \$0.385 per km	Up to 400 km
Approximate cost	\$321.45 plus travel

Note: A deposit of \$250 will be required before an initial inspection is carried out, to cover the cost of the inspector and testing.

## 2. Yearly Re-Inspections

Service	Typical cost
<b>On-site time @ \$30 per hour</b>	<b>2 hours      \$60</b>
<b>Final report writing</b>	<b>\$25</b>
<b>Administration fee</b>	<b>\$30</b>
<b>AQIS certification fee</b>	<b>\$50</b>
<b>Travel @ \$0.385 per km</b>	<b>Up to 200 km</b>
<b>Approximate cost</b>	<b>\$165 plus travel</b>

- Other testing, not listed, can in some cases be required; for example, heavy metals. This is assessed, for instance, on the past agricultural practices or selective soil types.
- Administrative costs include processing of the inspection report through the Certification Committee and T.O.P. Council.
- To minimize travel expenses, inspections are planned each year in groups, to assist in sharing the cost of travel amongst certified operations.