**We are pleased to confirm the following exceptional circumstances have been extended to 31 December 2018.**

**Pullets**

The Commission Implementing Regulations (\*EU) 2017/2273 of 8 December 2017 states:

Under certain conditions and when organic reared pullets are not available, non organically reared pullets for egg production of not more than 18 weeks may be brought into an organic livestock unit.

The period of application of the exceptional production rules for using non organically reared pullets for egg production of not more than 18 weeks is extended until **31 December 2018.**

Derogations will be considered by Defra. **Do not send requests directly to Defra** as we will send all the information for approval on your behalf.

Applications should be made on form [0563 Request for Derogation for the Purchase of Non-Organic Day Old Chicks](http://www.orgfoodfed.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/0563-Request-for-Derogation-for-the-Purchase-of-Non-Organic-Day-Old-Chicks.doc) which can be downloaded from our website [www.orgfoodfed.com](http://www.orgfoodfed.com) : downloads. For part organic pullets a copy of the supplier’s declaration that they have been managed to the organic feed and vet standard is also required.

**Feed : Pig and Poultry Species**

Organic protein supply has not been available in sufficient quality and quantity to meet the nutritional requirements of pigs and poultry raised on organic farms.

The period of the exceptional possibility of using a maximum of 5% of non organic protein feed is extended until 31 December 2018.