



ORGANIC FOOD FEDERATION



NI / EU PRODUCTION STANDARDS

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SECTION 1

HOW TO USE THIS STANDARD AND OTHER GUIDANCE

1.1 Use of sections

- 1.1.1 This Standard has been written in sections to enable you to easily reference the parts required.
- 1.1.2 Sections 1 – 3 are applicable to all operators.
- 1.1.3 Section 4 is specific to your individual operation and is a general section of requirements. These points must be followed for all operations you undertake.
- 1.1.4 Section 5 onwards gives a breakdown of detailed points relating to your operation, some of which might not be applicable.
- 1.1.5 At the end of this Standard is the glossary that should explain any terms which need clarification.
- 1.1.6 This Standard will be amended from time to time and you must ensure that changes effecting your operation are implemented. This will include amendments made via communications from the Federation.

1.2 Specific terms used

- 1.2.1 This Standard has been laid out for ease of use.
- 1.2.2 Where the term “must” is used this point is a mandatory requirement to meet this Standard and must be followed by you.
- 1.2.3 Where the term “should” is used it is recommended that you fully comply with it to help ensure organic integrity, codes of conduct or good practice.
- 1.2.4 The term “may” in most cases means you must obtain prior permission, in writing, from us to carry out this specific operation or practice. This is usually in the form of a derogation.

1.3 Our website

- 1.3.1 www.orgfoodfed.com
- 1.3.2 Our website is easy to use and has lots of useful information on it.
- 1.3.3 Contact details, standards, forms, updates and links.
- 1.3.4 A list of operators certified to this standard can be found on <https://www.bioc.info/>

SECTION 2

INTRODUCTION

2.1 Introduction

- 2.1.1 The Organic Food Federation has been overseeing organic standards since 1986 and is registered with NICA.

This is our Standard. Please take time to familiarise yourself with the various sections which cover production, processing, importing, trading, warehousing, non foods and aquaculture. They relate to the certification standard operated by the Federation for the purpose of determining conformity.

2.2 Organic principles

- 2.2.1 Organic production is an overall system of farm management and food production that combines best environmental practices, a high level of biodiversity, the preservation of natural resources, the application of high animal welfare standards and a production method in line with the preference of certain consumers for products produced using natural substances and processes.

Regulation 848 Chapter II Article 4

- a. Contributing to protection of the environment and the climate.
- b. Maintaining the long-term fertility of soils.
- c. Contributing to a high level of biodiversity.
- d. Substantially contributing to a non-toxic environment.
- e. Contributing to high animal welfare standards and, in particular, to meeting animals' species-specific behavioural needs.
- f. Encouraging short distribution channels and local production in the various areas of the Union.
- g. Encouraging the preservation of rare and native breeds in danger of extinction.
- h. Contributing to the development of the supply of plant genetic material adapted to the specific needs and objectives of organic agriculture.
- i. Fostering the development of organic plant breeding activities in order to contribute to favourable economic perspectives of the organic sector.
- j. Fostering the development of organic plant breeding activities in order to contribute to favourable economic perspectives of the organic sector.

- 2.2.2 Organic production is a sustainable management system that is based on the following general principles:

Regulation 848 Chapter II Article 5

- a. Respect for nature's systems and cycles and the sustainment and enhancement of the state of the soil, the water and the air, of the health of plants and animals and of the balance between them.
- b. The preservation of natural landscape elements, such as natural heritage sites.
- c. The responsible use of energy and natural resources, such as water, soil, organic matter and air.
- d. The production of a wide variety of high-quality food and other agricultural and aquaculture products (the production of a wide variety of high-quality food and other agricultural and aquaculture products that respond to

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consumers' demand for goods that are produced by the use of processes that do not harm the environment, human health, plant health or animal health and welfare).

- e. Ensuring the integrity of organic production at all stages of the production, preparation and distribution of food and feed.
- f. The appropriate design and management of biological processes, based on ecological systems and using natural resources which are internal to the system, using methods that:
 - i. Use living organisms and mechanical production methods.
 - ii. Practice soil-related crop cultivation and land-related livestock production, or practice aquaculture which complies with the principle of the sustainable exploitation of aquatic resources.
 - iii. Exclude the use of GMOs, products produced from GMOs, and products produced by GMOs, other than veterinary medicinal products.
 - iv. Are based on risk assessment and the use of precautionary measures and preventive measures, where appropriate.
- g. The restriction of the use of external inputs; where external inputs are required or the appropriate management practices and methods referred to in point (f) do not exist, these external inputs shall be limited to:
 - i. Inputs from organic production; in the case of plant reproductive material, priority shall be given to varieties selected for their ability to meet the specific needs and objectives of organic agriculture.
 - ii. Natural or naturally derived substances.
 - iii. Low solubility mineral fertilisers.
- h. The adaptation of the production process, where necessary and within the framework of this Regulation, to take account of the sanitary status, regional differences in the ecological balance, climactic and local conditions, stages of development and specific husbandry practices.
- i. The exclusion from the whole organic food chain of animal cloning, rearing artificially induced polyploid animals, and ionising radiation.
- j. The observance of a high level of animal welfare respecting species-specific needs.

2.3 EU Equivalence

- 2.3.1 This means if a product is produced in accordance to this Standard that they are equivalent to European Organic regulations.
- 2.3.2 Products from NI may be sent to the EU without the need for a COI as NI is still considered EU.

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GENERAL STANDARDS

3.1 Aims and scope

- 3.1.1 This Standard provides the basis for the sustainable development of organic production while ensuring the effective functioning of the internal market, guaranteeing fair competition, consumer confidence and protecting consumer interests.
Regulation 848 Chapter 1 Article 1
- 3.1.2 It establishes common objectives and principles to underpin the rules set out in this Standard concerning:
Regulation 848 Chapter 1 Article 2
- i. All stages of production, preparation and distribution of organic products and their control.
 - ii. The use of indications referring to organic production in labelling and advertising.
- 3.1.3 This Standard shall apply to the following products originating from those products, where such products are, or are intended to be, produced, prepared, labelled, distributed, placed on the market, imported into or exported from the Union:
Regulation 848 Chapter 1 Article 2
Regulation 848 Annex I Article 1, 9, 19
- i. Live or unprocessed agricultural products.
 - ii. Processed agricultural products for use as food or food ingredients.
 - iii. Aquaculture products and seaweeds.
 - iv. Feed.
 - v. Vegetative propagating material and seeds for cultivation.
 - vi. Beeswax.
 - vii. Cork stoppers of natural cork, not agglomerated, and without any binding substances.
 - viii. Cotton, not carded or combed.
 - ix. Essential oils.
 - x. Maté, sweetcorn, vine leaves, palm hearts, hop shoots, and other similar edible parts of plants and products produced therefrom.
 - xi. Natural gums and resins.
 - xii. Plant-based traditional herbal preparations.
 - xiii. Raw hides and untreated skins.
 - xiv. Sea salt and other salts for food and feed.
 - xv. Silkworm cocoon suitable for reeling.
 - xvi. Wool, not carded or combed.
 - xvii. Yeast used as food or feed.
- 3.1.4 The products of hunting and fishing of wild animals shall not be considered as organic production.
Regulation 848 Chapter 1 Article 3
- 3.1.5 This Standard shall also apply to yeasts used as food or feed.
Regulation 848 Chapter III Article 19

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- 3.1.6 This Standard ensures fair competition and a proper functioning of the internal market in organic products, and of maintaining and justifying consumer confidence in products labelled as organic. It should further aim at providing conditions under which the organic sector can progress in line with production and market developments.
- 3.1.7 This Standard provides rules with regard to plant, livestock, and aquaculture production, including rules for the collection of wild plants and seaweeds, rules on conversion, as well as rules on the production of processed food, including wine, feed and organic yeast.
- 3.1.8 Organic farming should primarily rely on renewable resources within locally organised agricultural systems in order to minimise the use of non renewable resources, wastes and by products of plant and animal origin that should be recycled to return nutrients to the land.
- 3.1.9 Organic stock farming should respect high animal welfare standards and meet animals' species specific behavioural needs while animal health management should be based on disease prevention. In this respect, particular attention must be paid to housing conditions, husbandry practices and stocking densities. Moreover, the choice of breeds should take account of their capacity to adapt to local conditions.
- 3.1.10 Organic processed products must be produced by the use of processing methods which guarantee that the organic integrity and vital qualities of the product are maintained through all stages of the production chain.
- 3.1.11 For the sake of consumer protection and fair competition, the terms used to indicate organic products are protected from being used on non organic products throughout the Community and independently of the language used. The protection should also apply to the usual derivatives or diminutives of those terms, whether they are used alone or combined. The term "organic" must only be used on produce and products that have been certified as such by an approved organic certification body.

3.2 Requirements

- 3.2.1 You must comply with this Standard and keep an up to date copy on site at all times.
- 3.2.2 If you are planning to produce, prepare, store, import, trade or place on the market organic products you must notify us of your activity and submit your plans.
Regulation 848 Chapter V, Article 34
- 3.2.3 You must document and keep up to date operating procedures in accordance with the requirements of this Standard.
Regulation 848, Article 39, 1, a
- 3.2.4 You must make available to us copies of all or any part of the documented system should we or NICA require them.
- 3.2.5 You must draw up and maintain:
Regulation 848 Chapter VI, Article 39
- i. A full description of your unit / premises.
 - ii. A full description of the operational activities at the above unit / premises.
 - iii. Precautionary measures to be taken in order to reduce the risk of contamination by non organic products or substances.
 - iv. Documentary evidence of NOP production methods if required.
- 3.2.6 If you no longer require organic certification, you must inform us in writing with a minimum of three months' notice.

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- 3.2.7 You must not deliver or knowingly permit the delivery or sale of non organic products as organic products.
Regulation 848, Article 28, 2(c)
- 3.2.8 If there is any question as to the organic status of a product, it must not be sold as organic. Records of its declassification from organic must be kept.
Regulation 848, Article 28, 2(c)
- 3.2.9 You must not conduct operations in a manner that may have an adverse effect on the integrity and reputation of organics.
- 3.2.10 You must inform us of any current court orders or pending prosecutions against you or your operations that have a bearing on your organic activities.
- 3.2.11 In the event that you are prosecuted and it leads to a conviction, we reserve the right to reconsider our certification decision.

3.3 Confidentiality

- 3.3.1 During the course of your inspection and certification process we require you to supply us with information which might be of a confidential nature.
- 3.3.2 We treat all information given to us as confidential and it will not be disclosed to third parties unless it is in the public domain.
- 3.3.3 We are however obliged by law to pass information to authorised government bodies, local authorities and other certification bodies.
Regulation 848, Article 39, (iii)

3.4 Inspection

- 3.4.1 The inspections we carry out fall into four categories:
Regulation 848 Chapter VI Article 38
- i. Assessment is the initial approval inspection carried out by us.
 - ii. Surveillance is your annual inspection.
 - iii. Interim inspections are carried out for the following reasons:
 - You wish to move or change your premises.
 - You wish to add a new operation to your certificate.
 - You make a major change in your operation.
 - iv. We are also required to spot inspect at least 10% of our operators.
Regulation 848 Chapter VI Article 38
 - v. Spot inspections are also carried out if:
 - We receive a complaint in writing regarding you.
 - If we have to make sure of corrective action for a serious non compliance.
 - As part of our risk assessment procedure.
 - Random selection.
- 3.4.3 You must give our representatives or that of the control authority access during normal working hours to your holding and premises, with or without prior notice, for the purpose of carrying out inspections or collection of samples of production operations, which are subject to this Standard.
Regulation 848 Article 38
Regulation 2017/625 Article 15

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- 3.4.4 Sites that only handle pre packaged products may be able to be audited under a light touch approach.
- 3.4.5 The verification of compliance shall include a physical on-the-spot inspection, except where the following conditions have been satisfied:
Regulation 848 Chapter VI Article 38
Regulation (EU) 2017/625 Article 9
- a. The previous controls of the operator or group of operators concerned have not revealed any non-compliance affecting the integrity of organic or in-conversion products during at least three consecutive years; and
 - b. the operator or group of operators concerned has been assessed on the basis of risk assessment and presenting a low likelihood of non-compliance.
- 3.4.6 In the case of above operators, the period between two physical on-the-spot inspections shall not exceed 24 months.
Regulation 848 Chapter VI Article 38

3.5 Certificates of conformity

- 3.5.1 When you satisfy our requirements to this Standard you will receive a certificate which will:
Regulation 848 Chapter V Article 35
- a) Be issued in electronic form wherever possible.
 - b) Allow at least the identification of the operator or group of operators including the list of the members, the category of products covered by the certificate and its period of validity.
 - c) Certify that the notified activity complies with this Standard.
- 3.5.2 Your certificate will remain our property and you may be requested to return it in extreme circumstances.
- 3.5.3 Initially certificates are valid for 12 calendar months:
- i. For producers from date of application.
 - ii. For all other operations from date of certification decision post inspection.
- 3.5.4 Certificates are renewable annually subject to satisfactory inspection and will run concurrently from the date of the previous certificate.
- 3.5.5 We reserve the right to shorten the period of certificates issued.
- 3.5.6 We are responsible for authorising or withholding certificates. Our certification panel is responsible for adjudicating on matters of interpretation and in cases where operators appeal against judgements made by us.
- 3.5.7 Our certification panel / officers are independent of our members and management committee when making decisions regarding certification.
- 3.5.8 You must not make alterations to the system of production, formulation (recipe), processing or manufacture under which the certificate is issued during the period of its validity unless agreed by us in writing. As an exception, alteration to feed mill recipes and formula may only be done in accordance with 14.1.10.

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- 3.5.9 If you fail to comply with these Standards, we will, as appropriate:
- i. Withdraw the certificate or reduce its scope.
 - ii. Refuse to grant or renew the certificate or extend its scope.
 - iii. Communicate such decisions and the grounds for them to you and NICA.
- 3.5.10 If your business threatens to bring the Federation into disrepute we may withdraw or refuse to grant or renew your certificate. Such a decision and the grounds for it will be communicated to you in writing. We are required to inform NICA in these instances.
- 3.5.11 Extension certificates are only issued for 28 days after the date of inspection.
- 3.5.12 The word organic can only be used in respect of the production and supply of products that are listed on the certificate or schedule.
- 3.5.13 An electronic copy of your valid certificate may be found on the BioC website <https://www.bioc.info/> . Please note that the certificate is based on the EU model and will therefore look different to the certificate that we issue.
- 3.5.14 You must not place products on the market as organic products or in-conversion products unless you are already in possession of a valid certificate.
Regulation 848 Chapter V Article 35
- 3.5.15 You must ensure that our official certificate covers all areas of your certification.
Regulation (EU) 2017/625. point (a) of Article 86(1)
Regulation 848 Chapter V Article 35
- 3.5.16 You must obtain a certificate from more than one control body in relation to activities carried out in the same Member State regarding the same category of products, including cases in which that operator or group of operators operates at different stages of production, preparation and distribution.
Regulation 848 Chapter V Article 35
- 3.5.17 Members of a group of operators shall not be entitled to obtain an individual certificate for any of the activities covered by the certification of the group of operators to which they belong.
Regulation 848 Chapter V Article 35
- 3.5.18 Your certificate will only be issued based on the results of the verification of compliance.
Regulation 848 Chapter VI Article 38

3.6 Reports

- 3.6.1 After inspection we will issue a report stating compliance or non compliance to this Standard.
Regulation 848 Chapter VI Article 38
- 3.6.2 A notice will be raised for any non compliances identified at the inspection and a timescale agreed to complete the necessary corrective actions. This notice must be countersigned by you at the time of inspection.
Regulation 848 Chapter VI Article 38, 6

3.7 Sampling and testing

- 3.7.1 Where organic integrity, production techniques or unauthorised products are suspected, we will request the operator to take samples and / or our representative to obtain any such samples as deemed necessary.
- 3.7.2 We are required to take samples every year from 5% of our operators based on a general evaluation of the risk of non compliance with the organic production rules.
Regulation 848 Chapter VI Article 38

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- 3.7.3 You must inform us of any positive results on tests of analysis for GM or pesticide residuals that you have received.
- 3.7.4 You may have to pay any costs relating to the samples taken and analysis performed by the Federation.
- 3.7.5 You must inform us in all cases where samples have returned positive results and provide copies of these results.

3.8 Fees

- 3.8.1 You will be charged a fee for inspection and certification which must be paid within 30 days of the date of our invoice.
Regulation 848 Chapter V Article 34
- 3.8.2 Your certificate will not be issued until all fees have been paid.
- 3.8.3 A cancellation fee will be charged for postponing a pre arranged audit if you give less than four working days notice.
- 3.8.4 A fee will also be charged for certificates of inspection, export certificates or other documentation required showing our official stamp.
- 3.8.5 Additions to certificates can be added at the time of the annual surveillance audit and up to 14 days after the date of inspection free of charge. This is not the case with spot inspections.
- 3.8.6 A fee will be charged for any modifications to the certificate, including additions of recipes or land.
- 3.8.7 Extension certificates that are required due to an audit being delayed at your request will not be issued beyond 28 days from the original audit date without incurring a fee.
- 3.8.1 Where fees are not paid, we reserve the right to use agencies to collect outstanding amounts. For more information email info@orgfoodfed.com

3.9 Exchange of information

- 3.9.1 Information may be exchanged to guarantee that operations are carried out in accordance with this Standard.
Regulation 848 Chapter VI Article 43
- 3.9.2 Information may be passed to the European Commission, NICA, other government departments and certification bodies.
Regulation 848 Chapter VI Article 43
- 3.9.3 No information will be given to anyone outside of this group without written permission from yourself.
- 3.9.4 If you leave us for an alternative certification body, we will transfer information that we hold on your operation to another certification body upon request in writing from yourself.
- 3.9.5 We are required to inform NICA of:
- i. Withdrawals from certification.
 - ii. Deletions.
 - iii. Manifest or critical infringements.
 - iv. Positive test results.

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3.10 Infringements / non compliances

- 3.10.1 A non compliance is any point which is at variance to our Standards.
- 3.10.2 Where Non Compliances are found we will issue you with a non-compliance. The level of sanction will be proportionate to the severity and extent of the non compliance and the risk it poses to the integrity of the organic product.
Regulation 848 article 37 , 38 (2), 41, 42
- 3.10.3 Non compliances fall into five categories:
Regulation 848 Chapter IV Article 42
- i. Observation: Something noticed at inspection that may affect legality or food safety, and therefore requires attention.
 - ii. Minor: Does not directly compromise the integrity of the product but needs correcting.
 - iii. Major: May compromise the integrity of the product if not corrected, or may result from not correcting a previous minor non compliance. A number of major non compliances may lead to suspension of certification for the products or enterprises affected where there are concerns over integrity of the product or system.
 - iv. Critical: Directly affects the integrity of the product or may result from not correcting a previous major non compliance. A critical non compliance will normally result in us suspending certification for the products or enterprises affected or the whole certificate.
 - v. Manifest infringement: One in which organic integrity has been irrevocably lost as a result of fraud or failure to act to prevent the loss of integrity. It may also result from not correcting a previous critical non compliance. This will most likely result in termination of your certification and NICA being informed.
Regulation 848 Chapter VI Article 42
Regulation 848 Chapter VI Article 43
- 3.10.4 Acceptable evidence for correction of non compliances:
- i. Copies of records.
 - ii. Written confirmation of changes.
 - iii. Photographic evidence.
 - iv. Additional inspection (spot inspection).
 - v. Third party audit report (if this is relevant).
- 3.10.5 When non compliances are discovered (either during inspection or as a result of a complaint etc) a non compliance notice will be served on the spot by the inspector or by us, whichever is appropriate.
- 3.10.6 This notice will be served regardless of the non compliance being due to ignorance of this Standard. The date of discovery, location and nature of the non compliance, products affected, quantities involved (if possible) and the corrective action required will be recorded in the report and summarised in the non compliance notice.
- 3.10.7 You must agree a time scale for correction of the non compliance, and sign and retain a copy of the notice. It is expected that all non compliances are resolved in a maximum of 28 days. Failure to do so could lead to your certification being suspended or terminated.
- 3.10.8 You must take immediate steps to prevent any further sales of non conforming stock (if necessary by recalling stock in trade and holding stock in hand) and to correct the non compliance.

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- 3.10.9 Non compliances must be corrected before certification can be granted or renewed. When non compliances do not affect the organic integrity of a product, we may at our discretion issue a certificate before the non compliance has been cleared. This may be for a limited period until satisfactory evidence has been provided to correct the non compliance concerned and steps have been taken to prevent recurrences.
- 3.10.10 Your certification might be suspended until appropriate corrective action has taken place. Depending on the severity of the non-compliance we may suspend or even withdraw your certificate. This means you will not be able to trade products organically.
Regulation 848 Chapter IV Article 42
- 3.10.11 Our certification system allows suspension or deletion if no responses have been received to letters or if there has been a critical, manifest infringement or relevant prosecution against you. If this happens you must inform all of your customers that your certificate has been suspended or deleted.
- 3.10.12 If you have been suspended, deleted or withdrawn it is illegal to sell or trade in organic products.
- 3.10.13 Obligations and actions in the event of suspicion of non-compliance. Where you suspect that a product you have produced, prepared, imported or has received from another operator does not comply with this Standard you must:
Regulation 848 Article 27
- a. Identify and separate the product concerned.
 - b. Check whether the suspicion can be substantiated.
 - c. Not place the product concerned on the market as an organic or in-conversion product and not use it in organic production, unless the suspicion can be eliminated.
 - d. Where the suspicion has been substantiated or where it cannot be eliminated, immediately inform us and provide available elements, where appropriate.
 - e. Fully cooperate with the relevant us or, where appropriate competent authority, in verifying and identifying the reasons for the suspected non-compliance.

3.11 Genetically modified organisms (GMOs) & Nanoparticles

- 3.11.1 Genetically modified organisms (GMOs), products produced from GMOs, and products produced by GMOs shall not be used in food or feed, or as food, feed, processing aids, plant protection products, fertilisers, soil conditioners, plant reproductive material, micro-organisms or animals in organic production.
Regulation 848 Chapter III, Article 11
Regulation 848 Chapter IV article 30
- 3.11.2 GMOs and products produced from or by GMOs shall not be used as food, feed, processing aids, plant protection products, fertilisers, soil conditioners, seeds, vegetative propagating material, micro-organisms and animals in organic production.
Regulation 848 Chapter III, Article 11
- 3.11.3 The use of GMOs is prohibited. It is not possible to label a product as organic where it has to be labelled as containing GMOs, consisting of GMOs or produced from GMOs.
Regulation 848 Chapter III, Article 11
Regulation 848 Chapter IV Article 30
- 3.11.4 In the case of products to which the GMO labelling rules apply, proof of compliance is the declaration on the labelling of inputs that they do not contain GMOs.
Regulation 848 Chapter III, Article 11
- 3.11.5 For products to which the GMO labelling rules do not apply, vendor declarations that the product has not been produced by or from GMOs are required from all of your suppliers. Visit our website www.orgfoodfed.com for a model of a GMO statement.
Regulation 848 Chapter III, Article 11

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- 3.11.6 For a guide to products that are subject to GMO labelling see:
http://www.food.gov.uk/gmfoods/gm/gm_labelling
Regulation 848 Chapter III, Article 11
- 3.11.7 Where it is not specifically mentioned or is in question, a statement of non GMO inclusion must be obtained for all products purchased from your suppliers.
Regulation 848 Chapter III, Article 11
- 3.11.8 Organic production must not take place for at least five years on land which has been planted with genetically modified crops.
- 3.11.9 Organic food must not contain or consist of engineered nanoparticles.
Regulation 848 Article 7
Regulation 848 Article 6

3.12 Training

- 3.12.1 To help maintain organic integrity it is necessary to ensure that all staff involved with producing and processing have:
- i. A basic training in the task that they are performing.
 - ii. Have been made aware of the Standard relating to the task.
 - iii. Understand how their tasks relate to organic integrity and separation and the need to maintain them.
- 3.12.2 This training must be documented for all personnel involved in organics.

3.13 Product approval

- 3.13.1 All products and recipes must be approved by us and placed on your certificate and trading schedule before manufacture. For details on the requirements and permitted additives please see the relevant sections in this Standard.
- 3.13.2 All livestock and crops must be inspected, approved and placed on your certificate and trading schedule by us before sale.

3.14 Other statutory requirements

- 3.14.1 You must comply with all relevant legislation that applies to your unit and operation over and above this Standard. Examples can include:
- i. Health and safety legislation.
 - ii. Environmental.
 - iii. Control of Substances Hazardous to Health (COSHH).
 - iv. Employment law.
 - v. Labelling.
 - vi. HACCP.
 - vii. Notification to local authority of business activity.

3.15 Use of EU logo and the OFF logo

- 3.15.1 You may only make reference to the word organic in relation to product labelling, advertising materials or commercial documents, where your products meet the requirements of this standards.
Regulation 848, Article 30 (1), Article 2

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- 3.15.2 Terms and their derivatives listed below, whether alone or in combination (including terms used in the EU to describe organic products see guidance), may be used throughout the European Union and in any language listed.

Regulation 848 Annex IV

BG: биологичен.
ES: ecológico, biológico, orgánico.
CS: ekologické, biologické.
DA: økologisk.
DE: ökologisch, biologisch.
ET: mahe, ökoloogiline.
EL: βιολογικό.
EN: organic.
FR: biologique.
GA: orgánach.
HR: ekološki.
IT: biologico.
LV: bioloģisks, ekoloģisks.
LT: ekologiškas.
LU: biologesch, ökologesch.
HU: ökológiai.
MT: organiku.
NL: biologisch.
PL: ekologiczne.
PT: biológico.
RO: ecologic.
SK: ekologické, biologické.
SL: ekološki.
FI: luonnonmukainen.
SV: ekologisk.

- 3.15.3 You must not use terms, including terms used in trademarks, company names, or practices in labelling or advertising material if they are liable to mislead the consumer or user by suggesting that a product or its ingredients comply with this Standard.
Regulation 848 Article 30 (2)
- 3.15.4 You must submit copies of all label artwork and proofs to us for approval before printing and use and if required to do so stop using any claims, statements or logos that are unacceptable or considered misleading by us.
Regulation 848 Article 30 (1)
- 3.15.5 You must immediately discontinue using our logo and the EU logo on related artwork and advertising material on withdrawal of your certificate. Any reference to organic accreditation by us must be removed from all documents in your possession.
Regulation 848 Article 30 (1)
- 3.15.6 You must discontinue use of our logo and the EU logo or any claim of compliance to our Standard with immediate effect if you are temporarily unable to comply with this Standard.
Regulation 848 Article 30 (1)
- 3.15.7 You must not use our logo and the EU logo in relation to products unless listed on your valid certificate and trading schedule.
Regulation 848 Article 30 (1)

Organic Food Federation logo

- 3.15.8 Our logo is a mark of recognition showing compliance to our Standards but is not a mandatory requirement. We will send copies of our logo to you on request.
Regulation 848 Chapter IV Article 33 (5)

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- 3.15.9 You may only use our logo on products you have manufactured, including animal feeds, if they comply with this Standard.
Regulation 848 Chapter IV Article 33 (5)
- 3.15.10 You may, in addition, use our logo on your advertising material, company stationery, promotional literature and your website subject to our approval.
Regulation 848 Chapter IV Article 33 (5)

The EU Logo

- 3.15.11 You must use the EU logo on all pre-packaged food with over 95% organic agricultural ingredient content.
Regulation 848 Chapter IV Article 30 (5)
- 3.15.12 You must not use the logo if less than 95% of the content of agricultural ingredients of a product has been produced organically.
Regulation 848 Chapter IV Article 30, point 5, b(i)
- 3.15.13 You may use the EU logo for organic products are imported from third countries.
Regulation 848 Chapter IV Article 33, point 3
- 3.15.14 You must place the EU logo, the agricultural statement and certifier code in a conspicuous place in such a way as to be easily visible, clearly legible and indelible.
Regulation 848 Chapter IV Article 32, point 3
- 3.15.15 For further information on the use of the EU logo and for copies of the logo please see the two websites listed below:
- The website below shows the logo:
http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/organic/files/eu-policy/logo/user_manual_logo_en.pdf
- Frequently asked questions document can be downloaded from:
http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/organic/files/eu-policy/logo/FAQ_logo_en.pdf
- 3.15.16 The organic production logo may also be used for information and educational purposes related to the existence and advertising of the logo itself, provided that such use is not liable to mislead the consumer as regards the organic production of specific products, and provided that the logo is reproduced in accordance with the rules set out this Standard.
Regulation 848 Chapter IV Article 33

EU logo design specification

- 3.15.17 You must comply with the following points and the model shown when using the EU logo.
Regulation 848 Chapter IV Article 33
- i. The logo should appear in light green pantone 376, CMYK 50/0/100/0 and RGB 169/201/56 but may also appear in black and white where a colour form is not practical.
 - ii. You may also use the black and white symbol as shown only where it is not practical to apply in colour.
 - iii. On dark packaging the logo may appear in negative format using the packaging colour instead of white.
 - iv. If packaging is in a single colour then the logo may also appear in that colour rather than in green or black and white.
 - v. If a symbol is used in colour on a coloured background, which makes it difficult to see, a delimiting outer line around the symbol can be used to improve contrast with the background colours.

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- vi. The Organic logo of the EU shall comply with the model below:



- vii. The minimum height is 9mm. The height/width ration is 1:1.5 so minimum width is 13.5mm. For exceptionally small packaging such as small sweets the logo may be used with a height of 6mm. In such cases other logos should not appear larger than the EU logo, such use would be seen as evidence of misuse of the exception.
- viii. Other graphical or textual elements may be used along with the logo, i.e. national or private logos but they must not interfere with the logo or any of the required indications.
- ix. If a national or private logo is green then that colour green may be used for the European logo as well.
- x. You must ensure that the logo and our certification code are placed together. You may place them anywhere on the pack provided they are in a conspicuous place that is easily visible, clearly legible and indelible.

Required Wording

3.15.18 Required wording needed when using the EU logo.

- i. All pre packed products produced and or labelled by our operators must carry our code.
- ii. The code for the Organic Food Federation is GB-ORG-04.
- iii. Our code must appear on labels in exactly that format in the same visual field as the EU logo.
Regulation 848 Chapter IV Article 32
- iv. You must indicate where the raw materials originate from where the Community logo is used as follows:
Regulation 848 Chapter IV Article 32
- 'EU Agriculture', where the agricultural raw material has been farmed in the EU.
 - 'non-EU Agriculture' where the agricultural raw material has been farmed in third countries.
 - 'EU/non-EU Agriculture' where part of the agricultural raw materials has been farmed in the Community and a part of it has been farmed in a third country.
- v. If all raw materials have been farmed in only one country, the name of this specific country, in or outside the EU, can be indicated instead.
Regulation 848 Chapter IV Article 32
- vi. Examples of the use of the logo:



GB-ORG-04
EU Agriculture



GB-ORG-04
Non-EU Agriculture



GB-ORG-04
EU/non-EU Agriculture



GB-ORG-04
GB Agriculture



GB-ORG-04
France Agriculture

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3.16 Labelling

- 3.16.1 You must label products produced to this Standard as organic and use our code GB-ORG-04 for all products produced or labelled by our operators.
Regulation 848 Chapter IV Article 30, 32
- 3.16.2 You must clearly label organic products at all times with an accurate description of the product and the label must not be misleading.
Regulation 848 Chapter IV Article 30
- 3.16.3 You must ensure that labelling is clear, concise and complies with all relevant UK legislation.
- 3.16.4 You must only describe products as organic and market them as organic products if the product consists of 95% organic or over materials of agricultural origin.
Regulation 848 Chapter IV Article 33
- 3.16.5 You must ensure that your organic products are labelled stating:
Regulation 848 Annex III point 2.1.1
Regulation 848 Article 23, point 2
Regulation 848 Article 32
- i. Your name and address and, where different, the owner or seller of the product.
 - ii. The name of the product or a description of the compound feeding stuff accompanied by a reference to the organic production method.
 - iii. Our code number and our name (optional).
 - iv. Where relevant the product should be labelled with an identification mark to enable traceability of the product to its manufacturer eg batch code, or use by / best before date.
- 3.16.6 For bulk goods intended for further processing/labelling information referred to above may be presented solely on an accompanying document, if such a document can be undeniably linked with the packaging, container or vehicular transport of the product. This accompanying document shall include information on the supplier or the transporter.
Regulation 848 Annex III point 2.1.1,
- 3.16.7 Your label must include the code number of the certifier who certifies the company that carries out the most recent production, preparation or packing for the product.
Regulation 848, Chapter IV, Article 32, Point 1 (a)
Regulation 2021/642, Article III, point 2.1.1 (d)

Products 95% -100% Organic

- 3.16.8 You must use the reference GB-ORG-04 on all labels for products manufactured/labelled by OFF certified operators. This includes dispatch, transport, and delivery documents.
Regulation 848 Chapter IV Article 30
- 3.16.9 You must use the EU logo on all pre packaged food.
Regulation 848 Chapter IV Article 32, point 1 (b)
- 3.16.10 You must when the EU logo is used also use an indication of where the ingredients are farmed or grown, see 3.5.18
Regulation 848 Chapter IV Article 32, point 2
- 3.16.11 The use of the EU logo is optional for products imported from third countries.
Regulation 848 Chapter IV Article 33, point 3

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Products with less than 95% organic ingredients

3.16.12 If less than 95% of the content of agricultural ingredients has been produced organically the term organic can only be used to refer to the ingredients which have been organically produced in the list of ingredients on the product label provided that you:

Regulation 848, Chapter IV, Article 30, point 5

- a. Indicate which ingredients are organic in the ingredients list.
- b. Include the total percentage of organic ingredients in the ingredients list (as a percentage of the agricultural ingredients).
- c. Use the same colour, size and style of lettering in the reference to organic and percentage statement as you do as for the non-organic ingredients.

3.16.13 Where the main ingredient is a product of hunting or fishing you may make reference to organic in the sales description and in the list of ingredients provided that you:

Regulation 848, Chapter IV, Article 30, point 5

- a. Indicate which ingredients are organic in the ingredients list.
- b. Ensure any reference to organic in the sales description is clearly related to the organic ingredients and not the product of hunting or fishing.
- c. All other agricultural ingredients are organic include the total percentage of organic ingredients in the ingredients list (as a percentage of the total quantity of agricultural ingredients).
- d. In the list of ingredients use the same colour, size and style of lettering in the reference to organic and percentage statement as you do for the non-organic ingredients meet all of other processed food requirements as detailed in our processing Standards.

3.16.14 You must not use the EU logo on products covered under points 3.16.12 and 3.16.13.

Regulation 848, Chapter IV, Article 33, point 1

Feed Labelling

3.16.15 Animal feed products can be labelled organic as long as at least 95% of the dry matter of the product is organic. All ingredients of agricultural origin contained in the processed feed must be from the organic production method.

Regulation 848 Chapter IV Article 30, point 6 (b & c)

3.16.16 Your labels for animal feeds must meet 3.16.5 and be:

Regulation 848, Chapter IV, Article 30

Regulation 848, Annex III, 2.1.2

- i. Printed with the same colour, format and character font so as not to draw more attention to the organic reference than to the description or name of the feed.
- ii. Your label must also in addition to other legal requirements state:
 - a) The information provided in point 2.1.1.
 - b) Where relevant, by weight of dry matter:
 - i. The total percentage of organic feed materials.
 - ii. The total percentage of in-conversion feed materials.
 - iii. The total percentage of feed materials not covered by points (i) and (ii).
 - iv. The total percentage of feed of agricultural origin.
 - c) Where relevant, the names of organic feed materials.
 - d) Where relevant, the names of in-conversion feed materials.

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- e) For compound feed that cannot be labelled in accordance with Article 30(6), the indication that such feed may be used in organic production in accordance with this Regulation.

In Conversion

3.16.17 You may label products with the designation “in conversion”, provided that:

Regulation 848, Article 10, point 4

- i. When it was harvested the land on which it was grown had completed at least 12 months of its conversion period.
- ii. The designation must not be more prominently displayed than any other indications the product is required to carry.
- iii. It is comprised only of one agricultural ingredient.
- iv. It bears our code number.

Seed Labelling

3.16.18 You must ensure that on the label of the packaging of a mixture of fodder plant seeds containing organic and in-conversion or non-organic seeds of certain different plant species for which an authorisation has been issued ensure information is provided on:

Regulation 848, Annex III, 2.1.3

Directive 66/401/EEC

- i. The exact components of the mixture.
- ii. Shown by percentage by weight of each component species.
- iii. Where appropriate varieties.

3.16.19 In addition to the relevant requirements under Annex IV to Directive 66/401/EEC, that information shall include besides the indications required in the first paragraph of this point also the list of the component species of the mixture that are labelled as organic or in-conversion. The minimum total percentage by weight of organic and in-conversion seeds in the mixture shall be at least 70 %.

3.16.20 In case the mixture contains non-organic seeds, the label must also include the following statement:

‘The use of the mixture is only allowed within the scope of the authorisation and in the territory of the Member State of the competent authority which authorised the use of this mixture in conformity with point 1.8.5 of Annex II to Regulation (EU) 2018/848 on organic production and labelling of organic products’.

Flavourings

3.16.21 You must only label flavourings as organic if they are only used for natural flavouring substances and natural flavouring preparations labelled in accordance with Article 16(2), (3) and (4) of Regulation (EC) No 1334/2008 and all the flavouring components and carriers of flavouring components in the flavouring concerned are organic.

Regulation 848, Chapter IV, Article 30. Point 5 (iii)

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3.17 Complaints

- 3.17.1 We will inform you of any complaints in writing which concern your operations.
- 3.17.2 You are required to investigate and respond to us on any complaints that we receive.
- 3.17.3 You must have a procedure on how you handle complaints made against your business or products. You must also keep records of any complaints you receive and actions you have taken to resolve them.

3.18 Appeals

- 3.18.1 From the date of a certification decision, you have 14 clear days to appeal.
- 3.18.2 You must notify us in writing of your decision to appeal stating your grounds.
- 3.18.3 Once we receive your appeal request, we will send you a copy of the appropriate procedure which shows how we will process your appeal.

3.19 Sales, purchases and record keeping

- 3.19.1 You must keep records relating to all products, chemicals, additives, seeds, livestock and raw materials that you sell or purchase.
- 3.19.2 When selling products, you must ensure all documentation that you supply with the product clearly states that the products are either organic or in certain cases, in conversion. These products must also be listed on your current certificate of conformity and trading schedule issued by us.
- 3.19.3 When purchasing products, you must ensure not only the documentation supplied (delivery note) is marked organic but that it is also accompanied by a valid certificate of conformity and trading schedule issued by an EU recognised certification body.
Regulation 848 Chapter V Article 35
- 3.19.4 On receipt of organic product, you must check that the items are fully packaged and that the packaging is sealed and intact so as not to risk contamination with non organic products.
Regulation 848 Annex III
- 3.19.5 Imported products from outside the EU must be certified by an EU recognised certification body.
- 3.19.6 Records of quantities sold and purchased must be kept and made available at your annual audit as part of your reconciliation.
- 3.19.7 You must ensure that verification of the status of organic goods is undertaken at reception and recorded.
- 3.19.8 Organic certificates of conformance products shall be classified in accordance with the following categories:
Regulation 848 Chapter V Article 35
- a) Unprocessed plants and plant products, including seeds and other plant reproductive material.
 - b) Livestock and unprocessed livestock products.
 - c) Algae and unprocessed aquaculture products.
 - d) Processed agricultural products, including aquaculture products, for use as food.
 - e) Feed.
 - f) Wine.

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g) Other products

3.19.10 Defra grant you an exemption from the obligation to be in the possession of a certificate, provided for in paragraph 2, operators that sell unpacked organic products other than feed directly to the final consumer, provided that those you do not produce, prepare or store other than in connection with the point of sale, or import such products from a third country and have not subcontracted such activities to a third party, and provided that:

Regulation 848 Chapter V Article 35

- i. such sales do not exceed 5000 kg per year.
- ii. such sales do not represent an annual turnover in relation to unpacked organic products exceeding EUR 20 000; or
- iii. the potential certification cost of the operator exceeds 2 % of the total turnover on unpacked organic products sold by that operator.

3.19.11 If Defra decides to exempt you from having a certificate referred to above, it may set lower limits than those set in 3.19.9.

Regulation 848 Chapter V Article 35

3.19.12 It is Defra's responsibility to inform the Commission and the other Member States of any decision to exempt operators pursuant to 3.19.10 and of the limits up to which such operators are exempted.

Regulation 848 Chapter V Article 35

3.20 Transport

3.20.1 Where simultaneous collection of organic and non organic products takes place you must ensure appropriate measures are taken to prevent any possible mixture or exchange with non organic products and to ensure the identification of the organic products. You must also keep information relating to collection days, hours, circuit and date and time of receipt.

Regulation 848 Article III

3.20.2 You must ensure that organic products are transported to other units, including wholesalers and retailers, only in appropriate packaging, containers or vehicles closed in such a manner that substitution of the content cannot be achieved without manipulation or damage of the seal and provided with a label stating, without prejudice to any other indications required by Union law:

Regulation 848 Annex III 2.1

Regulation 2021/642 2.1. updated

- a. The name and address of the operator and, where different, of the owner or seller of the product.
- b. The name of the product.
- c. The name or the code number of the control authority or control body to which the operator is subject; and
- d. Where relevant, the lot identification mark in accordance with a marking system either approved at national level or agreed with the control authority or control body and which permits the linking of the lot with the records.

3.20.3 The closing of packaging, containers or vehicles is not required where:

Regulation 848 Annex III

- i. Transportation is direct between two certified organic operators.
- ii. You must ensure that documentation accompanying the delivery meets the requirements of labelling.
- iii. You must ensure that the transport includes only organic or only in-conversion products.

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- 3.20.4 You must keep records on any transport operations, goods received or sent, and make sure they are available at our inspection.
Regulation 848 Annex III
- 3.20.5 You must ensure during transport that organically produced feed, in conversion feed, and non organic feed are effectively physically separated.
Regulation 848 Annex III
- 3.20.6 You must ensure that transport used for movement of products is clean, pest free and in suitable condition for its use especially where non organic products have been transported previously. This transport must be cleaned between loads, checked and records kept.
Regulation 848 Annex III
- 3.20.7 You must ensure organic products are separated physically or in time from non organic products during transport.
- 3.20.8 You should ensure vehicles used to transport chilled or frozen goods are not only clean and suitable but are the correct temperature for the goods that you are transporting.
- 3.20.9 You must keep detailed records of: *Regulation 848 Annex III*
- i. Products transported;
 - ii. Date transported;
 - iii. Haulier or vehicle;
 - iv. Cleaning between loads;
 - v. Packaging integrity checks;
 - vi. Correct documentation sent and received;
 - vii. Products clearly labelled and identified.

3.21 Presence of non- authorised products or substances and precautionary measures

- 3.21.1 In order to avoid contamination with products or substances that are not authorised in accordance with this Standard for use in organic production, operators shall take the following precautionary measures at every stage of production, preparation and distribution:
Regulation 848 Chapter III Article 28
- a. Put in place and maintain measures that are proportionate and appropriate to identify the risks of contamination of organic production and products with non- authorised products or substances, including systematic identification of critical procedural steps.
 - b. Put in place and maintain measures that are proportionate and appropriate to avoid risks of contamination of organic production and products with non- authorised products or substances.
 - c. Regularly review and adjust such measures; and
 - d. Comply with other relevant requirements of this Regulation that ensure the separation of organic, in-conversion and non-organic products.
- 3.21.2 When you suspect, due to the presence of a product or substance that is not authorised in this Standard for use in organic production in a product that is intended to be used or marketed as an organic or in-conversion product, that the latter product does not comply with this Regulation, you must:
Regulation 848 Article 28 2
- a. Identify and separate the product concerned.
 - b. Check whether the suspicion can be substantiated.

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- c. Not place the product concerned on the market as an organic or in-conversion product and not use it in organic production unless the suspicion can be eliminated.
 - d. Where the suspicion has been substantiated or where it cannot be eliminated, immediately inform us or where appropriate, the relevant control authority or control body, and provide it with available elements, where appropriate.
 - e. Fully cooperate with the relevant competent authority, or, where appropriate, with the relevant control authority or control body, in identifying and verifying the reasons for the presence of non-authorized products or substances.
- 3.21.3 Where we or NICA receive substantiated information about the presence of products or substances that are not authorized for use in organic production, or you have informed us or our tests have found such products or substances in an organic or an in-conversion product we will undertake an investigation:
Regulation 848 Chapter III Article 29 1
Regulation 848 Article 41
- a. Determine the source and cause in order check whether the suspicion can be substantiated.
 - b. The investigation must be completed as soon as possible, within a reasonable period, and shall take into account the durability of the product and the complexity of the case.
 - c. We will require you to temporarily hold the products concerned during the investigation
 - d. Separate or identify the product and only allow it to be further processed or sold as organic once any doubt has been eliminated.
- 3.21.4 In cases where we have a substantiated suspicion that your product you are marketing (organic / in conversion) does not meet organic standards, we will tell you to hold the product whilst we investigate.
Regulation 848 Chapter III Article 29 2
Regulation 848 Article 41
- 3.21.5 In cases where your product has a positive residue detection for a substance not authorized for use in organic production we will carry out an investigation to determine;
Regulation 848 Article 29 2
- a. If products or substances not authorized in organic production have been used.
 - b. If sufficient precautionary measures have not been taken.
 - c. If sufficient measures following previous requests from us have not been taken.
- 3.21.6 You must cooperate fully with any investigation to resolve the suspicion. If the suspicion is confirmed, then you must remove any reference to organic from the product. If the suspicion is not confirmed, then you no longer have to withhold the product from sale.
Regulation 848 Article 41 – NEW
- 3.21.7 You will be given the opportunity to comment on the investigation and you may be required to take corrective measure to avoid future contamination.
Regulation 848 Article 29
Regulation 848 Article 41
- 3.21.8 You must keep records of all investigations carried out.
Regulation 848 Article 29

SECTION 4

ORGANIC FARMING OVERVIEW

4.1 Specific principles

- 4.1.1 The specific principles to be followed for crop and livestock production are set out below.
- 4.1.2 For crops they emphasise the importance of maintaining soil health and fertility, the principle that the use of external inputs should be reduced to the minimum necessary, the importance of minimising waste and the need for production methods to be in harmony with the local environment.
- 4.1.3 For livestock they emphasise the importance of using breeds and strains of livestock appropriate to organic systems and the location of the holding, the importance of using management practices as the primary support for animal health and welfare, the principle that the use of external inputs should be reduced to the minimum necessary, minimising waste and the need for production methods to be in harmony with the local environment.
- 4.1.4 Organic production principles are:
Regulation 848 Chapter II Article 6
- i. Maintaining and enhancement of soil life and natural soil fertility, soil stability, soil water retention and soil biodiversity, preventing and combating loss of soil organic matter, soil compaction and soil erosion, and the nourishing of plants primarily through the soil ecosystem.
 - ii. The limitation of the use of non-renewable resources and external inputs to a minimum.
 - iii. Recycling of wastes and by products of plant and animal origin as an input in plant and livestock production.
 - iv. Taking account of the local or regional ecological balance when taking production decisions.
 - v. Maintaining animal health by encouraging the natural immunological defence of the animal, as well as the selection of appropriate breeds and husbandry practices.
 - vi. Maintaining plant health by preventive measures, in particular the choice of appropriate species, varieties or heterogeneous material resistant to pests and diseases, appropriate crop rotations, mechanical and physical methods and protection of the natural enemies of pests.
 - vii. Practicing site adapted and land related livestock production.
 - viii. Observing a high level of animal welfare respecting species specific needs.
 - ix. Producing products from animals that have been raised on organic holdings since birth or hatching and throughout their life.
 - x. The choosing of animal breeds, having regard to a high degree of genetic diversity, the capacity of animals to adapt to local conditions, their breeding value, their longevity, their vitality and their resistance to disease or health problems.
 - xi. Feeding livestock with organic feed composed of agricultural ingredients from organic farming and of natural non agricultural substances.
 - xii. Applying animal husbandry practices, which enhance the immune system and strengthen the natural defence against diseases, in particular including regular exercise and access to open air areas and pasture where appropriate.
 - xiii. Excluding the rearing of artificially induced polyploid animals.
 - xiv. The use of seeds and animals with a high degree of genetic diversity, disease resistance and longevity.

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- xv. In the choosing of plant varieties, having regard to the particularities of the specific organic production systems, focussing on agronomic performance, disease resistance, adaptation to diverse local soil and climate conditions and respect for the natural crossing barriers.
- xvi. The use of organic plant reproductive material, such as plant reproductive material of organic heterogeneous material and of organic varieties suitable for organic production.
- xvii. The production of organic varieties through natural reproductive ability and focussing on containment within natural crossing barriers.
- xviii. Without prejudice to Article 14 of Regulation (EC) No 2100/94 and to the national plant variety rights granted under NI national law, the possibility for farmers to use plant reproductive material obtained from their own farms in order to foster genetic resources adapted to the special conditions of organic production.
- xix. Avoiding any endangerment of species of conservation interest that might arise from organic production.

4.2 Unit descriptions

- 4.2.1 A full description of your unit, premises and activity must be drawn up prior to first inspection. This should include:
- i. A map showing the boundaries of your total holding outlined in blue with the organic area in green and any in transition land in red. Your map must also include buildings.
 - ii. Field numbers including their size, cropping and whether in transition 1, 2, 3 or organic.
 - iii. Livestock housing plans.
 - iv. The facilities used to store products for cleaning and disinfection.
 - v. Details of the measures you take to guarantee compliance with this organic Standard.

4.3 Annual audit

- 4.3.1 The purpose of your annual audit is to ensure that what you have done over the past year is in line with our Standards and that all your purchases and sales are consistent with what has occurred on the farm.
- 4.3.2 Before the inspector arrives, you should ensure that you have updated the following information:
- i. Farm map showing the organic area and farm plan showing the farm buildings.
 - ii. Rotational plan for the farm and a cropping plan by field or area.
 - iii. Details of seeds and transplants used including quantity purchased and their organic status or derogation.
 - iv. Field records showing the dates of all the activities on that field, including details of the quantities of all the inputs used (mineral fertilisers, pest and disease control products, manure).
 - v. A livestock management plan including management of feeding, health and reproduction.

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- vi. Records of livestock purchases, conversion period, all veterinary and treatment details and identification. Details of the livestock sold, age, weight, identification and destination. Details of animals lost and the reason.
 - vii. Records of animal feed purchased, the quantities fed to each type of stock and its organic status.
 - viii. Details of any veterinary products used on farm detailing stock treated, products used and withdrawal periods.
 - ix. Records of when milk or egg production starts.
 - x. A waste management plan for the manure and / or where necessary details of the organic unit where it is going.
 - xi. Complaints record.
 - xii. Details of the products sold, the quantities and the purchasers. If the sales are direct to the final consumer then these must be kept on a daily basis.
 - xiii. Details of any conventional production and proof of separation.
 - xiv. Records of all derogations issued showing their start and end dates.
- 4.3.3 Failure to provide any of this information (if it is relevant to your operation) will result in a non compliance. If the absence of information results in failure to carry out an acceptable reconciliation it becomes a serious non compliance and your continued certification is at risk. We will have to charge if further inspections are required due to a serious non compliance.

4.4 Storage

- 4.4.1 You must manage areas for the storage of products in such a way as to ensure identification of lots and to avoid any mixing or contamination with products or substances not in compliance with this Standard. Organic and in-conversion products shall be clearly identifiable at all times.
Regulation 848 Annex III, 7.1
- 4.4.2 You must not store products other than those authorised in this Standard.
Regulation 848 Annex III, 7.2
- 4.4.3 You may store allopathic veterinary medicinal products and antibiotics provided they have been prescribed by a veterinarian in connection with treatment. They must be stored in a controlled location and entered in the livestock record.
Regulation 848 Annex III, 7.3
- 4.4.4 You must where operators handle organic, or in-conversion or non-organic products in any combination and the organic or in-conversion products are stored in storage facilities in which also other agricultural products or foodstuffs are stored:
Regulation 848 Annex III, 7.4
- i. Store the organic products separate from the other agricultural products and / or foodstuffs.
 - ii. Take every measure to ensure identification of consignments and to avoid mixtures or exchanges between organic, in-conversion and non-organic products.
 - iii. Prior to storage ensure suitable cleaning measures, the effectiveness of which has been checked, shall have been carried out before the storage of organic or in-conversion products. You must check effectiveness and record.
- 4.4.5 You must not use Ionising radiation in the treatment of organic food or feed, and in the treatment of raw materials used in organic food or feed.
Regulation 848 Article 9, point 4

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4.5 Addition of land

- 4.5.1 If you want to have land added to your certificate and schedule you must provide us with all the details pertaining to the parcel of land concerned. This can be done by downloading from our website the form for the addition of land to enter transition 1.
- 4.5.2 Where this land is rented from another farmer you should have a land rental agreement in place. This agreement should provide you with an assurance that the owner will not treat the land in any way as to invalidate the land's organic status or conversion.

4.6 Labelling in conversion crops

- 4.6.1 You can label crops as in conversion provided that:
Regulation 848 Chapter IV Article 30
- i. A conversion period of at least 12 months before the harvest has been complied with. **Regulation 848 Chapter III Article 10**
 - ii. The indication shall appear in a colour, size and style of lettering which is not more prominent than the sales description of the product. The entire indication shall have the same size of letter. **Regulation 848 Article 3**
 - iii. The product contains only one crop ingredient of agricultural origin.
Regulation 848 Chapter III Article 10
 - iv. Our certification code GB-ORG-04 is marked clearly on the label.
Regulation 848 chapter IV, Article 33
 - v. You do not use the EU logo.
Regulation 848 Chapter IV Article 33

4.7 Record keeping

- 4.7.1 You must keep farm, activity and financial records on your unit or premises to enable us to audit your operation to this Standard.
Regulation 848 Chapter VI Article 39

These records will include but not exclusively as applicable:

- i. Derogations:
 - a) Derogation document issued by us or by NICA.
 - b) What the derogation is issued for.
 - c) Start and finish dates.
- ii. Animal manure export and import details.
- iii. Imported fertilizer details.
- iv. Other authorised farm inputs.
- v. Seed purchases and home saved seed.
- vi. Farm plan, showing all buildings.
- vii. Field records.
- viii. Livestock management records.
- ix. Purchase records (for example stock, feed).
- x. Sales (for example grain, stock).
- xi. Storage records.

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- xii. Veterinary medicine usage.
 - xiii. Pest control records.
 - xiv. Cleaning records.
 - xv. Financial records.
 - xvi. Any sub contractor agreements.
 - xvii. Any land rental agreements.
 - xviii. Training records.
 - xix. Detailed descriptions of these records will be found in the relevant sections of this Standard.
 - xx. All declarations and other communications that are necessary for official controls
- 4.7.2 You must keep records or documentary evidence of any specific operation applied and justifications for the application for:
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.7.12
- i. Tail docking of sheep.
 - ii. Beak trimming undertaken in the first 3 days of life.
 - iii. Disbudding and dehorning.
- 4.7.3 You must keep records of animals leaving the holding, the following data must be recorded, where relevant:
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.7.12
- i. Age.
 - ii. Number of animals.
 - iii. Weight of slaughter animals.
 - iv. Appropriate identification (per animal or by batch/flock/hive).
 - v. Date of departure.
 - vi. Destination.

4.8 Not in use

4.9 Pest control

- 4.9.1 You must only use Rodenticides, in traps, and products and substances authorised in this standard for use in organic production may be used for the elimination of insects and other pests in buildings and other installations where livestock are kept.
Regulation 848 annex II, Part II, 1.5.1.7
- 4.9.2 You must for products and substances used in traps or in dispensers of products and substances other than pheromones, the traps or dispensers prevent the products and substances from being released into the environment and must prevent contact between the products and substances and the crops being cultivated. All traps, including pheromone traps, shall be collected after use and shall be safely disposed of.
Regulation 848, Annex II, Part I, 1.10.3
- 4.9.3 You must only use methods that will not contaminate your product where you find an infestation in organic products, on bags/sacks or containers, in areas used for handling/storing organic products or in areas not used for organic products. Examples of non contaminating methods are:
Regulation 848 article 28 (b)

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- i. Freezing.
- ii. Heating.
- iii. Carbon dioxide.
- iv. Nitrogen.
- v. Vacuum.

4.9.4 You must clearly label all pest control chemicals and store in a controlled area that is adequately proofed.

Regulation 848 article 28 (b)

4.9.5 You must not use loose grain bait in traps due to potential contamination issues.

Regulation 848 article 28 (b)

4.9.6 For pest and disease control of crops see section 5.9.

4.10 Catastrophic circumstances

4.10.1 NICA may authorise measures, on a temporary basis, to allow organic production to continue or recommence in the case of catastrophic circumstances as follows:

Regulation 848 Chapter III, Article 22

Regulation 848 Article 1

Regulation 848 supplemented by 2020/2146, Article 3

- i. In the case of high mortality of animals caused by health or catastrophic circumstances, the renewal or reconstitution of the herd or flock with non organic animals, when organically reared animals are not available.
- ii. In cases of high mortality of bees caused by health or catastrophic circumstances, the reconstitution of the apiaries with non organic bees, when organic apiaries are not available.
- iii. The use of non organic feedingstuffs for a limited period and in relation to a specific area by individual operators, when forage production is lost or when restrictions are imposed, in particular as a result of exceptional meteorological conditions, the outbreak of infectious diseases, the contamination with toxic substances, or as a consequence of fires.
- iv. The feeding of bees with organic honey, organic sugar or organic sugar syrup in case of long lasting exceptional weather conditions or catastrophic circumstances, which hamper the nectar or honeydew production.
- v. Where the survival of the colony is endangered, bee colonies may be moved to areas not respecting the provisions for the placing of the apiaries. By way of derogation.
Regulation 848 supplemented by 2020/2146, Article 3
- vi. For grapes if the exceptional climatic conditions of a given harvest year deteriorate the sanitary status of organic grapes in a specific geographical area because of severe bacterial attacks or fungal attacks, which oblige the winemaker to use more sulphur dioxide than in previous years to obtain a comparable final product up the maximum content to be fixed in accordance with regulations.
- vii. When the production unit of livestock is affected, the grazing on organic land, the stocking density in buildings and minimum surfaces for indoor and outdoor areas as laid down in an implementing act adopted pursuant to Article 14(3) of that Regulation by way of derogation may be adapted.
Regulation 848 supplemented by 2020/2146, Article 3

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- viii. When feed production is lost or when restrictions are imposed, the percentage of the dry matter consisting of roughage, fresh or dried fodder, or silage in daily rations may be reduced, by way of derogation provided that the animal's nutritional requirements at the various stages of its development are met.

Regulation 848 supplemented by 2020/2146, Article 3

4.10.2 In cases where NICA authorises a derogation for any of the above you must keep records and details including a copy of the derogation.

4.10.3 NICA may adopt measures in accordance with the delegated act to allow organic production to continue or recommence in the event of catastrophic circumstances.

Regulation 848 Chapter III Article 22

4.11 Hydroponic production

4.11.1 Hydroponic production, which is a method of growing plants which do not naturally grow in water with their roots in a nutrient solution only or in an inert medium to which a nutrient solution is added, is prohibited.

Regulation 848 Annex II, part I. 1.2

4.12 On farm processing

4.12.1 Whilst this section contains general rules for on farm processing you must consult our processing Standard, which is available on line at www.orgfoodfed.com, prior to starting processing.

4.12.2 You must complete a processing application form if you carry out simple on farm processing.

4.12.3 You may carry out simple processing on a dedicated organic site, once you have been inspected for this operation. It is a separate inspection to your farm audit.

4.12.4 On farm processing is normally defined as where raw materials are processed in such a way that traceability and reconciliation is not difficult to follow.

4.12.5 Examples of on farm processing are:

- i. Cleaning.
- ii. Peeling.
- iii. Chopping and slicing.
- iv. Packing (including bought in certified products) e.g. box schemes.
- v. Blending (including bought in certified products) where the nature of the product is not changed e.g. muesli.
- vi. Processing of a single organic ingredient where nature is not changed e.g. flour milling; simple butchery.

SECTION 5

CROP AND LAND HUSBANDRY

5.1 Converting land and crops to organic production

5.1.1 The essential elements of an organic plant production management system are soil fertility management, choice of species and varieties, multiannual crop rotation, recycling organic materials and cultivation techniques.

5.1.2 You must only where the nutritional needs of plants cannot be met use fertilisers and soil conditioners that are approved in this Standard, and only to the extent necessary. You must keep records of the use of these products, including:

- i. The date or dates on which each product was used.
- ii. The name of the product.
- iii. The amount applied and the crop and
- iv. Parcels concerned.

Regulation 848 Annex II, part I

5.1.3 Your conversion will start from the date of application provided adequate records are - submitted.

Regulation 848 Chapter III Article 10

5.1.4 You must follow this Standard throughout your conversion period to full organic status and beyond.

Regulation 848 Chapter III, Article 10

5.1.5 Only crops planted on land which has completed its conversion period may be sold as organic.

Regulation 848 Annex II, Part I, 1.7.1

5.1.6 No previous period may be retroactively recognised as being part of the conversion period except where:

Regulation 848 Article 10 point 3

- i. Your land parcels were subject to measures which were defined in a programme implemented pursuant to Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013 for the purpose of ensuring that no products or substances other than those authorised for use in organic production have been used on those land parcels; or
- ii. You can provide proof that the land parcels were natural or agricultural areas that, for a period of at least three years, have not been treated with products or substances that are not allowed in this Standard.

5.1.7 Your land must complete a conversion period prior to becoming fully organic of:

Regulation 848 Annex II, Part I, 1.7.1

- i. Not less than 2 years before sowing.
- ii. For grassland or perennial forage, during a period of at least two years before its use as organic feed.
- iii. For perennial crops other than forage at least 3 years before harvest of products.

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5.2 Planning conversion

Conversion Plan

5.2.1 You must submit a written conversion plan at the start of your conversion. This must cover the period of a complete rotation and should include the following information:

- i. **Unit description** showing operations covering your entire holding and any planned expansion that you might undertake.
- ii. **Schedule of fields** showing field numbers and size. This should also show cropping and whether the field is in transition 1, 2, 3, organic or conventional and areas which are not under agricultural crops.
- iii. **Cropping plan** showing a complete rotation with the cultivation of legumes, incorporation of livestock manure and other organic material to ensure the supply of essential nutrients to the plants.
- iv. **Crop storage facility description** showing the changes you will make to maintain separation of organic, in conversion and non organic crops to avoid cross contamination.
- v. **Livestock management plans** for any livestock enterprise containing details of conversion management and dates for proposed sales of animals / produce.
- vi. **Map** showing the boundaries of your total holding outlined in blue with the organic area in green and any in transition land in red. Your map must also include any buildings.
- vii. **Environmental conservation measures** showing measures intended to increase diversification and pest control through natural predators.
- viii. **Separation** of buildings, equipment, access, cropping and livestock between organic and non organic production. This is to include physical barriers.
- ix. **Soil management plan** showing the use of organic manures, cultivation procedures (eg soil aeration using subsoiler, avoidance of deep ploughing and early ploughing) and use of winter cover crops.
- x. **Weed and pest control measures** showing the programme for the control of weeds, pests and diseases.
- xi. **Farm waste management** showing storage and application of farmyard manure and silage effluent to avoid pollution of water courses. This should also show nitrogen production at the start of your conversion and proposed future production.
- xii. **Fertiliser records** showing uses of permitted inputs and soil conditioners.
- xiii. **Records** of how you manage these aspects of the plan must be kept up to date and current and will form part of your annual audit.

5.2.2 Reduced Conversion Period

NICA may decide to shorten conversion periods retroactively subject to satisfactory proof being supplied allowing them to justify conditions have been met for a period of at least three years:

Regulation 848 Article 10
Regulation 2020/464 Article 1

- i. Where the land has been managed under a recognised agri-environmental scheme which prohibits any pesticides or fertilisers that are not allowed in this Standard.
- ii. Where you can provide proof that the land parcels were natural or agricultural areas that, for a period of at least 3 years, have not been treated with products or substances that are not authorised for use in this Standard.

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- iii. Your justification for a shortened conversion period must be supported by us and include independently produced, verifiable documentary evidence that the required conditions have been met. If we are able to support an application, we will forward it to NICA for decision. However, the maximum length of time that will be permitted to be taken into account under these provisions is twelve months.
- 5.2.3 In cases where land or one or more parcels thereof have been contaminated with products or substances not authorised for use in organic production, NICA may decide to extend the conversion period for the land or parcels concerned.
Regulation 848 Annex II, part I, 1.7.2
- 5.2.4 In the case of treatment with a product or a substance not authorised in this Standard NICA shall require a new conversion period.
That period may be shortened in the following two cases:
Regulation 848 Annex II, part I, 1.7.3
- i. Treatment with a product or a substance not authorised for use in organic production as part of a compulsory control measure for pests or weeds, including quarantine organisms or invasive species, imposed by the competent authority of the Member State concerned.
 - ii. Treatment with a product or a substance not authorised for use in organic production as part of scientific tests approved by NICA.
- 5.2.5 In cases referred to in points 5.2.3 & 5.2.4, parcels of land which have already been converted or are in the process of being converted, the length of the conversion period shall be fixed taking into account the following requirements.
Regulation 848 Annex II, part I, 1.7.4
- i. The process of degradation of the product or substance concerned must guarantee, at the end of the conversion period, an insignificant level of residues in the soil and, in the case of a perennial crop, in the plant.
 - ii. The harvest following the treatment may not be placed on the market as organic or in-conversion products.
- 5.2.6 In the case of land associated with organic livestock production:
Regulation 848 Annex II, part I, 1.7.5
- a) The conversion rules shall apply to the whole area of the production unit on which animal feed is produced.
 - b) Notwithstanding point (a), the conversion period may be reduced to one year for pasturages and open air areas used by non-herbivore species.

5.3 Parallel cropping and organic separation

- 5.3.1 Parallel production is the production of organic and non organic crops on the same unit.
- 5.3.2 As a general principle where there is parallel production of organic and non organic crops the holding shall be entirely under organic management.
Regulation 848 Chapter III Article 9
- 5.3.3 However as an exception to this general principle holdings that comprise both organic and non organic units are allowed provided that there is effective separation between them as follows:
Regulation 848 Chapter II Article 9
- i. Physical, financial and operational.

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- ii. Measures are in place to prevent cross contamination or substitution of non organic products for organic products.
- iii. Keep the products produced by the organic, in-conversion and non-organic production units separate from each other.
- iv. Keep adequate records to show the effective separation of the production units and of the products.

5.3.4 With our permission you may run organic and non organic production units in the same area where:

Regulation 848 Chapter III Article 9

- i. Organic and non organic varieties of the same perennial crops, where varieties cannot be easily differentiated provided the following conditions are met:
Regulation 848 Chapter III Article 9
 - a) You must give a firm undertaking in your conversion plan that the non organic area will take no longer than five years to convert. You must submit this plan to us for approval and keep it updated at all times.
 - b) You must notify us at least 48 hours before harvest of each of the products concerned.
 - c) Upon completion of the harvest you must inform us of the exact quantities harvested and the measures applied to separate the products.
 - d) The conversion plan and control measures have been approved by us each year after the start of the conversion plan.
- ii. In the case of production of seed vegetative propagating material and transplants; provided a, b, c, d and e above are met.
- iii. Areas intended for agricultural research or formal education agreed by NICA.

5.3.5 You must ensure a physical boundary or 10 meter buffer zone between organic and non organic production in order to prevent cross contamination.

5.3.6 Note: The Commission is empowered to adopt delegated acts adding further rules on the splitting of a holding into organic, in-conversion and non-organic production units.
Regulation 848 Chapter III Article 9

5.4 General farm environmental management

5.4.1 Hedge and ditch maintenance

You should avoid cutting hedges and carrying out ditch maintenance between 1 March and 31 August. This is to encourage a diversity of wildlife and plants.

5.4.2 Members of any environmental schemes

You should inform us if you are a member of an agri environmental scheme.

5.5 Soil management

5.5.1 You must use in organic plant production, tillage and cultivation practices shall be used that maintain or increase soil organic matter, enhance soil stability, and soil biodiversity, and prevent soil compaction and soil erosion

Regulation 848 Annex II, Part I, 1.9.1

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- 5.5.2 The essential elements of an organic plant production management system are soil fertility management, choice of species and varieties, multiannual crop rotation, recycling organic materials and cultivation techniques. Additional fertilisers, soil conditioners and plant protection products should only be used if they are compatible with the objectives and principles of organic production and this Standard.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part I,
- 5.5.3 The fertility and biological activity of the soil shall be maintained and increased.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part I, 1.9.2
- a. Except in the case of grassland or perennial forage, by the use of multiannual crop rotation including mandatory leguminous crops as the main or cover crop for rotating crops and other green manure crops.
 - b. In the case of greenhouses or perennial crops other than forage, by the use of short-term green manure crops and legumes as well as the use of plant diversity; and
 - c. In all cases, by the application of livestock manure or organic matter, both preferably composted, from organic production.
- 5.5.4 You should use plant production techniques to prevent or minimise any contribution to the contamination of the environment.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part I, 1.6
- 5.5.5 You should primarily rely on the prevention of damage caused by pests and weeds by:
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part I, 1.10.1
- a. Natural enemies.
 - b. The choice of species, varieties and heterogeneous material.
 - c. Crop rotation.
 - d. Cultivation techniques such as bio fumigation, mechanical and physical methods.
 - e. Thermal processes such as solarisation and, in the case of protected crops, shallow steam treatment of the soil (to a maximum depth of 10 cm).
- 5.5.6 You must only use products for cleaning and disinfection in plant production if they are listed in this Standard. You must keep records of the use of those products including:
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part I, 1.11
- i. The date or dates on which each product was used.
 - ii. The name of the product.
 - iii. Its active substances.
 - iv. The location of such use.
- 5.5.7 You may be asked for appropriate soil analyses to be taken the results of which must be submitted to us.
- 5.5.8 You may use preparations of micro-organisms to improve the overall condition of the soil or to improve the availability of nutrients in the soil or in the crops. For compost activation appropriate plant-based preparations or preparations of micro-organisms may be used.
Regulation 848 Annex II, part I, 1.9.6
- 5.5.9 You must only use products and substances as plant protection products or as fertilisers, soil conditioners or nutrients that have been authorised or may bear a reference indicating that those products or substances have been authorised for use in organic production in accordance with this Standard.
Regulation 848 Chapter IV Article 31

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- 5.5.10 You must ensure your organic crops, except those which are naturally grown in water, shall be produced in living soil, or in living soil mixed or fertilised with materials and products allowed in organic production, in connection with the subsoil and bedrock.
Regulation 848 Annex II, part I, 1.1
- 5.5.11 By way of derogation from point 5.5.13, the following shall be allowed:
Regulation 848 Annex II, part I, 1.3
- a. The production of sprouted seeds, which include sprouts, shoots and cress, solely living on the nutritional reserves available in the seeds, by moistening them in clear water, provided that the seeds are organic.
The use of growing medium shall be prohibited, except the use of an inert medium intended solely to keep the seeds moist when the components of that inert medium are authorised in this Standard.
 - b. The obtaining of chicory heads, including by dipping in clear water, provided that the plant reproductive material is organic shall be allowed. The use of a growing medium shall be allowed only when the components are authorised in this Standard.
- 5.5.12 By way of derogation from point 5.5.13, the following practices shall be allowed:
Regulation 848 Annex II, part I, 1.4
- a. Growing plants for the production of ornamentals and herbs in pots to be sold together with the pot to the final consumer.
 - b. Growing seedlings or transplants in containers for further transplanting.

5.6 Farm waste management

- 5.6.1 Your waste management plan including storage must be developed in line with all current legislation and codes of practice. e.g. Code of good practise, NVZ rules.
- 5.6.2 The total amount of livestock manure used in your in-conversion and organic production units shall not exceed 170 kg of nitrogen per year/hectare of agricultural area used. That limit shall only apply to the use of farmyard manure, dried farmyard manure and dehydrated poultry manure, composted animal excrement, including poultry manure, composted farmyard manure and liquid animal excrement.
Regulation 848 Annex II I
- 5.6.3 Manure produced on your organic holding must not be exported to a non organic holding.
Regulation 848 Annex II I
- 5.6.4 Where necessary you will be asked to reduce your stocking density to avoid exceeding this limit or you must export surplus manure to another organic holding.
- 5.6.5 Operators of agricultural holdings may establish written cooperation agreements exclusively with operators of other agricultural holdings and undertakings which comply with the organic production rules, for the purpose of spreading surplus manure from organic production units. The maximum limit shall be calculated on the basis of all of the organic production units involved in such cooperation.
Regulation 848 Annex II, I, 1.9.5
- 5.6.6 You must keep records of any manure movements.

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5.7 Imported fertiliser materials

5.7.1 You may use fertilisers and soil conditioners listed below.

Regulation 848 Annex II, I
Regulation 848 Chapter III Articles 9 & 24
Regulation 2021/1165 Article 2
Regulation 2023/121
Regulation 2023/2229
 Substances of crop or animal origin

2021/1165 Annex II
Authorised fertilisers, soil conditioners and nutrients referred to in point (b) of Article 24(1) of Regulation (EU) 2018/848
Fertilisers, soil conditioners and nutrients listed in this section may be used in organic production, provided that they are compliant with the relevant Union and national legislations on fertilising products, in particular, where applicable, Regulation (EC) No 2003/2003 and Regulation (EU) 2019/1009; and Union legislation on animal by-products, in particular Regulation (EC) No 1069/2009 and Regulation (EU) No 142/2011, in particular Annexes V and XI.

Name	Description, specific conditions, and limits
Farmyard manure	Product comprising a mixture of animal excrements and vegetable matter (animal bedding and feed material) factory farming origin forbidden.
Dried farmyard manure and dehydrated poultry manure	Factory farming origin forbidden.
Composted animal excrements, including poultry manure and composted farmyard manure included	Factory farming origin forbidden.
Liquid animal excrements	Use after controlled fermentation and/or appropriate dilution. Factory farming forbidden.
Composted or fermented bio-waste (Directive 2008/98/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council *)	product obtained from separate bio-waste collection at source, which has been submitted to composting or to anaerobic fermentation for biogas production
	Only vegetable and animal household waste.
	Only when produced in a closed and monitored collection system, accepted by the Member State.
	Maximum concentrations in mg/kg of dry matter: cadmium: 0,7; copper: 70; nickel: 25; lead: 45; zinc: 200; mercury: 0,4; chromium (total): 70; chromium (VI): not detectable
* Directive 2008/98/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 19 November 2008 on waste and repealing certain Directives (OJ L 312, 22.11.2008, p. 3).'	
Peat	Use limited to horticulture (market gardening, floriculture, arboriculture, nursery).
Mushroom culture wastes	The initial composition of the substrate shall be limited to products of this Annex.

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Dejecta of worms (vermicompost) and insects	Where relevant in accordance with Regulation (EC) N° 1069/2009
Guano	
Composted or fermented mixture of vegetable matter	Product obtained from mixtures of vegetable matter, which have been submitted to composting or to anaerobic fermentation for biogas production.
Biogas digestate containing animal by-products co-digested with material of plant or animal origin as listed in this Annex	Animal by-products (including by-products of wild animals) of category 3 and digestive tract content of category 2 (categories 2 and 3 as defined in Regulation (EC) No 1069/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council) factory farming origin forbidden
	The Processes have to be in accordance with Commission Regulation (EU) No 142/2011 (3).
	Not to be applied to edible parts of the crop.
Products or by-products of animal origin as below:	(1) Maximum concentration in mg/kg of dry matter of chromium (VI): not detectable.
Blood meal	(2) Not to be applied to edible parts of the crop.
Horn meal	
Bone meal or degelatinised bone meal	
Fish meal	
Meat meal	
Feather, hair and skin meal (chiquette)	
Wool	
Fur (1)	
Hair	
Dairy products	
Hydrolysed proteins (2)	
Products and by-products of plant origin for fertilisers	
Hydrolysed proteins of plant origin	
Algae and algae products	As far as directly obtained by:
	(i) physical processes including dehydration, freezing and grinding;
	(ii) extraction with water or aqueous acid and/or alkaline solution;
	(iii) fermentation.
	Only from organic or collected in a sustainable way in accordance with point 2.4 of Part III of Annex II to Regulation (EU) 2018/848.
Sawdust and wood chips	Wood not chemically treated after felling.
Composted bark	Wood not chemically treated after felling.
Wood ash	From wood not chemically treated after felling.

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Soft ground rock phosphate	Product obtained by grinding soft mineral phosphates and containing tricalcium phosphate and calcium carbonate as essential ingredients minimum content of nutrients (percentage by weight).
	25 % P ₂ O ₅
	Phosphorus expressed as P ₂ O ₅ soluble in mineral acids, at least 55 % of the declared content of P ₂ O ₅ being soluble in 2 % formic acid.
	Particle size: - at least 90 % by weight able to pass through a sieve with a mesh of 0,063 mm - at least 99 % by weight able to pass through a sieve with a mesh of 0,125 mm
	Until 15 July 2022, cadmium content less than or equal to 90 mg/kg of P ₂ O ₅ ; from 16 July 2022, the relevant limits for contaminants set in Regulation (EU) 2019/1009 apply.
Aluminium-calcium phosphate	Product obtained in amorphous form by heat treatment and grinding, containing aluminium and calcium phosphates as essential ingredients minimum content of nutrients (percentage by weight):
	30 % P ₂ O ₅
	Phosphorus expressed as P ₂ O ₅ soluble in mineral acids, at least 75 % of the declared content of P ₂ O ₅ being soluble in alkaline ammonium citrate (Joulie) particle size: - at least 90 % by weight able to pass through a sieve with a mesh of 0,160 mm - at least 98 % by weight able to pass through a sieve with a mesh of 0,630 mm
	Until 15 July 2022, cadmium content less than or equal to 90 mg/kg of P ₂ O ₅ ; from 16 July 2022, the relevant limits for contaminants set in Regulation (EU) 2019/1009 apply.
	Use limited to basic soils (pH > 7,5).
Basic slag (Thomas phosphates or Thomas slag)	Product obtained in iron-smelting by treatment of the phosphorus melts and containing calcium silicophosphates as its essential ingredients minimum content of nutrients (percentage by weight):
	12 % P ₂ O ₅
	Phosphorus expressed as phosphorus pentoxide soluble in mineral acids, at least 75 % of the declared content of phosphorus pentoxide being soluble in 2 % citric acid or
	10 % P ₂ O ₅ phosphorus expressed as phosphorus pentoxide soluble in 2 % citric acid

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	<p>Particle size:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - at least 75 % able to pass through a sieve with a mesh of 0,160 mm - at least 96 % able to pass through a sieve with a mesh of 0,630 mm
	From 16 July 2022, the relevant limits for contaminants set in Regulation (EU) 2019/1009 appl
Crude potassium salt	Product obtained from crude potassium salts minimum content of nutrients (percentage by weight):
	9 % K ₂ O potassium expressed as water- soluble K ₂ O
	2 % MgO magnesium in the form of water- soluble salts, expressed as magnesium oxide
	From 16 July 2022, the relevant limits for contaminants set in Regulation (EU) 2019/1009 apply.
Potassium sulphate, possibly containing magnesium salt	Product obtained from crude potassium salt by a physical extraction process, containing possibly also magnesium salts.
Stillage and stillage extract	Ammonium stillage excluded.
Calcium carbonate (chalk, marl, ground limestone, Breton ameliorant, (maerl), phosphate chalk)	Only of natural origin.
Mollusc waste	Only from organic aquaculture or from sustainable fisheries, in accordance with Article 2 of Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013.
Egg shells	Factory farming origin forbidden.
Magnesium and calcium carbonate	Only of natural origin e.g. magnesian chalk, ground magnesium, limestone.
Magnesium sulphate (kieserite)	Only of natural origin.
Calcium chloride solution	Foliar treatment of apple trees, after identification of deficit of calcium.
Calcium sulphate (gypsum)	Product of natural origin containing calcium sulphate at various degrees of hydration minimum content of nutrients (percentage per weight).
	25 % CaO
	35 % SO ₃
	Calcium and sulphur expressed as total CaO + SO ₃
	<p>Fineness of grind:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - at least 80 % to pass through a sieve with a 2 mm mesh width, - at least 99 % to pass through a sieve with a 10 mm mesh width
	From 16 July 2022, the relevant limits for contaminants set in Regulation (EU) 2019/1009 apply.
Industrial lime from sugar production	By-product of sugar production from sugar beet and sugar cane.

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Industrial lime from vacuum salt production	By-product of the vacuum salt production from brine found in mountains.
Elemental sulphur	Until 15 July 2022: as listed in accordance with Part D of Annex I to Regulation (EC) No 2003/2003. From 16 July 2022, the relevant limits for contaminants set in Regulation (EU) 2019/1009 apply.
Inorganic micronutrients	Until 15 July 2022: as listed in accordance with Part E of Annex I to Regulation (EC) No 2003/2003. From 16 July 2022, the relevant limits for contaminants set in Regulation (EU) 2019/1009 apply.
Sodium chloride	
Stone meal, clays and clay minerals	
Leonardite (Raw organic sediment rich in humic acids)	Only if obtained as a by-product of mining activities.
Humic and fulvic acids	Only if obtained by inorganic salts/solutions excluding ammonium salts; or obtained from drinking water purification
Xylite	Only if obtained as a by-product of mining activities (e.g. by product of brown coal mining).
Chitin (Polysaccharide obtained from the shell of crustaceans)	obtained from organic aquaculture or from sustainable fisheries, in accordance with Article 2 of Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013.
Organic rich sediment from fresh water bodies formed under exclusion of oxygen (e.g. sapropel)	Only organic sediments that are by-products of fresh water body management or extracted from former freshwater areas.
	When applicable, extraction should be done in a way to cause minimal impact on the aquatic system.
	Only sediments derived from sources free from contaminations of pesticides, persistent organic pollutants and petrol like substances.
	Until 15 July 2022: Maximum concentrations in mg/kg of dry matter: cadmium: 0,7; copper: 70; nickel: 25; lead: 45; zinc: 200; mercury: 0,4; chromium (total): 70; chromium (VI): not detectable.
	From 16 July 2022, the relevant limits for contaminants set in Regulation (EU) 2019/1009 apply.
Biochar	Only from plant materials, when treated after harvest only with products included in Annex I.
	A pyrolysis product made from a wide variety of organic materials of plant origin and applied as a soil conditioner
	Until 15 July 2022: maximum value of 4 mg polycyclic aromatic hydro-carbons (PAHs) per kg dry matter (DM). From 16 July 2022, the relevant limits for contaminations set in Regulation (EU) 2019/1009 apply.
Recovered struvite and precipitated phosphate salts	Products must meet the requirements laid down in Regulation (EU) 2019/1009 animal manure as source material cannot have factory farming origin

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Sodium nitrate	only for algae production on land in closed systems
Potassium chloride (muriate of potash)	only of natural origin
Selenium Salts	only in case of deficiency in the soils used for animal rearing, and/or grazing or for the production of feed crops'

- 5.7.2 You may use appropriate preparations of micro-organisms to improve the overall condition of the soil or to improve the availability of nutrients in the soil or in the crops.
Regulation 848 Annex II, I, 1.9.6
- 5.7.3 You may use for compost activation, appropriate plant-based preparations and preparations of micro-organisms.
Regulation 848 Annex II, I, 1.9.7
- 5.7.4 You must not use mineral nitrogen fertilisers.
Regulation 848 Annex II, I, 1.9.8
- 5.7.5 You may use biodynamic preparations.
Regulation 848 Annex II, I, 1.9
- 5.7.6 You must keep the following records:
Regulation 848 Annex II, I
- i. Justification for product use.
 - ii. Date of application.
 - iii. Type and amount of fertiliser.
 - iv. Fields.
- 5.7.7 You may not store any fertilisers or inputs other than those listed in this section on your agricultural holding.

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5.8 Weed control methods

- 5.8.1 You must not use traditional herbicides and methods.
- 5.8.2 Weeds shall be controlled by a combination of the following measures:
Regulation 848 Annex II, I, 1.10.1
- i. Choice of appropriate species and varieties.
 - ii. Appropriate crop rotation programme.
 - iii. Mechanical cultivation procedures.
 - iv. Thermal weeding such as flame.
 - v. Manual control – hand weeding.
 - vi. Companion planting.
 - vii. Mulches.
 - viii. Under-sowing and intercropping.
 - ix. Livestock in orchards, etc.
- 5.8.3 All activities must be recorded.

5.9 Pest and disease control

- 5.9.1 The prevention of damage caused by pests, diseases and weeds shall rely primarily on the protection by
Regulation 848 Annex II, I, 1.10.1
- Natural enemies.
 - The choice of species, varieties and heterogeneous material.
 - Cultivation techniques such as bio fumigation, mechanical and physical methods.
 - Thermal processes such as solarisation and, in the case of protected crops, shallow steam treatment of the soil (to a maximum depth of 10 cm).
- 5.9.2 Where plants cannot be adequately protected from pests and disease only products listed in this Standard can be used.
Regulation 848 Annex II, I, 1.10.2
- 5.9.3 For products used in traps and dispensers, except pheromone dispensers, the traps and dispensers, must prevent the substances from being released into the environment and prevent contact between the substances and the crops being cultivated. The traps must be collected after use and disposed of safely. You must keep records of this.
Regulation 848 Article II, I, 1.10.3
- 5.9.4 You must when using pest control products kept records of each application including:
Regulation 848 Annex II,I, 1.10.2
- i. Date.
 - ii. Field / Parcels.
 - iii. Crop.
 - iv. Stage of growth.
 - v. Reasons for application.
 - vi. Name of the product.

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- vii. Active substances
- viii. Permitted dose rates.
- ix. Pesticide and water application rates.
- x. Start and finish times.
- xi. Wind speed and direction.
- xii. Harvest interval.
- xiii. Operator.

5.9.5 Rodenticides, to be used only in traps, and products and substances authorised in this standard may be used for the elimination of insects and other pests in buildings and other installations where livestock are kept.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.5.1.7

5.10 Pesticides – plant protection products

5.10.1 You must only use products listed in this section for pest, disease and weed control when preventative measures fail and in cases of an established threat to a crop.
Regulation 848 Article II, I
Regulation 848 Chapter III Article 24

5.10.2 You must keep records demonstrating why you needed to use the products in this section.

Regulation 2021/1165 Annex I Regulation 2018/848 Article 9, 24 Regulation 1107/2009 Regulation 540/2011 Regulation 1143/2014 Regulation 2023/121 Regulation 2023/2229

1.Basic substances	
Basic substances shall not be used as herbicides.	
Name	Specific conditions and limits
Equisetum arvense L. *	
Chitosan hydrochloride*	obtained from Aspergillus or organic aquaculture or from sustainable fisheries, as defined in Article 2 of Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council (²)
Sucrose*	
Calcium Hydroxide	
Vinegar*	
Lecithins*	
Salix spp. Cortex*	
Fructose*	
Sodium hydrogen carbonate	
Whey*	
Diammonium phosphate	only in traps
Sunflower oil*	
Urtica spp. (Urtica dioica extract) (Urtica urens extract) *	
Hydrogen peroxide	
Sodium chloride	
Beer*	

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Mustard seeds powder*	
Magnesium hydrogen metasilicate silicate mineral	Food grade in conformity with commission regulation EU 231/2012 ⁽³⁾
Onion oil*	
L-cysteine (E 920)	
Cow milk*	
<i>Allium cepa</i> L. *Bulb extract	
* Other basic substances from plant or animal origin and based on food	
(1) Listing according to Implementing Regulation (EU) No 540/2011, numbers and which category: Part A active substances deemed to have been approved under Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009, B, active substances approved under Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009, C basic substances, D low-risk active substances and E candidates for substitution.	
(2) Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2013 on the Common Fisheries Policy, amending Council Regulations (EC) No 1954/2003 and (EC) No 1224/2009 and repealing Council Regulations (EC) No 2371/2002 and (EC) No 639/2004 and Council Decision 2004/585/EC (OJ L 354, 28.12.2013, p. 22).	
(3) Commission Regulation (EU) No 231/2012 of 9 March 2012 laying down specifications for food additives listed in Annexes II and III to Regulation (EC) No 1333/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council (OJ L 83, 22.3.2012, p. 1).	

2. Low risk active substances	
Name	Specific conditions and limits
COS-OGA	
Cerevisiane and other products on fragements of cells of micro-organisms	Not from GMO origin
Ferric phosphate (iron (III) orthophosphate)	
Laminarin	Kelp shall be obtained from organic aquaculture or collected in a sustainable way in accordance with point 2.4 of Part III of Annex II to Regulation (EU) 2018/848
ABE-IT 56 (components of lysate of <i>Saccharomyces cerevisiae</i> strain DDSF623)	not from GMO origin not produced by using growing media of GMO origin
Ferric pyrophosphate	
Sodium hydrogen carbonate	
Aqueous extract from the germinated seeds of sweet <i>Lupinus albus</i>	
Other low risk substances from plant or animal origin *	Herbicidal uses not allowed

3. Micro-organisms	
Micro-organisms or substances produced by or derived from micro-organisms	
Micro-Organisms	Not from GMO origin

4. Active substances not included in any of the above categories	
Name	Specific conditions and limits
Spinosad	
Carbon dioxide	
Ethylene	Only on bananas and potatoes; however, it may also be used on citrus as part of a strategy for the prevention of fruit fly damage
Fatty acids	all uses authorised, except herbicide
Garlic extract (<i>Allium sativum</i>)	
Hydrolysed proteins excluding gelatine	
Potassium hydrogen carbonate	

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Repellents by smell of animal or plant origin / sheep fat	
Pheromones and other semiochemicals	only in traps and dispensers
Aluminium silicate (kaolin)	
Kieselgur (diatomaceous earth)	
Quartz sand	
Azadirachtin (Margosa extract)	Extracted from Neem tree seeds (<i>Azadirachta indica</i>)
Citronella oil	all uses authorised, except herbicide
Clove oil	all uses authorised, except herbicide
Rape seed oil	all uses authorised, except herbicide
Spearmint oil	all uses authorised, except herbicide
Orange oil	all uses authorised, except herbicide
Tea tree oil	all uses authorised, except herbicide
Pyrethrins extracted from plants	
Sulphur	
Parafin oils	
Lime sulphur (calcium polysulphide)	
Maltodextrin	
Eugenol	
Geraniol	
Thymol	
Copper hydroxide	in accordance with Implementing Regulation (EU) No 540/2011 only uses resulting in a total application of maximum 28 kg of copper per hectare over a period of 7 years may be authorised
Copper oxychloride	
Copper oxide	
Bordeaux mixture	
Tribasic copper sulphate	
Deltamethrin	only in traps with specific attractants against <i>Bactrocera oleae</i> , <i>Ceratitis capitata</i> and <i>Rhagoletis completa</i>
Lambda cyhalothrin	only in traps with specific attractants against <i>Bactrocera oleae</i> and <i>Ceratitis capitata</i>

5.10.3 The products in this section if they are authorised for your intended use in your country.
Regulation 848 Article 24

5.10.4 The following products and substances referred are allowed for use in organic production, provided that they meet the terms in the glossary and pursuant to Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009:
Regulation 848 Chapter III Article 9

- a. Safeners, synergists and co-formulants as components of plant protection products.
- b. Adjuvants that are to be mixed with plant protection products.

5.11 Crop harvesting and storage – including cleaning

Harvest

5.11.1 You must keep records showing:
Regulation 848 Article 11

- i. Harvest date.
- ii. Crop harvested.

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- iii. Quantity harvested as organic or in conversion.
- iv. Pre cleaning of machinery before harvesting.
- v. Any derogations obtained.

5.11.2 Any external inputs.
You may if necessary dry crops using indirect heated air or other appropriate systems

Storage

5.11.3 Organic materials must be kept separated from non organic materials.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part I

5.11.4 Stored products must be clearly labelled and identified in sufficient detail to allow correlation between product and the harvest date and field data.
Organic products must be clearly identifiable at all times.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part I

5.11.5 You must take every measure to ensure identification of consignments and avoid mixtures or exchanges with non organic products.
Regulation 848 Annex III, 7.4.(b)

5.11.6 Stores must be clean, dry, well ventilated and pest free.

5.11.7 You must ensure that machinery and equipment used in connection with storage facilities and processes are clean and free of contaminants.
Regulation 848 Annex III, 7.4.(c)

5.11.8 For cleaning and disinfection, you may use:

- i. Sweeping.
- ii. Vacuuming.
- iii. Steam cleaning.
- iv. High pressure water treatment.
- v. Sodium hypochlorite (eg as liquid bleach). If this is used it must be rinsed with plain water after application.

5.11.9 You must keep records of all cleaning operations for stores, equipment and machinery.
Records should include:
Regulation 848 Article II I

- i. Frequency of cleaning.
- ii. Date of cleaning.
- iii. Method of cleaning used.
- iv. Operative responsible for cleaning and signed assurance of completion.

5.11.10 You must ensure that your stores are pest free and adequately proofed. All pest control measures that are taken must be recorded and clearly documented in accordance with this Standard.

5.11.11 All off site storage facilities must hold a current organic accreditation certificate and you must have a copy for your records.

5.11.12 For the cleaning and disinfection of buildings and installations used for plant production only authorised products may be used. Currently there are no substances specifically authorised for cleaning and disinfecting buildings and installations used for plant production. You can

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use water, steam and products which are permitted for the application on the soil and plants within these standards.

Regulation 848 Article 24 point 1

Regulation 2021/1165 Annex IV, Part B

5.11.13 These products may only be used if they are authorised for your use in your country.

Regulation 848 Article 24 point 1

5.12 Retroactive Recognition

5.12.1 You must submit documents to NICA for them to consider retroactive certification. You will need to show proof that no products or substances other than those authorised for use in this Standard have been used on those land parcels.

Regulation 848 Article 10, 3

Regulation 2020/464 Article 1

Regulation 1305/2013

5.12.2 You will need to submit to NICA the following documents proving that the land parcels were natural or agricultural areas that, for a period of at least 3 years, have not been treated with products or substances that are not authorised for use in organic production in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2018/848:

Regulation 2020/464 Article 1

- a. Maps identifying clearly each land parcel covered by the request for retroactive recognition and information on the total surface of those land parcels and, if relevant, on the nature and the volume of the on-going production and, where available, their geolocation coordinates.
- b. The detailed risk analysis carried out by the control authority or us to assess whether any land parcel covered by the request for retroactive recognition has been treated with products or substances that are not authorised for use in organic production for a period of at least three years, taking into account in particular the size of the total surface to which the request relates and the agronomic practices carried out during that period on each land parcel subject to the request.
- c. The laboratory analyses results from accredited laboratories on soil and/or plant samples taken by the control authority or us from each land parcel identified as presenting the risk of being contaminated as a result of being treated with products and substances that are not authorised for use in organic production following the detailed risk analysis referred in point (b).
- d. An inspection report from the control authority or control body following a physical inspection of the operator for the purpose of verifying the consistency of the information collected on the land parcels covered by the request for retroactive recognition.
- e. Any other relevant documents deemed necessary by the control authority or us to assess the request for retroactive recognition.
- f. A final written statement of the control authority or us indicating whether a retroactive recognition of a previous period as being part of the conversion period is justified and indicating the starting period considered as organic for each land parcel concerned as well as the total surface of the land parcels benefiting from a retroactive recognition of a period.

SECTION 6

CROP ROTATIONS

6.1 Arable and horticultural crop rotations

6.1.1 For information on Crop rotation and Soil see Section 5.5.

6.1.2 Specific principles for agricultural operations:
Regulation 848, Article 6

- i. The maintenance and enhancement of soil life and natural soil fertility, soil stability, soil water retention and soil biodiversity, preventing and combating loss of soil organic matter, soil compaction and soil erosion, and the nourishing of plants primarily through the soil ecosystem.
- ii. The limitation of the use of non-renewable resources and external inputs to a minimum.
- iii. The recycling of waste and by-products of plant and animal origin as input in plant and livestock production.
- iv. The maintenance of plant health by preventive measures, in particular the choice of appropriate species, varieties or heterogeneous material resistant to pests and diseases, appropriate crop rotations, mechanical and physical methods and protection of the natural enemies of pests.
- v. The use of seeds and animals with a high degree of genetic diversity, disease resistance and longevity.
- vi. In the choosing of plant varieties, having regard to the particularities of the specific organic production systems, focussing on agronomic performance, disease resistance, adaptation to diverse local soil and climate conditions and respect for the natural crossing barriers.
- vii. The use of organic plant reproductive material, such as plant reproductive material of organic heterogeneous material and of organic varieties suitable for organic production.
- viii. The production of organic varieties through natural reproductive ability and focussing on containment within natural crossing barriers.

6.2 Seeds, transplants and vegetative materials

6.2.1 You must use organic seed and seed potatoes. To check organic seed availability, you must visit the NI organic seed database at <https://nir.organicxseeds.com/> If organic seed or seedlings is unavailable, you should then apply to us for a derogation to use in conversion or non organic untreated and GM free seed:

- i. Where no variety of the species which the user wants to obtain is registered on the NI database.
- ii. Where no supplier, meaning an operator who markets plant reproductive material, seed or seed potatoes to other operators, is able to deliver the seed or seed potatoes before sowing or planting in situations where you have ordered the seed or seed potatoes in reasonable time.
- iii. Where the variety which you wish to obtain is not registered on the database above, as organic or in-conversion plant reproductive material and you can demonstrate that none of the registered alternatives of the same species are appropriate and that the authorisation therefore is significant for your production.

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- iv. Where it is justified for use in research, tests in small-scale field trials, product innovation, or for variety conservation purposes or for product innovation agreed by the competent authority of the Member State.
- v. The authorisation must be granted before the sowing of the crop and the derogation will only be valid for one growing season. The competent authority may grant general authorisation for all producers where conditions in point (a) and(c) are fulfilled.
- vi. In addition, in case of a lack of availability of organic seedlings, 'in conversion seedlings' may be used when grown as follows:
 - a. through a cultivation cycle from seeds to final seedling lasting at least 12 months on a land parcel that, during that same period, has completed a conversion period of at least 12 months; or
 - b. on an organic or in-conversion land parcel or in containers if covered by the derogation referred to in point 5.5.12, provided that the seedlings have originated from in-conversion seeds, harvested from a plant grown on a land parcel that has completed a conversion period of at least 12 months.

Regulation 848 Chapter III Article 26

Regulation 848 Annex II I ,1.8.5.1, 1.8.5.4, 1.8.5.5.

Regulation 2020/179

Regulation 2022/474

- 6.2.2 Any derogation will only be valid for one season at a time and shall list the variety's and quantities of the authorised plant reproductive material.

Regulation 848 Annex II I
Regulation 2022/474
- 6.2.3 For the production of organic seed the mother plant must be produced in accordance with this Standard for at least one generation.

Regulation 848 Annex II, I
- 6.2.4 Derogations shall not be authorised the use of non-organic seedlings in the case of seedlings of species that have a cultivation cycle completed in one growing season, from the transplantation of the seedling to the first harvest of product.

Regulation 848 Annex II, I
Regulation 2022/474
- 6.2.5 You must keep records of seed and transplant material including:
 - i. Sources, varieties and quantities.
 - ii. Details of quantities purchased, sown and field records.
 - iii. Status of any seed used or purchased.
 - iv. Justifications for requesting the use of non organic seeds.
 - v. Derogations issued to you for the use of non organic seed.
 - vi. Declarations of non GM inclusion.
 - vii. Evidence that the seed is untreated.
- 6.2.6 You must ensure that all forage seed mixes are sourced from organic suppliers and have a minimum organic seed content required by the Control Authority for the year of planting.
- 6.2.7 Only in extreme circumstances might you be given a derogation for purchasing forage seed mixes at a lower percentage and you must prove that every element of the seed mix is unavailable in an organic form.

SECTION 6

Heterogenous Materials and Marketing

6.2.8 Plant reproductive material of organic heterogeneous material may be marketed without complying with the requirements for registration and without complying with the certification categories of pre-basic, basic and certified material or with the requirements for other categories, which are set out in Directives 66/401/EEC, 66/402/EEC, 68/193/EEC, 98/56/EC, 2002/53/EC, 2002/54/EC, 2002/55/EC, 2002/56/EC, 2002/57/EC, 2008/72/EC and 2008/90/EC, or acts adopted pursuant to those Directives.

Regulation 848 Chapter III Article 13

6.2.9 You must register plant reproductive material of organic heterogeneous material to market following a notification of the organic heterogeneous material by the supplier to the responsible official bodies referred to in Directives above made by means of a dossier containing:

- a. The contact details of the applicant.
- b. The species and denomination of the organic heterogeneous material.
- c. The description of the main agronomic and phenotypic characteristics that are common to that plant grouping, including breeding methods, any available results from tests on those characteristics, the country of production and the parental material used.
- d. A declaration by the applicant concerning the truth of the elements in points (a), (b) and (c).
- e. A representative sample.

Regulation 848 Chapter III Article 13

6.2.10 You must send notification by registered letter, or by any other means of communication accepted by the official bodies, with confirmation of receipt requested.

Regulation 848 Chapter III Article 13

6.2.11 Three months of the date shown on the return receipt, provided that no additional information was requested or that no formal refusal for reasons of incompleteness of the dossier or non-compliance as defined in Article 3(57) was communicated to the supplier, the responsible official body shall be deemed to have acknowledged the notification and its content.

Regulation 848 Chapter III Article 13

6.2.12 You may, once approved, proceed to list the organic heterogeneous material. That listing shall be free of charge.

Regulation 848 Chapter III Article 13

6.2.13 The listing of any organic heterogeneous material shall be communicated to the competent authorities of the other Member States and to the Commission.

Regulation 848 Chapter III Article 13

6.2.14 You must ensure organic heterogeneous material fulfils the requirements laid down in the delegated acts adopted in accordance with the points in 6.2.15.

Regulation 848 Chapter III Article 13

6.2.15 The Commission is empowered to adopt delegated acts in accordance with Article 54 supplementing this Regulation by setting out rules governing the production and marketing of plant reproductive material of organic heterogeneous material of particular genera or species, as regards:

- a. The description of the organic heterogeneous material, including the relevant breeding and production methods and parental material used.
- b. The minimum quality requirements for seeds lots, including identity, specific purity,

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germination rates and sanitary quality.

- c. Labelling and packaging.
- d. Information and samples of production to be kept by the professional operators.
- e. Where applicable, maintenance of the organic heterogeneous material.

Regulation 848 Chapter III Article 13

Subject matter

6.2.16 Plant reproductive material of organic heterogeneous material means, within the meaning of Directives 66/401/EEC, 66/402/EEC, 68/193/EC, 98/56/EC, 2002/53/EC, 2002/54/EC, 2002/55/EC, 2002/56/EC, 2002/57/EC, 2008/72/EC and 2008/90/EC.

- a. Seeds of agricultural and vegetable species.
- b. Vegetable propagating material other than seeds.
- c. Propagating material of ornamental plants.
- d. Vine propagating material and fruit plant propagating material.

Regulation 2021/1189 Article 1

6.2.17 This Regulation shall not apply to any transfer of limited quantities of plant reproductive material of organic heterogeneous material intended for research on, and development of, organic heterogeneous material

Regulation 2021/1189 Article 1

Definitions

6.2.18 For this Standard the following definitions shall apply:

1. 'Organic heterogeneous material' means a plant grouping within a single botanical taxon of the lowest known rank which:
 - a. Presents common phenotypic characteristics.
 - b. Is characterised by a high level of genetic and phenotypic diversity between individual reproductive units, so that that plant grouping is represented by the material as a whole, and not by a small number of units.
 - c. Is not a variety within the meaning of Article 5(2) of Council Regulation (EC) No 2100/94 (1).
 - d. Is not a mixture of varieties; and
 - e. Has been produced in accordance with this Regulation.
2. Further definitions for this Standard shall apply:
 - a. 'Organic heterogeneous material' means a plant grouping within the meaning of Article 3(18) of Regulation (EU) 2018/848, which is produced according to the requirements of Article 3(1) of that Regulation.
 - b. 'Parental material' means any plant material the crossing or propagation of which resulted in organic heterogeneous material.
 - c. 'Small packages' means packages containing seed up to the maximum quantities provided for in Annex II.

Regulation 848 Article 2, 3

Regulation 2021/1189, Article 2

SECTION 6

Production and marketing within the Union of plant reproductive material of organic heterogeneous material

6.2.19 You must not produced or market plant reproductive material of organic heterogeneous material unless all of the following requirements are fulfilled:

1. It complies with the requirements on:
 - a. Identity, as referred to in 6.3.22.
 - b. Sanitary and analytical purity and germination, as referred to in 6.3.23 – 6.3.35.
 - c. Packaging and labelling, as referred to in 6.3.36 – 6.3.40.
2. Its description includes the elements referred to in 6.3.20 – 6.3.21.
3. It is subject to the official controls pursuant to point 6.3.36.
4. It is produced or marketed by operators who comply with the requirements concerning information in point 6.3.41 – 6.3.43.
5. It is maintained in accordance with 6.3.45.

Regulation 848 Article 3

Regulation 2021/1189 Article 3

Description of organic heterogeneous material

6.2.20 The description of organic heterogeneous material shall include all the following elements:

- a. A description of its characteristics, including:
 - i. The phenotypic characterisation of the key characters which are common to the material, together with the description of the heterogeneity of the material by characterising the phenotypic diversity observable between individual reproductive units.
 - ii. Documentation of its relevant characteristics, including agronomic aspects such as regards yield, yield stability, suitability for low input systems, performance, resistance to abiotic stress, disease resistance, quality parameters, taste or colour.
 - iii. Any available results from tests concerning the characteristics referred to in point (ii).
- b. A description of the type of technique used for the breeding or production method of the organic heterogeneous material.
- c. A description of the parental material used to breed or produce the organic heterogeneous material and own production control programme used by the operator concerned with a reference to the practices as referred to in paragraph.
- d. A description of the on-farm management and selection practices.
- e. A reference to the country of breeding or production, with information on the year of production and description of the pedo-climatic conditions.

Regulation 2021/1189 Article 4

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- 6.2.21 Organic heterogeneous material referred to in 6.2.20 may be generated by one of the following techniques:
- a. Crossing of several different types of parental material, using crossing protocols to produce diverse organic heterogeneous material by bulking of the progeny, repeatedly re-sowing and exposing the stock to natural and/or human selection, provided that this material shows a high level of genetic diversity which is in accordance with Article 3(18) of Regulation (EU) 2018/848.
 - b. On-farm-management practices, including selection, establishing or maintaining material, which is characterized by a high level of genetic diversity in accordance with Article 3(18) of Regulation (EU) 2018/848.
 - c. Any other technique used for breeding or production of organic heterogeneous material, taking into account particular features of propagation.

Regulation 848 Article 4

Requirements concerning the identity of seed lots of plant reproductive material of organic heterogeneous material

- 6.2.22 Plant reproductive material of organic heterogeneous material shall be identifiable on the basis of all of the following elements:
1. The parental material and the production scheme used in the crossing for creation of the organic heterogeneous material, as provided for in Article 4(2)(a) or, if applicable, in Article 4(2)(c), or the history of the material and the on-farm management practices, including whether the selection has occurred naturally and/or through human intervention, in the cases of Articles 4(2)(b) and 4(2)(c).
 2. The country of breeding or production.
 3. Characterisation of the common key characters and of the phenotypic heterogeneity of the material.

Regulation 2021/1189 Article 5

Requirements concerning the sanitary quality, analytical purity and germination of plant reproductive material of organic heterogeneous material

- 6.2.23 Plant reproductive material of organic heterogeneous material shall comply with the provisions of Regulation (EU) 2016/2031, Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/2072 and the other relevant acts adopted pursuant to Regulation (EU) 2016/2031 concerning the presence, and the measures against, Union quarantine pests, protected zone quarantine pests and Union regulated non-quarantine pests.

Regulation 2021/1189 Article 6, point 1

- 6.2.24 For the production and marketing of plant reproductive material of organic heterogeneous material of fodder plant species listed in Article 2(1)(A) of Directive 66/401/EEC, the following provisions shall apply:
- a. Point 1 and the last column of the table in point 5 of Annex I to Directive 66/401/EEC, and
 - b. Section I, points 2 and 3 and Section III of Annex II to Directive 66/401/EEC.

Regulation 2021/1189 Article 6, point 2

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6.2.25 For the production and marketing of plant reproductive material of organic heterogeneous material of cereal species listed in Article 2(1)(A) of Directive 66/402/EEC, the following provisions shall apply:

- a. Point 1 and the last column of the table in point 6 of Annex I to Directive 66/402/EEC.
- b. The third, sixth, tenth, thirteenth, sixteenth, twentieth and twenty-first row of the table in point 2(A) and point 2(B) of Annex II to that Directive.
- c. The last column in the table in point 3 of Annex II to that Directive.
- d. The third and the sixth row in the table in point 4 of Annex II to that Directive.

Regulation 2021/1189 Article 6, point 3

6.2.26 For the production and marketing of plant reproductive material of organic heterogeneous material of vine within the meaning of Directive 68/193/EEC, the following provisions shall apply:

- a. Sections 2, 3, 4, 6 and 7 and point 6 of Section 8 of Annex I to Directive 68/193/EEC.
- b. Annex II to Directive 68/193/EEC, with the exception of point 1(1).

Regulation 2021/1189 Article 6, point 4

6.2.27 For the production and marketing of plant reproductive material of organic heterogeneous material of ornamental plants within the meaning of Directive 98/56/EC, Article 3 of Directive 93/49/EEC (17) shall apply.

Regulation 2021/1189 Article 6, point 5

6.2.28 For the production and marketing of plant reproductive material of organic heterogeneous material of beet within the meaning of Directive 2002/54/EC, points A(1), B(2) and B(3) of Annex I to that Directive shall apply.

Regulation 2021/1189 Article 6, point 6

6.2.29 For the production and marketing of plant reproductive material of organic heterogeneous material of vegetable species listed in Article 2(1)(b) of Directive 2002/55/EC, points 2 and 3 of Annex II to that Directive shall apply.

Regulation 2021/1189 Article 6, point 7

6.2.30 For the production and marketing of plant reproductive material of organic heterogeneous material of seed potatoes within the meaning Directive 2002/56/EC, the provisions for the lowest category of seed potatoes in point 3 of Annex I and in Annex II shall apply.

Regulation 2021/1189 Article 6, point 8

6.2.31 For the production and marketing of plant reproductive material of organic heterogeneous material of oil and fibre plants as listed in Article 2(1)(b) of Directive 2002/57/EC, the following provisions shall apply:

- a. Point 1 and the last column of the table in point 4 of Annex I to Directive 2002/57/EC.
- b. The table in point I(4)(A) of Annex II, except the requirements for basic seed of Brassica ssp. and Sinapis alba, and the last column of the table in point I (5) of Annex II to Directive 2002/57/EC.

Regulation 2021/1189 Article 6, point 9

6.2.32 For the production and marketing of organic heterogeneous vegetable propagating and planting material, other than seed within the meaning of Directive 2008/72/EC, Articles 3 and 5 of Commission Directive 93/61/EEC (18), shall apply.

Regulation 2021/1189 Article 6, point 10

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- 6.2.33 For the production and marketing of plant reproductive material of organic heterogeneous fruit plant propagating material and fruit plants intended for fruit production within the meaning of Directive 2008/90/EC, the following provisions shall apply:
- a. Article 23, except point (1)(b), Articles 24, 26, 27 and 27a of Commission Implementing Directive 2014/98/EU (19).
 - b. Annexes I, II and Annex III and the requirements concerning CAC material in Annex IV to Implementing Directive 2014/98/EU.

Regulation 2021/1189 Article 6, point 11

- 6.2.34 Points 6.2.24 to 6.2.33 shall only apply with regard to the analytical purity and germination requirements for seed and the quality and health requirements for other propagating material, but not with regard to varietal identity and varietal purity and field inspection requirements for varietal identity and varietal purity of the plant reproductive material of organic heterogeneous material.

Regulation 2021/1189 Article 6, point 12

- 6.2.35 You may by way of derogation from the provisions of points 6.2.24 to 6.2.33 place on the market seed of organic heterogeneous material, which does not satisfy the conditions with respect to germination, provided that the supplier indicates the germination rate of the seed concerned on the label or directly on the package.

Regulation 2021/1189 Article 6, point 13

Requirements for the packaging and labelling of plant reproductive material made from organic heterogeneous material

- 6.2.36 Plant reproductive material of organic heterogeneous material not contained in small packages shall be contained in packages or containers, which are closed in such a manner that they cannot be opened without leaving evidence of tampering on the package or container.

Regulation 2021/1189 Article 7, point 1

- 6.2.37 The operator shall affix on packages or containers of seeds or plant reproductive material of organic heterogeneous material a label in at least one of the official languages of the Union. That label shall:

- a. Be legible, printed or written on one side, unused and easily visible.
- b. Include the information set out in Annex I to this Regulation.
- c. Be yellow with a green diagonal cross.

Regulation 2021/1189 Article 7, point 2

- 6.2.38 Instead of a label, the information set out in 6.3.24 may be directly printed or written on the package or the container. In that case, point 6.2.37 (c) shall not be applicable.

Regulation 2021/1189 Article 7, point 3

- 6.2.39 In the case of small, transparent packages, the label may be placed inside the package provided it is clearly legible.

Regulation 2021/1189 Article 7, point 4

- 6.2.40 By way of derogation from points 6.2.36 to 6.2.39, seed of organic heterogeneous material contained in closed and labelled packages and containers may be sold to final users in unmarked and unsealed packages up to the maximum quantities provided for in 6.3.25, provided that, on request, the purchaser is informed in writing at the time of delivery about the species, the denomination of the material and the reference number of the lot.

Regulation 2021/1189 Article 7, point 5

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Requirements concerning information to be kept by operators

- 6.2.41 Any operator producing or marketing plant reproductive material of organic heterogeneous material shall:
- Keep a copy of the notification submitted in accordance with Article 13(2) of Regulation (EU) 2018/848, a copy of the declaration submitted under Article 39(1)(d) thereof and, where applicable, a copy of the certificate received in accordance with Article 35 thereof.
 - Ensure the traceability of the organic heterogeneous material in the production scheme as provided for in point 6.2.21 (a) or, if applicable, in point 6.2.21 (c) by keeping information allowing to identify the operators which have supplied parental material of organic heterogeneous material.

The operator shall keep those documents for 5 years.

Regulation 2021/1189 Article 8, point 1

- 6.2.42 The operator producing plant reproductive material of organic heterogeneous material intended for marketing shall also record and keep the following information:
- Name of the species and denomination used for each notified organic heterogeneous material; type of technique used for the production of organic heterogeneous material as referred to in points 6.2.20 & 6.2.21.
 - Characterisation of the notified organic heterogeneous material as provided for in points 6.2.20 & 6.2.21.
 - Location of breeding of organic heterogeneous material and location of production of organic plant reproductive material of the organic heterogeneous material as provided for in point 6.2.22.
 - Surface area for the production of organic heterogeneous material and quantity produced.

Regulation 2021/1189 Article 8, point 2

- 6.2.43 The responsible official bodies in accordance with Directives 66/401/EEC, 66/402/EEC, 68/193/EEC, 98/56/EC, 2002/53/EC, 2002/54/EC, 2002/55/EC, 2002/56/EC, 2002/57/EC, 2008/72/EC and 2008/90/EC shall have access to the information referred to in 6.2.41 & 6.2.42.

Regulation 2021/1189 Article 8, point 3

Official controls

- 6.2.44 NICA or ourselves shall carry out risk-based official controls in relation to the production and marketing of plant reproductive material of organic heterogeneous material to check compliance with the requirements of this section.
The testing of germination and analytical purity shall be carried out in accordance with the applicable methods of the International Seed Testing Association.

Regulation 2021/1189 Article 9

Maintenance of organic heterogeneous material

- 6.2.45 Where maintenance is possible, the operator who has notified the organic heterogeneous material to NICA pursuant to Article 13 of Regulation (EU) 2018/848, shall preserve the main characteristics of the material at the time of its notification, by maintaining it as long as it remains on the market. That maintenance shall be undertaken according to accepted practices adapted to the maintenance of such heterogeneous material. The operator responsible for the maintenance shall keep records of duration and content of maintenance.

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At all times, NICA or us must have access to all records kept by the operator responsible for the material, in order to check its maintenance. The you must keep those records for 5 years after the moment the plant reproductive material of organic heterogeneous material is not marketed anymore.

Regulation 2021/1189 Article 10

6.3 Origin of Plants including Plant Reproductive Materials

- 6.3.1 For the production of plants and plant products other than plant reproductive material, only organic plant reproductive material shall be used.
Regulation 848 Annex II, 1.8.1
Regulation 2022/474
- 6.3.2 To obtain organic plant reproductive material to be used for the production of products other than plant reproductive material, the mother plant and, where relevant, other plants intended for plant reproductive material production shall have been produced in accordance with this Regulation for at least one generation, or, in the case of perennial crops, for at least one generation during two growing seasons.
Regulation 848 Annex II, 1.8.2
- 6.3.3 When choosing organic plant reproductive material, operators shall give preference to organic plant reproductive material suitable for organic agriculture.
Regulation 848 Annex II, 1.8.3
- 6.3.4 For the production of organic varieties suitable for organic production, the organic breeding activities shall be conducted under organic conditions and shall focus on enhancement of genetic diversity, reliance on natural reproductive ability, as well as agronomic performance, disease resistance and adaptation to diverse local soil and climate conditions.
Regulation 848 Annex II, 1.8.4
- 6.3.5 All multiplication practices except meristem culture shall be carried out under certified organic management.
Regulation 848 Annex II, 1.8.4
- 6.3.6 By way of derogation from point 6.3.1, where the data collected in the seed database shows that the qualitative or quantitative needs regarding relevant organic plant reproductive material, excluding seedlings, are not met, you may use in-conversion plant reproductive material provided that a conversion period of at least 12 months has been complied with.
Regulation 848 Annex II, 1.8.5.1
Regulation 848 Article 26.1 & 26.2a
Regulation 848 Article 10.4a
- 6.3.7 Without prejudice to Directive 66/401/EEC, operators shall ensure that on the label of the packaging of a mixture of fodder plant seeds containing organic and in-conversion or non-organic seeds of certain different plant species for which an authorisation has been issued under the relevant conditions for the use of in-conversion and non-organic plant reproductive material. information is provided on the exact components of the mixture, shown by percentage by weight of each component species, and where appropriate varieties.

In addition to the relevant requirements under Annex IV to Directive 66/401/EEC, that information shall include besides the indications required in the first paragraph of this point also the list of the component species of the mixture that are labelled as organic or in-conversion. The minimum total percentage by weight of organic and in-conversion seeds in the mixture shall be at least 70 %.

In case the mixture contains non-organic seeds, the label shall also include the following statement: "The use of the mixture is only allowed within the scope of the authorisation and in Northern Ireland.

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The information referred to in 3.20.2 may also be presented solely on an accompanying document, if such a document can be undeniably linked with the packaging, container or vehicular transport of the product. This accompanying document shall include information on the supplier or the transporter.

**Regulation 848 Annex II,
Regulation 2021/642 2.1.3**

- 6.3.8 Where organic and in-conversion plant reproductive material is not available in sufficient quality or quantity to fulfil the operator's needs, competent authorities may authorise the use of non-organic plant reproductive material.

**Regulation 848 Article II, Part I. 1.8.5.1
Regulation 2020/1794**

- 6.3.9 Such individual authorisation shall only be issued in one of the following situations:

- a. Where no variety of the species that the operator wants to obtain is registered in the NI seed database.
- b. Where no supplier, meaning an operator who markets plant reproductive material, is able to deliver the relevant organic or in-conversion plant reproductive material in time for sowing or planting in situations where the user has ordered the plant reproductive material in reasonable time to allow the preparation and supply of organic or in conversion plant reproductive material.
- c. Where the variety that the operator wants to obtain is not registered as organic or in-conversion plant reproductive material in the NI seed, and the operator is able to demonstrate that none of the registered alternatives of the same species are appropriate in particular to the agronomic and pedo-climatic conditions and necessary technological properties for the production to be obtained and that, therefore, the authorisation is significant for his or her production.
- d. Where it is justified for use in research, test in small-scale field trials, for variety conservation purposes or for product innovation and agreed by NICA.

**Regulation 848 Annex II, Part I. 1.8.5.1
Regulation 2020/1794**

- 6.3.10 Prior to requesting any such authorisation, the operator shall consult the NI seed database in order to verify whether relevant organic or in conversion plant reproductive material is available and thus whether their request is justified.

**Regulation 848 Annex II, Part I. 1.8.5.1
Regulation 2020/1794**

- 6.3.11 When in compliance with point 4.1.4 (xviii) operators may use both organic and in-conversion plant reproductive material obtained from their own holding, irrespective of the qualitative and quantitative availability according to the NI seed database.

Regulation 848 Annex II, Part I. 1.8.5.1

- 6.3.12 By way of derogation from point 6.3.1, operators in third countries may use in-conversion plant reproductive material provided that a conversion period of at least 12 months has been complied, when organic plant reproductive material is justified to be not available in sufficient quality or quantity in the territory of the third country in which the operator is located.

**Regulation 848 Annex II, Part I. 1.8.5.1
Regulation 848 Article 10, 4 (a)**

- 6.3.13 Without prejudice to relevant national rules, operators in third countries may use both organic and in conversion plant reproductive material obtained from their own holding.

Regulation 848 Annex II, part I, 1.8.5.2

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- 6.3.14 NICA or OFF may authorise operators in third countries to use non-organic plant reproductive material in an organic production unit when organic or in-conversion plant reproductive material is not available in sufficient quality or quantity in the territory of the third country in which the operator is located, under the conditions laid down under points 6.3.15, 6.3.16 and 6.1.17.
Regulation 848 Annex II, part I, 1.8.5.2
- 6.3.15 Non-organic plant reproductive material must not have been treated after harvest with plant protection products other than those authorised for the treatment of plant reproductive material, unless chemical treatment has been prescribed in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2016/2031 for phytosanitary purposes by the competent authorities of the Member State concerned for all varieties and heterogeneous material of a given species in the area in which the plant reproductive material is to be used
Regulation 848 Annex II, part I, 1.8.5.3
Regulation 2020/1794
Regulation 2022/474
- 6.3.16 Where non-organic plant reproductive material treated with such prescribed chemical treatment is used, the land parcel on which the treated plant reproductive material is growing shall be subject, where appropriate, to a conversion period
Regulation 848 Annex II, part I, 1.8.5.3
Regulation 2020/1794
Regulation 2022/474
- 6.3.17 The authorisation to use non-organic plant reproductive material shall be obtained before the sowing or planting of the crop.
Regulation 848 Annex II, part I, 1.8.5.4
Regulation 2020/1794
- 6.3.18 The authorisation to use non-organic plant reproductive material shall be granted to individual users for one season at a time, and the competent authorities, control authority or body responsible for authorisations shall list the quantities of the authorised plant reproductive material.
Regulation 848 Annex II, part I, 1.8.5.5
Regulation 2020/1794
- 6.3.19 The competent authorities of the Member States shall create an official list of species, subspecies or varieties (grouped if applicable) for which it is established that organic or in-conversion plant reproductive material is available in sufficient quantities and for the appropriate varieties in their territory.
Regulation 848 Annex II, part I, 1.8.5.
Regulation 2020/1794
- 6.3.20 No authorisations shall be issued for the species, subspecies or varieties included in that list in the territory of the Member State concerned pursuant to point 6.3.6 unless these are justified by one of the purposes referred to in point 6.3.9 (d). If the quantity or quality of organic or in-conversion plant reproductive material available for a species, subspecies or variety on the list turns out to be insufficient or inappropriate, due to exceptional circumstances, the competent authorities of the Member States may remove a species, subspecies or variety from the list.
Regulation 848 Annex II, part I, 1.8.5.6
Regulation 2020/1794
- 6.3.21 By way of derogation from point 6.3.18, the competent authorities of the Member States may annually grant a general authorisation to all operators concerned for the use of:
Regulation 848 Annex II, part I, 1.8.5.7
- a. a given species or subspecies when and in so far as no variety is registered in the NI XSeeds database.
 - b. for a given variety when and in so far as the conditions laid down in point 6.3.9 (c) are fulfilled.

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The competent authorities of the Member States shall keep the list of species, subspecies or varieties for which a general authorisation is issued updated on an annual basis and shall make that list publicly available.

Regulation 848 Annex II, part I, 1.8.5.7

6.3.22 When using a general authorisation, operators shall keep records of the quantity used and competent authority responsible for authorisations shall list the quantities of authorised non-organic plant reproductive material.

Regulation 848 Annex II, part I, 1.8.5.7

6.3.23 The competent authorities of the Member States shall keep the list of species, subspecies or varieties for which a general authorisation is issued updated on an annual basis and shall make that list publicly available.

Regulation 848 Annex II, part I, 1.8.5.7

6.3.24 Required information for the labelling for packaging of heterogenous material.

Regulation 2021/1189, Annex 1

a) The label shall include the following information:

1. The denomination of the heterogeneous material, together with the phrase 'Organic heterogeneous material'.
2. 'Union rules and standards'.
3. The name and address of the professional operator responsible for affixing the label, or its registration code.
4. Country of production.
5. Reference number given by the professional operator responsible for affixing the labels.
6. Month and year of closing, following the term: 'closed'.
7. Species, indicated at least under its botanical name, which may be given in abridged form and without the authors names, in roman characters.
8. Declared net or gross weight, or declared number in case of seeds, except for small packages.
9. Where weight is indicated and pelleting substances, or other solid additives are used, the nature of the additive and also the approximate ratio between the weight of pure seeds and the total weight.
10. Information on the plant protection products applied to the plant reproductive material as required under Article 49(4) of Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council (1).
11. The germination rate where, pursuant to Article 6(13) of this Regulation, organic heterogeneous material does not satisfy the conditions with respect to germination.

b) The denomination referred to in point A.1. shall not cause its users difficulties as regards recognition or reproduction and shall not:

- a. Be identical or likely to be confused with a denomination under which another variety or organic heterogeneous material of the same or of a closely related species is entered in an official register of plant varieties or a list of organic heterogeneous material.

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- b. Be identical or likely to be confused with other designations which are commonly used for the marketing of goods or which have to be kept free under other legislation.
- c. Mislead or cause confusion concerning the characteristics, the value or the identity of the organic heterogeneous material, or the identity of the breeder.

6.3.25 Maximum quantities of seeds to qualify as small packages.

Regulation 2021/1189, Annex 2

Species	Maximum net mass of the seed (kg)
Fodder plants	10
Beet	10
Cereals	30
Oil and fibre plants	10
Seed potatoes	30
Vegetable seed	Not Specified
Legumes	5
Onions, chervil, asparagus, spinach beet or chard, red beet or beetroot, turnips, water melon, gourd, marrows, carrots, radishes, scorzonera or black salsify, spinach, corn-salad or lamb's lettuce	0,5
All other vegetable species	0,1

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SPECIALIST OPERATIONS

8.1 Mushrooms

8.1.1 You must only use substrates for mushroom production if they are composed of the following components:

Regulation 848 Article II I, 2.1

- a. Farmyard manure and animal excrements:
 - i. Either from organic production units or from in-conversion units in their second year of conversion; or from holdings producing according to the organic production method.
 - ii. Where the nutritional needs of plants cannot be met, only fertilisers and soil conditioners that have been authorised for use in organic production shall be used, and only to the extent necessary. provided that that farmyard manure and animal excrement do not exceed 25% of the weight of total components of the substrate, excluding the covering material and any added water, before composting.
- b. Products of agricultural origin, other than those referred to in point (a), from holdings producing according to organic production method.
- c. Peat not treated with chemical products.
- d. Wood, not treated with chemical products after felling.
- e. Mineral products referred to in the above list, water, and soil.

8.1.2 You must not grow organic and non organic mushrooms in the same house.

8.1.3 You must keep records of the following:

Regulation 2021/1691

- i. Use of products
- ii. The date or dates on which each product was used
- iii. The amount applied
- iv. The crop and parcels concerned
- v. Composition of your substrate
- vi. Declarations that the components have not been chemically treated or contain GM
- vii. Sales and purchases
- viii. Any other records required in other parts of this Standard for the production of organic produce.

8.2 Wild

8.2.1 Wild land has not had any agricultural inputs applied to it and is free from any human inputs other than basic environmental management. Parks and parkland are not considered as wild.

8.2.2 The collection of wild plants and their parts, growing naturally in natural areas, forests and agricultural areas is considered an organic production method provided that:

Regulation 848 Article II I, 2.2

- a. Those areas have not, for a period of at least three years before the collection, received treatment with products other than those authorised for use in this Standard;

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- b. The collection does not affect the stability of the natural habitat or the maintenance of the species in the collection area.

8.2.3 You must produce a map detailing your collection, processing, storage and packing areas.

8.2.4 You must draw up a full description of the activity and practical measures to ensure that you comply with all relevant parts of this Standard.

Regulation 848 Chapter VI Article 39

8.2.5 You must keep records of the period and location of the collection, the species concerned and the quantity of wild plants collected.

Regulation 848 Article II I. 2.2

8.3 Not in use

8.4 Yeast

8.4.1 See processing Standards

GENERAL LIVESTOCK HUSBANDRY REQUIREMENTS

9.1 Management and welfare of organic livestock

- 9.1.1 Livestock with the exception of porcine animals, poultry and bees, livestock shall have permanent access to pasture whenever conditions allow or shall have permanent access to roughage.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.4.1(e)
- 9.1.2 Livestock shall be fed with organic or in-conversion feed that meets the animal's nutritional requirements at the various stages of its development; restricted feeding shall not be permitted in livestock production unless justified for veterinary reasons.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.4.1
- 9.1.3 You must ensure any suffering, pain and distress shall be avoided and shall be kept to a minimum during the entire life of the animal, including at the time of slaughter.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.7.7
- 9.1.4 You must not tethering or isolate livestock, except in relation to individual animals for a limited period and insofar as this is justified for veterinary reasons. The isolation of livestock may only be authorised, and only for a limited period, where workers' safety is compromised or for animal welfare reasons.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.7.5
- 9.1.5 Except in the case of beekeeping, landless livestock production, where the farmer intending to produce organic livestock does not manage agricultural land and has not established a written cooperation agreement with a farmer as regards the use of organic production units or in-conversion production units for that livestock, shall be prohibited.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.1
- 9.1.6 When choosing breeds or strains, you must give preference to indigenous breeds and strains with a high degree of genetic diversity:
- a. The capacity of animals to adapt to local conditions.
 - b. Their breeding value, their longevity, their vitality and their resistance to disease or health problems, all without impairment of their welfare.
 - c. Breeds or strains of animals shall be selected to avoid specific diseases or health problems associated with some breeds or strains used in intensive production, such as:
 - i. Porcine stress syndrome.
 - ii. PSE - possibly leading to pale-soft-exudative.
 - iii. Sudden death.
 - iv. Spontaneous abortion and difficult births requiring caesarean operations.
- Regulation 2018/848 Article 6*
Regulation 2018/848 Annex II, Part II, 1.3.2, 1.3.3
- 9.1.7 You must not use substances to promote growth or production (including antibiotics, coccidiostatics and other artificial aids for growth promotion purposes), hormones or similar substances to control reproduction or for other purposes (e.g. induction or synchronisation of oestrus).
Regulation 2018/848 Annex II, Part II, 1.4.1 (f), 1.5.1.4
- 9.1.8 You must ensure that the number of livestock is limited with a view to minimising overgrazing, poaching of soil, erosion, or pollution caused by animals or by the spreading of their manure.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.7.4

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- 9.1.9 With regard to husbandry practices and housing conditions:
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.7
- i. All personnel involved in keeping animals and in handling animals during transport and slaughter shall possess the necessary basic knowledge and skills as regards the health and the welfare needs of the animals and shall have followed adequate training, as required in particular in Council Regulation (EC) No 1/20051 and Council Regulation No (EC) 1099/20092.
 - ii. Husbandry practices, including stocking densities, and housing conditions must ensure that the developmental, physiological and ethological needs of animals are met.
 - iii. The livestock must have permanent access to open air areas, preferably pasture, whenever weather conditions and the state of the ground allow this unless restrictions and obligations related to the protection of human and animal health are imposed on the basis of Community legislation.

9.2 Conversion

- 9.2.1 Your conversion period will start from the date you applied to us.
Regulation 2018/848 Article 10 (2)
- 9.2.2 During conversion you must follow all the rules in this Standard.
Regulation 2018/848 Article 10 (1)
- 9.2.3 As a rule, for livestock to be organic it must be born and raised on organic holdings. However, by exception livestock on the holding at the start of its conversion and livestock brought in to start an organic enterprise may be converted to organic in certain circumstances. You must consult with us on managing this provision.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.3.1
- 9.2.4 Animals or animal products produced during the conversion period must not be marketed as organic or in-conversion.
Regulation 848 Chapter III Article 10, 4
- 9.2.5 All land used for organic livestock production must be subject to a conversion period. These are:
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.2.2
- i. 12 months in the case of bovine animals and equine animals for meat production, and in any case no less than three quarters of their lifetime.
 - ii. Six months in the case of ovine animals, caprine animals and porcine animals and animals for milk production.
 - iii. 10 weeks for poultry for meat production, except for Peking ducks, brought in before they are three days old.
 - iv. Seven weeks for Peking ducks brought in before they are three days old.
 - v. Six weeks in the case of poultry for egg production brought in before they are three days old.
 - vi. 12 months for bees.
- 9.2.6 The conversion period for the land associated with non-herbivores production will be one year for pasture and open-air areas. This period may be further reduced to six months where the land concerned has not during the last year, received treatments with products not authorised for organic production and you can submit evidence and records to us to prove this.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.7.5

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- 9.2.7 Simultaneous conversion is where the entire production unit goes through conversion including livestock, grassland and any land used for animal feed. The conversion period for this is usually two years if the animals are mainly fed with products from your unit.
Regulation 848 Article II, Part II, 1.2.1
- 9.2.8 Where animals existing on the holding at the beginning of simultaneous conversion their products may be deemed organic after compliance with the conversion period.
Regulation 848 Article II, Part II, 1.2.1
- 9.2.9 You can introduce organic stock on to your land at the end of the conversion period.
- 9.2.10 Non organic livestock for breeding purposes may be brought on to your holding only when organic animals are not available in sufficient number. The animals and their products will be deemed to be organic after compliance with this Standard and the relevant conversion periods.
Regulation 848 Article II, Part II, 1.3.4.4.1
- 9.2.11 Where non organic livestock are brought in, non-organic animals shall either be kept separate from other livestock or shall be kept identifiable until the end of the conversion period.
Regulation 848 Article II, Part II, 1.3.4.4.5
- 9.2.12 You must identify your livestock at all stages of their production, preparation, transport and marketing using techniques adapted to each species. This must be done individually in the case of large mammals and individually or by batch in the case of poultry and small mammals.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.3.4.5
Amended by Regulation 2021/1691 Annex, 1.2(b)

9.3 Bringing in livestock

- 9.3.1 For the purpose of breeding, non organically raised animals may be brought onto your holding only when there is not sufficient organic livestock available and under specific conditions. Such animals and their products may be deemed organic after compliance with the conversion period.
Regulation 848 Article II, Part II, 1.3.4.4.1
- 9.3.2 When a herd or flock is constituted for the first time non organic young mammals will be reared in accordance with this Standard immediately after they are weaned subject to restrictive conditions in the particular livestock section. This will be reviewed with a view to phasing it out.
Regulation 848 Article II, Part II, 1.3.4.4.1
- 9.3.3 For the renewal of a herd or flock non organic adult male and nulliparous females may be used and must be reared subsequently in accordance with this Standard. Renewals are subject to restrictive conditions and percentages as shown in the particular livestock section of this Standard. This will be reviewed with a view to phasing it out.
Regulation 848 Article II, Part II, 1.3.4.4.2
- 9.3.4 Breeding of Organic animals
Regulation 848 Article II, Part II, 1.3.2
- a. Reproduction shall use natural methods; however, artificial insemination shall be allowed.
 - b. Reproduction shall not be induced or impeded by treatment with hormones or other substances with a similar effect, except as a form of veterinary therapeutic treatment in the case of an individual animal.
 - c. Other forms of artificial reproduction, such as cloning and embryo transfer, shall not be used.

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- d. The choice of breeds shall be appropriate to the principles of organic production, shall ensure a high standard of animal welfare and shall contribute to the prevention of any suffering and to avoiding the need for the mutilation of animals.

9.3.5 Where you obtain livestock from non-organic units, special measures such as screening tests or quarantine periods may apply, depending on local circumstances.
Regulation 848 Article II, Part II, 1.5.1.5

9.4 Parallel production of livestock

9.4.1 **Parallel production** *Regulation 848 Chapter III, Article 9 (9) (10)*

You may with permission from NICA carry out agricultural research or formal education to rear organic and non-organic livestock of the same species, where the following conditions are met:

- a. the producer informs the control authority or control body in advance of any delivery or selling of the livestock or livestock products.
- b. the operator informs the control authority or control body of the exact quantities produced in the units together with all characteristics permitting the identification of the products and confirms that the measures taken to separate the products have been applied.

9.5 Livestock management plans

9.5.1 You must draw up a health plan to show how you will build health and reduce disease. This must be tailored to suit your own farm and should allow you to minimise your use of veterinary medicines. When choosing animal breeds, having regard to a high degree of genetic diversity, the capacity of animals to adapt to local conditions, their breeding value, their longevity, their vitality and their resistance to disease or health problems.
Regulation 848 Article 6 (j)

9.5.2 The application of animal husbandry practices which enhance the immune system and strengthen the natural defence against diseases, including regular exercise and access to open air areas and pastures.
Regulation 848 Article 6 (l)

9.5.3 You should base disease prevention shall be based on breed and strain selection, husbandry management practices, high-quality feed, exercise, appropriate stocking density and adequate and appropriate housing maintained in hygienic conditions.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.5.1.1

9.5.4 Tail-docking of sheep, beak trimming undertaken in the first three days of life, and dehorning may exceptionally be allowed, but only on a case-by-case basis and only when those practices improve the health, welfare or hygiene of the livestock or where workers' safety would otherwise be compromised.
Disbudding may be allowed only on a case-by-case basis when it improves the health, welfare, or hygiene of the livestock or where workers' safety would otherwise be compromised. We will only authorise such operations where you have notified and justified the operations and where the operation is to be carried out by qualified personnel.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.7.8

9.5.5 You must reduce any suffering to your animals to a minimum by applying adequate anaesthesia and / or analgesia and by carrying out the operation only at the most appropriate age by qualified personnel. Any treatments must be recorded in your veterinary medicine records.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.7.9

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- 9.5.6 Physical castration is allowed in order to maintain the quality of products and traditional production practices but only under the conditions set out in 9.1.10.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.7.10

9.6 Veterinary treatments

- 9.6.1 You must treat immediately any sick or injured animals to avoid their suffering, if necessary, in isolation and in suitable housing.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.5.2.2.
- 9.6.2 You must give a good reason for using veterinary treatments and justifications could include:
- i. Faecal egg counts.
 - ii. Soil or feed analysis.
 - iii. Veterinarian recommendation.
- 9.6.3 Disease shall be treated immediately to avoid suffering of the animal. Chemically synthesised allopathic veterinary medicinal products, including antibiotics, may be used where necessary, under strict conditions and under the responsibility of a veterinarian, when the use of phytotherapeutic, homeopathic and other products is inappropriate. In particular, restrictions with respect to courses of treatment and withdrawal periods shall be defined.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.5.2.2

Feed materials of mineral origin

Calcareous marine shells
Maerl
Lithotamn
Calcium gluconate
Calcium carbonate
Defluorinated monocalciumphosphate
Defluorinated dicalciumphosphate
Magnesium oxide (anhydrous magnesia)
Magnesium sulphate
Magnesium chloride
Magnesium carbonate
Calcium magnesium phosphate
Magnesium phosphate
Monosodium phosphate
Calcium sodium phosphate
Sodium chloride
Sodium bicarbonate
Sodium carbonate
Sodium sulphate
Potassium chloride

- 9.6.4 You may use feed additives and certain products used as in animal nutrition and processing aids and non organic feed materials of plant origin if they are listed in our processing Standard under the feed section.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.5.2.3
- 9.6.5 With the exception of vaccinations, treatments for parasites and compulsory eradication schemes where livestock receives:
- i. More than three courses of treatments with chemically synthesised allopathic veterinary medicinal products or antibiotics within 12 months, or more than one course of treatment if their productive lifecycle is less than one year.

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- ii. The livestock concerned, or produce derived from them, may not be sold as organic products.

The livestock shall undergo reconversion. Records must be kept of all treatments.

Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.5.2.4

- 9.6.6 You must not use substances to promote growth or production (including antibiotics, coccidiostatics and other artificial aids for growth promotion purposes), hormones or similar substances to control reproduction or for other purposes (e.g. induction or synchronisation of oestrus).
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.4.1 (f), 1.5.1.4
- 9.6.7 You must ensure that the withdrawal period for medicinal products used on livestock is twice the legal withdrawal period. In cases where this period is not specified the withdrawal period is 48 hours. Records proving this must be kept.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.5.2.6
- 9.6.8 You may store allopathic veterinary products and antibiotics on holdings providing they have been prescribed by your veterinarian.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 7.3
- 9.6.9 You must clearly label all veterinary products, including drugs and medicines, and store in a controlled locked area. These items must be entered into the relevant records.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 7.3
- 9.6.10 Chemically synthesised allopathic veterinary medicinal products, including antibiotics and boluses of synthesised allopathic chemical molecules, shall not be used for preventive treatment.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.5.1.3
- 9.6.11 You must keep records for disease prevention and treatment and veterinary care. The records should include:
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.5.2.6
- i. Date of treatment.
 - ii. Identification of animal or group of animals.
 - iii. Details of the diagnosis.
 - iv. Dosages (posology).
 - v. Type of treatment product.
 - vi. Active ingredients involved.
 - vii. Method of treatment.
 - viii. Veterinary prescription for veterinary care with reasons.
 - ix. Withdrawal periods applying before livestock products can be marketed labelled as organic.
- 9.6.16 You may use immunological veterinary medicines.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.5.1.2
- 9.6.17 You must carry out treatments related to the protection of human and animal health that are imposed by NICA.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.5.2.6
- 9.6.18 You must when livestock is treated individually for veterinary reasons, it shall be kept in spaces that have a solid floor and shall be provided with straw or appropriate bedding. The animal shall be able to turn around easily and to lie down comfortably at full length.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.6.9

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9.7 The Control of specific ailments

- 9.7.1 If you use Organophosphate dip, some certification bodies will not allow their operators to accept animals / meat that has been treated with organophosphate based products.

9.8 Grazing and feeding of livestock

- 9.8.1 Your livestock must have access to areas of open air that may be partially covered as described in the relevant sections of this Standard. Verandas shall not be considered as open air areas.

Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.6.5

- 9.8.2 You may use organic pasturage for 120 days each year to graze non organic livestock provided that such animals come from non intensive farming systems and that organic animals are not present at the same time on that pasture.

Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.4.2.1

- 9.8.3 **Common land:** Organic animals may be grazed on common land, providing that:

Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.4.2.1

- i. The land has not been treated with products not authorised for organic production for at least three years.
- ii. Any non organic animals which use the land concerned are derived from a non intensive farming system.
- iii. Any livestock products from organic animals, whilst using this land, shall not be regarded as being from organic production, unless adequate segregation from non organic animals can be proved.
- iv. You must consult us if you intend to use common land and record this in your farm management plan.

- 9.8.4 During the period of transhumance, organic animals may graze on non-organic land when they are being moved on foot from one grazing area to another. During that period, organic animals shall be kept separate from other animals. The uptake of non-organic feed, in the form of grass and other vegetation on which the animals graze, shall be allowed:

Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.4.2.2

- a) for a maximum of 35 days covering both the outward and return journeys; or
- b) for a maximum of 10 % of the total feed ration per year, calculated as a percentage of the dry matter of feedstuffs of agricultural origin.

- 9.8.5 You must keep records of the feeding regime and, where relevant, the grazing period. In particular, they shall keep records of the name of the feed, including any form of feed used e.g. compound feed, proportions of various feed materials of rations and proportion of feed from their own holding or the same region and, where relevant, periods of access to grazing areas, periods of transhumance where restrictions apply.

Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.4.4

- 9.8.6 Your feed must be from organic feed materials unless it is not available on the market in organic form or external catastrophic circumstances.

- i. In exceptional circumstances due to a catastrophic event when your livestock production unit is affected the competent authority may authorise adaption to the rules on organic grazing requirements detailed in these standards.
- ii. Upon approval by the competent authority, you must keep documentary evidence of the use of this exception.

Regulation 848 Article 22

Regulation 3030/2146 Article 3 (4) 848 Annex II, Part II

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- 9.8.7 Your feed for livestock must be obtained primarily from the agricultural holding where the animals are kept or shall be obtained from organic or in-conversion production units belonging to other holdings in the same region.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.4.1

In conversion feeds

- 9.8.8 For feed rations formula you may use up to 25 % on average of the feed formula of rations may comprise in-conversion feed from the second year of conversion. This percentage may be increased to 100 % if this in-conversion feed comes from the holding where the livestock is kept.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.4.3.1 (a)

- 9.8.9 You may also use up to 20 % of the total average amount of feed fed to livestock may originate from the grazing or harvesting of permanent pastures, perennial forage parcels or protein crops sown under organic management on lands in their first year of conversion, provided that those lands are part of the holding itself.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.4.3.1 (b)

- 9.8.10 When both types of in-conversion feed referred to in points 9.8.8 and 9.8.9 are being used for feeding, the total combined percentage of such feed shall not exceed the percentage fixed in point 9.8.8.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.4.3.1

- 9.8.11 The amounts of in conversion feed should be calculated annually as a percentage of the dry matter of feed of plant origin.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.4.3.2

- 9.8.12 You must feed your livestock organic feed that meets their nutritional needs at all stages of their development. Restricted feeding shall not be permitted in livestock production unless justified for veterinary reasons.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.4.1 (b)

- 9.8.13 You must ensure livestock shall have permanent access to pasture whenever conditions allow or shall have permanent access to roughage. Livestock must have permanent access to pasture or roughage with the exception of porcine animals, poultry and bees.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.4.1 (c)

- 9.8.14 You may only use non-organic feed materials of plant, algal, animal or yeast origin, feed materials of microbial or of mineral origin, feed additives and processing aids may be used only if they are listed in this Standard or authorised by us in writing.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.4.1 (i)

- 9.8.15 You must not feed your livestock growth promoters and synthetic amino acids.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.4.1 (f)

- 9.8.16 Suckling animals shall preferably be fed on maternal milk, milk replacers containing chemically synthesised components or components of plant origin shall not be used during that period.

90 days for calves and foals

45 days for lambs and kids

40 days for piglets.

Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.4.1 (g)
Regulation 2020/464 Article 2, 5, 9

- 9.8.17 You must not keep livestock in conditions, or on a diet, which may encourage anaemia.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.4.1 (c)

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9.8.18 You must not force feed animals. Fattening practices shall always respect the normal nutritional patterns for each species and the animals' welfare at each stage of the rearing process.

Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.4.1 (d)

9.6.19 Where organic feed is not available in sufficient quantity you will be able to apply to NICA for authorisation to use of non-organic feed material of plant or animal origin.

Regulation 848 Article III Chapter 24, 3(e)(iii)

9.9 Compound feed and grazing records

9.9.1 You must keep full and detailed records of:

Regulation 848 Article 39 point 1 (a); Annex II, Part II, 1.4.4

Regulation 2021/1691, Annex point 1.2 (c)

- i. Any feeds brought in.
- ii. Name and type, such as forage, straights or compound, including supplements.
- iii. Source of feed.
- iv. Amount of feed, including the amount of non-organic ingredients fed to each animal or group of animals.
- v. Organic status, such as organic, in-conversion or nonorganic.
- vi. Production records (date, quantity, ingredients and labelling).
- vii. Raw materials used (quantities, supplier and organic status).
- viii. Sales figures.
- ix. You must record the period when your livestock have access to grazing or exercise areas and, where applicable, periods of transhumance.
- x. Records of composition (dry matter inclusion, supplements added).

9.9.2 You must keep records of the feeding regime and, where relevant, the grazing period. In particular, you must record:

- i. Proportion of feed from their own holding or the same region and, where relevant, periods of access to grazing areas.
- ii. Periods of transhumance where restrictions apply and documentary evidence.

9.10 General housing requirements of livestock

9.10.1 Housing for livestock should include insulation, heating and ventilation of the building that ensures air circulation, dust level, temperature, relative air humidity and gas concentration, are kept within limits which ensure the well being of the animals.

Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.6.1

9.10.2 The building shall have ample natural ventilation and light to enter.

Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.6.1

9.10.3 You do not need housing for livestock in areas with appropriate climatic conditions enabling animals to live outdoors. In such cases, animals shall have access to shelters or shady areas to protect them from adverse weather conditions.

Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.6.2

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- 9.10.4 Your stocking densities in buildings must provide for:
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.6.3
- i. Comfort.
 - ii. Well being.
 - iii. Species specific needs of the animals which, in particular, shall depend on the species.
 - iv. Breed and the age of the animals.
 - v. Behavioural needs of the animals, which depend in particular on the size of the group and the animals' gender.
 - vi. The density shall ensure the animals' welfare by providing them with sufficient space to stand naturally, lie down easily, turn round, groom themselves, assume all natural postures and make all natural movements such as stretching and wing flapping.
- 9.10.5 You must observe the minimum surface for indoor and outdoor areas, and other characteristics of housing for different species and categories of animals, are laid down in the individual livestock section of this Standard.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.6.4
- 9.10.6 Your livestock housing must have smooth, but not slippery floors.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 19.2.2 (c)
- 9.10.7 You must have feeding places installed in areas protected from the weather and accessible both to animals and to persons attending to them. The soil where feeding places are located shall be consolidated, and the feeding apparatus shall be equipped with a roof.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.9.2.2 (e)
- 9.10.8 You must where permanent access to feed cannot be ensured, the feeding places must be designed so that all animals can feed at the same time.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.9.2.2 (f)
- 9.10.9 Your housing must provide:
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.9.2.2 (d)
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.9.4.4
- i. Comfortable, clean and dry laying / rest areas of sufficient size, at least one third of the floor area shall be solid, that is, not of slatted or of grid construction.
 - ii. Ample dry bedding strewn with litter material in the rest area.
 - iii. Be covered with a litter material such as straw, wood shavings, sand or turf.
 - iv. Buildings shall be emptied of livestock between each batch of poultry that has been reared. The buildings and fittings shall be cleaned and disinfected during this time.
- 9.10.10 Your animal stocking density should be such as not to exceed the limit of 170 kg of nitrogen per year and hectare of agricultural area. Tables to show the number of animals per hectare to comply with this limit are shown in the individual livestock sections of this Standard.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.6.6

Livestock type	Category	Stocking Rate per Ha
Horses		8
Ostriches		122

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- 9.10.11 You must keep records showing:
- i. Period of housing.
 - ii. Bedding materials used.
 - iii. Frequency of changing of bedding.
 - iv. Trough and feeder cleaning records.
 - v. Any other relevant housing records.

9.11 Handling and transporting livestock

- 9.11.1 You must take measures to ensure that the duration of livestock transport is minimised.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.7.6.
- 9.11.2 You must not use:
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.7.11
- i. Goads.
 - ii. Administer tranquilizers or stimulants during loading, transport, or unloading.
 - iii. Electric sticks and such instruments.
 - iv. Any type of electrical or other painful stimulation to coerce the animals during loading and unloading of animals.
 - v. Allopathic tranquillisers, prior to or during transport.

9.12 Livestock movement

- 9.12.1 You must keep records and documentary evidence of any specific operations applied and justifications regarding livestock such as:
- i. Animals arriving at the holding: origin and date of arrival, conversion period, identification mark and veterinary record.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.3.4.5
 - ii. Livestock leaving the holding: age, number of heads, weight in case of slaughter, identification mark and destination.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.7.12

9.13 Identification

- 9.13.1 You must keep records of the identification of your livestock to allow traceability. These records must provide a full description of the herd or flock management system.
Regulation 848 Article 39, 1 (a)
- 9.13.2 Colours for stamping meat and eggs shells must comply with EU legislation.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part IV. 2.2.2 (c)

9.14 Cleaning and disinfection

- 9.14.1 You must ensure that housing, pens, equipment and utensils are properly cleaned and disinfected to prevent cross infection and the build up of disease carrying organisms. Faeces, urine and uneaten or spilt feed shall be removed as often as necessary to minimise smell and to avoid attracting insects or rodents.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.5.1.7

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- 9.14.2 Products for cleaning and disinfection of buildings and installations for animal production are listed below: The approved products list for the cleaning and disinfection of livestock buildings is undergoing a review, an updated list will be published and applicable from 1st January 2026.

Regulation 848 Article 24 point 9

Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.5.1.6, 1.5.1.7

Regulation 2021/1691 Article 12 (1)

Regulation 2021/1165 Annex IV, Part D

Regulation 2023/2229

Caustic soda*

Caustic potash*

Oxalic acid *

Natural essences of plants (with the exception of linseed oil, lavender oil & peppermint oil) *

Nitric acid *

Phosphoric acid*

Sodium carbonate*

Copper sulphate*

Potassium permanganate*

Tea seed cake made of natural camelia seed*

Humic acid*

Peroxyacetic acids with the exception of peracetic acid*

Potassium and sodium soap

Water and steam

Milk of lime

Lime

Quicklime

Sodium hypochlorite (e.g. as liquid bleach)

Hydrogen peroxide

Alcohol

Formaldehyde

Cleaning and disinfection products for teats and milking facilities

*Must not be used as a biocide

- 9.14.3 You must only use cleaning products if they are authorised for your use in your country.

Regulation 848 Article 9 (3), Article 24

Regulation 2021/1165 Article 5 (1), (2)

- 9.14.4 You must keep records detailing all cleaning carried out, the date, type of cleaning, materials used, the area or utensils cleaned and the name of the person carrying out the cleaning, monitor their effectiveness.

Regulation 848 Annex II, Part IV, 1.4

- 9.14.5 You must ensure that cleaning instructions and procedures state the frequency and method of cleaning, chemical used and the chemical dilution ratio.

- 9.14.6 You must remove by copious rinsing with potable water any traces of chemical residue that might have been left after cleaning on food contact surface.

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POULTRY

10.1 General

- 10.1.1 You must not keep poultry in cages.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.6.8
- 10.1.2 You must ensure that water fowl shall have access to a stream, pond, lake or a pool whenever the weather and hygienic conditions permit, in order to respect their species-specific needs and animal welfare requirements; when weather conditions do not permit such access, they shall have access to water which enables them to dip their head therein so as to clean plumage.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.9.4.4 (k)
- 10.1.3 You must not pluck live poultry.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.9.4.3.

10.2 Conversion

- 10.2.1 You must ensure land associated with poultry production has completed its conversion period listed in this standard.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.2.2
- 10.2.2 When you constitute a flock for the first time, or is renewed or reconstituted, and where the qualitative and quantitative needs of farmers cannot be met, the competent authority may decide that non-organically reared poultry may be brought into an organic poultry production unit, provided that the pullets for the production of eggs and poultry for meat production are less than three days old.
Regulation 848 Article II, Part II, 1.3.4.3
- 10.2.3 Where you obtain livestock from non organic units, special measures such as screening tests or quarantine periods may be required, depending on local circumstances.
Regulation 848 Annex I, Part II, 1.5.1.5

10.3 Laying hens

- 10.3.1 You must empty buildings of livestock between each batch of poultry that has been reared. In addition, when the rearing of each batch of poultry has been completed, runs shall be left empty for not less than two months to allow vegetation to grow back and to break the cycle of parasites and diseases.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.9.4.4 (c) amended by Regulation 2021/1691
- 10.3.2 You must keep records or documentary evidence of the application of this period.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.9.4.4 (c) amended by Regulation 2021/1691
- 10.3.3 These requirements do not apply where poultry is not reared in batches, is not kept in runs and is free to roam, throughout the day.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.9.4.4 (c) amended by Regulation 2021/1691
- 10.3.4 For breeding purposes you may use non organically raised animals on your holding and these animals and their products may be deemed organic after compliance with the conversion period of 6 weeks in the case of poultry for egg production.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.2.2

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10.4 Table birds

- 10.4.1 You must empty buildings of livestock between each batch of poultry that has been reared. In addition, when the rearing of each batch of poultry has been completed, runs shall be left empty for not less than two months to allow vegetation to grow back and to break the cycle of parasites and diseases.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.9.4.4 (c) amended by Regulation 2021/1691
- 10.4.2 You must keep records or documentary evidence of the application of this period
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.9.4.4 (c) amended by Regulation 2021/1691
- 10.4.3 These requirements do not apply where poultry is not reared in batches, is not kept in runs and is free to roam, throughout the day.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.9.4.4 (c) amended by Regulation 2021/1691
- 10.4.4 You must ensure that the total period in any one year that runs are empty must not be less than two months per annum.
NICA
- 10.4.5 For breeding purposes, you may use non organically raised animals on your holding and these animals and their products may be deemed organic after compliance with the conversion period providing, they are brought in before they are three days old of:
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.2.2
- 10 weeks poultry for meat production.
 - 7 weeks for Peking ducks.
- 10.4.6 To prevent the use of intensive rearing methods, poultry shall either be reared until they reach a minimum age or else shall come from slow-growing poultry strains adapted to outdoor rearing. When using slow growing poultry strains the minimum age of slaughter does not apply.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.9.4.1

10.5 Housing

- 10.5.1 In certain cases, where poultry are kept indoors due to restrictions or obligations imposed by NICA, they must permanently have access to sufficient quantities of roughage and suitable material in order to meet their ethological needs.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II 1.9.4.4 (j)
- 10.5.2 You must empty buildings of livestock between each batch of poultry reared. The buildings and fittings must be cleaned and disinfected during this time.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.9.4.4 (c) amended by Regulation 2021/1691
- 10.5.3 You must ensure that housing buildings for all poultry must meet the following conditions:
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II 1.9.4.4 (a & b)
Regulation 2020/464, Article 15, 16
- i. At least one third of the floor area must be solid, not of slatted or of grid construction, and covered with a litter material such as straw, wood shavings, sand or turf.
 - ii. For laying hens, a sufficiently large part of the floor area available to the hens must be available for the collection of bird droppings.
 - iii. They must have perches or raised sitting levels or both. Perches or raised sitting levels or both shall be provided to the birds from a young age in dimensions or proportions commensurate with the size of the group and of the birds.

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- iv. Each house must not contain more than:
 - 3 000 parents Gallus gallus.
 - 10 000 pullets.
 - 4 800 fattening poultry Gallus gallus.
 - 2 500 capons.
 - 4 000 poulardes.
 - 2 500 turkeys.
 - 2 500 geese.
 - 3 200 male Peking ducks or 4 000 female Peking duck.
 - 3 200 male Muscovy ducks or 4 000 female Muscovy ducks.
 - 3 200 male Mulard ducks or 4 000 female Mulard ducks.
 - 5 200 Guinea fowls.
 - v. The total usable area of poultry houses for meat production on any single unit must not exceed 1600 m².
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II 1.9.4.4 (m)
 - vi. Poultry houses must be constructed to allow all birds easy access to open air area.
 - vii. Natural light can only be supplemented by artificial means to a maximum of 16 hours light per day. There must also be a continuous nocturnal rest period without artificial light of at least 8 hours.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II 1.9.4.4 (l)
 - viii. Compartments must be separated by solid partitions for fattening poultry other than Gallus Gallus; such solid partition shall ensure a complete physical separation from the floor to the roof of the building of each compartment of the poultry house.
 - ix. Compartments must be separated by solid partitions or semi-closed partitions or nets or meshes for parents Gallus gallus, laying hens, pullets, brother roosters and fattening poultry Gallus gallus.
- 10.5.4 You must only use products for cleaning and disinfection and pest control as listed in this Standard.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.5.1.6
- 10.5.5 You must have poultry houses constructed in a manner allowing all birds easy access to open air areas. For this purpose, the following rules shall apply:
Regulation 2020/464, Article 15, point 1
- a) The external boundary of the poultry house shall have exit / entry pop-holes giving direct access to open air areas.
 - b) Every single exit / entry pop-hole shall be of a size adequate for the birds.
 - c) Birds shall be able to access pop-holes without any obstacle.
 - d) Pop-holes from the external boundary of the poultry house shall have a combined length of at least 4 m per 100 m² of the usable area of the minimum surface of the indoor area of the poultry house.
 - e) Where pop-holes are raised, a ramp shall be provided.
- 10.5.6 You must where your poultry houses have verandas, apply the following rules:
Regulation 2020/464, Article 15, point 2
- a) The external boundary both from the indoor house to the veranda and from the veranda to the open-air area shall have exit / entry pop-holes allowing easy access respectively to the veranda or to the open air area.

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- b) Pop-holes from the indoor house to the veranda shall have a combined length of at least 2 m per 100 m² of the usable area of the minimum surface of the indoor area of the poultry house and pop-holes from the veranda to the open-air area shall have a combined length of at least 4 m per 100 m² of the usable area of the minimum indoor surface of the poultry house.
- c) The usable area of the veranda cannot be taken into account for the calculation of the stocking density and the minimum surface of the indoor and outdoor areas as set out in this Standard. However, an additional, roofed outdoor part of a building intended for poultry, insulated in a way that it does not have an outdoor climate, may be taken into account for the calculation of the stocking density and the minimum surface of the indoor areas as set out, if the following conditions are met:
 - i. it is fully accessible 24 hours a day.
 - ii. it complies with the requirements of points 9.10.1, 9.10.2 and 9.10.4
 - iii. it complies with the same requirements for pop-holes as set for verandas in points (a) and (b) above.
- d) the usable area of the veranda shall not be included in the total usable area of poultry houses for fattening poultry shall not exceed 1600 m².

10.5.7 Multi-tiered systems may be used in poultry houses. Where multi-tiered systems are used, the following rules shall apply:

Regulation 2020/464, Article 15, point 4

- a) Multi-tiered systems may only be used for parents *Gallus gallus*, laying hens, pullets for future egg production, pullets for future parents and brother roosters.
- b) Multi-tiered systems shall have no more than three tiers of usable area including the ground floor.
- c) The elevated tiers shall be constructed in such a way as to prevent droppings falling on the birds below and shall be equipped with an efficient system of manure removal.
- d) All tiers shall allow for easy inspection of the birds.
- e) Multi-tiered systems shall ensure that all birds can move freely and easily to the different levels or intermediate areas.
- f) Multi-tiered systems shall be constructed in such a way as to provide easy equal access to open air areas to all birds.

10.5.8 Mobile poultry houses may be used for poultry if they are moved regularly during the production cycle to ensure the availability of vegetation to the birds and at least between each batch of poultry. The stocking density for fattening poultry of 21 kg liveweight/m² may be increased to a maximum of 30 kg live weight/m² provided the surface of the ground floor of the mobile house does not exceed 150 m².

Regulation 2020/464, Article 15, point 6

Regulation 2020/464 Sections 4 to 9 of Part IV of Annex I

10.6 Range and pasture

10.6.1 You must ensure that poultry have access to an open-air area for at least one third of their life except where temporary restrictions have been imposed on the basis of national restrictions.

Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II 1.9.4.4 (d)

10.6.2 You must ensure that open air areas for poultry shall permit fowl to have easy access to adequate numbers of drinking troughs.

Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II 1.9.4.4 (g)

10.6.3 You must manage open air areas shall provide to the birds a sufficient number of protective facilities or shelters or shrubs or trees distributed throughout the entire open air areas in order to ensure that the birds are using the whole open air area in a balanced way.

Regulation 2020/464, Article 16, Point 4

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- 10.6.4 You must ensure open air areas for poultry are covered mainly with vegetation.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II 1.9.4.4 (h)
- 10.6.5 You must when poultry houses are subdivided into separate compartments in order to house multiple flocks, the open air areas corresponding to each single compartment must be separated in order to ensure that contact with other flocks is restricted and that birds from different flocks.
Regulation 2020/464, Article 16, Point 2
- 10.6.6 You must provide continuous daytime open air access from as early an age as practically possible and whenever physiological and physical conditions allow, except where temporary restrictions have been imposed on the basis of Union legislation.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II 1.9.4.4 (e)
- 10.6.7 You may in the case of breeding birds and pullets aged under 18 weeks, when restrictions and obligations related to the protection of human and animal health imposed on the basis of Union legislation are met and prevent breeding birds and pullets aged under 18 weeks from having access to open air areas, verandas shall be considered as open air areas and, in such cases, shall have a wire mesh barrier to keep other birds out.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II 1.9.4.4 (f)
- 10.6.8 You must maintain the vegetation on your open air area regularly to reduce the potential for nutrient surpluses.
Regulation 2020/464, Article 16, point 5
- 10.6.9 You must ensure that open air areas do not extend beyond the radius of 150 m from the nearest exit/entry pop-hole of the poultry house. However, an extension of up to 350 m from the nearest pop-hole of the building is permissible provided that a sufficient number of shelters from inclement weather and predators are evenly distributed throughout the whole open air area with at least four shelters per hectare. For geese, the open air area shall allow the birds to satisfy their needs to eat grass.
Regulation 2020/464, Article 16, Point 6

10.7 Feed

- 10.7.1 You must ensure that roughage; fresh or dried fodder or silage is added to the daily ration.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II 1.9.4.2 (b)
- 10.7.2 You must use at least 30 % of the feed from the farm itself or, if this is not feasible or such feed is not available, be produced in cooperation with other organic or in-conversion production units and feed operators using feed and feed material from the same region.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.9.4.2 (a)
- 10.7.3 Where you are unable to obtain protein feed exclusively from organic production, and NICA confirm that organic protein feed is not available in sufficient quantity, non-organic protein feed may be used under permission until 31 December 2026 provided that the following conditions are fulfilled:
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.9.3.1
- i. It is not available in organic form.
 - ii. It is produced or prepared without chemical solvents.
 - iii. Its use is limited to the feeding of young poultry with specific protein compounds.
 - iv. The maximum percentage authorised per period of 12 months for those animals does not exceed 5 %. The percentage of the dry matter of feed from agricultural origin shall be calculated.
- 10.7.4 You may use the non organic feed materials of plant origin listed in our processing Standard under the feed section.

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10.7.5 You may under conditions where feed availability from the range area is limited, for example, due to long term snow cover or arid weather conditions, supplementary feeding of roughage shall be included as part of poultry diets.

Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.9.4.4.(i)

10.8 Indoor areas

10.8.1 Stocking density and minimum surface for indoor and outdoor areas for poultry. Parent Gallus Gallus intended for future hens for fattening and hatching eggs for fattening birds.

Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.9.4.4

Regulation 2020/464 Annex I, Part IV

Regulation 2020/464 Article 15, Points 5 & 2

10.8.2 Your buildings must meet the conditions in the table below.

Age	≥18 weeks
Stocking density and minimum surface for indoor area Maximum number of breeding birds per m ² of usable area of the indoor area of the poultry house	6
Perches for breeding birds for future laying hens Minimum cm perch/bird	18
Nests	7 female birds per nest or in case of common nest 120cm ² /female bird
Stocking density and minimum surface for outdoor area Minimum m ² per bird of the outdoor area	4

Pullets and brother roosters

Stocking density and minimum surface for indoor area Maximum number of birds per m ² of usable area of the indoor area of the poultry house	21kg liveweight/m ²
Perches or raised sitting levels or both	Any combination of perches or raised sitting levels or both providing
Stocking density and minimum surface for outdoor area Minimum m ² per bird of the outdoor area	1

Laying hens including dual purpose strains raised for meat and egg production

Stocking density and minimum surface for indoor area Maximum number of birds per m ² of usable area of the indoor area of the poultry house	6
Perches Minimum cm perch/bird	18
Nests	7 laying hens per nest or in case of common nest 120cm ² /laying hen
Stocking density and minimum surface for outdoor area Minimum m ² per bird of the outdoor area	4

Fattening poultry Gallus gallus

Stocking density and minimum surface for indoor area Stocking density per m ² of usable area of the indoor area of the poultry house	21kg liveweight/m ²
Perches Minimum cm perch/bird	Any combination of perches or raised sitting levels or both providing minimum 5cm perch/bird or minimum 25cm ² raised sitting level/bird
Stocking density and minimum surface for outdoor area for fixed houses Minimum m ² per bird of the outdoor area	4
Stocking density and minimum surface for outdoor area for mobile houses Minimum m ² per bird of the outdoor area	2.5

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Fattening poultry *Gallus gallus* :Capons and poulardes

Stocking density and minimum surface for indoor area Stocking density per m ² of usable area of the indoor area of the poultry house	21kg liveweight/m ²
Perches Minimum cm perch/bird	Any combination of perches or raised sitting levels or both providing minimum 5cm perch/bird or minimum 25cm ² raised sitting level/bird
Stocking density and minimum surface for outdoor area Minimum m ² per bird of the outdoor area	10

Fattening poultry other than *Gallus gallus*: Geese *Anser domesticus*

Stocking density and minimum surface for indoor area Stocking density per m ² of usable area of the indoor area of the poultry house	21kg liveweight/m ²
Stocking density and minimum surface for outdoor area Minimum m ² per bird of the outdoor area	15

Fattening poultry other than *Gallus gallus*: Peking Ducks *Anas platyrhynchos domesticus*, Muscovy Ducks *Carina moschata* and Mulard Ducks *Carina moschata*

Stocking density and minimum surface for indoor area Stocking density per m ² of usable area of the indoor area of the poultry house	21kg liveweight/m ²
Stocking density and minimum surface for outdoor area Minimum m ² per bird of the outdoor area	4.5

Stocking density and minimum surface for indoor area Maximum number of birds per m ² of usable area of the indoor area of the poultry house	21kg liveweight/m ²
Perches or raised sitting levels or both	Any combination of perches or raised sitting levels or both providing minimum 5cm perch/bird or minimum 25cm ² raised sitting level/bird
Stocking density and minimum surface for outdoor area Minimum m ² per bird of the outdoor area	4

10.9 Stocking rate

10.9.1 The table below has been taken from Nitrate Vulnerable Zones (NVZs) guidelines.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.6.7

Category	Maximum stocking rate per hectare
	728
Layers > 17 weeks	311
Broilers	439
Breeding stock < 25 weeks	542
Breeding stock > 25 weeks	231
Male turkey	125
Female turkey	165
Ducks	188

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10.10 Slaughter

10.10.1 The minimum age at slaughter shall be:

Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.9.4.1

- i. 81 days for chickens.
- ii. 150 days for capons.
- iii. 49 days for Peking ducks.
- iv. 70 days for female Muscovy ducks.
- v. 84 days for male Muscovy ducks.
- vi. 92 days for Mallard ducks.
- vii. 94 days for guinea fowl.
- viii. 140 days for male turkeys and roasting geese.
- ix. 100 days for female turkeys.

10.10.2 When using slow growing poultry strains the minimum age of slaughter does not apply.

Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.9.4.1

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SECTION 11

PIGS

11.1 General

- 11.1.1 Your livestock shall have permanent access to open air areas that allow the animals to exercise, preferably pasture, whenever weather and seasonal conditions and the state of the ground allow.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.7.3
- 11.1.2 You must not keep piglets on flat decks or in piglet cages.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.6.8
- 11.1.3 You must not discourage pigs from rooting by practices such as nose ringing.
- 11.1.4 You must ensure that exercise areas permit dunging and rooting. For the purposes of rooting different substrates can be used.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.9.3.2 (f)
- 11.1.5 You must have open air areas that are attractive to porcine animals. Where possible, preference shall be given to fields with trees or forests.
Regulation 848 amended by 2020/464 Article 12
- 11.1.6 Your open-air areas must provide outdoor climate as well as access to shelters and means allowing the regulation of body temperature of you animals.
Regulation 848 amended 2020/464 by Article 12

11.2 Bringing in livestock

- 11.2.1 When you constitute a herd for the first time or for breeding purposes non organic young animals may be used if:
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.3.4.4.1
- i. They have been reared in accordance with this Standard immediately after they are weaned.
 - ii. Piglets must weigh less than 35 kg.
- 11.2.2 To renew a herd you may bring in non organic adult nulliparous female animals under the following restrictions
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.3.4.4.2
- i. These animals must be treated in accordance with this Standard from the date on which they enter the herd.
 - ii. Up to a maximum of 20 % of adult pigs.
 - iii. If you have with less than 5 pigs any renewal as mentioned above must be limited to a maximum of one animal per year.
- 11.2.3 In special cases and with a derogation from us approved by NICA the percentages above may be increased up to 40 %.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.3.4.4.3
- i. When a major extension to the farm is undertaken.
 - ii. When a breed is changed.
 - iii. When a new livestock specialisation is initiated.
 - iv. When breeds are in danger of being lost to farming and in that case animals of those breeds must not necessarily be nulliparous.
- 11.2.4 Where non organic livestock has been brought on to your holding the livestock products may be considered to be organic after 6 months.
Regulation 848 Article II, Part II, 1.3.4.4.4. & 1.2.2

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11.3 Feed

- 11.3.1 You must ensure that suckling animals shall preferably be fed on maternal milk for a minimum period of 40 days. Milk replacers containing chemically synthesised components or components of plant origin shall not be used during that period.
Regulation 848 Article II, Part II, 1.4.1 (g)
Regulation 2020/464, Article 9
- 11.3.2 You must ensure that roughage; fresh or dried fodder or silage is added to the daily ration.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II 1.9.4.2 (b)
- 11.3.3 You must use at least 30 % of the feed from the farm itself or, if this is not feasible or such feed is not available, be produced in cooperation with other organic or in-conversion production units and feed operators using feed and feed material from the same region,
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.9.4.2 (a)
- 11.3.4 Where you are unable to obtain protein feed exclusively from organic production, and NICA confirm that organic protein feed is not available in sufficient quantity, non-organic protein feed may be used under permission until 31 December 2026 provided that the following conditions are fulfilled:
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.9.3.1
- i. it is not available in organic form.
 - ii. it is produced or prepared without chemical solvents.
 - iii. its use is limited to the feeding of piglets of up to 35 kg with specific protein.
 - iv. the maximum percentage authorised per period of 12 months for those animals does not exceed 5 %. The percentage of the dry matter of feed from agricultural origin shall be calculated.
- 11.3.5 You may use the non organic feed materials of plant origin listed in our processing Standard under the feed section.

11.4 Housing

- 11.4.1 You must make sure sows will be kept in groups, except in the last stages of pregnancy and during the suckling period, during which time the sow must be able to move freely in her pen and her movement shall only be restricted for short periods.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.9.3.2 (d)
- 11.4.2 You must ensure there is always a bed made of straw or other suitable material large enough to ensure that all pigs in a pen can lie down at the same time in the most space-consuming way.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.9.3.2 (c)
- 11.4.3 You must without prejudice to any additional requirements for straw, a few days before expected farrowing, sows shall be provided with a quantity of straw or other suitable natural material sufficient to enable them to build nests.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.9.3.2 (e)

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11.4.4 The minimum surface for indoor and outdoor areas and other characteristics of housing for your pigs are listed below.

Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.7.2

Regulation 2020/464 Annex I, Part III

	Indoors area (net area available to animals)		Outdoors area (exercise area, excluding pasturage)
	Live weight minimum (kg)	M ² /head	M ² /head
Farrowing sows with piglets up to 40 days		7.5 sow	2.5
Fattening pigs	Not more than 35kg	0.6	0.4
	More than 35kg but not > 50kg	0.8	0.6
	More than 50kg but not > 85kg	1.1	0.8
	More than 85kg but not > 110kg	1.3	1
	More than 110	1.5	1.2
Female brood pigs Dry pregnant sows		2.5	1.9
Male brood porcine animal Boar		6 If pens are used for natural service: 10	8

11.5 Stocking rate

Total nitrogen production as livestock excreta and maximum NVZ stocking rates

Category	Maximum stocking rate per hectare
7kg - < 13kg	114
13kg - < 31kg	33
31kg - <66kg	19
66kg > intended for slaughter	14
Breeding sow before first litter	12
Sow with litter upto 7kg	10
Breeding boar 66kg – 150kg	14
Breeding boar >150kg	10

11.6 Conversion of land

11.6.1 Your conversion period for the land associated with pig production will be one year for pasture and open-air areas.

Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.7.5 (b)

This period may be further reduced to six months where the land concerned has not during the last year, received treatments with products not authorised for organic production and you can submit evidence and records to us to prove this.

Regulation 848 Article II I

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SECTION 14

BEEF AND DAIRY

14.1 General

14.1.1 Your livestock must have access to:
Regulation Annex II, Part II, 1.6.5 & 1.9.1.1

- i. Areas of open air that may be partially covered.
- ii. Access to pasturage for grazing whenever conditions allow.

14.1.2 If you have bulls over one year old they must have access to pasturage or an open air area.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.9.1.1 (c)

14.1.3 Where your animals have access to pasturage during the grazing period and where the winter housing system gives freedom of movement to the animals, the need to provide open air areas during the winter months may be waived.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.9.1.1

14.2 Tethering

14.2.1 You must not tether or isolate livestock, except in relation to individual animals for a limited period and insofar as this is justified for veterinary reasons. The isolation of livestock may only be authorised, and only for a limited period, where workers' safety is compromised or for animal welfare reasons. NICA may authorise the tethering of cattle in farms with a maximum of 50 animals (excluding young stock) where it is not possible to keep the cattle in groups appropriate to their behaviour requirements, provided they have access to pastures during the grazing period and have access to open air areas at least twice a week when grazing is not possible.
Regulation Annex II, Part II, 1.7.5

14.3 Bringing in livestock

14.3.1 When you constitute a herd for the first time or for breeding purposes non organic young mammals may be used if:
Regulation Annex II, Part II, 1.3.4.4.2

- i. They have been reared in accordance with this Standard immediately after they are weaned.
- ii. Calves and buffalo must be less than 6 months old.

14.3.2 You may for breeding purposes bring in non-organic adult male and non-organic nulliparous female animals for the renewal of a herd or flock. In addition, the number of female animals shall be subject to the following restrictions per year:
Regulation Annex II, Part II, 1.3.4.4.2

- i. These animals must be treated in accordance with this Standard from the date on which they enter the herd.
- ii. Up to a maximum of 10 % of adult bovine, including bubalus and bison species, livestock.
- iii. If you have less than 10 bovine animals any renewal as mentioned above must be limited to a maximum of 1 animal per year.

14.3.3 Non organic male livestock for breeding may be brought in to your unit provided the animals are subsequently reared and fed in accordance with this Standard.

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14.3.4 In special cases and with a derogation from us approved by NICA the percentages above may be increased up to 40 %.

Regulation Annex II, Part II, 1.3.4.4.3 & 1.3.4.4.1

- i. When a major extension to the farm is undertaken.
- ii. When one breed has been replaced with another; a breed is changed.
- iii. When a new livestock specialisation is initiated.
- iv. When breeds are in danger of being lost to farming and in that case animals of those breeds must not necessarily be nulliparous.

14.3.5 Where non organic livestock has been brought onto your holding the livestock products may be considered to be organic after:

Regulation Annex II, Part II, 1.2.2 & 1.3.4.4.4

- i. 12 months for meat production, and at least three quarters of their lifetime.
- ii. 6 months in the case of cows for milk production.

14.4 Feed & Grazing

14.4.1 You must ensure that suckling animals shall preferably be fed on maternal milk for a minimum period of 90 days. Milk replacers containing chemically synthesised components or components of plant origin shall not be used during that period.

Regulation 848 Article II, Part II, 1.4.1 (g)

Regulation 2020/464 Article 2

14.4.2 You must ensure that rearing systems are based on maximum use of grazing pasturage according to the availability of pastures in the different periods of the year. At least 60 % of the dry matter in daily rations must consist of roughage, fresh or dried fodder, or silage.

Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.9.1.1. (f)

14.4.3 You may reduce this to 50 % for animals in dairy production for a maximum period of three months in early lactation.

Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.9.1.1. (f)

14.4.4 You must use at least 60 % of the feed from the farm itself or, if this is not feasible or such feed is not available, shall be produced in cooperation with other organic or in-conversion production units and feed operators using feed and feed material from the same region. This percentage shall be raised to 70 % as from 1 January 2024.

Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.9.1.1. (a) amended by Regulation 2020/1693

14.4.5 You may use the non organic feed materials of plant origin listed in our processing Standard under the feed section.

14.5 Housing

14.5.1 You must not house calves in individual boxes after the age of one week, unless for individual animals for a limited period, and insofar as this is justified for veterinary reasons in individual boxes after the age of one week.

Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.9.1.2 (c)

14.5.2 You must when a calf is treated individually for veterinary reasons, kept in spaces that have a solid floor and shall be provided with straw bedding. The calf must be able to turn around easily and to lie down comfortably at full length.

Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.9.1.2 (d)

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14.5.3 The minimum surface for indoor and outdoor areas and other characteristics of housing for your cattle are listed below.

Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.6.4 & 1.6.5

Regulation 2020/464 Annex I

	Indoors area (net area available to animals)		Outdoors area (exercise area, excluding pasturage)
	Live weight minimum (kg)	M ² /head	M ² /head
Breeding and fattening bovine and equidae	Up to 100	1.5	1.1
	Up to 200	2.5	1.9
	Up to 350	4.0	3
	Over 350	5 with a minimum of 1 m ² /100 kg	3.7 with a minimum of 0.75 m ² /100 kg
Dairy cows		6	4.5
Bulls for breeding		10	30

14.5.4 You must keep your housing, pens, equipment and utensils:

Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.5.1.1 & 1.5.1.7

- i. In a good condition that is unlikely to cause injury to animals.
- ii. Properly cleaned and disinfected to prevent cross-infection and the build-up of disease carrying organisms.
- iii. Faeces, urine and uneaten or spilt feed shall be removed as often as necessary to minimise smell and to avoid attracting insects or rodents.

14.6 Stocking rate

14.6.1 To comply with the nitrogen requirement of 170 kg / ha per year these are the maximum number of animals that you can have on your organic holding per hectare.

Category	Maximum stocking rate per hectare
Calves up to 3mths	20
Dairy cows 3 mths to < 13 mths	5
Dairy cows 13 mths to first calf	3
Dairy cows after first calf	2
Beef cows or steers 3mths - < 13mths	5
Beef cows or steers 13mths - < 25mths	3
Beef cows or steers from 25mths for slaughter	3
Females from 25 mths for breeding, up to 500kg	3
Females from 25 mths for breeding, over 500kg	2
Bulls non-breeding 3mths+	3
Bulls non-breeding 3mths - < 25 mths	3
Bulls non-breeding 3mths 25 mths and older	4

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SECTION 15

SHEEP AND GOATS

15.1 General

15.1.1 Your livestock must have access to:
Regulation Annex II, Part II, 1.6.5 & 1.9.1.1

- iii. Areas of open air that may be partially covered.
- iv. Access to pasturage for grazing whenever conditions allow.

15.1.2 Where your animals have access to pasturage during the grazing period and where the winter housing system gives freedom of movement to the animals, the need to provide open air areas during the winter months may be waived.

Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.9.1.1

15.2 Bringing in livestock

15.2.1 When you constitute a flock for the first time or for breeding purposes non organic young animals may be used if:

Regulation Annex II, Part II, 1.3.4.4.1

- i. They have been reared in accordance with this Standard immediately after they are weaned.
- ii. Lambs and kids must be less than 60 days old.

15.2.2 You may for breeding purposes bring in non-organic adult male and non-organic nulliparous female animals for the renewal of a herd or flock. In addition, the number of female animals shall be subject to the following restrictions per year:

Regulation Annex II, Part II, 1.3.4.4.2

- i. Up to a maximum of 20 % of the adult sheep and goats.
- ii. If you have with less than 5 sheep or goats any renewal as mentioned above shall be limited to a maximum of 1 animal per year.

15.2.3 In special cases and with a derogation from us approved by NICA the percentages above may be increased up to 40 %.

Regulation Annex II, Part II, 1.3.4.4.3 & 1.3.4.4.1

- i. When a major extension to the farm is undertaken.
- ii. When one breed has been replaced with another; a breed is changed.
- iii. When a new livestock specialisation is initiated.
- iv. When breeds are in danger of being lost to farming and in that case animals of those breeds must not necessarily be nulliparous.

15.2.4 Where non organic livestock has been brought onto your holding the livestock products may be considered to be organic after:

Regulation Annex II, Part II, 1.2.2 & 1.3.4.4.4

- i. 6 months

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15.3 Feed

- 15.3.1 You must ensure that suckling animals shall preferably be fed on maternal milk for a minimum period of 45 days. Milk replacers containing chemically synthesised components or components of plant origin shall not be used during that period.
Regulation 848 Article II, Part II, 1.4.1 (g)
Regulation 2020/464 Article 2
- 15.3.2 You must ensure that rearing systems are based on maximum use of grazing pasturage according to the availability of pastures in the different periods of the year. At least 60 % of the dry matter in daily rations must consist of roughage, fresh or dried fodder, or silage.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.9.1.1. (f)
- 15.3.3 You must use at least 60 % of the feed from the farm itself or, if this is not feasible or such feed is not available, shall be produced in cooperation with other organic or in-conversion production units and feed operators using feed and feed material from the same region. This percentage shall be raised to 70 % as from 1 January 2024.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.9.1.1. (a) amended by Regulation 2020/1693
- 15.3.4 You may use the non organic feed materials of plant origin listed in our processing Standard under the feed section.

15.4 Housing

- 15.4.1 The minimum surface for indoor and outdoor areas and other characteristics of housing for your cattle are listed below.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.6.4 & 1.6.5
Regulation 2020/464 Annex I, Point 2

	Indoors area (net area available to animals)	Outdoors area (exercise area, excluding pasturage)
	M ² /head	M ² /head
Sheep and goats	1.5 sheep/goat	2.5
	0.35 lamb/kid	0.5

15.5 Stocking rate

- 15.5.1 To comply with the nitrogen requirement of 170 kg / ha per year these are the maximum number of animals that you can have on your organic holding per hectare.

Category	Maximum stocking rate per hectare
6 mths – 9 mths	85
From 9 mths to first lambing, tugging or slaughter	119
After lambing or tugging < 60 kg	22
After lambing or tugging 60kg +	13
Goats	11

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SECTION 16

RABBITS

16.1 General

17.1.1 This section covers specific requirements for rabbits and is in addition to general livestock requirements.

16.2 Origin and conversion of animals

17.2.1 When you constitute a flock for the first time or for breeding purposes non organic young animals may be used if:
Regulation Annex II, Part II, 1.3.4.4.1

- iii. They have been reared in accordance with this Standard immediately after they are weaned;
- iv. Rabbits must be less than 3 months old.

17.2.2 You may for breeding purposes bring in non-organic adult male and non-organic nulliparous female animals for the renewal of a herd or flock. In addition, the number of female animals shall be subject to the following restrictions per year:
Regulation Annex II, Part II, 1.3.4.4.2

- i. Up to a maximum of 20 % of the adult rabbits
- ii. If you have with less than 10 rabbits any renewal as mentioned above shall be limited to a maximum of 1 animal per year.

16.2.3 In special cases and with a derogation from us approved by NICA the percentages above may be increased up to 40 %.
Regulation Annex II, Part II, 1.3.4.4.3 & 1.3.4.1

- v. When a major extension to the farm is undertaken.
- vi. When one breed has been replaced with another; a breed is changed.
- vii. When a new livestock specialisation is initiated.
- viii. When breeds are in danger of being lost to farming and in that case animals of those breeds must not necessarily be nulliparous.

16.2.4 Where non organic livestock has been brought onto your holding the livestock products may be considered to be organic after:
Regulation Annex II, Part II, 1.2.2 & 1.3.4.4.4

- i. 3 months.

16.3 Feeding and Grazing

16.3.1 You must ensure that suckling animals shall preferably be fed on maternal milk for a minimum period of 42 days. Milk replacers containing chemically synthesised components or components of plant origin shall not be used during that period.
Regulation 848 Article II, Part II, 1.4.1 (g)
Regulation 2020/464 Article 17

16.3.2 You must use at least 70 % of the feed shall come from the farm itself or, if this is not feasible or such feed is not available, shall be produced in cooperation with other organic or in-conversion production units and feed operators using feed and feed material from the same region.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.9.5.1 (a)

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- 16.3.3 You must provide rabbits with have access to pasturage for grazing whenever conditions allow.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.9.5.1 (b)
- 16.3.4 Your rearing systems must be based on maximum use of grazing pasturage by reference to the availability of pastures in the different periods of the year.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.9.5.1 (c)
- 16.3.5 You must provide fibrous feed such as straw or hay when grass is not sufficient. Forage shall comprise at least 60 % of the diet.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.9.5.1 (d)
- 16.3.6 You must maintain the vegetation of the outdoor runs regularly and in such a way that it is attractive to rabbits.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, amended by 2020/464 Article 21
- 16.3.7 You must during the grazing season, rotate pastures regularly and managed in such a way that the grazing of rabbits is optimised.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, amended by 2020/464 Article 21
- 16.3.8 Minimum outdoor surface area for rabbits.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, amended by 2020/464, part V

	Outdoor area (outdoor run with vegetation preferably pasture) (net area usable per animal excluding platforms m ² /head) Fixed housing	Outdoor area (net area usable per animal excluding platforms m ² /head) Mobile housing
Nursing does with kits until weaning	2.5 m ² /doe with kits	2.5 m ² /doe with kits
Pregnant does/Reproductive females	2.5	2.5
Fattening rabbits from weaning to slaughter Replacement rabbits (end of fattening to 6 months)	0.5	0.4
Adult bucks	2.5	2.5

16.4 Housing and Husbandry

- 16.4.1 You must provide housing that is:
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.9.5.2 (a)
- i. Comfortable, clean and dry laying or rest area of sufficient size.
 - ii. Consisting of a solid construction which is not slatted.
 - iii. Ample dry bedding strewn with litter material shall be provided in the rest area.
 - iv. The litter shall comprise straw or other suitable natural material.
 - v. The litter may be improved and enriched with any mineral product in this Standard listed as a fertiliser or soil conditioner for use in organic production.
- 16.4.2 You must keep rabbits in groups.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.9.5.2 (b)
- 16.4.3 You must use robust breeds of rabbits adapted to outdoor conditions.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.9.5.2 (c)
- 16.4.4 You must provide rabbits with access to:
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.9.5.2 (c)
- i. Covered shelter including dark hiding places.
 - ii. An outdoor run with vegetation, preferably pasture.
 - iii. A raised platform on which they can sit, either inside or out.
 - iv. Nesting material for all nursing does.

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- 16.4.5 You must during the grazing season, keep rabbits in mobile housing on pastures or in fixed housing with access to pasture.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, amended by 2020/464 Article 19 point 1
- 16.4.6 You may outside the grazing season, keep rabbits kept in fixed housing with access to an outdoor run with vegetation, preferably pasture.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, amended by 2020/464 Article 19 point 2
- 16.4.7 You must where mobile housing is on pastures it shall be moved as often as possible to ensure the maximum use of grazing pasture and shall be constructed in such a way that it is possible for rabbits to graze the pasture on the floor.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, amended by 2020/464 Article 19 point 3
- 16.4.8 You must construct the indoor area in fixed and mobile housing in such a way that:
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, amended by 2020/464 Article 20, point 1
- a. Its height is sufficient to allow all rabbits to stand with ears erect.
 - b. It can accommodate different groups of rabbits and allow the preservation of the broods' integrity upon transfer to the fattening phase.
 - c. It is possible for bucks and pregnant and reproductive does to be separated from the group for specific animal welfare reasons and for a limited period provided they can keep eye contact with other rabbits.
 - d. It is possible for the doe to move away from the nest and return in the nest for nursing the kits.
 - e. It provides:
 - i. Covered shelter including dark hiding places in sufficient number for all categories of rabbits.
 - ii. Access to nests for all does at least one week before the expected date of birth and at least till the end of the nursing period of the kits.
 - iii. Access to nests for kits in sufficient number with a minimum of one nest per nursing doe with kits.
 - iv. Materials to allow rabbits to gnaw.
- 16.4.9 You must construct the outdoor area in facilities with fixed housing in such a way that:
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, amended by 2020/464 Article 20, point 2
- a. It has raised platforms in sufficient number and evenly distributed on its minimum surface.
 - b. It is surrounded by fences that are high and deep enough to prevent flight either by jumping or digging.
 - c. If it has a concrete outside area, there is an easy access to the part of the outdoor run with vegetation. Without such easy access, the surface of the concrete area may not be included in the calculation of the minimum surface of the outdoor area.
 - d. It provides:
 - I. Covered shelter including dark hiding places in sufficient number for all categories of rabbit.
 - II. Materials to allow rabbits to gnaw.

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16.4.10 Indoor stocking density requirements

Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, amended by 2020/464 part V

	Indoor area (net area usable per animal excluding platforms m ² /head) for the rest area Fixed housing	Indoor area (net area usable per animal excluding platforms m ² /head) for the rest area Mobile housing
Nursing does with kits until weaning	0.6 m ² /doe with kits if doe liveweight is below 6 kg 0.72 m ² /doe with kits if doe liveweight is above 6 kg	0.6 m ² /doe with kits if doe liveweight is below 6 kg 0.72 m ² /doe with kits if doe liveweight is above 6 kg
Pregnant does and reproductive female rabbits	0.5 m ² /pregnant doe or reproductive female if liveweight is below 6 kg 0.62 m ² /pregnant doe or reproductive female if liveweight is above 6 kg	0,5 m ² /pregnant doe or reproductive female if liveweight is below 6 kg 0,62 m ² /pregnant doe or reproductive female if liveweight is above 6 kg
Fattening rabbits from weaning to slaughter Replacement rabbits (end of fattening to 6 months)	0.2	0.15
Adult bucks	0.6 1 if buck receiving does for mating	0.6 1 if buck receiving does for mating

16.5 Stocking rate

16.5.1 To comply with the nitrogen requirement of 170 kg / ha per year these are the maximum number of animals that you can have on your organic holding per hectare.

Category	Maximum stocking rate per hectare
Rabbits	100

SECTION 17

DEER

17.1 General

- 17.1.1 The requirements for deer are the same as cattle unless specifically specified here and must meet all other relevant parts of this standard.

17.2 Origin and Conversion of animals

- 17.2.1 You may for breeding purposes bring in non-organic adult male and non-organic nulliparous female animals for the renewal of a herd or flock. In addition, the number of female animals shall be subject to the following restrictions per year:

Regulation Annex II, Part II, 1.3.4.4.2

- iii. Up to a maximum of 20 % of the adult deer
- iv. If you have with less than 10 deer any renewal as mentioned above shall be limited to a maximum of 1 animal per year.

17.3 Open Air Areas

- 17.3.1 You must provide visual and weather protection facilities to deer preferably by natural shelters like inclusion of groups of trees and shrubs, parts of forests or skirts of woods into the outdoor enclosure or pen; if this is not feasible to a sufficient extent the whole year, roofed artificial shelters shall be provided.

Regulation 2020/464 Article 8

- 17.3.2 Outdoor enclosures or pens for cervine animals shall be equipped with facilities or be covered with vegetation that allow animals to rub off velvet from their antlers.

Regulation 2020/464 Article 8

- 17.3.3 You must for females In the late stage of pregnancy and two weeks after birth, shall have access to areas covered with vegetation that allows hiding their calves.

Regulation 2020/464 Article 8

- 17.3.4 You must have fences around outdoor enclosures or pens constructed in such a way that cervine animals cannot escape.

Regulation 2020/464 Article 8

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17.4 Stocking Density

17.4.1 You must ensure that stocking density and minimum surface for indoor and outdoor areas for cervine animals is as listed below:

Regulation 2020/464 Article 6
Regulation 2020/464 Annex I, Part II.

Cervine animal species	Minimum surface for outdoor area per enclosure or per pen	Stocking density maximum number of adult animals per ha
Sika Deer (<i>Cervus nippon</i>)	1ha	15
Fallow Deer (<i>Dama dama</i>)	1ha	15
Red Deer (<i>Cervus elaphus</i>)	2ha	7
Pere David's Deer	2ha	7
More than one cervine species	3ha	In case of red deer or Pere David's deer are part of the herd;15 in case neither red deer or Pere David's deer are part of the herd

17.4.2 You must keep animals in outdoor enclosures or pens providing pastures whenever conditions allow.

Regulation 2020/464 Article 7 (1)

17.4.3 You must have the outdoor enclosures or pens constructed in such a way that the different species of cervine animals can be separated if needed.

Regulation 2020/464 Article 7 (1)

17.4.4 You must have each outdoor enclosure or pen either dividable into two areas or adjacent to another outdoor enclosure or pen so that maintenance measures can be carried out on each area or each outdoor enclosure or pen successively.

Regulation 2020/464 Article 7 (1)

17.5 Feeding

17.5.1 You must ensure that suckling animals shall preferably be fed on maternal milk for a minimum period of 90 days. Milk replacers containing chemically synthesised components or components of plant origin shall not be used during that period.

Regulation 2020/464 Article 5

17.5.2 You must use at least 60 % of the feed from the farm itself or, if this is not feasible or such feed is not available, shall be produced in cooperation with other organic or in-conversion production units and feed operators using feed and feed material from the same region.

This percentage shall be raised to 70 % as from 1 January 2024.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.9.2.1. (a) amended by Regulation 2020/1693

17.5.3 Your animals must have access to pasturage for grazing whenever conditions allow.

Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.9.2.1 (b)

17.5.4 You may where animals have access to pasturage during the grazing period and where the winter housing system allows the animals to move freely, the obligation to provide open air areas during the winter months may be waived.

Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.9.2.1 (c)

17.5.5 You must have rearing systems based on maximum use of grazing pasturage according to the availability of pastures in the different periods of the year.

Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.9.2.1 (d)

17.5.6 You must ensure at least 60 % of the dry matter in daily rations shall consist of roughage, fresh or dried fodder, or silage. This percentage may be reduced to 50 % for female cervine animals in milk production for a maximum period of three months in early lactation.

Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.9.2.1 (e)

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- 17.5.7 You must provide natural grazing in a pen during the period of vegetation. Pens that cannot provide feed by grazing during the period of vegetation are not allowed.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.9.2.1 (f)
- 17.5.8 You may only feed in the event of a shortage of grazing due to poor weather conditions.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.9.2.1 (g)
- 17.5.9 You must provide farmed animals in a pen with clean and fresh water. If a natural source of water that is easily accessible to animals is not available, watering places shall be provided.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.9.2.1 (h)

17.6 Housing

- 17.6.1 You must provide cervine animals with hiding places, shelters and fences that do not harm animals.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.9.2.2 (a)
- 17.6.2 You must in red deer pens, ensure the animals are able to roll in the mud to ensure skin grooming and body temperature regulation.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.9.2.2 (b)
- 17.6.3 Your housing must have smooth, but not slippery floors.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.9.2.2 (c)
- 17.6.4 You must provided with a comfortable, clean and dry laying or rest area of sufficient size, consisting of a solid construction which is not slatted. Ample dry bedding strewn with litter material shall be provided in the rest area. The litter shall comprise straw or other suitable natural material. The litter may be improved and enriched with any mineral product authorised as a fertiliser or soil conditioner for use in organic production.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.9.2.2 (d)
- 17.6.5 You must have feeding places installed in areas protected from the weather and accessible both to animals and to persons attending to them. The soil where feeding places are located shall be consolidated, and the feeding apparatus shall be equipped with a roof.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.9.2.2 (e)
- 17.6.6 You must where permanent access to feed cannot be ensured, the feeding places shall be designed so that all animals can feed at the same time.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.9.2.2 (f)

17.7 Stocking rate

- 17.7.1 To comply with the nitrogen requirement of 170 kg / ha per year these are the maximum number of animals that you can have on your organic holding per hectare.

Category	Maximum stocking rate per hectare
Breeding	11
Other	14

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SECTION 18

Bee Keeping

18.1 Bee keeping

18.1.1 Beekeeping plays an important role in the countryside through pollination. In the UK about 70 crops are dependent on, or benefit from, visits from bees. In addition, bees pollinate the flowers of many plants which become part of the feed of farm animals.

18.2 Origin of bees

18.2.1 Preference shall be given to the use of *Apis mellifera* and their local ecotypes.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.9.6.1

18.3 Conversion

18.3.1 To convert your hives you must follow this Standard for 12 months.
Regulation 834 Annex II, Part II, 1.2.2.(f)

18.3.2 During the conversion period the wax shall be replaced with wax coming from organic beekeeping.
Regulation 834 Annex II, Part II, 1.2.2.(f)

18.4 Use of non organic beeswax

18.4.1 You may use non organic beeswax providing:
Regulation 834 Annex II, Part II, 1.2.2.(f), I, ii, iii

- i. Where beeswax from organic beekeeping is not available on the market.
- ii. Where it is proven free of contamination with products or substances not authorised for use in organic production.
- iii. If it comes from the cap.

18.5 Replacement of bees

18.5.1 You must for the renovation of apiaries, 20 % per year of the queen bees and swarms may be replaced by non-organic queen bees and swarms in the organic production unit, provided that the queen bees and swarms are placed in hives with combs or comb foundations coming from organic production units. In any case, one swarm or queen bee may be replaced per year by a non-organic swarm or a queen bee.
Regulation 848 Annex II, part II, 1.3.4.2

18.6 Feed

18.6.1 At the end of the production season, you must ensure that hives shall be left with sufficient reserves of honey and pollen for the bees to survive the winter.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.9.6.2 (a)

18.6.2 You must only feed bee colonies where the survival of the hives is endangered due to climatic conditions.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.9.6.2 (b) amended by 2020/427

18.6.3 You must only feed with organic honey, organic pollen, organic sugar syrups, or organic sugar.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.9.6.2 (b) amended by 2020/427

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18.6.4 You must enter in the apiary register records of the use of feed as follows:
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.9.6.6

- i. Type of product & name.
- ii. Dates.
- iii. Quantities.
- iv. Hives where it is used

18.7 Health

18.7.1 For cases of *Varroa destructor*:

- i. The practice of destroying the male brood is permitted only to isolate the infestation of *Varroa destructor*. **Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.9.6.3 (c)**
- ii. You may use formic acid, lactic acid, acetic acid and oxalic acid as well as menthol, thymol, eucalyptol or camphor in cases of infestation with *Varroa destructor*.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.9.6.3 (e)
- iii. If a treatment is applied with chemically synthesised allopathic products, including antibiotics, other than products and substances authorised pursuant to Articles 9 and 24 for use in organic production, for the duration of that treatment, the treated colonies shall be placed in isolation apiaries and all the wax shall be replaced with wax coming from organic beekeeping. Subsequently, organic status will be lost and a further conversion period of one year will apply to those colonies. **Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.9.6.3 (f)**

18.7.2 You must only use for the purposes of protecting frames, hives and combs, in particular from pests, only rodenticides (to be used only in traps), and appropriate products listed in 5.10 of this Standard, are permitted.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.9.6.3 (a)

18.7.3 You may use physical treatments for disinfection of apiaries such as steam or direct flame.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.9.6.2 (b)

18.7.4 If despite all preventive measures, your colonies become sick or infested, you must treat them immediately and, if necessary, the colonies should be placed in isolation apiaries.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.9.6.2 (d)

18.7.5 You must identify the zone where the apiary is situated. You must record this together with the identification of the hives and the period of moving.

18.7.6 **Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.9.6.6 amended by 2021/1691**

18.7.7 You must keep records or documentary evidence of the origin of animals, identifying the animals in accordance with appropriate systems (by hive) of the
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.3.4.5

- i. veterinary records of the animals introduced in the holding,
- ii. date of arrival,
- iii. conversion period

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18.8 Siting of apiaries

- 18.8.1 NICA may designate regions or areas where beekeeping complying with organic production rules is not practicable.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.9.6.5 (i)
- 18.8.2 You must site apiaries that, within a radius of 3 km from the apiary site, nectar and pollen sources consist essentially of organically produced crops or spontaneous vegetation or crops treated with low environmental impact methods equivalent to those provided for in Articles 28 and 30 of Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013 which cannot affect the qualification of beekeeping production as being organic. That requirement does not apply where flowering is not taking place, or the bee colonies are dormant.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.9.6.5 (c)
- 18.8.3 You must place apiaries in areas which ensure the availability of nectar and pollen sources consisting essentially of organically produced crops or, where appropriate, of spontaneous vegetation or non-organically managed forests or crops that are only treated with low environmental impact methods.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.9.6.5 (a)
- 18.8.4 You must keep apiaries at sufficient distance from sources that may lead to the contamination of apiculture products or to the poor health of the bees.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.9.6.5 (b)
- 18.8.5 The zone where the apiary is situated must be registered with us together with the identification of the hives. You must inform us when moving the apiaries by a deadline agreed on with us.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.9.6.6
- 18.8.6 You must provide us with a map on an appropriate scale listing the location of hives. Where no areas are identified by The European Commission you must provide us with appropriate documentation and evidence, including suitable analyses if necessary, that the areas accessible to your colonies meet the conditions required in this Standard.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.9.6.6

18.9 Managing your apiaries

- 18.9.1 Mutilation such as clipping the wings of queen bees is prohibited.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.9.6.4 (b)
- 18.9.2 You must not use brood combs for honey extraction.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.9.6.5 (h)
- 18.9.3 The bees wax for new foundations must come from organic production units.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.9.6.5 (e)

18.10 Harvesting

- 18.10.1 You must not destroy bees in the combs as a method associated with the harvesting of beekeeping products.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.9.6.5 (a)
- 18.10.2 You must not use chemical synthetic repellents during honey extractions operations.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.9.6.5 (a)
- 18.10.3 You must keep records of the supers and the honey extraction operations. These records must include amounts and dates of collection.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.9.6.6 amended by 2021/1691
- 18.10.4 Particular care shall be taken to ensure adequate extraction, processing and storage of beekeeping products. All the measures to comply with this requirement shall be recorded.
Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.9.6.6 amended by 2021/1691

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18.11 Housing

- 18.11.1 You must only use hives and materials made basically of natural materials presenting no risk of contamination to the environment or the apiculture products and materials used in beekeeping shall be mainly made of natural resources presenting no risk of contamination to the environment or the apiculture products.

Regulation 848 Annex II, Part II, 1.9.6.5 (d)

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A, B, C

Adjuvants	Substances or preparations which consist of co-formulants or preparations containing one or more co-formulants, in the form in which they are supplied to the user and placed on the market to be mixed by the user with a plant protection product and which enhance its effectiveness or other pesticidal properties, referred to as 'adjuvants'. <i>Regulation 1107/2009 Article, 2 (3)</i>
Agri environmental scheme	A government scheme that links agricultural production to minimum levels of environmental management and responsibility.
Agricultural area	Agricultural area as defined in point (e) of Article 4(1) of Regulation (EU) No 1307/2013. <i>Regulation 848 Chapter I, Article 3</i>
Agricultural raw material	An agricultural product that has not been subjected to any operation of preservation or processing. <i>Regulation 848 Chapter I, Article 3</i>
Alien species	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ A species or subspecies of an aquatic organism occurring outside its known natural range and the area of its natural dispersal potential;➤ Polyploid organisms, and fertile artificially hybridised species irrespective of their natural range or dispersal potential.
Applicant	An organisation or person who has applied for but has not yet been given operator status.
Approved body	A body approved by NICA for the purpose of operating a certification scheme for organic food production.
Approved producer	A registered operator holding a valid Certificate of Conformity for the production of organically produced products.
Biodynamic preparations	Mixtures traditionally used in biodynamic farming. <i>Regulation 848 Chapter I, Article 3</i>
Bovine	Ruminant such as cow, ox, or buffalo.
Brother rooster	Male chicken of laying hen strains intended for meat production. <i>Regulation 848 Amended by 2020/464 Article 13 (c)</i>
Bubalus	Water buffaloes.
Caprine	Animal with the characteristic of a goat.
Certificate of conformity	A certificate showing organic products, fields, etc issued to an operator recognising their conformity to our Standards.
Certification scheme	The Scheme operated by the Organic Food Federation.
Co-formulants	Substances or preparations which are used or intended to be used in a plant protection product or adjuvant, but are neither active substances nor safeners or synergists, referred to as 'co-formulants'. <i>Regulation 1107/2009 Article 2 (3)</i>
Competent authority	The Competent Authority is NICA. <i>Regulation 848 Chapter I, Article 3</i>
Control Authority	The Control Authority is NICA. <i>Regulation 848 Chapter I, Article 3</i>

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Control Body	Organic Food Federation or an equivalent body. <i>Regulation 848 Chapter I, Article 3</i>
Conventional feedstuffs/feed	Materials not produced in accordance with the rules of production specified in this Standard.
COSHH	Control of substances hazardous to health.

D, E, F

Derogation	Permission granted by us or NICA to carry out a specific task.
Energy from renewable sources	Renewable non-fossil energy sources: wind, solar, geothermal, wave, tidal, hydropower, landfill gas, sewage treatment plant gas and biogases. <i>Regulation 848 Chapter I, Article 3</i>
Equine	Horses, asses and zebras.
Equivalent	In describing different systems or measures, means that they are capable of meeting the same objectives and principles by applying rules which ensure the same level of assurance of conformity. <i>Regulation 848 Chapter I, Article 3</i>
Ethological	The scientific study of animal behaviour, especially as it occurs in a natural environment.
Farmer	A natural or legal person, or a group of natural or legal persons, regardless of the legal status of that group and its members under national law, who exercises an agricultural activity. <i>Regulation 848 Chapter I, Article 3</i>
Fattening poultry	Poultry intended for meat production. <i>Regulation 848 Amended by 2020/464 Article 13 (a)</i>
Feed additives	Additives that may be included in feed that are listed in this Standard. <i>Regulation 848 Chapter I, Article 3</i>
Feedingstuff	Feed.
Feed materials	Feed materials produced in accordance with this Standard.
First consignee	The person to whom the imported consignment is delivered and who will receive it for further preparation and/or marketing.
Flock	In the context of compartments in poultry houses means a group of birds that are kept together not mixing with other poultry species, and with their own dedicated indoor and outdoor areas. <i>Regulation 848 Amended by 2020/464 Article 13 (b)</i>

G, H, I

Genetically modified organisms (GMO)	Products produced from or by GMOs are incompatible with the concept of organic production and consumers' perception of organic products. They should therefore not be used in organic farming or in the processing of organic products. <i>Regulation 848 Chapter I, Article 3</i>
Generation	A group of plants constituting a single step in the line of descent of plants. <i>Regulation 848 Chapter I, Article 3</i>

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GMO derivative	Any substance which is either produced from or produced by GMOs, but does not contain them. <i>Regulation 848 Chapter I, Article 3</i>
Hatchery	A place of breeding, hatching and rearing through the early life stages of aquaculture animals, finfish and shellfish in particular.
Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point (HACCP)	A system for identifying and controlling hazards.
Heterogeneous material	A plant grouping within the meaning of Article 3(18) of Regulation (EU) 2018/848, which is produced according to the requirements of Article 3(1) of that Regulation. <i>Regulation 2021/1189 Article 2</i>
Holding	All the production units operated under a single management for the purpose of producing live or unprocessed agricultural products, including products originating from aquaculture and beekeeping. <i>Regulation 848 Chapter I, Article 3</i>
Homeopathic products	Veterinary medicinal product prepared from products, substances or compositions called homeopathic stocks in accordance with a homeopathic manufacturing procedure.
Hydroponic production	The method of growing plants with their roots in a mineral nutrient solution only or in an inert medium, such as perlite, gravel or mineral wool to which a nutrient solution is added.
Importer	An operator who imports goods either in person or through a representative for release for free circulation into the Community.
In Conversion Conversion	The transition from non organic to organic farming within a given time period, during which our Standards have been applied. <i>Regulation 848 Chapter I, Article 3</i>
In Conversion Product	A product that is produced during the conversion period. <i>Regulation 848 Chapter I, Article 3</i>
In Conversion Production Unit	A production unit, during the conversion period referred to in Article 10, which is managed in compliance with the requirements applicable to organic production; it may be constituted of land parcels or other assets for which the conversion starts at different moments in time. <i>Regulation 848 Chapter I, Article 3</i>
Ingredients	Processed agricultural crop and livestock products intended for human consumption, prepared essentially from one or more ingredients of plant or animal origin.
Integrity	Integrity of organic or in-conversion products' means the fact that the product does not exhibit non-compliance which: a. in any stage of production, preparation and distribution affects the organic or in-conversion characteristics of the product or b. is repetitive or intentional. <i>Regulation 848 Chapter I, Article 3</i>
Inspection service	An independent inspection service appointed, or operated directly, by NICA or us to carry out inspections on its behalf.
Inspector	A qualified person appointed to conduct and carry out audits.

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Introduction	The process by which an alien species is intentionally moved to an environment outside its natural range for use in aquaculture.
Ionising radiation	Radiation that has enough energy to remove electrons from substances it passes through, forming ions.

J, K, L

Labelling	Any words, particulars, trademarks, brand names, pictorial matter or symbols appearing on any packaging, document, notice, label, board, or collar accompanying or referring to a product.
Laying Hens	Animals of the <i>Gallus gallus</i> species that are intended for the production of eggs for consumption and that are of an age of at least 18 weeks. Regulation 848 Chapter I, Article 3 (30)
Licensee	An operator who has been granted a Certificate of Conformity.
List of ingredients	The list of ingredients referred to on the labelling.
Livestock production	The production of domestic or domesticated terrestrial animals. Regulation 848 Chapter I, Article 3
Locally absent species	A species or subspecies of an aquatic organism which is locally absent from a zone within its natural range of distribution for biogeographical reasons.
Logo	The symbol or mark of conformity issued to operators by the Federation for use on products produced in accordance with this Standard.

M, N, O

Marketing	Holding or displaying for sale, offering for sale, selling, delivering or placing on the market in any other form.
Mass catering operations	The preparation of organic products in restaurants, hospitals, canteens and other similar food business at the point of sale or delivery to the final consumer.
Mother plant	An identified plant from which plant reproductive material is taken for the reproduction of new plants. Regulation 848 Chapter I, Article 3
Movement	Introduction and/or translocation.
MSDS	Material Safety Data Sheet
Mycology	Study of fungi.
National Organic Program (NOP)	A certification programme for operators supplying product to the United States, either directly or via processors exporting products to the US, and which require products produced to the United States Department of Agriculture NOP Standards.
Non compliance	A failure to meet this Standard. Regulation 848 Chapter I, Article 3

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Non organic production unit	A production unit which is not managed in compliance with the requirements applicable to organic production. Regulation 848 Chapter I, Article 3
Non routine movement	Any movement of aquatic organisms which does not fulfil the criteria for routine movement.
Operator	Anyone who produces, prepares, stores or imports from a third country, with a view to the subsequent marketing thereof, products referred to as organic.
Organically produced feedstuffs/materials	Materials produced in accordance with the rules of production laid down in this Standard. Regulation 848 Chapter I, Article 3
Organic production unit	A production unit, excluding during the conversion period which is managed in compliance with the requirements applicable to organic production. Regulation 848 Chapter I, Article 3
Organic heterogeneous material	A plant grouping within a single botanical taxon of the lowest known rank which: a) presents common phenotypic characteristics. b) is characterised by a high level of genetic and phenotypic diversity between individual reproductive units, so that that plant grouping is represented by the material as a whole, and not by a small number of units. c) is not a variety within the meaning of Article 5(2) of Council Regulation EC No 2100/94. d) is not a mixture of varieties. e) has been produced in accordance with this Standard. Regulation 848 Chapter I, Article 3
Organic variety suitable for organic production	A variety as defined in Article 5(2) of Regulation (EC) No 2100/94 which: a) is characterised by a high level of genetic and phenotypical diversity between individual reproductive units. b) results from organic breeding activities referred to in this Standard. Regulation 848 Chapter I, Article 3
Ovine	Characteristic of sheep.

P, Q, R

Parental material	Any plant material the crossing or propagation of which resulted in organic heterogeneous material. Regulation 2021/1189 Article 2
Pen	An enclosure that includes a part in which animals are provided with protection from adverse weather conditions. Regulation 848 Chapter I, Article 3
Permanent pasture	Pasture which has been in existence for at least five years.
Pest	A pest as defined in Article 1(1) of Regulation EU 2016/2031 of the European parliament and of the Council. Regulation 848 Chapter I Article 3
Phytotherapeutic	The use of plant-derived substances to treat a medical condition.

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Pilot release	The introduction of alien species or translocation of locally absent species on a limited scale to assess ecological interaction with native species and habitats in order to test the risk assessment assumptions.
Plant	As defined in point 5 of Article 3 of Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009. Regulation 848 Chapter I, Article 3
Plant production	Production of agricultural crop products including harvesting of wild plant products for commercial purposes. Regulation 848 Chapter I, Article 3
Plant protection product	The products referred to in Article 2 of Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009. Regulation 848 Chapter I, Article 3
Plant products	Plant products as defined in point (6) of Article 3 of Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009. Regulation 848 Chapter I Article 3
Plant reproductive material	Plants and all parts of plants, including seeds, at any stage of growth, that are capable of, and intended for, producing entire plants. Regulation 848 Chapter I, Article 3
Pollution	In the framework of aquaculture and seaweed production means the direct or indirect introduction into the aquatic environment of substances or energy as defined in Directive 2008/56/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council. (1) and in Directive 2000/60/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council. (2) in the waters where they respectively apply.
Posology	Study of the dosages of medicines and drugs.
Potable water	Water that is safe to drink, free from pollution, harmful organisms and impurities.
Poularde	Female Gallus gallus intended for meat production and slaughtered at the minimum age of 120 days. Regulation 848 Amended by 2020/464 Article 13 (d)
Poultry house	A fixed or mobile building for accommodating flocks of poultry, which includes all surfaces covered by roofs, including a veranda; the house may be subdivided into separate compartments, each accommodating a single flock. Regulation 848 Chapter I, Article 3
Precautionary measures	Measures that are to be taken by operators at every stage of production, preparation, and distribution to avoid contamination with products or substances that are not authorised for use in organic production in accordance with this Regulation, and to avoid the commingling of organic products with non-organic products. Regulation 848 Chapter I, Article 3
Pre packaged foodstuff	A wrapped or packaged food product before sale.
Preparation/ Processing	The operations of preserving and / or processing of agricultural products (including slaughter and cutting for livestock products), and also packaging and / or alterations made to the labelling concerning the presentation of the organic production method of the fresh, preserved and / or processed products.

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Preventative measures	Measures that are to be taken by operators at every stage of production, preparation and distribution in order to ensure the preservation of biodiversity and soil quality, measures for the prevention and control of pests and diseases and measures that are to be taken to avoid negative effects on the environment, animal health and plant health. <i>Regulation 848 Chapter I, Article 3</i>
Processing aid	Any substance not consumed as a food ingredient by itself but performs a technological purpose during processing.
Processing complex	Where raw materials are processed in such a way that the nature, weight or volume is transformed.
Processing simple on farm	Simple Processing must always be on a dedicated organic site. Normally defined as where raw materials are processed in such a way that traceability and reconciliations are not difficult to follow for a producer inspector. For example: cleaning, peeling, chopping and slicing; packing (including bought in certified products) e.g. box schemes; blending (including bought in certified products) where the nature of the product is not changed e.g. muesli; processing of a single organic ingredient where nature is not changed e.g. flour milling; simple butchery.
Production unit	All assets of a holding, such as primary production premises, land parcels, pasturages, open air areas, livestock buildings or parts thereof, hives, fish ponds, containment systems and sites for algae or aquaculture animals, rearing units, shore or seabed concessions, and premises for the storage of crops, of crop products, of algae products, of animal products, of raw materials and of any other relevant inputs. <i>Regulation 848 Chapter I, Article 3</i>
Propolis	Resinous mixture that honeybees collect from tree buds, sap flow or other botanical sources.
Pullets	Young animals of the Gallus gallus species that are of an age of less than 18 weeks. <i>Regulation 848 Chapter I, Article 3</i>
Pyrethrin	Extracts of a species of chrysanthemum used as insecticides.
Quarantine	A process by which aquatic organisms and any of their associated organisms can be maintained in complete isolation from the surrounding environment.
Quarantine facility	A facility in which aquatic organisms and any of their associated organisms can be maintained in complete isolation from the surrounding environment.
Receiving Member State	The Member State into the territory of which the alien species is introduced or the locally absent species is translocated.

S, T, U

Safeners	Substances or preparations which are added to a plant protection product to eliminate or reduce phytotoxic effects of the plant protection product on certain plants, referred to as 'safeners'. <i>Regulation 1107/2009 Article 2 (3)</i>
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Sending Member State	The Member State from the territory of which the alien species is introduced or the locally absent species is translocated.
Simultaneous conversion	Conversion of land and animals simultaneously from the beginning of conversion period. Both become organic at the same time.
Slow Growing Strains	NICA classify Slow Growing Strains as poultry under organic management as strains wherein the live weight gain per day does not exceed 45g (or in the case of turkeys, 55g per day), averaged over the life of the bird. This may soon be supplemented by a list of particular strains classified as slow growing.
Small packages	Packages containing seed up to the maximum quantities provided for in Annex II. Regulation 2021/1189 Article 2
Soil related crop cultivation	Production in living soil or in soil that is mixed or fertilised with materials and products that are allowed in organic production in connection with the subsoil and bedrock. Regulation 848 Chapter I, Article 3
Synergists	Substances or preparations which, while showing no or only weak activity as referred to in paragraph 1, can give enhanced activity to the active substance(s) in a plant protection product, referred to as 'synergists'. Regulation 1107/2009 Article 2 (3)
Third country	A country that is not a member of the European Union.
Torrefaction	Drying or roasting.
Traceability	The ability to trace and follow food, feed or any product and any substance intended or expected to be incorporated into food, feed or any product through all stages of production, preparation and distribution. Regulation 848 Chapter I, Article 3
Transhumance	When animals are moved on foot from high ground to low ground, or vice versa.
Translocation	The process by which a locally absent species is intentionally moved within its natural range for its use in aquaculture to an area where it previously did not exist because of bio-geographical reasons.
UKAS	United Kingdom Accreditation Service - The UK body responsible for accrediting certification bodies to EN45011/ISO65.
Usable area	As defined in point (d) of Article 2(2) of Council Directive 1999/74/EC. Regulation 848 Chapter I, Article 3

V, W, X, Y, Z

Varroa destructor	An external parasitic mite that attacks honeybees.
Veranda	An additional, roofed, uninsulated, outdoor part of a building intended for poultry, the longest side usually being equipped with wire fencing or netting, with an outdoor climate, natural and, where necessary, artificial illumination, and a littered floor. Regulation 848 Chapter I Article 3

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Veterinary medicinal products	Products used as a curative or preventative treatment against a specific disease. <i>Regulation 848 Chapter I, Article 3</i>
Veterinary treatment	All courses of a curative or preventive treatment against one occurrence of a specific disease. <i>Regulation 848 Chapter I, Article 3</i>
Zoonoses	Diseases that are transferable from animals to humans.
Zootechnical	Relating to the science and technology of animal husbandry.

This Standard was compiled by John Weldon and Vivien McBride : Organic Food Federation