



# **Ecocert Organic Standard**

V05



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## I. Aim, Scope and definitions

#### 1. Aim

- a) This Standard provides the basis for the sustainable development of organic production while ensuring the effective functioning of the market, guaranteeing fair competition, ensuring consumer confidence and protecting consumer interests. It establishes common objectives and principles to underpin the rules set out under this Standard concerning:
  - (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.
- b) This Standard lays down specific rules on organic production, labelling and control in respect of products referred in Scope

#### 2. Scope

This Standard shall apply to the following categories of products originating from agriculture, including aquaculture:

## A: Unprocessed plant products

## B: Live animals or unprocessed animal products

## C: Unprocessed aquaculture products and algae

This Standard lays down detailed production rules for the collection and farming of seaweed. It applies to the production of all multi-cellular marine algae or phytoplankton and micro-algae.

This Standard shall not apply to Aquaculture animals other than:

Echinoderms, molluscs and species of fish and crustaceans as listed in Chapter (F) 10.1 to 10.8 of Title IV.

It applies mutatis mutandis to zooplankton, micro-crustaceans, rotifers, worms and other aquatic feed animals.

The products of hunting and fishing of wild animals shall not be considered as organic production.

D: Processed agricultural products, including yeast for use as food

E: Processed agricultural products, including yeast for use as feed

F: Vegetative propagating material and seeds for cultivation

## 3. Operators concerned

This Standard shall apply to any operator involved in activities, at any stage of production, preparation and distribution, relating to the products set out in Article 2.

However, mass catering operations shall not be subject to this Standard.

#### 4. Legal framework

This Standard shall apply without prejudice to other community provisions or national provisions, in conformity with Community law concerning products specified in paragraph 2, such as provisions governing the production, preparation, marketing, labelling and control, including legislation on foodstuffs and animal nutrition.

## 5. Definitions

For the purposes of this Standard, the following definitions shall apply:

<u>Advertising</u> means any representation to the public, by any means other than a label, that is intended or is likely to influence and shape attitude, beliefs and behaviors in order to promote directly or indirectly the sale of organic products;



<u>Algae</u> Unicellular or multicellular plant organism, able to photosynthesis, living in an aquatic or humid environment and belonging to diverse groups and which doesn't have the characteristic tissues of plants (roots, stems, leaves) and no reproduction by flowering. Algae constitute the basis of food chains for aquatic ecosystems in fresh, sea or brackish water, are very diversified and classified in 11 groups.

<u>Prokaryotic algae</u> Primitive algae whose cell, as bacteria, doesn't possess a nucleus (free DNA) nor cellular organelle (1 group). Blue-green algae like Spirulina (Arthrospira platensis or A. geitleri) belong to this group.

Eukaryotic algae Unicellular or multicellular algae (filamentous or with a thallus) which possess a nucleus (10 groups). Cyanobacteria or cyanophyta Prokaryotic or blue-green algae family. Their color is due to the presence of pigments (green chlorophyll, red and orange carotenoid pigments, yellow xanthophyll, blue phycocyanin and red phycoerythrin). Their former designation as blue-green algae is due to the presence of phycocyanin. Cyanobacteriae are able to adopt different metabolisms for carbon (autotrophy from dissolved CO2 in water, heterotrophy from organic compounds in water) and for nitrogen (use of mineral salts, as upper plants, from ammonium, nitrate, but also from gaseous nitrogen N2 dissolved by fixation). Spirulina (Arthrospira platensis) is not a cyanobacteria able to fix nitrogen from the air.

<u>Use of algae</u> About fifty species of wild or cultivated algae are edible and used as food or feed directly or as a food supplements (case of spirulina, chlorella...), or in additive or processing aid form (thickeners, gelling agents as agar or carrageenans from red algae). Other species are cultivated for the production of biomass for the treatment of wastewaters (wetland with microphytes), for the production of active molecules (natural pigments ...) or energy (lipids and alkanes).

<u>Aquaculture</u> means the rearing or cultivation of aquatic organisms using techniques designed to increase the production of the organisms in question beyond the natural capacity of the environment; the organisms remain the property of a natural or legal person throughout the rearing or culture stage, up to and including harvesting;

<u>Aquaculture products</u> means aquatic organisms at any stage of their life cycle resulting from any aquaculture activity or products derived therefrom;

## Basic substance means an active substance which:

- Is not a substance of concern
- Does not have an inherent capacity to cause endocrine disrupting, neurotoxic or immunotoxic effects
- Is not predominantly used for plant protection purposes but nevertheless is useful in plant protection either directly or in a product consisting of the substance and a simple diluent
- Is not placed on the market as a plant protection product

<u>Closed recirculation aquaculture facility</u> means a facility where aquaculture takes place within an enclosed environment on land or on a vessel involving the recirculation of water, and depending on permanent external energy input to stabilize the environment for the aquaculture animals;

<u>Competent authority</u> means the central authority of a Member State competent for the organization of official controls in the field of organic production in accordance with the provisions set out under Regulation EC N° 834/2007, or any other authority on which that competence has been conferred to; it shall also include, where appropriate, the corresponding authority of a third country;

<u>Consignment</u> means a quantity of products under one or more Combined Nomenclature codes, covered by a single certificate of inspection, conveyed by the same means of transport and imported from the same third country

<u>Control authority</u> means a public administrative organization of a Member State to which the competent authority has conferred, in whole or in part, its competence for the inspection and certification in the field of organic



production in accordance with the provisions set out under Regulation EC N° 834/2007; it shall also include, where appropriate, the corresponding authority of a third country or the corresponding authority operating in a third country;

<u>Control body</u> means an independent private third party carrying out inspection and certification in the field of organic production in accordance with the provisions set out under Regulation EC N° 834/2007; it shall also include, where appropriate, the corresponding body of a third country or the corresponding body operating in a third country;

<u>Control file</u> means the declaration of the operator including the unit description and the precautionary measures, the report (according to VIII (B) .1 b)), the list of products with the certification status and the list of non-compliances on the last 3 years

<u>Conversion</u> means the transition from non-organic to organic farming within a given period of time, during which the provisions concerning the organic production have been applied;

<u>Energy from renewable sources</u> means renewable non-fossil energy sources: wind, solar, geothermal, wave, tidal, hydropower, landfill gas, sewage treatment plant gas and biogases;

**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;

<u>Exporter</u> operator from a third country exporting to EU, performing the last operation for the purpose of preparation and sealing the products in appropriate packaging or containers;

<u>Feed</u> (or 'feedingstuff') means any substance or product, including additives, whether processed, partially processed or unprocessed, intended to be used for oral feeding to animals;

<u>Feed additives</u> means substances, micro-organisms or preparations, other than feed material and premature, which are intentionally added to feed or water in order to perform, in particular, one or more of the following functions:

- \*favorably affect the characteristics of feed,
- \*favorably affect the characteristics of animal products,
- \*favorably affect the color of ornamental fish and birds, \*satisfy the nutritional needs of animals,
- \*favorably affect the environmental consequences of animal production,
- \*favorably affect animal production, performance or welfare, particularly by affecting the gastro-intestinal flora or digestibility of feedingstuffs, or \*have a coccidiostatic or histomonostatic effect.

<u>First consignee</u> means the natural or legal person within the European Union where the imported consignment is delivered and where it will be handled for further preparation and/or marketing;

<u>Food</u> (or 'foodstuff') means any substance or product, whether processed, partially processed or unprocessed, intended to be, or reasonably expected to be ingested by humans. 'Food' includes drink, chewing gum and any substance, including water, intentionally incorporated into the food during its manufacture, preparation or treatment.

#### **GMO**

<u>Genetically modified organism (GMO)</u> means an organism, with the exception of human beings, in which the genetic material has been altered in a way that does not occur naturally by mating and/or natural recombination and which is not obtained through the following techniques of genetic modifications: mutagenesis and cell fusion (including protoplast fusion) of plant cells of organisms which can exchange genetic material through traditional breeding methods.



<u>Produced from GMOs</u> means derived in whole or in part from GMOs but not containing or consisting of GMOs; <u>Produced by GMOs</u> means derived by using a GMO as the last living organism in the production process, but not containing or consisting of GMOs nor produced from GMOs;

<u>Hatchery</u> means a place of breeding, hatching and rearing through the early life stages of aquaculture animals, finfish and shellfish in particular;

<u>Holding</u> means all the production units operated under a single management for the purpose of producing agricultural products;

<u>Hydroponic production</u> means 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;

<u>Importer</u> means the natural or legal person within the European Union who presents a consignment for release for free circulation into the Union, either on its own, or through a representative;

<u>Ingredient</u> means any substance, including additives, used in the manufacture or preparation of a foodstuff and still present in the finished product, even if in altered form.

<u>In-conversion feeding stuffs</u> means feeding stuffs produced during the conversion period to organic production, with the exclusion of those harvested in the 12 months following the beginning of the conversion as referred to in Chapter (A).2 a) of Title IV.

<u>Ionising radiation</u> definition given in Council Directive 96/29/Euratom of 13 May 1996 laying down basic safety standards for the protection of the health of workers and the general public against the dangers arising from ionising radiation and as restricted by Article 1(2) of Directive 1999/2/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 22 February1999 on the approximation of the laws of the Member States concerning foods and food ingredients treated with ionising radiation;

<u>Labelling</u> means any terms, words, particulars, trademarks, brand name, pictorial matter or symbol relating to and placed on any packaging, document, notice, label, board, ring or collar accompanying or referring to a product;

**Livestock production** means the production of domestic or domesticated terrestrial animals (including insects);

<u>Livestock manure</u> means waste products excreted by livestock or a mixture of litter and waste products excreted by livestock, even in processed form.

<u>Locally grown species</u> in the framework of aquaculture and algae production, means those which are neither alien nor locally absent species

<u>Mark of conformity</u> means the assertion of conformity to a particular set of standards or other normative documents in the form of a mark;

<u>Mass catering operations</u> means 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.

Non-organic means not coming from or not related to a production in accordance to this Standard



<u>Nursery</u> means a place where an intermediate farming system, between the hatchery and grow-out stages is applied. The nursery stage is completed within the first third of the production cycle with the exception of species undergoing a smoltification process;

<u>Operator</u> means the natural or legal persons responsible for ensuring that the requirements of this Standard are met within the organic business under their control;

**Organic** means coming from or related to organic production.

In the framework of Ecocert Organic Standard, the "organic" ingredients, animals, food, feed, vegetative propagating materials and seeds are those :

- Certified according to this standard or by a control body or control authority recognized in accordance with article 33(3) of REC N° 834/2007 and listed in Annex IV of REC N° 1235/2008 or
- Produced and certified within the scope of a third country recognized in accordance with article 33(2) of REC N° 834/2007 and listed in Annex III of REC N° 1235/2008 or
- Produced and certified in the European Union un accordance with REC N° 834/2007;

<u>Organic production</u> means the use of the production method compliant with the rules established in this Standard, at all stages of production, preparation and distribution;

<u>Placing on the market</u> means the holding of food or feed for the purpose of sale, including offering for sale or any other form of transfer, whether free of charge or not, and the sale, distribution, and other forms of transfer themselves;

<u>Plant production</u> means production of agricultural crop products including harvesting of wild plant products for commercial purposes;

<u>Plant protection products</u> means active substances and preparations containing one or more active substances, put up in the form in which they are supplied to the user, intended to:

- \*protect plants or plant products against all harmful organisms or prevent the action of such organisms, in so far as such substances or preparations are not otherwise defined below;
- \*influence the life processes of plants, other than as a nutrient, (e.g. growth regulators);
- \*preserve plant products, in so far as such substances or products are not subject to special Council of Commission provisions on preservatives;
- \*destroy undesired plants; or
- \*destroy parts of plants, check or prevent undesired growth of plants;

<u>Pollution</u> in the framework of aquaculture and algae 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 and in Directive 2000/60/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council, in the waters where they respectively apply;

<u>Polyculture</u> in the framework of aquaculture and algae production, means the rearing of two or more species usually from different trophic levels in the same culture unit;

<u>Pre-packaged foodstuff</u> shall mean any single item for presentation as such to the ultimate consumer and to mass caterers, consisting of a foodstuff and the packaging into which it was put before being offered for sale, whether such packaging encloses the foodstuff completely or only partially, but in any case in such a way that the contents cannot be altered without opening or changing the packaging.



<u>Preparation</u> means the operations of preserving and/ or processing of organic products, including slaughter and cutting for livestock products, and also packaging, labelling and/ or alterations made to the labelling concerning the organic production method;

<u>Preserving</u> means any action, different from farming and harvesting, that is carried out on products, but which does not qualify as processing, including all unprocessed actions and excluding packaging or labelling of the product;

<u>Processing</u> means any action that substantially alters the initial product including the use of substances referred to in Chapter (C).2a of Title V. Packaging or labelling operations shall not be considered as processing.

<u>Processed</u> means foodstuffs resulting from the processing of unprocessed products. These products may contain ingredients that are necessary for their manufacture or to give them specific characteristics. Irrespective of packaging and labelling operations

<u>Unprocessed</u> means foodstuffs that have not undergone processing irrespective of packaging and labelling operations.

<u>Processing aid</u> means any substance not consumed as a food ingredient by itself, intentionally used in the processing of raw materials, foods or their ingredients, to fulfil a certain technological purpose during treatment or processing and which may result in the unintentional but technically unavoidable presence of residues of the substance or its derivatives in the final product, provided that these residues do not present any health risk and do not have any technological effect on the finished product;

<u>Production cycle</u> in the framework of aquaculture and algae production, means the lifespan of an aquaculture animal or seaweed from the earliest life stage to harvesting;

<u>Production unit</u> means all assets to be used for a production sector such as production premises, land parcels, pasturages, open air areas, livestock buildings, fish ponds, containment systems for seaweed or aquaculture animals, shore or seabed concessions, the premises for the storage of crops, crop products, seaweed products, animal products, raw materials and any other input relevant for this specific production sector;

<u>Stages of production, preparation and distribution</u> means any stage from and including the primary production of an organic product up to and including its storage, processing, transport, sale or supply to the final consumer, and where relevant labelling, advertising, import, export and subcontracting activities;

**Stocking density** in the framework of aquaculture, means the live weight of animals per cubic meter of water at any time during the grow-out phase and in the case of flatfish and shrimp the weight per square meter of surface.

<u>Sustainable exploitation</u> means the exploitation of a stock in such a way that the future exploitation of the stock will not be prejudiced and that it does not have a negative impact on the marine eco-systems;

<u>Veterinary medicinal products:</u> means any substance or combination of substances presented as having properties for treating or preventing disease in animals; or any substance or combination of substances which may be used in or administered to animals with a view either to restoring, correcting or modifying physiological functions by exerting a pharmacological, immunological or metabolic action, or to making a medical diagnosis.

<u>Veterinary treatment</u> means all courses of a curative or preventive treatment against one occurrence of a specific disease;



## **Water**

- <u>Fresh water</u> Continental water with a salinity about less than 1 g/l (water from rain, snow melting, watercourse, des lakes, reservoir or non-salted aquifer).
- Salted water means water from ocean or sea with a composition similar to sea water, i.e. in which sodium chloride is dominant (25 to 40 g/l).
- <u>Brackish water and with a variable salinity</u> Water with a salt content noticeably lower than the one of sea water. The concentration of dissolved salts is generally between 1 and 15 g/l (for an upper concentration, we talk about salted water). They are created mainly by mixing of fresh water with sea water, in costal lagoons, rivers' estuaries, or in continental area with supply of salted springs. According to the supplies in fresh water, the tides and evaporation, these waters change in salinity during time.

**Drinking water** within the meaning of Council Directive 98/83/EC

## II. Objectives and principles for organic production

#### 1. Objectives

Organic production shall pursue the following general objectives:

- a) Establish a sustainable management system for agriculture that:
  - \* respects nature's systems and cycles and sustains and enhances the health of soil, water, plants and animals and the balance between them;
  - \* contributes to a high level of biological diversity;
  - \* makes responsible use of energy and the natural resources, such as water, soil, organic matter and air;
  - \* respects high animal welfare standards and in particular meets animals' species-specific behavioural needs;
- b) Aim at producing products of high quality;
- c) Aim at producing a wide variety of foods and other agricultural products that respond to consumers' demand for goods produced by the use of processes that do not harm the environment, human health, plant health or animal health and welfare.

## 2. Overall principles

Organic production shall be based on the following principles:

- a) The appropriate design and management of biological processes based on ecological systems using natural resources which are internal to the system by methods that:
  - \* use living organisms and mechanical production methods;
  - \* practice land-related crop cultivation and livestock production or practice aquaculture which complies with the principle of sustainable exploitation of fisheries;
  - \* exclude the use of GMOs and products produced from or by GMOs with the exception of veterinary medicinal products;
  - \* are based on risk assessment, and the use of precautionary and preventive measures, when appropriate;
- b) The restriction of the use of external inputs. Where external inputs are required or the appropriate management practices and methods referred to in paragraph (a) do not exist, these shall be limited to:
  - \* Inputs from organic production;
  - \* Natural or naturally-derived substances;
  - \* Low solubility mineral fertilisers;
- c) The strict limitation of the use of chemically synthesised inputs to exceptional cases these being:
  - \* Where the appropriate management practices do not exist; and



- \* The external inputs referred to in paragraph (b) are not available on the market; or
- \* Where the use of external inputs referred to in paragraph (b) contributes to unacceptable environmental impacts;
- d) the adaptation, where necessary, and within the framework of this Standard, of the rules of organic production taking account of sanitary status, regional differences in climate and local conditions, stages of development and specific husbandry practices.

## 3. Specific principles applicable to farming

In addition to the overall principles set out in article 2, organic farming shall be based on the following specific principles:

- a) the maintenance and enhancement of soil life and natural soil fertility, soil stability and soil biodiversity preventing and combating soil compaction and soil erosion, and the nourishing of plants primarily through the soil ecosystem;
- b) The minimization of the use of non-renewable resources and off-farm inputs;
- c) The recycling of wastes and by-products of plant and animal origin as input in plant and livestock production;
- d) Taking account of the local or regional ecological balance when taking production decisions;
- e) The maintenance of animal health by encouraging the natural immunological defense of the animal, as well as the selection of appropriate breeds and husbandry practices;
- f) the maintenance of plant health by preventative measures, such as the choice of appropriate species and varieties resistant to pests and diseases, appropriate crop rotations, mechanical and physical methods and the protection of natural enemies of pests;
- g) The practice of site-adapted and land-related livestock production;
- h) The observance of a high level of animal welfare respecting species-specific needs;
- i) The production of products of organic livestock from animals that have been raised on organic holdings since birth or hatching and throughout their life;
- j) The choice of breeds having regard to the capacity of animals to adapt to local conditions, their vitality and their resistance to disease or health problems;
- k) The feeding of livestock with organic feed composed of agricultural ingredients from organic farming and of natural non-agricultural substances;
- I) The application of animal husbandry practices, which enhance the immune system and strengthen the natural defense against diseases, in particular including regular exercise and access to open air areas and pastureland where appropriate;
- m) The exclusion of rearing artificially induced polyploid animals;
- n) the maintenance of the biodiversity of natural aquatic ecosystems, the continuing health of the aquatic environment and the quality of surrounding aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems in aquaculture production;



o) The feeding of aquatic organisms with feed from sustainable exploitation of fisheries or with organic feed composed of agricultural ingredients from organic farming and of natural non-agricultural substances.

## 4. Specific principles applicable to processing of organic food

In addition to the overall principles set out in Article 2, the production of processed organic food shall be based on the following specific principles:

- a) The production of organic food from organic agricultural ingredients, except where an ingredient is not available on the market in organic form;
- b) the restriction of the use of food additives, of non-organic ingredients with mainly technological and sensory functions and of micronutrients and processing aids, so that they are used to a minimum extent and only in case of essential technological need or for particular nutritional purposes;
- c) The exclusion of substances and processing methods that might be misleading regarding the true nature of the product;
- d) The processing of food with care, preferably with the use of biological, mechanical and physical methods.

## 5. Specific principles applicable to processing of organic feed

In addition to the overall principles set out in Article 2, the production of processed organic feed shall be based on the following specific principles:

- a) The production of organic feed from organic feed materials, except where a feed material is not available on the market in organic form;
- b) The restriction of the use of feed additives and processing aids to a minimum extent and only in case of essential technological or zootechnical needs or for particular nutritional purposes;
- c) The exclusion of substances and processing methods that might be misleading as to the true nature of the product;
- d) The processing of feed with care, preferably with the use of biological, mechanical and physical methods.

## III. <u>General production rules on production, processing, packaging, transport and storage</u> of organic products

## 1. Prohibition on the use of GMOs

- a) 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, algae strains, micro-organisms and animals in organic production.
- b) For the purpose of the prohibition referred to in paragraph a), operators using such non-organic products purchased from third parties shall require the vendor to confirm that the products supplied have not been produced from or by GMOs.

## 2. Prohibition on the use of ionizing radiation

The use of ionising radiation for the treatment of organic food or feed, or of raw materials used in organic food or feed is prohibited.



## 3. Exceptional production rules

- 1) Ecocert may, in accordance with the conditions set out in paragraph 2 of this article and subject to the objectives and principles laid down in Title II, provide for the granting of exceptions from the production rules laid down in Titles III to V.
- 2) Exceptions as referred to in paragraph 1 shall be kept to a minimum and, where appropriate, limited in time and may only be provided for in the following cases:
  - (i) Where they are necessary in order to ensure that organic production can be initiated or maintained on holdings confronted with climatic, geographical or structural constraints.
  - (ii) Where it is necessary in order to ensure access to feed, seed and vegetative propagating material, live animals and other farm inputs, where such inputs are not available on the market in organic form.
  - (iii) Where it is necessary in order to ensure access to ingredients of agricultural origin, where such ingredients are not available on the market in organic form.
  - (iv) Where they are necessary in order to solve specific problems related to the management of organic livestock.
  - (v) where they are necessary with regard to the use of specific products and substances in the processing referred to in Chapter (C).2 a)of Title V in order to ensure production of well-established food products in organic form;
  - (vi) Where temporary measures are necessary in order to allow organic production to continue or recommence in the case of catastrophic circumstances
  - (vii) where it is necessary to use food additives and other substances as set out in Chapter (C).2 (a) of Title V or feed additives and other substances as set out in Chapter (G).1(d) of Title IV and such substances are not available on the market other than produced by GMOs;
  - (viii) where the use of food additives and other substances as set out in Chapter (C).2 (a) of Title V or feed additives as set out in Chapter (G).1(d) of Title IV is required on the basis of national law.

## **IV. Farm Production**

## (A). General farm production rules

## 1. Mixity

The entire agricultural holding shall be managed in compliance with the requirements applicable to organic production.

However, a holding may be split up into clearly separated units or aquaculture production sites which are not all managed under organic production. As regards animals, different species shall be involved. As regards aquaculture the same species may be involved, provided that there is adequate separation between the production sites. As regards plants, different varieties that can be easily differentiated shall be involved.

Where, in accordance with the second subparagraph, not all units of a holding are used for organic production, the operator shall keep the land, animals, and products used for, or produced by, the organic units separate from those used for, or produced by, the non-organic units and keep adequate records to show the separation.

## 2. Conversion rules

The following rules shall apply to a farm on which organic production is started:

- a) The conversion period shall start at the earliest when the operator has notified his activity and subjected to ECOCERT his holding to the control system
- b) During the conversion period all rules established by this Standard shall apply.



- c) On a holding or unit partly under organic production and partly in conversion to organic production, the operator shall keep the organically produced and in-conversion products separate and the animals separate or readily separable and keep adequate records to show the separation;
- d) Conversion periods specific to the type of crop or animal production shall be defined:

## 2.1. Plant and plant products

#### 2.1.1 Normal conversion

For plants and plant products to be considered organic, the production rules as referred to in Articles 1 and 2 of Title III, Chapters (A)1 & (B) of Title IV of this Standard and where applicable the exceptional production rules in Article 3 of Title III of this Standard must have been applied on the parcels during a conversion period of:

- a) At least two years before sowing for non-perennial crops
- b) In the case of grassland or perennial forage, at least two years before its use as feed from organic farming
- c) In the case of perennial crops other than forage, at least three years before the first harvest of organic products.

#### 2.1.2 Retroactive recognition

In order to determine the conversion period referred to in Article 2.1.1, a period immediately preceding the date of the start of the conversion period, may be taken into account, in so far as certain conditions concur.

Ecocert may decide to recognize retroactively as being part of the conversion period any previous period in which:

- a) The land parcels were subject of measures defined in a programme implemented for the protection of environment or in another official equivalent programme, provided that the measures concerned ensure that products not authorized for organic production have not been used on those parcels.
- b) The parcels were natural or agricultural areas which were not treated with products not authorized for organic production.

The period referred to this point can be taken into consideration retroactively only where satisfactory proof has been furnished to Ecocert allowing it to satisfy itself that the conditions were met for a period of at least three years.

#### 2.1.3 Extension of the conversion period

- a) Ecocert may decide, in certain cases, where the land had been contaminated with products not authorized for organic production, to extend the conversion period beyond the period referred to in Article 2.1.1.
- b) In the case of parcels which have already been converted to or were in the process of conversion to organic farming, and which are treated with a product not authorized for organic production, Ecocert may shorten the conversion period referred to in Article 2.1.1 in the following two cases:
  - (i) Parcels treated with a product not authorized for organic production as part of a compulsory disease or pest control measure imposed by the competent authority of the country.
  - (ii) Parcels treated with a product not authorized for organic production as part of scientific tests approved by the competent authority of the country.
- c) The length of the conversion period shall be fixed taking into account of the following factors:
  - (i) The process of degradation of the product concerned shall 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 sold with reference to organic production methods.

## 2.2. Seaweed

a) The conversion period for a seaweed harvesting site shall be six months.



- b) The conversion period for a seaweed cultivation unit shall be the longer of six months or one full production cycle.
  - 2.3. Micro-algae in terrestrial fresh or brackish water
- a) The conversion period for the algae harvest shall be six months
- b) The conversion period for a new algae cultivation unit shall be the longer of six months or one full production cycle
  - 2.4 Specific conversion rules for land associated with organic livestock production
- a) The conversion rules as referred to in Article 2.1.1 of this Standard shall apply to the whole area of the production unit on which animal feed is produced.
- b) Notwithstanding the provisions in paragraph a), the conversion period may be reduced to one year for pasturages and open air areas used by non-herbivore species.

This period may be reduced to six months where the land concerned has not during the last year, received treatments with products not authorized for organic production.

## 2.5. Livestock and livestock products

- a) Where non-organic livestock has been brought onto a holding in accordance with Chapter (D) 1.3 of this Title and if livestock products are to be sold as organic products, the production rules as referred to in Title III, and Chapters (A)1 & (D) of Title IV of this Standard must have been applied for at least:
  - (i) 12 months in the case of equidae and bovines, including buballus and bison species, for meat production, and in any case at least three guarters of their lifetime
  - (ii) six months in the case of small ruminants and pigs and animals for milk production
  - (iii) 10 weeks for poultry for meat production, brought in before they are three days old;
  - (iv) six weeks in the case of poultry for egg production.
- b) Where non-organic animals exist on a holding at the beginning of the conversion period their products may be deemed organic if there is simultaneous conversion of the complete production unit, including livestock, pasturage and/or any land used for animal feed. The total combined conversion period for both existing animals and their offspring, pasturage and/or any land used for animal feed, may be reduced to 24 months, if the animals are mainly fed with products from the production unit.

#### 2.6. Bees

- a) Beekeeping products can be sold with references to the organic production method only when the organic production rules have been complied with for at least one year.
- b) The conversion period for apiaries does not apply in the case of application of Chapter (E) 1.2 of Title IV of this Regulation.
- c) During the conversion period the wax shall be replaced with wax coming from organic beekeeping.

## 2.7. Aquaculture animal production

- a) The following conversion periods for aquaculture production units shall apply for the following types of aquaculture facilities including the existing aquaculture animals:
  - (i) For facilities that cannot be drained, cleaned and disinfected, a conversion period of 24 months;
  - (ii) For facilities that have been drained, or fallowed, a conversion period of 12 months;
  - (iii) For facilities that have been drained, cleaned and disinfected a conversion period of six months;
  - (iv) For open water facilities including those farming bivalve molluscs, a three month conversion period.



- (v) For crustaceans a conversion period of six months per pond (corresponding to the normal lifespan of a farmed shrimp).
- b) Ecocert may decide to recognize retroactively as being part of the conversion period any previously documented period in which the facilities were not treated or exposed to products not authorized for organic production.

## (B). Plant production rules

## 1. General plant production rules

In addition to the general farm production rules laid down in Chapter (A), the following rules shall apply to organic plant production:

- a) Organic plant production shall use tillage and cultivation practices that maintain or increase soil organic matter, enhance soil stability and soil biodiversity, and prevent soil compaction and soil erosion;
- b) the fertility and biological activity of the soil shall be maintained and increased by multiannual crop rotation including legumes and other green manure crops, and by the application of livestock manure or organic material, both preferably composted, from organic production;
- c) The use of biodynamic preparations is allowed;

## 2. <u>Exceptional production rules related to climatic, geographical or structural constraints in accordance with Article (3).2 (i) of Title III: Parallel production</u>

Where the conditions laid down in Article (3).2 (i) of Title III apply, a producer may run organic and non-organic production units in the same area:

- a) In the case of the production of perennial crops, which require a cultivation period of at least three years, where varieties cannot be easily differentiated, provided the following conditions are met:
  - (i) the production in question forms part of a conversion plan in respect of which the producer gives a firm undertaking and which provides for the beginning of the conversion of the last part of the area concerned to organic production in the shortest possible period which may not in any event exceed a maximum of five years.
  - (ii) Appropriate measures have been taken to ensure the permanent separation of the products obtained from each unit concerned.
  - (iii) Ecocert is notified of the harvest of each of the products concerned at least 48 hours in advance.
  - (iv) Upon completion of the harvest, the producer informs Ecocert of the exact quantities harvested on the units concerned and of the measures applied to separate the products.
  - (v) The conversion plan and the control measures have been approved by Ecocert; this approval shall be confirmed each year after the start of the conversion plan.
- b) In the case of areas intended for agricultural research or formal education agreed by Ecocert and provided the conditions set out in point (a)(ii)(iii)(iv) and the relevant part of point (v) are met;
- c) In the case of production of seed, vegetative propagating material and transplants and provided the conditions set out in point (a)(ii)(iii)(iv) and the relevant part of point (v) are met;
- d) In the case of grassland exclusively used for grazing (but not for hay production). The operator shall implement a register indicating the dates of animal presence on the parcels.

## 3. Soil management and fertilization

a) Mineral nitrogen fertilisers shall not be used;



Chapter (G) of this Title.

- b) All plant production techniques used shall prevent or minimize any contribution to the contamination of the environment:
- c) Where the nutritional needs of plants cannot be met by measures provided for in Chapter (B).1 of this Title, only fertilisers and soil conditioners referred to in Annex I to this Standard may be used in organic production and only to the extent necessary. Operators shall keep documentary evidence of the need to use the product.

  Fertilisers and soil conditioners may only be used if they have been authorized for use in organic production under
- d) The total amount of livestock manure applied on the holding may not exceed 170 kg of nitrogen per year/hectare of agricultural area used. This limit shall only apply to the use of farmyard manure, dried farmyard manure and dehydrated poultry manure, composted animal excrements, including poultry manure, composted farmyard manure and liquid animal excrements.
- e) Organic-production holdings may establish written cooperation agreements exclusively with other holdings and enterprises which comply with the organic production rules, with the intention of spreading surplus manure from organic production. The maximum limit as referred to paragraph d), shall be calculated on the basis of all of the organic-production units involved in such cooperation.
- f) Appropriate preparations of micro-organisms may be used to improve the overall condition of the soil or the availability of nutrients in the soil or in the crops.
- g) For compost activation appropriate plant-based preparations or preparations of micro-organisms may be used.

#### 4. Prohibition of hydroponic production

Hydroponic production is prohibited.

## 5. Pest, disease and weed management

- a) The prevention of damage caused by pests, diseases and weeds shall rely primarily on the protection by natural enemies, the choice of species and varieties, crop rotation, cultivation techniques and thermal processes;
- b) Where plants cannot be adequately protected from pests and diseases by measures provided for in Chapter (B).1 of this Title, only products referred to in Annex II to this Standard may be used in organic production. Operators shall keep documentary evidence of the need to use the product.
- In the case of an established threat to a crop, plant protection products may only be used if they have been authorized for use in organic production under Chapter (G) of this Title.
- c) For products used in traps and dispensers, except pheromone dispensers, the traps and/or dispensers, shall prevent the substances from being released into the environment and prevent contact between the substances and the crops being cultivated. The traps shall be collected after use and disposed of safely.
- d) Products for cleaning and disinfection in plant production shall be used only if they have been authorized for use in organic production under Chapter (G) of this Title.

## 6. Seeds

## 6.1 Normal case

For the production of products other than seed and vegetative propagating material only organically produced seed and propagating material shall be used. To this end, the mother plant in the case of seeds and the parent plant in the case of vegetative propagating material shall have been produced in accordance with the rules laid down in this Standard for at least one generation, or, in the case of perennial crops, two growing seasons.



- 6.2 Exceptional production rules related to non-availability of organic farm inputs in accordance with Article (3).2 (ii) of Title III: Use of seed or vegetative propagating material not obtained by the organic production method
- a) Where the conditions laid down in Article (3).2 (ii) of Title III apply:
  - (i) Seed and vegetative propagating material from a production unit in conversion to organic farming may be used,
  - (ii) Where point (i) is not applicable, Ecocert may authorize the use of non-organic seed or vegetative propagating material if not available from organic production. The operator must fill in the specific form available upon request.

However, for the use of non-organic seed and seed potatoes the following paragraphs (b) to (f) apply.

- b) non-organic seed and seed potatoes may be used, provided that the seed or seed potatoes are not treated with plant protection products, other than those authorized for treatment of seed listed in Annex II, unless chemical treatment is prescribed in accordance for phytosanitary purposes by the national legislation for all varieties of a given species in the area where the seed or seed potatoes are to be used.
- c) Authorization to use seed or seed potatoes not obtained by the organic production method may only be granted in the following cases:
  - (i) where no supplier, meaning an operator who markets seed or seed potatoes to other operators, is able to deliver the seed or seed potatoes before sowing or planting in situations where the user has ordered the seed or seed potatoes in reasonable time;
  - (ii) Where the user is able to demonstrate that none of the organic alternatives of the same species are appropriate and that the authorization therefore is significant for his production;
  - (iii) Where it is justified for use in research, test in small-scale field trials or for variety conservation purposes agreed by Ecocert
- d) The authorization shall be granted before the sowing of the crop.
- e) The authorization shall be granted only to individual users for one season at a time
- f) By way of derogation from paragraph e), Ecocert may grant to all users of a given country a general authorization for a given species or a given variety.

#### 7. Wild collection

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

- a) Those areas have not, for a period of at least three years before the collection, received treatment with products other than those authorized for use in organic production
- b) The collection does not affect the stability of the natural habitat or the maintenance of the species in the collection area.
- c) The collectors shall be trained and supervised by local experts responsible for the sustainable collection within the determined area
- d) If relevant, an official permission shall be obtained from the local authorities prior to the collection operations, and the permitted quantities shall be respected.
- e) A part of the collected products shall not be protected species and/or national law shall not forbid their collection (according to CITES website, and national red lists).



## 8. Specific rules on mushroom production

For production of mushrooms, substrates may be used, if they are composed only of the following components:

- a) Farmyard manure and animal excrements:
- Either from holdings producing according to the organic production method;
- or referred to in Annex I, only when the product referred to above is not available; and when they do not exceed 25 % of the weight of total components of the substrate, excluding the covering material and any added water, before composting;
- b) Other products of agricultural origin, from holdings producing according to organic production method;
- c) Peat not chemically treated;
- d) wood, not treated with chemical products after felling;
- e) Mineral products referred to in Annex I, water and soil.

## (C). Production rules for Algae

## 1. Suitability of aquatic medium

Operations shall be situated in locations that are not subject to contamination by products or substances not authorized for organic production, or pollutants that would compromise the organic nature of the products.

#### 2. Mixed cultures

Organic and non-organic production units shall be separated adequately. Such separation measures shall be based on the natural situation, separate water distribution systems, distances, the tidal flow, the upstream and the downstream location of the organic production unit. ECOCERT may designate locations or areas which they consider to be unsuitable for organic aquaculture or seaweed harvesting and may also set up minimum separation distances between organic and non-organic production units.

#### 3. Sustainable Management Plan

- a) An environmental assessment proportionate to the production unit shall be required for all new operations applying for organic production and producing more than 20 tons of aquaculture products and algae per year to ascertain the conditions of the production unit and its immediate environment and likely effects of its operation. The operator shall provide the environmental assessment to ECOCERT. The content of the environmental assessment shall be based on Annex IV to Council Directive 85/337/EEC. If the unit has already been subject to an equivalent assessment, then its use shall be permitted for this purpose.
- b) The operator shall provide a sustainable management plan proportionate to the production unit for aquaculture, and algae production.
- c) the plan shall be updated annually and shall detail the environmental effects of the operation, the environmental monitoring to be undertaken, and list measures to be taken to minimize negative impacts on the surrounding aquatic and terrestrial environments, including, where applicable, nutrient discharge into the environment per production cycle or per annum. The plan shall record the surveillance and repair of technical equipment.
- d) Aquaculture and seaweed algae business operators shall by preference use renewable energy sources (solar pumps, photovoltaic solar panels, solar water-heater, wind turbines, hydroelectric turbines, biogas engines,).
- e) Where possible, the use of residual heat shall be limited to energy from renewable sources.



- f) Aquaculture and seaweed business operators shall by preference re-cycle materials and shall draw up as part of the sustainable management plan a waste reduction schedule to be put in place at the commencement of operations.
- g) For seaweed harvesting a once-off biomass estimate shall be undertaken at the outset.

## 4. Sustainable harvesting of wild algae (seaweed and micro-algae)

a) The collection does not affect the long term stability of the natural habitat or the maintenance of the species in the collection area.

The collection of wild seaweeds and parts thereof, growing naturally in the sea, is considered as an organic production method provided that:

the growing areas are of high ecological quality as defined by Directive 2000/60/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 October 2000 establishing a framework for Community action in the field of water policy and, Wild edible seaweeds shall not be collected in areas which would not meet the criteria for Class A or Class B areas as defined in Annex II of Regulation (EC) No 854/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 29 April 2004 laying down specific rules for the organization of official controls on products of animal origin intended for human consumption;

- b) Documentary accounts shall be maintained in the unit or premises and shall enable the operator to identify and ECOCERT to verify that the harvesters have supplied only wild algae produced in accordance with this standard.
- c) Harvesting shall be carried out in such a way that the amounts harvested do not cause a significant impact on the state of the aquatic environment. Measures shall be taken to ensure that seaweed can regenerate, such as harvest technique, minimum sizes, ages, reproductive cycles or size of remaining seaweed.
- d) If seaweed is harvested from a shared or common harvest area, documentary evidence shall be available that the total harvest complies with this Standard
- e) Records must provide evidence of sustainable management and of no long-term impact on the harvesting areas.

## 5. Antifouling measures and cleaning of production equipment and facilities

For seaweed production Bio-fouling organisms shall be removed only by physical means or by hand and where appropriate returned to the sea at a distance from the farm.

Cleaning of equipment and facilities shall be carried out by physical or mechanical measures. Where this is not satisfactory only substances as listed in Annex VII, Section 2 may be used.

## 6. Seaweed Cultivation

- a) The farming of seaweeds shall take place in coastal areas with environmental and health characteristics at least equivalent to those outlined in Article 4.a) in order to be considered organic.
- b) Sustainable practices shall be used in all stages of production, from collection of juvenile seaweed to harvesting; To ensure that a wide gene-pool is maintained, the collection of juvenile seaweed in the wild should take place on a regular basis to supplement indoor culture stock;
- c) Seaweed culture at sea shall only utilize nutrients naturally occurring in the environment, or from organic aquaculture animal production, preferably located nearby as part of a polyculture system.

Fertilisers shall not be used except in indoor facilities and only if they have been authorized for use in organic production for this purpose under Chapter (G) of this Title.



In facilities on land where external nutrient sources are used the nutrient levels in the effluent water shall be verifiably the same, or lower, than the inflowing water. Only nutrients of plant or mineral origin and as listed in Annex I may be used.

- d) Culture density or operational intensity shall be recorded and shall maintain the integrity of the aquatic environment by ensuring that the maximum quantity of seaweed which can be supported without negative effects on the environment is not exceeded.
- e) Ropes and other equipment used for growing seaweed shall be re-used or recycled where possible.

## (D). Livestock production rules

This Chapter lays down detailed production rules for the following species: bovine including buballus and bison, equidae, porcine, ovine, caprine, poultry (species mentioned in annex III). For other animal species, detailed production rules may be developed based on organic principles.

In addition to the general farm production rules laid down in part (A).1 of this Title, the following rules shall apply to livestock production:

#### 1. Origin of animals

With regard to the origin of the animals:

#### 1.1. Breed selection

- a) Appropriate breeds shall be chosen. The choice of breeds shall also contribute to the prevention of any suffering and to avoiding the need for the mutilation of animals;
- b) In the choice of breeds or strains, account shall be taken of the capacity of animals to adapt to local conditions, their vitality and their resistance to disease. In addition, 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 porcine stress syndrome, PSE Syndrome (pale-soft-exudative), sudden death, spontaneous abortion and difficult births requiring caesarean operations. Preference is to be given to indigenous breeds and strains.

## 1.2. Origin of organic animals

Organic livestock shall be born and raised on organic holdings;

## 1.3. Origin of non-organic animals

For breeding purposes, non-organically raised animals may be brought on to a holding only when organic animals are not available in sufficient number and subject to the conditions provided for in sub articles 1.3.1 to 1.3.3. Such animals and their products may be deemed organic after compliance with the conversion period referred to in Chapter (A) 2.5 of this Title.

#### 1.3.1 Mammals

- a) Non-organic young mammals, when a herd or flock is constituted for the first time, shall be reared in accordance with the organic production rules immediately after they are weaned. Moreover, the following restrictions shall apply at the date on which the animals enter the herd:
  - \* Buffalo, calves and foals shall be less than six months old;
  - \* Lambs and kids shall be less than 60 days old;
  - \* Piglets shall weigh less than 35 kg.



- b) Non-organic adult male and nulliparous female mammals, for the renewal of a herd or flock, shall be reared subsequently in accordance with the organic production rules. Moreover, the number of female mammals is subject to the following restrictions per year:
  - \* up to a maximum of 10 % of adult equine or bovine, including buballus and bison species, livestock and 20 % of the adult porcine, ovine and caprine livestock, as female animals;
  - \* for units with less than 10 equine or bovine animals, or with less than five porcine, ovine or caprine animals any renewal as mentioned above shall be limited to a maximum of one animal per year.
- c) The percentages referred to in paragraph b) may be increased up to 40 %, subject to prior authorization by Ecocert, in the following special cases:
  - \* When a major extension to the farm is undertaken;
  - \* When a breed is changed;
  - \* When a new livestock specialization is initiated;
  - \* when breeds are in danger of being lost to farming as laid down in Annex IV to Commission Regulation (EC) No 1974/2006 and in that case animals of those breeds must not necessarily be nulliparous.

#### 1.3.2 Poultry

- a) When a flock is constituted for the first time, renewed or reconstituted and organically reared poultry are not available in sufficient numbers, 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.
- b) With prior authorization of Ecocert, non-organically reared pullets for egg production of not more than 18 weeks may be brought into an organic livestock unit, when organically reared pullets are not available and provided that the relevant provisions laid down in Articles 4 (feed) and 5 (veterinary treatment) of this Chapter are complied with.
  - 1.3.3 Exceptional production rules related to catastrophic circumstances in accordance with Article (3).2 (vi) of Title III

Ecocert may authorize on a temporary basis:

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 and provided that the conversion period are applied to the non-organic animals.

Upon approval by Ecocert, the individual operators shall keep documentary evidence of the use of the above exceptions.

## 2. <u>Livestock housing and husbandry practices</u>

With regard to husbandry practices and housing conditions:

Personnel keeping animals shall possess the necessary basic knowledge and skills as regards the health and the welfare needs of the animals;

## 2.1. Rules pertaining to housing conditions

Husbandry practices, including stocking densities, and housing conditions shall ensure that the developmental, physiological and ethological needs of animals are met:

- a) Insulation, heating and ventilation of the building shall ensure that air circulation, dust level, temperature, relative air humidity and gas concentration, are kept within limits which are not harmful to the animals. The building shall permit plentiful natural ventilation and light to enter.
- b) Housing for livestock shall not be mandatory in areas with appropriate climatic conditions to enable animals to live outdoors.



- c) The stocking density in buildings shall provide for the comfort, the wellbeing and the species-specific needs of the animals which, in particular, shall depend on the species, the breed and the age of the animals. It shall also take account of the behavioural needs of the animals, which depend in particular on the size of the group and the animals' sex. 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.
- d) The minimum surface for indoor and outdoor areas, and other characteristics of housing for different species and categories of animals, are laid down in Annex III.

## 2.1.1 Specific housing conditions and husbandry practices for mammals

- a) Livestock housing shall have smooth, but not slippery floors. At least half of the indoor surface area as specified in Annex III shall be solid, that is, not of slatted or of grid construction.
- b) The housing shall be provided with a comfortable, clean and dry laying/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 listed in Annex I.
- c) The housing of calves in individual boxes shall be forbidden after the age of one week.
- d) Sows shall be kept in groups, except in the last stages of pregnancy and during the suckling period.
- e) Piglets shall not be kept on flat decks or in piglet cages.
- f) Exercise areas shall permit dunging and rooting by porcine animals. For the purposes of rooting different substrates can be used.

## 2.1.2 Specific housing conditions and husbandry practices for poultry

- a) Poultry shall not be kept in cages.
- b) 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.
- c) Buildings for all poultry shall meet the following conditions:
  - (i) at least one third of the floor area shall be solid, that is, not of slatted or of grid construction, and covered with a litter material such as straw, wood shavings, sand or turf;
  - (ii) In poultry houses for laying hens, a sufficiently large part of the floor area available to the hens shall be available for the collection of bird droppings;
  - (iii) They shall have perches of a size and number commensurate with the size of the group and of the birds as laid down in Annex III.
  - (iv) They shall have exit/entry pop-holes of a size adequate for the birds, and these pop-holes shall have a combined length of at least 4 m per 100 m2 area of the house available to the birds;
  - (v) Each poultry house shall not contain more than:
    - \* 4800 chickens,
    - \* 3000 laying hens,
    - \* 5200 guinea fowl,
    - \* 4000 female Muscovy or Peking ducks or
    - \* 3200 male Muscovy or Peking ducks or other ducks,
    - \* 2500 capons, geese or turkeys;
  - (vi) The total usable area of poultry houses for meat production on any single unit, shall not exceed 1 600 m2;
  - (vii) Poultry houses shall be constructed in a manner allowing all birds easy access to open air area.



- (viii) Natural light may be supplemented by artificial means to provide a maximum of 16 hours light per day with a continuous nocturnal rest period without artificial light of at least eight hours.
- (ix) To prevent the use of intensive rearing methods, poultry shall be reared until they reach a minimum age at slaughter:
  - \* 81 days for chickens,
  - \* 150 days for capons,
  - \* 49 days for Peking ducks,
  - \* 70 days for female Muscovy ducks,
  - \* 84 days for male Muscovy ducks,
  - \* 92 days for Mallard ducks,
  - \* 94 days for guinea fowl,
  - \* 140 days for male turkeys and roasting geese and
  - \* 100 days for female turkeys.

#### 2.2. Access to open air areas

## 2.2.1 Normal case

the livestock shall have permanent access to open air areas, preferably pasture (for grazing in case of herbivores), 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 the national legislation;

- a) Open air areas may be partially covered.
- b) In cases where herbivores have access to pasturage during the grazing period and where the winter-housing system gives freedom of movement to the animals, the obligation to provide open air areas during the winter months may be waived.
- c) Bulls over one year old shall have access to pasturage or an open air area.
- d) Poultry shall have access to an open air area for at least one third of their life.

Open air areas for poultry shall be mainly covered with vegetation and be provided with protective facilities and permit fowl to have easy access to adequate numbers of drinking and feeding troughs.

- e) Where poultry are kept indoors due to restrictions or obligations imposed on the basis of national legislation, they shall permanently have access to sufficient quantities of roughage and suitable material in order to meet their ethological needs.
  - 2.2.2 Exceptional production rules related to specific management problems in organic livestock in accordance with Article (3).2 iv) of Title III: Specific management problems in organic livestock

The final fattening phase of adult bovines for meat production may take place indoors, provided that this indoors period does not exceed one fifth of their lifetime and in any case for a maximum period of three months.

## 2.3. Stocking density

The number of livestock shall be limited with a view to minimizing overgrazing, poaching of soil, erosion, or pollution caused by animals or by the spreading of their manure:

- a) the total stocking density shall be such as not to exceed the limit of 170 kg of nitrogen per year and hectare of agricultural area as referred to in Chapter (B).3.d) of this Title
- b) To determine the appropriate density of livestock referred to above, the figures laid down in Annex IV shall be taken into account



## 2.4. Prohibition of landless livestock production

Landless livestock production, by which the operator of the livestock does not manage agricultural land and/or has not established a written cooperation agreement with another operator according to Chapter (B).3.d) of this Title, is prohibited.

#### 2.5. Simultaneous production of organic and non-organic livestock

Non organic livestock may be present on the holding provided they are reared on units where the buildings and parcels are separated clearly from the units producing in accordance with the organic production rules and a different species is involved.

## 2.5.1 Grazing of common land

Organic livestock shall be kept separate from other livestock. However, grazing of common land by organic animals and of organic land by non-organic animals is permitted under certain restrictive conditions:

- a) non-organic livestock may use organic pasturage for a limited period of time each year, provided that such animals come from a farming system as defined in paragraph b)ii) and that organic animals are not present at the same time on that pasture.
- b) Organic animals may be grazed on common land, providing that:
  - (i) The land has not been treated with products not authorized for organic production for at least three years;
  - (ii) Any non-organic animals which use the land concerned are derived from a farming system; where a programme for rural development is applied: protection and improvement of environment, conservation of high nature-value farmed environments, management of low-intensity pasture systems, upkeep of the landscape, improvement of animal welfare.
  - (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.
- c) During the period of transhumance animals may graze on non-organic land when they are being moved on foot from one grazing area to another. The uptake of non-organic feed, in the form of grass and other vegetation on which the animals graze, during this period shall not exceed 10 % of the total feed ration per year. This figure shall be calculated as a percentage of the dry matter of feeding stuffs from agricultural origin.

Operators shall keep documentary evidence of the use of provisions referred to in this Article 2.5.1.

2.5.2 Exceptional production rules related to climatic, geographical or structural constraints in accordance with Article (3).2 i) of Title III: Parallel production

Ecocert may authorize holdings carrying out agricultural research or formal education to rear organic and non-organic livestock of the same species, where the following conditions are met:

- a) Appropriate measures, notified in advance to Ecocert, have been taken in order to guarantee the permanent separation between livestock, livestock products, manure and feeding stuffs of each of the units.
- b) The producer informs Ecocert in advance of any delivery or selling of the livestock or livestock products.
- c) The operator informs Ecocert 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.
  - 2.6. Exceptional production rules related to climatic, geographical or structural constraints in accordance with Article (3).2 i) of Title III: Tethering of animals

Tethering or isolation of livestock shall be prohibited, unless for individual animals for a limited period of time, and in so far as this is justified for safety, welfare or veterinary reasons:



Where the conditions laid down in Article (3).2 i) of Title III apply, a derogation must be granted by Ecocert to authorize cattle in small holdings to be tethered if 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 at least twice a week access to open air areas when grazing is not possible.

#### 2.7. Management of animals

- a) Transport of livestock shall be carried out to limit the stress suffered by the animals and its duration shall be minimized;
- b) Any suffering, including mutilation, shall be kept to a minimum during the entire life of the animal, including at the time of slaughter:
  - (i) Operations such as attaching elastic bands to the tails of sheep, tail-docking, cutting of teeth, trimming of beaks and dehorning shall not be carried out routinely in organic farming. However, some of these operations may be authorized by Ecocert (a derogation has to be granted) for reasons of safety or if they are intended to improve the health, welfare or hygiene of the livestock on a case-by-case basis.
  - (ii) Any suffering to the animals shall be reduced 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.
  - (iii) Physical castration is allowed in order to maintain the quality of products and traditional production practices but only under the conditions set out in the subparagraph ii).
  - (iv) Loading and unloading of animals shall be carried out without the use of any type of electrical stimulation to coerce the animals. The use of allopathic tranquillisers, prior to or during transport, is prohibited.

## 3. Livestock breeding

- a) Reproduction shall use natural methods. Artificial insemination is however allowed.
- b) Other forms of artificial reproduction, such as cloning and embryo transfer, shall not be used.
- c) The use of hormones or similar substances to control reproduction or for other purposes (eg. induction or synchronization of oestrus), is prohibited, unless as a form of veterinary therapeutic treatment in case of an individual animal.

## 4. <u>Feed</u>

With regard to feed:

4.1. Feed from own holding or from other organic holdings

Feed for livestock should be primarily obtained from the holding where the animals are kept or from other organic holdings in the same region:

- a) In case of herbivores, except during the period each year when the animals are under transhumance subject to Article 2.5.1(c), at least 60 % of the feed shall come from the farm unit itself or in case this is not feasible, be produced in cooperation with other organic farms in the same region.
- b) in case of pigs and poultry, at least 20 % of the feed shall come from the farm unit itself or in case this is not feasible, be produced in the same region in cooperation with other organic farms or feed business operators.

## 4.2. Feed meeting animals' nutritional requirements

Livestock shall be fed with organic feed that meets the animal's nutritional requirements at the various stages of its development.

a) All young mammals shall be fed on maternal milk in preference to natural milk, for a minimum period of three months for bovines including buballus and bison species and equidae, 45 days for sheep and goats and 40 days for pigs.



- b) Livestock shall have permanent access to pasture or roughage:
  - (i) Rearing systems for herbivores are to be 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 of herbivores shall consist of roughage, fresh or dried fodder, or silage. A reduction to 50% for animals in dairy production for a maximum period of three months in early lactation is allowed.
  - (ii) Roughage, fresh or dried fodder, or silage shall be added to the daily ration for pigs and poultry.
- c) The keeping of livestock in conditions, or on a diet, which may encourage anaemia, is prohibited.
- d) Fattening practices shall be reversible at any stage of the rearing process. Force-feeding is forbidden.

#### 4.3. In-conversion feed

A part of the ration may contain feed from holdings which are in conversion to organic farming;

- a) Up to 30 % of the feed formula of rations on average may comprise in-conversion feeding stuffs. When the in conversion feeding stuffs come from a unit of the holding itself, this percentage may be increased to 100 %.
- b) up to 20 % of the total average amount of feeding-stuffs 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 they are part of the holding itself and have not been part of an organic production unit of that holding in the last five years. When both in-conversion feeding stuffs and feeding stuffs from parcels in their first year of conversion are being used, the total combined percentage of such feeding stuffs shall not exceed the maximum percentages fixed in paragraph a).

The figures in paragraph a) and b) shall be calculated annually as a percentage of the dry matter of feeding stuffs of plant origin.

## 4.4. Use of certain products and substances in feed

Only the following substances may be used in the processing of organic feed and feeding organic animals:

## 4.4.1 Feed materials of plant or animal origin for every animals

- a) Organic feed materials of plant and/or animal origin;
- b) Non-organic feed materials of plant or animal origin, provided that:
  - (i) They are produced or prepared without chemical solvents; and
  - (ii) The following restrictions laid down in Chapter (D) 4.4.2 or 4.4.4 of this Title are complied with
- c) Non-organic spices, herbs, and molasses, provided that:
  - (i) Their organic form is not available;
  - (ii) They are produced or prepared without chemical solvents; and
  - (iii) Their use is limited to 1 % of the feed ration of a given species, calculated annually as a percentage of the dry matter of feed from agricultural origin;

## 4.4.2 Non-organic feed materials of plant and animal origin for non-herbivores

- a) Where farmers are unable to obtain protein feed exclusively from organic production, the use of a limited proportion of non-organic protein feed is allowed for porcine and poultry species:
  - (i) They are produced or prepared without chemical solvents; and
  - (ii) The maximum percentage of non-organic protein feed authorized per period of 12 months for those species shall be 5 %.



The figures shall be calculated annually as a percentage of the dry matter of feed from agricultural origin.

- (iii) The operator shall keep documentary evidence of the need for the use of this provision.
- b) Products from sustainable fisheries, provided that:
  - (i) They are produced or prepared without chemical solvents;
  - (ii) Their use is restricted to non-herbivores; and
  - (iii) The use of fish protein hydrolysate is restricted solely to young animals;

#### 4.4.3 Other feed materials and feed additives

- a) Feed materials of mineral origin that are listed in Section 1 of Annex V;
- b) Salt as sea salt, coarse rock salt;
- c) Other feed materials that are listed in Section 2 of Annex V, provided that they are produced or prepared without chemical solvents
- d) Feed additives listed in Annex VI.
- e) Growth promoters and synthetic amino-acids shall not be used;

4.4.4 Exceptional production rules related to catastrophic circumstances in accordance with Article (3).2 (vi) of Title III

Ecocert may authorize on a temporary basis:

the use of non-organic feeding stuffs 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.

Upon approval by Ecocert, the individual operators shall keep documentary evidence of the use of the above exceptions.

#### 5. <u>Disease prevention and veterinary treatment</u>

With regard to disease prevention and veterinary treatment:

- 5.1. Disease prevention
- a) Disease prevention shall be based on breed and strain selection, husbandry management practices, high quality feed and exercise, appropriate stocking density and adequate and appropriate housing maintained in hygienic conditions:
- b) The use of chemically synthesised allopathic veterinary medicinal products or antibiotics for preventive treatment is prohibited, without prejudice to Article 5.3.e) of this Chapter.
- c) The use of substances to promote growth or production (including antibiotics, coccidiostatics and other artificial aids for growth promotion purposes) is prohibited.
- d) Where livestock is obtained from non-organic units, special measures such as screening tests or quarantine periods may apply, depending on local circumstances.

## 5.2. Cleaning and disinfection

a) Housing, pens, equipment and utensils shall be 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 minimize smell and to avoid attracting insects or rodents.



- b) Only products listed in Annex VII may be used for cleaning and disinfection of livestock buildings installations and utensils. Rodenticides (to be used only in traps), and the products listed in Annex II, can be used for the elimination of insects and other pests in buildings and other installations where livestock is kept.
- c) Buildings shall be emptied of livestock between each batch of poultry reared. The buildings and fittings shall be cleaned and disinfected during this time. In addition, when the rearing of each batch of poultry has been completed, runs shall be left empty to allow vegetation to grow back. The operator shall keep documentary evidence of the application of this period. These requirements shall not apply where poultry is not reared in batches, is not kept in runs and is free to roam, throughout the day.

#### 5.3. Veterinary treatment

- a) The use of immunological veterinary medicines is allowed;
- b) Treatments related to the protection of human and animal health imposed on the basis of the national legislation shall be allowed;
- c) Where despite preventive measures to ensure animal health as laid down in Article 5.1 (a) of this Chapter, animals become sick or injured they shall be treated immediately to avoid suffering, if necessary in isolation and in suitable housing.
- d) Phytotherapeutic or homeopathic products, trace elements and products listed in Section 1 of Annex V and in Section 3 of Annex VI shall be used in preference to chemically-synthesised allopathic veterinary treatment or antibiotics, provided that their therapeutic effect is effective for the species of animal, and the condition for which the treatment is intended.
- e) If the use of measures referred to in paragraph c) and d) is not effective in combating illness or injury, and if treatment is essential to avoid suffering or distress of the animal, chemically-synthesised allopathic veterinary medicinal products or antibiotics may be used under the responsibility of a veterinarian.
- f) with the exception of vaccinations, treatments for parasites and compulsory eradication schemes where an animal or group of animals receive 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, the livestock concerned, or produce derived from them, may not be sold as organic products, and the livestock shall undergo the conversion periods laid down in Chapter (A) 2.5 of this Title.

  Records of documented evidence of the occurrence of such circumstances shall be kept for Ecocert.
- g) the withdrawal period between the last administration of an allopathic veterinary medicinal product to an animal under normal conditions of use, and the production of organically produced foodstuffs from such animals, is to be twice the legal withdrawal period or, in a case in which this period is not specified, at least 48 hours.

#### (E). Beekeeping rules

## 1. Origin of the bees

For bees, preference shall be given to the use of local ecotypes.

## 1.1 Origin of organic bees

New apiaries shall be constituted by division of existing colonies or acquisition of swarms or hives from organically certified units



## 1.2 Origin of non-organic bees

Non-organically raised bees may be brought on to a holding only when organic bees are not available in sufficient number For the renovation of apiaries, 10 % 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.

1.3 Exceptional production rules related to catastrophic circumstances in accordance with Article (3).2 (vi) of Title III

Ecocert may authorize on a temporary basis:

In case 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;

Upon approval by Ecocert, the individual operators shall keep documentary evidence of the use of the above exceptions.

## 2. Specific requirements and housing conditions in beekeeping

## 2.1 Siting of the apiaries

- a) Apiaries shall be placed in areas which ensure nectar and pollen sources consisting essentially of organically produced crops or, as appropriate, of spontaneous vegetation or non-organically managed forests or crops that are only treated with low environmental impact methods. Apiaries shall be kept at sufficient distance from sources that may lead to the contamination of beekeeping products or to the poor health of the bees (urban centers, motorways, industrial areas, waste dumps, waste incinerators,...).
- b) the siting of the apiaries shall be such that, within a radius of 3 km from the apiary site, nectar and pollen sources consist essentially of organically produced crops and/or spontaneous vegetation and/or crops treated with low environmental impact methods from a farming system as described in Chapter (D) 2.5.1 b) (ii) of this Title which cannot affect the qualification of beekeeping production as being organic. The above mentioned requirements do not apply where flowering is not taking place, or the hives are dormant.
- c) Ecocert may designate regions or areas where beekeeping complying with organic production rules is not practicable.
  - 2.2 Exceptional production rules related to climatic, geographical or structural constraints in accordance with Article (3).2 (i) of Title III: Management of beekeeping units for the purpose of pollination

Where the conditions laid down in Article (3).2 (i) of Title III apply, for the purpose of pollination actions an operator may run organic and non-organic beekeeping units on the same holding, provided that all the requirements of the organic production rules are fulfilled, with the exception of the provisions for the siting of the apiaries. In that case the product cannot be sold as organic.

The operator shall keep documentary evidence of the use of this provision.

- 2.3 Characteristics of hives and materials used in beekeeping
- a) The hives shall be made basically of natural materials presenting no risk of contamination to the environment or the apiculture products.
- b) The bees wax for new foundations shall come from organic production units.
- c) With the exception of menthol, thymol, eucalyptol or camphor and acids listed in Art 5.f) of this Chapter only natural products such as propolis, wax and plant oils can be used in the hives.



2.4 Exceptional production rules related to non-availability of organic farm inputs in accordance with Article (3).2 (ii) of Title III: Use of non-organic beeswax

In the case of new installations or during the conversion period, non-organic beeswax may be used only:

- a) Where beeswax from organic beekeeping is not available on the market;
- b) Where it is proven free of contamination by substances not authorized for organic production and
- c) provided that it comes from the cap.

## 3. Husbandry Management and identification

- a) The destruction of bees in the combs as a method associated with the harvesting of beekeeping products is prohibited.
- b) The use of chemical synthetic repellents is prohibited during honey extractions operations.
- c) The use of brood combs is prohibited for honey extraction.
- d) Mutilation such as clipping the wings of queen bees is prohibited.

## 4. Feeding

- 4.1 Normal case
- a) In the case of bees, at the end of the production season hives shall be left with sufficient reserves of honey and pollen to survive the winter.
- b) The feeding of bee colonies shall only be permitted where the survival of the hives is endangered due to climatic conditions. Feeding shall be with organic honey, organic sugar syrups, or organic sugar.
  - 4.2 Exceptional production rules related to catastrophic circumstances in accordance with Article (3).2 (vi) of Title III

Ecocert may authorize on a temporary basis:

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.

Upon approval by Ecocert, the individual operators shall keep documentary evidence of the use of the above exceptions.

## 5. Disease prevention and veterinary treatment

- a) 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 Annex II, are permitted.
- b) Physical treatments for disinfection of apiaries such as steam or direct flame are permitted. Concerning the cleaning and disinfection of materials, buildings, equipment, products and utensils used in bee-keeping, all substances that are used must be found in Annex VII
- c) The practice of destroying the male brood is permitted only to isolate the infestation of Varroa destructor.
- d) If despite all preventive measures, the colonies become sick or infested, they shall be treated immediately and, if necessary, the colonies can be placed in isolation apiaries.
- e) Veterinary medicinal products may be used in organic beekeeping in so far as the corresponding use is authorized in the country of application in accordance with the national provisions.



- f) Formic acid, lactic acid, acetic acid and oxalic acid as well as menthol, thymol, eucalyptol or camphor may be used in cases of infestation with Varroa destructor.
- g) If a treatment is applied with chemically synthesised allopathic products, during such a period, the colonies treated shall be placed in isolation apiaries and all the wax shall be replaced with wax coming from organic beekeeping. Subsequently, the conversion period of one year will apply to those colonies.

  These requirements shall not apply to products listed in paragraph f).

## (F). Production rules for aquaculture animals

## 1. Suitability of aquatic medium and Sustainable Management Plan

- a) Operations shall be situated in locations that are not subject to contamination by products or substances not authorized for organic production, or pollutants that would compromise the organic nature of the products.
- b) The provisions of Chapter (C).2 & 3 a) to f) of this Title shall apply to this Chapter.
- c) Defensive and preventive measures taken against predators under Council Directive 92/43/EEC and national rules shall be recorded in the sustainable management plan.
- d) Verifiable coordination shall take place with the neighboring operators in drawing up their management plans where applicable.
- e) For aquaculture animal production in fishponds, tanks or raceways, farms shall be equipped with either natural-filter beds, settlement ponds, biological filters or mechanical filters to collect waste nutrients or use seaweeds and/or animals (bivalves and algae) which contribute to improving the quality of the effluent. Effluent monitoring shall be carried out at regular intervals where appropriate.

## 2. Simultaneous production of organic and non-organic aquaculture animals

Organic animals shall be kept separate from other aquaculture animals;

- a) ECOCERT may permit hatcheries and nurseries to rear both organic and non-organic juveniles in the same holding provided there is clear physical separation between the units and a separate water distribution system exists.
- b) In case of grow-out production, ECOCERT may permit organic and non-organic aquaculture animal production units on the same holding provided Chapter (C).2 of this Title is complied with and where different production phases and different handling periods of the aquaculture animals are involved.
- c) Operators shall keep documentary evidence of the use of provisions referred to in this Article.

## 3. Origin of aquaculture animals

- 3.1 Origin of organic aquaculture animals
- a) Organic aquaculture shall be based on the rearing of young stock originating from organic brood stock and organic holdings;
- b) Locally grown species shall be used and breeding shall aim to give strains which are more adapted to farming conditions, good health and good utilization of feed resources. Documentary evidence of their origin and treatment shall be provided for ECOCERT.
- c) Species shall be chosen which can be farmed without causing significant damage to wild stocks.



## 3.2 Origin and management of non-organic aquaculture animals

When young stock from organic brood stock or holdings are not available, non-organically produced animals maybe brought on to a holding under specific conditions:

- a) For breeding purposes or for improving genetic stock and when organic aquaculture animals are not available, wild caught or non-organic aquaculture animals may be brought into a holding. Such animals shall be kept under organic management for at least three months before they may be used for breeding.
- b) For on-growing purposes and when organic aquaculture juvenile animals are not available non-organic aquaculture juveniles may be brought into a holding. At least the latter two thirds of the duration of the production cycle shall be managed under organic management.
- c) The maximum percentage of non-organic aquaculture juveniles introduced to the farm shall be: 80 % by 31 December 2011, 50 % by 31 December 2014 and 0 % by 31 December 2016
- d) For on-growing purposes the collection of wild aquaculture juveniles is specifically restricted to the following cases:
  - (i) Natural influx of fish or crustacean larvae and juveniles when filling ponds, containment systems and enclosures;
  - (ii) European glass eel, provided that an approved eel management plan is in place for the location and artificial reproduction of eel remains unsolved.
  - (iii) the collection of wild fry of species other than European eel for on-growing in traditional extensive aquaculture farming inside wetlands, such as brackish water ponds, tidal areas and costal lagoons, closed by levees and banks, provided that:
    - the restocking is in line with management measures approved by the relevant authorities in charge
      of the management of the fish stocks in question to ensure the sustainable exploitation of the
      species concerned, and
    - the fish are fed exclusively with feed naturally available in the environment.
    - 3.3 Exceptional production rules related to catastrophic circumstances in accordance with Article (3).2 (vi) of Title III

#### Ecocert may authorize on a temporary basis:

In the case of high mortality of aquaculture animals caused by catastrophic circumstances (natural disasters, adverse climatic events, sudden water quality and quantity changes for which the operator is not responsible and/or diseases in aquaculture, failure or destruction of production facilities for which the operator is not responsible) the renewal or reconstitution of the aquaculture stock with non-organic aquaculture animals, when organically reared animals are not available and provided that at least the latter two thirds of the duration of the production cycle are managed under organic management.

## 4. <u>Aquaculture Husbandry practices</u>

Personnel keeping animals shall possess the necessary basic knowledge and skills as regards the health and the welfare needs of the animals.

#### 4.1 General aquaculture husbandry rules

Husbandry practices, including feeding, design of installations, stocking densities and water quality shall ensure that the developmental, physiological and behavioral needs of animals are met:



- a) The husbandry environment of the aquaculture animals shall be designed in such a way that, in accordance with their species specific needs, the aquaculture animals shall:
  - (i) Have sufficient space for their wellbeing.
  - (ii) Be kept in water of good quality with sufficient oxygen levels.
  - (iii) Be kept in temperature and light conditions in accordance with the requirements of the species and having regard to the geographic location.
  - (iv) In the case of freshwater fish the bottom type shall be as close as possible to natural conditions.
  - (v) In the case of carp the bottom shall be natural earth.
- b) Stocking density and husbandry practices are set out in Art 10 of this Chapter, by species or group of species. In considering the effects of stocking density and husbandry practices on the welfare of farmed fish, the condition of the fish (such as fin damage, other injuries, growth rate, behavior expressed and overall health) and the water quality shall be monitored.
- c) The design and construction of aquatic containment systems shall provide flow rates and physiochemical parameters that safeguard the animals' health and welfare and provide for their behavioural needs.
- d) Husbandry practices shall minimize negative environmental impact from the holding, including the escape of farmed stock:
  - (i) Containment systems shall be designed, located and operated to minimize the risk of escape incidents.
  - (ii) If fish or crustaceans escape, appropriate action must be taken to reduce the impact on the local ecosystem, including recapture, where appropriate. Documentary evidence shall be maintained.

### 4.2 Specific rules for aquatic containment systems

- a) Closed recirculation aquaculture animal production facilities are prohibited, with the exception of hatcheries and nurseries or for the production of species used for organic feed organisms.
- b) Rearing units on land shall meet the following conditions:
  - (i) For flow-through systems it shall be possible to monitor and control the flow rate and water quality of both in-flowing and out-flowing water;
  - (ii) At least five percent of the perimeter ("land-water interface") area shall have natural vegetation.
- c) Containment systems at sea shall:
  - (i) be located where water flow, depth and water-body exchange rates are adequate to minimize the impact on the seabed and the surrounding water body;
  - (ii) Shall have suitable cage design, construction and maintenance with regard to their exposure to the operating environment.
- d) Artificial heating or cooling of water shall only be permitted in hatcheries and nurseries. Natural borehole water may be used to heat or cool water at all stages of production.

#### 5. Management of aquaculture animals

Any suffering of the animals including the time of slaughtering shall be kept to a minimum:

a) Handling of aquaculture animals shall be minimized, undertaken with the greatest care and proper equipment and protocols used to avoid stress and physical damage associated with handling procedures.

Bloodstock shall be handled in a manner to minimize physical damage and stress and under anaesthesia where appropriate. Grading operations shall be kept to a minimum and as required to ensure fish welfare.



- b) The following restrictions shall apply to the use of artificial light:
  - (i) for prolonging natural day-length it shall not exceed a maximum that respects the ethological needs, geographical conditions and general health of farmed animals, this maximum shall not exceed 16 hours per day, except for reproductive purposes;
  - (ii) Abrupt changes in light intensity shall be avoided at the changeover time by the use of dimmable lights or background lighting.
- c) Aeration is permitted to ensure animal welfare and health, under the condition that mechanical aerators are preferably powered by renewable energy sources.

All such use is to be recorded in the aquaculture production record.

- d) The use of oxygen is only permitted for uses linked to animal health requirements and critical periods of production or transport, in the following cases:
  - (i) Exceptional cases of temperature rise or drop in atmospheric pressure or accidental pollution,
  - (ii) Occasional stock management procedures such as sampling and sorting,
  - (iii) In order to assure the survival of the farm stock.

Documentary evidence shall be maintained.

e) Slaughter techniques shall render fish immediately unconscious and insensible to pain. Differences in harvesting sizes, species, and production sites must be taken into account when considering optimal slaughtering methods.

#### 6. Transport of live fish

Transport shall ensure that the welfare of animals is maintained:

- a) Live fish shall be transported in suitable tanks with clean water which meets their physiological needs in terms of temperature and dissolved oxygen.
- b) Before transport of organic fish and fish products, tanks shall be thoroughly cleaned, disinfected and rinsed.
- c) Precautions shall be taken to reduce stress. During transport, the density shall not reach a level which is detrimental to the species.
- d) Documentary evidence shall be maintained for paragraphs a) to c).

#### 7. Breeding

- a) Artificial induction of polyploidy, artificial hybridisation, cloning and production of monosex strains, except by hand sorting, shall not be used.
- b) The use of hormones and hormone derivates is prohibited.
- c) The appropriate strains shall be chosen;

#### 8. Feed for fish, crustaceans and echinoderms

8.1 General rules on feeds

Animals shall be fed with feed that meets the animal's nutritional requirements at the various stages of its development:

- a) Feeding regimes shall be designed with the following priorities:
  - (i) Animal health.
  - (ii) High product quality, including the nutritional composition which shall ensure high quality of the final edible product;
  - (iii) Low environmental impact.



The plant fraction of feed shall originate from organic production and the feed fraction derived from aquatic animals shall originate from sustainable exploitation of fisheries;

- b) Growth promoters and synthetic amino-acids shall not be used;
- c) If rearing of organic juveniles:

In the larval rearing of organic juveniles, conventional phytoplankton and zooplankton may be used as feed.

#### 8.2 Specific rules on feeds for carnivorous aquaculture animals

- a) Feed for carnivorous aquaculture animals shall be sourced with the following priorities:
  - (i) Organic feed products of aquaculture origin.
  - (ii) Fish meal and fish oil from organic aquaculture trimmings.
  - (iii) Fish meal and fish oil and ingredients of fish origin derived from trimmings of fish already caught for human consumption in sustainable fisheries.
  - (iv) Organic feed materials of plant or animal origin.
  - (v) Feed products derived from whole fish caught in fisheries certified as sustainable under a scheme recognized by Ecocert in line with the principles laid down in R (EU) N° 1380/2013
- c) The feed ration may comprise a maximum of 60 % organic plant products.
- d) Astaxanthin derived primarily from organic sources, such as organic crustacean shells may be used in the feed ration for salmon and trout within the limit of their physiological needs. If organic sources are not available natural sources of astaxanthin (such as Phaffia yeast) may be used.
- e) Histidine produced through fermentation may be used in the feed ration for salmonid fish when the feed sources listed in § a) do not provide a sufficient amount of histidine to meet the dietary needs of the fish and prevent the formation of cataracts.

#### 8.3 Specific rules on feeds for certain aquaculture animals

- a) In the grown-out stages, fish in inland waters, tropical fresh water fish and crustaceans shall be fed with feed naturally available in ponds and lakes.
- b) Where natural feed resources are not available in sufficient quantities as referred to in paragraph a), organic feed of plant origin, preferably grown on the farm itself or seaweed may be used.

  Operators shall keep documentary evidence of the need to use additional feed.
- c) Where natural feed is supplemented according to paragraph b), the feed ration of shrimps as mentioned in article 10.7 may comprise a maximum of 25% fishmeal and 10% fish oil derived from sustainable fisheries. In order to secure the quantitative dietary needs of shrimps, organic cholesterol may be used to supplement their diets; where organic cholesterol is not available, non-organic cholesterol derived from wool, shellfish or other sources may be used.
- d) Where natural feed is supplemented according to paragraph b) the feed ration of siamese catfish (*Pangasius* spp.) as mentioned in article 10.8 may comprise a maximum of 10 % fishmeal or fish oil derived from sustainable fisheries

#### 8.4 Other products and substances

In the case of non-organic feed materials from plant origin, feed materials from animal and mineral origin, feed additives, and certain products used in animal nutrition and processing aids shall be used only if they have been authorized for use in organic production under Chapter (G) of this Title

a) Feed materials of mineral origin may be used in organic aquaculture only if listed in Section 1 of Annex V.



b) Feed additives, certain products used in animal nutrition and processing aids may be used if listed in Annex VI and the restrictions laid down therein are complied with.

## 9. Disease prevention and veterinary treatment

### 9.1 General rules on disease prevention

Disease prevention shall be based on keeping the animals in optimal conditions by appropriate siting, optimal design of the holdings, the application of good husbandry and management practices, including regular cleaning and disinfection of premises, high quality feed, appropriate stocking density, and breed and strain selection:

- a) An animal health management plan shall detail biosecurity and disease prevention practices including a written agreement for health counselling, proportionate to the production unit, with qualified aquaculture animal health services who shall visit the farm at a frequency of not less than once per year and not less than once every two years in the case of bivalve shellfish.
- b) With regard to cleaning and disinfection, products for cleaning and disinfection in ponds, cages, buildings and installations, shall be used only if they have been authorized for use in organic production under Chapter (G) of this Title.

Holding systems, equipment and utensils shall be properly cleaned and disinfected. Only products listed in Annex VII, Sections 2.1 to 2.2 may be used.

- c) With regard to fallowing:
  - (i) ECOCERT shall determine whether fallowing is necessary and the appropriate duration which shall be applied and documented after each production cycle in open water containment systems at sea. Fallowing is also recommended for other production methods using tanks, fishponds, and cages;
  - (ii) It shall not be mandatory for bivalve mollusc cultivation;
  - (iii) During fallowing the cage or other structure used for aquaculture animal production is emptied, disinfected and left empty before being used again.
- d) Where appropriate, uneaten fish-feed, faeces and dead animals shall be removed promptly to avoid any risk of significant environmental damage as regards water status quality, minimize disease risks, and to avoid attracting insects or rodents.
- e) Ultraviolet light and ozone may be used only in hatcheries and nurseries.
- f) For biological control of ectoparasites preference shall be given to the use of cleaner fish and to the use of freshwater, marine water and sodium chloride solutions.

#### 9.2 Veterinary treatments

Disease shall be treated immediately to avoid suffering to the animal.

- a) The use of immunological veterinary medicines is allowed;
- b) Treatments related to the protection of human and animal health imposed on the basis of National legislation shall be allowed.
- c) When despite preventive measures to ensure animal health, according to Article 9.1, a health problem arises, veterinary treatments may be used in the following order of preference:
  - (i) Substances from plants, animals or minerals in a homoeopathic dilution.
  - (ii) Plants and their extracts not having anaesthetic effects.
  - (iii) Substances such as: trace elements, metals, and natural immunostimulants or authorized probiotics.



- d) The use of allopathic treatments including antibiotics is limited to two courses of treatment per year, with the exception of vaccinations and compulsory eradication schemes. However, in the cases of a production cycle of less than a year a limit of one allopathic treatment applies. If the mentioned limits for allopathic treatments are exceeded the concerned aquaculture animals cannot be sold as organic products.
- e) The use of parasite treatments, not including compulsory control schemes operated by National Authorities, shall be limited to twice per year or once per year where the production cycle is less than 18 months.
- f) The withdrawal period for allopathic veterinary treatments and parasite treatments according to paragraph e) Including treatments under compulsory control and eradication schemes shall be twice the legal withdrawal period as referred to in Article 11 of Directive 2001/82/CE or in a case in which this period in not specified 48 hours.
- g) Whenever veterinary medicinal products are used, such use is to be declared to the control body or the control authority before the animals are marketed as organic.

  Treated stock shall be clearly identifiable.

#### 10. Specific rules/ species of fish

<u>10.1 Salmonids in fresh water: Brown trout (Salmo trutta) — Rainbow trout (Oncorhynchus mykiss) — American brook trout (Salvelinus fontinalis) — Salmon (Salmo salar) — Charr (Salvelinus alpinus) — Grayling (Thymallus thymallus) — American lake trout (or grey trout) (Salvelinus namaycush) — Huchen (Hucho hucho)</u>

- a) Production system: Ongrowing farm systems must be fed from open systems. The flow rate must ensure a minimum of 60 % oxygen saturation for stock and must ensure their comfort and the elimination of farming effluent.
- b) Maximum stocking density:
  - (i) Salmon 20 kg/m 3
  - (ii) Brown trout and Rainbow trout 25 kg/m 3
  - (iii) Arctic charr 25 kg/m 3
  - (iv) Other salmonid species (not listed above) 15 kg/m 3
  - <u>10.2 Salmonids in sea water: Salmon (Salmo salar), Brown trout (Salmo trutta) Rainbow trout (Oncorhynchus mykiss)</u>

Maximum stocking density: 10 kg/m 3 in net pens

- 10.3 Cod (Gadus morhua) and other Gadidae, sea bass (Dicentrarchus labrax), sea bream (Sparus aurata), meagre (Argyrosomus regius), turbot (Psetta maxima [= Scopthalmus maximux]), red porgy (Pagrus [= Sparus pagrus]), red drum (Sciaenops ocellatus) and other Sparidae, and spinefeet (Siganus spp.)
- a) Production system: In open water containment systems (net pens/cages) with minimum sea current speed to provide optimum fish welfare or in open systems on land.
- b) Maximum stocking density:
  - (i) For fish other than turbot: 15 kg/m 3
  - (ii) For turbot: 25 kg/m 2
  - 10.4 Sea bass, sea bream, meagre, mullets (Liza, Mugil) and eel (Anguilla spp.) in earth ponds of tidal areas and costal lagoons
- a) Containment system: Traditional salt pans transformed into aquaculture production units and similar earth ponds in tidal areas



- b) Production system:
  - (i) There shall be adequate renewal of water to ensure the welfare of the species
  - (ii) At least 50 % of the dikes must have plant cover
  - (iii) Wetland based depuration ponds are required
- c) Maximum stocking density: 4 kg/m 3

#### 10.5 Sturgeon in fresh water: Acipenser family

- a) Production system:
  - (i) Water flow in each rearing unit shall be sufficient to ensure animal welfare
  - (ii) Effluent water to be of equivalent quality to incoming water
- b) Maximum stocking density: 30 kg/m 3

10.6 Fish in inland waters: Carp family (Cyprinidae) and other associated species in the context of polyculture, including perch, pike, catfish, coregonids, sturgeon.

- a) Production system:
  - (i) In fishponds which shall periodically be fully drained and in lakes. Lakes must be devoted exclusively to organic production, including the growing of crops on dry areas.
  - (ii) The fishery capture area must be equipped with a clean water inlet and of a size to provide optimal comfort for the fish. The fish must be stored in clean water after harvest.
  - (iii) Treatments involving synthetic chemicals for the control of hydrophytes and plant coverage present in production waters are prohibited.
  - (iv) Organic and mineral fertilization of the ponds and lakes shall be carried out in compliance with Annex I to this Standard with a maximum application of 20 kg Nitrogen/ha.
  - (v) Areas of natural vegetation shall be maintained around inland water units as a buffer zone for external land areas not involved in the farming operation in accordance with the rules of organic aquaculture.
  - (vi) For grow-out "polyculture" shall be used on condition that the criteria laid down in the present specifications for the other species of lakes fish are duly adhered to.
- b) Farming yield: The total production of species is limited to 1 500 kg of fish per hectare per year.

## 10.7 Crustaceans: penaeid shrimps and freshwater prawns (Macrobrachium spp.).

- a) Establishment of production unit/s:
  - (i) Location to be in sterile clay areas to minimize environmental impact of pond construction.
  - (ii) Ponds to be built with the natural pre-existing clay.
  - (iii) Mangrove destruction is not permitted.
- b) Bloodstock origin:
  - (i) A minimum of half the broodstock shall be domesticated after three years operating. The remainder is to be pathogen free wild broodstock originating from sustainable fisheries
  - (ii) A compulsory screening to be implemented on the first and second generation prior to introducing to the farm.
- c) Eyestalk ablation is prohibited
- d) Maximum on farm stocking densities and production limits:
  - (i) Seeding: maximum 22 post larvae/m 2
  - (ii) Maximum instantaneous biomass: 240 g/m 2



#### 10.7a Crayfish: Astacus astacus, Pacifastacus leniusculus

- a) Maximum stocking density
  - (i) For small-sized crayfish (< 20 mm): 100 individuals/m2
  - (ii) For crayfish of intermediate size (20-50 mm): 30 individuals/ m2
  - (iii) For adult crayfish (> 50 mm): 10 individuals/ m2, provided that hiding places are available.

10.8 Tropical fresh water fish: milkfish (Chanos chanos), tilapia (Oreochromis spp.), siamese catfish (Pangasius spp.).

- a) Production systems: Ponds and net cages
- b) Maximum stocking density:

(i) Pangasius: 10 kg/m 3(ii) Oreochromis: 20 kg/m 3

#### 11. Specific rules for molluscs

#### 11.1 Water Quality

- a) Bivalve molluscs and other species which are not fed by man but feed on natural plankton shall be grown in waters which meet the criteria for Class A or Class B areas as defined in Annex II of Regulation (EC) No 854/2004.
- b) The growing areas shall be of high ecological quality as defined by Directive 2000/60/EC.

## 11.2 Growing area

- a) Bivalve mollusc farming may be carried out in the same area of water as organic finfish and seaweed farming in a polyculture system to be documented in the sustainable management plan. Bivalve molluscs may also be grown together with gastropod molluscs, such as periwinkles, in polyculture.
- b) Organic bivalve mollusc production shall take place within areas delimited by posts, floats or other clear markers and shall, as appropriate, be restrained by net bags, cages or other man made means.
- c) Organic shellfish farms shall minimize risks to species of conservation interest. If predator nets are used their design shall not permit diving birds to be harmed.

#### 11.3 Sourcing of seed

- a) Provided that there is no significant damage to the environment and if permitted by local legislation, wild seed from outside the boundaries of the production unit can be used in the case of bivalve shellfish provided it comes from:
  - (i) Settlement beds which are unlikely to survive winter weather or are surplus to requirements
  - (ii) Natural settlement of shellfish seed on collectors.

Records shall be kept of how, where and when wild seed was collected to allow traceability back to the collection area.

b) However, seed from non-organic bivalve shellfish hatcheries may be introduced to the organic production units with the following maximum percentages: 50 % by 31 December 2014 and 0 % by 31 December 2016.

#### 11.4 Feed

Such filter-feeding animals shall receive all their nutritional requirements from nature except in the case of juveniles reared in hatcheries and nurseries.



#### 11.5 Management

- a) Production shall use a stocking density not in excess of that used for non-organic shellfish in the locality.
- b) Sorting, thinning and stocking density adjustments shall be made according to the biomass and to ensure animal welfare and high product quality.
- c) Biofouling organisms shall be removed by physical means or by hand and where appropriate returned to the sea away from shellfish farms.
- d) Shellfish may be treated once during the production cycle with a lime solution to control competing fouling organisms.

#### 11.6 Cultivation rules

- a) Cultivation on mussel ropes and following methods may be eligible for organic production of molluscs and echinoderms:
  - (i) Long-lines, rafts, bottom culture, net bags, cages, trays, lantern nets, bouchot poles and other containment systems.
  - (ii) For mussel cultivation on rafts the number of drop-ropes shall not exceed one per square meter of surface area. The maximum drop-rope length shall not exceed 20 meters. Thinning-out of drop-ropes shall not take place during the production cycle, however sub-division of drop ropes shall be permitted without increasing stocking density at the outset.
- b) Bottom cultivation of molluscs is only permitted where no significant environmental impact is caused at the collection and growing sites.

The evidence of minimal environmental impact shall be supported by a survey and report on the exploited area to be provided by the operator to ECOCERT. The report shall be added as a separate chapter to the Sustainable Management Plan.

#### 11.7 Specific cultivation rules for oysters

- a) For the cupped oyster, *Crassostrea gigas*, preference shall be given to stock which is selectively bred to reduce spawning in the wild.
- b) Cultivation in bags on trestles is permitted. These or other structures in which the oysters are contained shall be set out so as to avoid the formation of a total barrier along the shoreline. Stock shall be positioned carefully on the beds in relation to tidal flow to optimize production.

## (G). Products and substances used in farming and criteria for their authorization

- 1) Ecocert shall, authorize for use in organic production and include in a restricted list the products and substances, which may be used in organic farming for the following purposes:
  - a) As plant protection products
  - b) As fertilisers and soil conditioners
  - c) As non-organic feed materials from plant and/or animal origin, feed material from mineral origin and certain substances used in animal nutrition
  - d) As feed additives and processing aids



- e) As products for cleaning and disinfection of ponds, cages, buildings and installations for animal production;
- f) As products for cleaning and disinfection of buildings and installations used for plant production, including storage on an agricultural holding.

Products and substances contained in the restricted list may only be used in so far as the corresponding use is authorized in general agriculture in the country concerned in accordance with the national law.

- 2) The authorization of the products and substances referred to in paragraph 1 is subject to the objectives and principles laid down in Title II and the following general and specific criteria which shall be evaluated as a whole:
  - a) Their use is necessary for sustained production and essential for its intended use
  - b) All products and substances shall be of plant, animal, microbial or mineral origin except where products or substances from such sources are not available in sufficient quantities or qualities or if alternatives are not available
  - c) In the case of plant protection products, the following shall apply:
    - (i) Their use is essential for the control of a harmful organism or a particular disease for which other biological, physical or breeding alternatives or cultivation practices or other effective management practices are not available
    - (ii) If products are not of plant, animal, microbial or mineral origin and are not identical to their natural form, they may be authorized only if their conditions for use preclude any direct contact with the edible parts of the crop
  - d) In the case of fertilisers and soil conditioners, their use is essential for obtaining or maintaining the fertility of the soil or to fulfil specific nutrition requirements of crops, or specific soil-conditioning purposes
  - e) In the case of non-organic feed materials, feed additives and processing aids), the following shall apply:
    - (i) They are necessary to maintain animal health, animal welfare and vitality and contribute to an appropriate diet fulfilling the physiological and behavioural needs of the species concerned or it would be impossible to produce or preserve such feed without having recourse to such substances
    - (ii) Feed of mineral origin, trace elements, vitamins or provitamins shall be of natural origin. In case these substances are unavailable, chemically well-defined analogic substances may be authorized for use in organic production.

Ecocert may, lay down conditions and limits as regards the agricultural products to which the products and substances referred to in paragraph 1 can be applied to, the application method, the dosage, the time limits for use and the contact with agricultural products and, if necessary, decide on the withdrawal of these products and substances.

The use of products and substances not covered under paragraph 1 and 2, and subject to the objectives and principles laid down in Title II and the general criteria in this Article, shall be allowed in organic farming.

## V. Preserved and processed products

#### (A). General Rules for preserving and for the production of processed feed and food

1) Additives, processing aids and other substances and ingredients used for processing food or feed and any processing practice applied, such as smoking, shall respect the principles of good manufacturing practice.



- 2) Substances and techniques that reconstitute properties that are lost in the processing and storage of organic feed and/or food, that correct the results of negligence in the processing of these products or that otherwise may be misleading as to the true nature of these products shall not be used.
- 3) Operators preserving products or producing processed feed or food shall establish and update appropriate procedures based on a systematic identification of critical processing steps.
- 4) The application of the procedures referred to in paragraph 3 shall guarantee at all times that the preserved or processed products comply with the organic production rules.
- 5) Operators shall comply with and implement the procedures referred to in paragraph 3. In particular, operators shall:
  - a) Take precautionary measures to avoid the risk of contamination by unauthorized substances or products;
  - b) Implement suitable cleaning measures, monitor their effectiveness and record these operations;
  - c) Guarantee that non-organic products are not placed on the market with an indication referring to the organic production method.
- 6) Further to the provisions laid down in paragraphs 3 and 5, when non-organic products are also prepared or stored in the preparation unit concerned, the operator shall:
  - a) Carry out the operations continuously until the complete run has been dealt with, separated by place or time from similar operations performed on non-organic products;
  - b) Store organic products, before and after the operations, separate by place or time from non-organic products;
  - c) Keep available to Ecocert an updated register of all operations and quantities processed;
  - d) Take the necessary measures to ensure identification of lots and to avoid mixtures or exchanges with nonorganic products;
  - e) Carry out operations on organic products only after suitable cleaning of the production equipment.

#### (B). Production of processed feed

## 1. General rules on the production of processed feed

- a) Organic feed materials, or feed materials from production in conversion, shall not enter simultaneously with the same feed materials produced by non-organic means into the composition of the organic feed product.
- b) Any feed materials used or processed in organic production shall not have been processed with the aid of chemically synthesised solvents.

## (C). Production of processed food

## 1. General rules on the production of processed food

a) The product shall be produced mainly from ingredients of agricultural origin; in order to determine whether a product is produced mainly from ingredients of agricultural origin added water and cooking salt shall not be taken into account;



- b) An organic ingredient shall not be present together with the same ingredient in non-organic form or an ingredient in conversion;
- c) Food produced from in-conversion crops shall contain only one crop ingredient of agricultural origin.

### 2. Use of certain products and substances in processing of food

- a) Only additives, processing aids, flavourings, water, salt, preparations of micro-organisms and enzymes, minerals, trace elements, vitamins, as well as amino acids and other micronutrients in foodstuffs for particular nutritional uses may be used, and only in so far as they have been authorized for use in organic production in accordance with Chapter (H) of this Title.
- b) For the purposes of paragraph a), only the following substances can be used in the processing of organic food, with the exception of products of the wine sector, for which the provisions of Chapter (D) of this Title shall apply:
  - (i) Substances listed in Annex VIII to this Standard
  - (ii) Preparations of micro-organisms and enzymes normally used in food processing, with the exception of the 2 enzymes used as food additives E 1103 invertase and E 1105 lysozyme which are not listed in Annex VIII.A
  - (iii) Substances, and products as defined in Articles 3(2)(c) and 3(2)(d) of Regulation (EC) N° 1334/2008 labelled as natural flavouring substances or natural flavouring preparations, according to that Regulation.
  - (iv) Colours for stamping meat (E 155 Brown HT, E 133 Brilliant Blue FCF or E129 Allura Red AC or an appropriate mixture of E 133 Brilliant Blue FCF and E 129 Allura Red AC) and eggshells (colours as listed in Annex I of Directive 94/36/EC)
  - (v) Drinking water and salt (with sodium chloride or potassium chloride as basic components) generally used in food processing;
  - (vi) Minerals (trace elements included), vitamins, amino acids, and micronutrients, only authorized as far their use is legally required in the foodstuffs in which they are incorporated.
- c) For the purpose of the calculation of the organic percentage of the final product:
  - (i) Food additives listed in Annex VIII and marked with an asterisk in the column of the additive code number, shall be calculated as ingredients of agricultural origin.
  - (ii) Preparations and substances referred to in paragraph (b)(ii) to (vi) of this Article and substances not marked with an asterisk in the column of the additive code number shall not be calculated as ingredients of agricultural origin.
  - (iii) Yeast and yeast products shall be calculated as ingredients of agricultural origin as of 31 December 2013.

#### 3. Use of certain non-organic ingredients of agricultural origin in processing food

- a) Non-organic agricultural ingredients may be used in the recipe of a product referred to in Chapter (D) 1 a) of Title VII only if they have been authorized for use in organic production in accordance with Chapter (H) of this Title or have been provisionally authorized by Ecocert.
- b) For the purpose of paragraph a) non-organic agricultural ingredients listed in Annex IX to this Regulation can be used in the processing of organic food.
- c) Where an ingredient of agricultural origin is not included in Annex IX to this Standard, that ingredient may only be used in the recipe of a product referred to in Chapter (D) 1 a) of Title VII under the following conditions:
  - (i) The operator has filled in the specific form available upon request and notified to Ecocert all the requisite evidence showing that the ingredient concerned is not produced in sufficient quantity in the country and in the European Union in accordance with the organic production rules.



- (ii) Ecocert has provisionally authorized, the use for a maximum period of 12 months after having verified that the operator has undertaken the necessary contacts with suppliers in its country and European Union to ensure himself of the unavailability of the ingredients concerned with the required quality requirements.
- (iii) The authorization shall be renewed at least one month before expiry date of the previous authorization.

### (D). Specific rules for the making of wine

#### 1. Scope

- a) This Chapter lays down specific rules for the organic production of the following products of the wine sector: grape must, wines including fortified wines, wine vinegar, piquette, wine lees and grape marc.
- b) Commission Regulations (EC) No 606/2009 and (EC) No 607/2009 shall apply, save as explicitly provided otherwise in this Chapter.

### 2. Use of certain products and substances

- a) Products of the wine sector shall be produced from organic raw material.
- b) For the purposes of Chapter (C) 2 a) of this Title, only products and substances listed in Annex VIII bis to this Standard can be used for the making of products of the wine sector, including during the processes and oenological practices, subject to the conditions and restrictions laid down in Regulation (EC) No 1234/2007 and Regulation (EC) No 606/2009 and in particular in Annex I A to that Regulation.
- c) Products and substances listed in Annex VIII bis to this Standard and marked with an asterisk, derived from organic raw material, shall be used if available.

## 3. Oenological practices and restrictions

- a) Without prejudice to Article 2 and to specific prohibitions and restrictions provided for in paragraphs b) to e) of this Article, only oenological practices, processes and treatments, including the restrictions provided for in Article 120c and 120d of Regulation (EC) No 1234/2007 and in Articles 3, 5 to 9 and 11 to 14 of Regulation (EC) No 606/2009 and in their Annexes, used before 1 August 2010 are permitted (any amendments of these 2 regulations introduced after 1 August 2010, as regards the oenological practice, processes and treatments may be applicable in the organic production of wine only after the adoption of new measures in the Standard).
- b) The use of the following oenological practices, processes and treatments is prohibited:
  - (i) partial concentration through cooling according to point (c) of Section B.1 of Annex XVa to Regulation (EC) No 1234/2007;
  - (ii) Elimination of sulphur dioxide by physical processes according to point 8 of Annex I A to Regulation (EC) No 606/2009;
  - (iii) electro dialysis treatment to ensure the tartaric stabilization of the wine according to point 36 of Annex I A to Regulation (EC) No 606/2009;
  - (iv) partial dealcoholisation of wine according to point 40 of Annex I A to Regulation (EC) No 606/2009;
  - (v) treatment with cation exchangers to ensure the tartaric stabilization of the wine according to point 43 of Annex I A to Regulation (EC) No 606/2009.
- c) The use of the following oenological practices, processes and treatments is permitted under the following conditions:
  - (i) For heat treatments according to point 2 of Annex I A to Regulation (EC) No 606/2009, the temperature shall not exceed 70 °C;



- (ii) for centrifuging and filtration with or without an inert filtering agent according to point 3 of Annex I A to Regulation (EC) No 606/2009, the size of the pores shall be not smaller than 0,2 micrometer.
- d) The use of the following oenological practices, processes and treatments is allowed but it shall be re-examined by Ecocert with a view to phase out or to further restrict those practices:
  - (i) heat treatments as referred to in point 2 of Annex I A to Regulation (EC) No 606/2009;
  - (ii) Use of ion exchange resins as referred to in point 20 of Annex I A to Regulation (EC) No 606/2009;
  - (iii) Reverse osmosis according to point (b) of Section B.1 of Annex XVa to Regulation (EC) No 1234/2007.

# 4. <u>Exceptional production rules related to catastrophic circumstances in accordance with Article (3).2 (vi)</u> of Title III

Ecocert may authorize on a temporary basis:

The use of sulphur dioxide up to the maximum content to be fixed in accordance with the Annex I B to Regulation (EC) No 606/2009 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; Upon approval by Ecocert, the individual operators shall keep documentary evidence of the use of the above exceptions.

## (E). Rules on the production of organic yeast

### 1. General rules

- a) For the production of organic yeast only organically produced substrates shall be used. Other products and substances may only be used in so far as they have been authorized for use in organic production in accordance with Chapter (H) of this Title.
- b) For the purpose of the application of paragraph a), the following substances may be used in the production, confection and formulation of yeast:
  - (i) Substances listed in Annex VIII, Section C to this Standard.
  - (ii) Preparations of micro-organisms and enzymes normally used in food processing.
  - (iii) Drinking water and salt (with sodium chloride or potassium chloride as basic components) generally used in food processing;
- c) Organic yeast shall not be present in organic food or feed together with non-organic yeast.

# 2. <u>Exceptional production rules with regard to the use of specific products and substances in the processing</u> in accordance with Article (3).2 v) of Title III: Addition of non-organic yeast extract

Where the conditions laid down in Article (3).2 v) of Title III apply, the addition of up to 5 % non-organic yeast extract or autolysate to the substrate (calculated in dry matter) is allowed for the production of organic yeast, where operators are unable to obtain yeast extract or autolysate from organic production.

## (F). Specific provisions for algae

- a) If the final product is fresh seaweed, flushing of freshly harvested seaweed shall use seawater.
- b) If the final product is dehydrated seaweed, potable water may also be used for flushing. Salt may be used for removal of moisture.



c) The use of direct flames which come in direct contact with the seaweed shall be prohibited for drying. If ropes or other equipment are used in the drying process they shall be free of anti-fouling treatments and cleaning or disinfection substances except where a product is listed in Annex VII for this use.

### (G). Criteria for certain products and substances in processing

- 1) The authorization of products and substances for use in organic production and their inclusion in a restricted list of the products and substances referred to in Chapter (C).2 and 3 of this Title shall be subject to the objectives and principles laid down in Title II and the following criteria, which shall be evaluated as a whole:
  - (i) Alternatives authorized in accordance with chapter (C) of this Title are not available;
  - (ii) Without having recourse to them, it would be impossible to produce or preserve the food or to fulfil given dietary requirements provided for on the basis of the national legislation.

In addition, the products and substances referred to in Chapter (C).2 of this Title are to be found in nature and may have undergone only mechanical, physical, biological, enzymatic or microbial processes, except where such products and substances from such sources are not available in sufficient quantities or qualities on the market.

2) Ecocert shall, decide on the authorization of the products and substances and their inclusion in the restricted list referred to in paragraph 1of this Chapter and lay down specific conditions and limits for their use, and, if necessary, on the withdrawal of products.

# VI. Collection, packaging, transport, storage and export to EU of products

#### (A). Transport

#### 1. Collection of products and transport to preparation units

- a) Operators may carry out simultaneous collection of organic and non-organic products, only where appropriate measures are taken to prevent any possible mixture or exchange with non-organic products and to ensure the identification of the organic products.
- b) The operator shall keep the information relating to collection days, hours, circuit and date and time of reception of the products available to the control body or control authority.

#### 2. Packaging and transport of products to other operators or units

- a) Operators shall 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 law:
  - (i) The name and address of the operator and, where different, of 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) The name and/or the code number of the control body or authority to which the operator is subject; and
  - (iv) Where relevant, the lot identification mark according to a marking system either approved at national level or agreed with the control body or authority and which permits to link the lot with the accounts referred to in Chapter (B).4 of Title VIII.

The information referred to in points (i) to (iv) of the first subparagraph may also be presented 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 and/or the transporter.



- b) The closing of packaging, containers or vehicles shall not be required where:
  - (i) Transportation is direct between an operator and another operator who are both subject to the organic control system, and
  - (ii) The products are accompanied by a document giving the information required under paragraph 1, and
  - (iii) Both the expediting and the receiving operators shall keep documentary records of such transport operations available for the control body or control authority of such transport operations.

#### 3. Special rules for transporting feed to other production/preparation units or storage premises

In addition to the provisions of Article 2, when transporting feed to other production or preparation units or storage premises, operators shall ensure that the following conditions are met:

- a) During transport, organically-produced feed, in-conversion feed, and non-organic feed shall be effectively physically separated;
- b) The vehicles and/or containers which have transported non-organic products are used to transport organic products provided that:
  - (i) Suitable cleaning measures, the effectiveness of which has been checked, have been carried out before commencing the transport of organic products; operators shall record these operations,
  - (ii) all appropriate measures are implemented, depending on the risks evaluated in accordance with Chapter
  - (J).2 c) of Title VIII and, where necessary, operators shall guarantee that non-organic products cannot be placed on the market with an indication referring to organic production,
  - (iii) The operator shall keep documentary records of such transport operations available for Ecocert.
- c) The transport of finished organic feed shall be separated physically or in time from the transport of other finished products;
- d) During transport, the quantity of products at the start and each individual quantity delivered in the course of a delivery round shall be recorded.

#### 4. Reception of products from other units and other operators

- a) On receipt of an organic product, the operator shall check the closing of the packaging or container where it is required and the presence of the indications provided to in Article 2 of this chapter.
- b) The operator shall crosscheck the information on the label referred to in Article 2 of this chapter with the information on the accompanying documents. The result of these verifications shall be explicitly mentioned in the documentary accounts referred to in Chapter (B).4 of Title VIII.
- c) The operator shall verify the certificate of his suppliers.

#### (B). Storage of products

- a) For the storage of products, areas shall be managed in such a way as to ensure identification of lots and to avoid any mixing with or contamination by products and/or substances not in compliance with the organic production rules. Organic products shall be clearly identifiable at all times.
- b) In case of organic plant, algae, livestock and aquaculture animal production units, storage of input products other than those authorized under this Standard is prohibited in the production unit.
- c) The storage of allopathic veterinary medicinal products and antibiotics is permitted on holdings provided that they have been prescribed by a veterinarian in connection with treatment, that they are stored in a supervised location



and that they are entered in the livestock record as referred to in Chapter (E).3 of Title VIII of this Standard, or as appropriate, in the aquaculture production records as referred to in Chapter (G).2 of Title VIII of this Standard.

- d) In case where operators handle both non-organic products and organic products and the latter are stored in storage facilities in which also other agricultural products or foodstuffs are stored:
  - (i) The organic products shall be kept separate from the other agricultural products and/or foodstuffs;
  - (ii) Every measure shall be taken to ensure identification of consignments and to avoid mixtures or exchanges with non-organic products;
  - (iii) Suitable cleaning measures, the effectiveness of which has been checked, have been carried out before the storage of organic products;
  - Operators shall record these operations.

## (C). Export to the EU

A consignment of products certified according to this standard and exported to the European Union may be released for free circulation and placed on the Community market as organic provided that:

The consignment is covered by a **certificate of inspection** issued by the Control Body of the exporter, endorsed by the relevant Member State's competent authority and completed by the first consignee in EU on the basis of the model and the notes set out in Annex V of REC N° 1235/2008.

## VII. Labelling

#### (A). Use of terms referring to organic production

- 1) For the purposes of this Standard a product shall be regarded as bearing terms referring to the organic production method where, in the labelling, advertising material or commercial documents, such a product, its ingredients or feed materials are described in terms suggesting to the purchaser that the product, its ingredients or feed materials have been obtained in accordance with the rules laid down in this Standard. In particular, the terms "organic", "biologique" "ecologic", their derivatives or diminutives, such as 'bio' and 'eco', alone or combined, may be used for the labelling and advertising of products which satisfy the requirements set out under or pursuant to this Standard.
- 2) In the labelling and advertising of live or unprocessed agricultural products terms referring to the organic production method may be used only where, in addition, all the ingredients of that product have also been produced in accordance with the requirements laid down in this Standard.
- 3) The terms referred to in paragraph 1 shall not be used for the labelling, advertising and commercial documents of a product which does not satisfy the requirements set out under this Standard, unless they are not applied to agricultural products in food or feed or clearly have no connection with organic production.
- 4) Furthermore, any terms, including terms used in trademarks, or practices used in labelling or advertising liable to mislead the consumer or user by suggesting that a product or its ingredients satisfy the requirements set out under this Standard shall not be used.
- 5) The terms referred to in paragraph 1 shall not be used for a product for which it has to be indicated in the labelling or advertising that it contains GMOs, consists of GMOs or is produced from GMOs.



## (B). Compulsory indications

### 1. Code number of the control body

Where terms as referred to in Chapter (A) of this Title are used:

- a) The code number of the control authority or control body to which the operator who has carried out the most recent production or preparation operation is subject, shall also appear in the labelling;
- b) The indication of the code number of the control authority or control body is designated by the European Commission and shall:
  - (i) start with the acronym identifying the Third Country, as referred to in the international standard for the two letter country codes under ISO 3166 (Codes for the representation of names of countries and their subdivisions);
  - (ii) Include a term which establishes a link with the organic production method, as referred to in Chapter (A) of this Title
  - (iii) Include a reference number to be decided by the Commission
  - (iv) Be placed in the same visual field as the Organic logo of the EU, where the Organic logo of the EU is used in the labelling.
- c) For products controlled and certified according to this Standard by Ecocert, the code number is AB-BIO-154 (AB being the ISO code of the country of application).

#### (C). Organic logo of the European Union

The Organic logo of the EU shall follow the model in Annex XI to Regulation (EC) N° 889/2008 and shall be used in accordance with the technical reproduction rules laid down in Annex XI to this Regulation.

#### 1. Condition of use

- a) The Organic logo of the EU may be used in the labelling, presentation and advertising of products which satisfy the requirements set out under this Standard.
- b) The Organic logo of the EU shall not be used in the case of in-conversion products, food as referred to in Chapter (D).1 b) and c) and feed as referred to in Chapter (E).2 b) of this Title.
- c) National and private logos may be used in the labelling, presentation and advertising of products which satisfy the requirements set out under this Standard.

The use of the Organic logo of the EU shall be optional for products from third countries. However, where the Organic logo of the EU appears in the labelling, the indication referred to in Article 2 of this Chapter shall also appear in the labelling.

#### 2. Indication of the place of origin

- a) Where the Organic logo of the EU is used, an indication of the place where the agricultural raw materials of which the product is composed have been farmed, shall also appear in the same visual field as the logo and shall take one of the following forms, as appropriate:
- '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,
- '<u>EU/non-EU Agriculture'</u>, where part of the agricultural raw materials has been farmed in the EU and a part of it has been farmed in a third country.



b) The abovementioned indication 'EU' or 'non-EU' maybe replaced or supplemented by a country in the case where all agricultural raw materials of which the product is composed have been farmed in that country.

For the abovementioned 'EU' or 'non-EU' indication, small quantities by weight of ingredients maybe disregarded provided that the total quantity of the disregarded ingredients does not exceed 2 % of the total quantity by weight of raw materials of agricultural origin.

The abovementioned 'EU' or 'non-EU' indication shall not appear in a colour, size and style of lettering more prominent than the sales description of the product.

c) The indication of the place where the agricultural raw materials of which the products is composed have been farmed, shall be placed immediately below the code number referred to in Chapter (B)1 of this Title.

The indications referred to in Chapters (B) and (C) of this Title shall be marked in a conspicuous place in such a way as to be easily visible, clearly legible and indelible.

## (D). Labelling of processed food

#### 1. Categories of products

As regards processed food, the terms referred to in Chapter (A) of this Title may be used:

- a) In the sales description, provided that:
  - (i) The processed food complies with Chapter (C) of Title V
  - (ii) At least 95% by weight, of its ingredients of agricultural origin are organic;
- b) Only in the list of ingredients, provided that the food complies with Chapters (A).6 a), (C) 1 a) and b) and (C) 2 a) of Title V.
- c) In the list of ingredients and in the same visual field as the sales description, provided that:
  - (i) The main ingredient is a product of hunting or fishing;
  - (ii) It contains other ingredients of agricultural origin that are all organic;
  - (iii) The food complies with Chapters (A).6 a), (C) 1 a) and b) and (C) 2 a) of Title V.

## 2. Mention in the list of ingredients

- a) The list of ingredients shall indicate which ingredients are organic.
- b) In the case where Articles 1(b) and (c) of this Chapter apply, the references to the organic production method may only appear in relation to the organic ingredients and the list of ingredients shall include an indication of the total percentage of organic ingredients in proportion to the total quantity of ingredients of agricultural origin.

The terms and the indication of percentage shall appear in the same colour, identical size and style of lettering as the other indications in the list of ingredients.

#### (E). Labelling of feed

# 1. Scope, use of trademarks and sales descriptions

- a) This Chapter shall not apply to pet food and feed for fur animals.
- b) The trademarks and sales descriptions bearing an indication referred to in Chapter (A) of this Title may be used only if all ingredients of plant or animal origin are from the organic production method and at least 95 % of the product's dry matter is comprised of such ingredients.

## 2. Indications on processed feed



- a) The terms referred to in Chapter (A) of this Title and the Organic logo of the EU may be used on processed feed provided that all the following requirements are complied with:
  - (i) The processed feed doesn't contain growth promoters and synthetic amino-acids and complies with the provisions of Chapter (B) of Title V.
  - (ii) The processed feed complies with the provisions of this Standard and in particular with Chapter (D) 4.4 of Title IV and Chapter (A) of Title V thereof;
  - (iii) All ingredients of plant or animal origin contained in the processed feed are from the organic production method;
  - (iv) At least 95 % of the product's dry matter is comprised of organic agricultural products.
- b) Subject to the requirements laid down in points (i) and (ii) of paragraph a), the following statement is permitted in the case of products comprising variable quantities of feed materials from the organic production method and/or feed materials from products in conversion to organic farming and/or products as referred to in Chapter (D) 4.4 of Title IV of this Standard: "may be used in organic production in accordance with Ecocert Organic Standard and Regulations (EC) 834/2007 and (EC) 889/2008"

### 3. Conditions for the use of indications on processed feed

The indication provided for in Article 2 of this Chapter shall be:

- a) Separate from the wording concerning the labelling requirements of feed referred to in Article 15 of Regulation (EC) N° 767/2009
- b) Presented in a colour, format or character font that does not draw more attention to it than to the description or name of the animal feeding stuff referred to in Article 15 of Regulation (EC) N° 767/2009
- c) Accompanied, in the same field of vision, by an indication by weight of dry matter referring:
  - (i) To the percentage of feed material(s) from the organic production method;
  - (ii) To the percentage of feed material(s) from products in conversion to organic farming;
  - (iii) To the percentage of feed material(s) not covered by points (i) and (ii);
  - (iv) To the total percentage of animal feed of agricultural origin;
- d) Accompanied by a list of names of feed materials from the organic production method;
- e) Accompanied by a list of names of feed materials from products in conversion to organic production. The indication provided for in Article 2 of this Chapter may be also accompanied by a reference to the requirement to use the feeding stuffs in accordance with Chapters (D) 4.3 and 4.4 of Title IV.

#### (F). In-conversion products of plant origin

- 1) In-conversion products of plant origin may bear the indication "product under conversion to organic farming" provided that:
  - a) A conversion period of at least 12 months before the harvest has been complied with;
  - b) 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 letters;
  - c) The product contains only one crop ingredient of agricultural origin;
  - d) The indication is linked to the code number of the control body or control authority as referred to in Chapter (B).1 of this Title.



2) Animals and animal products produced during the conversion period referred to in subparagraph (c) Chapter (A) 2.5 to 2.7 of Title IV shall not be marketed with the indications referred to in Chapters (A) to (D) of this Title used in the labelling and advertising of products.

## VIII. Controls

## (A). Adherence to the control system

#### 1. Commitment and notification

- 1) Any operator or grower group (as described in Annex XI to this Standard) who produces, prepares, stores, or exports from a third country products in the meaning of Article 2 of Title I of this Standard or who places such products on the market shall, prior to placing on the market of any products as organic or in conversion to organic:
  - a) Submit his undertaking to the control system of Ecocert.
  - b) Notify his activity and the following information to Ecocert:
    - (i) Name and address of operator
    - (ii) Location of premises and, where appropriate, parcels (land register data) where operations are carried out;
    - (iii) Nature of operations and products;
    - (iv) Undertaking by the operator to carry out the operation in accordance with the provision laid down in this Standard
    - (v) In the case of an agricultural holding, the date on which the producer ceased to apply products not authorized for organic production on the parcels concerned;
- 2) Where an operator contracts out any of the activities to a third party, that operator shall nonetheless be subject to the requirements referred to in points (a) and (b) of paragraph 1), and the subcontracted activities shall be subject to the control system.
- 3) Where an operator runs several production units in the same area, the units for non-organic products, together with storage premises for input products must also be subject to the minimum control requirements.
- 4) Ecocert shall keep an updated list containing the names and addresses of operators under its control. This list shall be made available to the interested parties.

#### 2. Certificate

Ecocert shall provide a certificate to any such operator who is subject to its controls and who in the sphere of his activities, meets the requirements laid down in this Standard. The certificate shall at least permit the identification of the operator and the type or range of products as well as the period of validity.

#### (B). Minimum control requirements

## 1. Control arrangements and undertaking by the operator

- a) When the control arrangements are first implemented, the operator shall draw up and subsequently maintain:
  - (i) A full description of the unit and/or premises and/or activity;
  - (ii) All the practical measures to be taken at the level of the unit and/or premises and/or activity to ensure compliance with the organic production rules;



(iii) The precautionary measures to be taken in order to reduce the risk of contamination by unauthorized products or substances and the cleaning measures to be taken in storage places and throughout the operator's production chain.

Where appropriate, the description and measures provided for in the subparagraph a) (i) may be part of a quality system as set up by the operator.

- b) The description and the measures referred to in paragraph a) shall be contained in a declaration, signed by the responsible operator. In addition, this declaration shall include an undertaking by the operator:
  - (i) To perform the operations in accordance with the organic production rules;
  - (ii) To accept, in the event of infringement or irregularities, the enforcement of the measures of the organic production rules;
  - (iii) To undertake to inform in writing the buyers of the product in order to ensure that the indications referring to the organic production method are removed from this production.
  - (iv) To accept, in cases where the operator and/or the subcontractors of that operator are checked by different control authorities or control bodies, the exchange of information between those authorities or bodies;
  - (v) To accept, in cases where the operator and/or the subcontractors of that operator change their control authority or control body, the transmission of their control files to the subsequent control authority or control body;
  - (vi) To accept, in cases where the operator withdraws from the control system, to inform without delay Ecocert;
  - (vii) To accept, in cases where the operator withdraws from the control system, that the control file is kept for a period of at least five years;
  - (viii) To accept to inform the relevant control authority or authorities or control body or bodies without delay of any irregularity or infringement affecting the organic status of their product or organic products received from other operators or subcontractors.

The declaration provided for in the subparagraph b) shall be verified by Ecocert that issues a report identifying the possible deficiencies and non-compliances with the organic production rules.

The operator shall countersign this report and take the necessary corrective measures.

c) A complaint logbook must exist, mentioning the complaints about certified products, and the corresponding corrective actions taken.

#### 2. <u>Modification of control arrangements</u>

The operator responsible shall notify any change in the description or of the measures referred to in Article 1 of this Chapter and in the initial control arrangements set out in Chapters (C).1, (E).1, (H).1, (I).1 and (J).2 of this Title to Ecocert in due time.

## 3. Control visits

In the context of this Standard the nature and frequency of the controls shall be determined on the basis of an assessment of the risk of occurrence of irregularities and infringements as regards compliance with the requirements laid down in this Standard.

- a) In any case, all operators with the exception of wholesaler dealing only with prepackaged products and operators selling to the final consumer or user shall be subject to a verification of compliance at least once a year.
- b) Ecocert shall take and analyse samples for detecting of products not authorized for organic production, for checking production techniques not in conformity with the organic production rules or for detecting possible contamination by products not authorized for organic production. The number of samples to be taken and analysed by Ecocert every year shall correspond to at least 5 % of the number of operators under its control. The selection of the operators where samples have to be taken shall be based on the general evaluation of the risk of non-compliance



with the organic production rules. This general evaluation shall take into account all stages of production, preparation and distribution

Ecocert shall take and analyse samples in each case where the use of products or techniques not authorized for organic production is suspected. In such cases no minimum number of samples to be taken and analysed shall apply Samples may also be taken and analysed by Ecocert in any other case for detecting of products not authorized for organic production, for checking production techniques not in conformity with the organic production rules or for detecting possible contamination by products not authorized for organic production

- c) A control report shall be drawn up after each visit, countersigned by the operator of the unit or his representative.
- d) Moreover, Ecocert shall carry out random additional control visit, primarily unannounced, based on the general evaluation of the risk of non-compliance with the organic production rules, taking into account at least the results of previous controls, the quantity of products concerned and the risk for exchange of products.

#### 4. <u>Documentary accounts</u>

- a) Stock and financial records shall be kept in the unit or premises and shall enable the operator to identify and Ecocert to verify:
  - (i) The supplier and, where different, the seller, or the exporter of the products;
  - (ii) The nature and the quantities of organic products delivered to the unit and, where relevant, of all materials bought and the use of such materials, and, where relevant, the composition of the compound feeding stuffs;
  - (iii) The nature and the quantities of organic products held in storage at the premises;
  - (iv) The nature, the quantities and the consignees and, where different, the buyers, other than the final consumers, of any products which have left the unit or the first consignee's premises or storage facilities;
  - (v) in case of operators who do not store or physically handle such organic products, the nature and the quantities of organic products bought and sold, and the suppliers, and where different, the sellers or the exporters and the buyers, and where different, the consignees.
- b) The documentary accounts shall also comprise the results of the verification at reception of organic products and any other information required by Ecocert for the purpose of proper control.
- c) The data in the accounts shall be documented with appropriate justification documents.
- d) The accounts shall demonstrate the balance between the input and the output.

#### 5. Access to facilities

The operator shall:

- a) Give Ecocert, for control purposes, access to all parts of the unit and all premises, as well as to the accounts and relevant supporting documents;
- b) Provide Ecocert with any information reasonably necessary for the purposes of the control;
- c) Submit, when requested by Ecocert, the results of its own quality assurance programmes.
  - (C). Specific control requirements for plants and plant products from farm production or collection

#### 1. Control arrangements

- a) The full description of the unit referred to in Chapter (B).1 a) (i) of this Title shall:
  - (i) Be drawn up even where the operator limits his activity to the collection of wild plants;



- (ii) Indicate the storage and production premises and land parcels and/or collection areas and, where applicable, premises where certain processing and/or packaging operations take place; and
- (iii) Specify the date of the last application on the parcels and/or collection areas concerned of products, the use of which is not compatible with the organic production rules.
- b) In case of collection of wild plants, the practical measures referred to in Chapter (B).1 a) (ii) of this Title shall include any guarantees given by third parties which the operator can provide to ensure that the provisions of Chapter (B).7 of Title IV are complied with.

#### 2. Communications

Each year, the operator shall notify Ecocert of its schedule of production of crop products, giving a breakdown by parcel.

#### 3. Plant production records

Plant production records shall be compiled in the form of a register and kept available to Ecocert at all times at the premises of the holding. In addition to Article 2 of this Chapter such records shall provide at least the following information:

- a) as regards the use of fertilizer: date of application, type and amount of fertilizer, parcels concerned;
- b) as regards the use of plant protection products: reason and date of treatment, type of product, method of treatment;
- c) as regards purchase of farm inputs: date, type and amount of purchased product;
- d) as regards harvest: date, type and amount of organic or in conversion crop production

#### 4. Several production units run by the same operator

Where an operator runs several production units in the same area, the units producing non-organic crops, together with storage premises for farm input products shall also be subject to the general and the specific control requirements laid down in Chapter (B) and this Chapter of this Title.

#### (D). Specific control requirements for seaweed

## 1. Control arrangements for seaweed

When the control system applying specifically to algae is first implemented, the full description of the site referred to in Chapter (B).1 a) i) of this Title shall include:

- a) A full description of the installations on land and at sea;
- b) The environmental assessment as outlined in Chapter (C).3a) of Title IV where applicable;
- c) The sustainable management plan as outlined in Chapter (C).3b) and c) of Title IV where applicable;
- d) For wild algae a full description and a map of shore and sea collection areas and land areas where post collection activities take place shall be drawn up.

#### 2. Seaweed Production Records

- a) Algae production records shall be compiled in the form of a register by the operator and kept available for Ecocert at all times at the premises of the holding. It shall provide at least the following information:
  - (i) List of species, date and quantity harvested;
  - (ii) Date of application, type and amount of fertilizer used.



- b) For collection of wild algae the register shall also contain:
  - (i) History of harvesting activity for each species in named beds;
  - (ii) Harvest estimate (volumes) per season;
  - (iii) Sources of possible pollution for harvest beds;
  - (iv) Sustainable annual yield for each bed.

## (E). Control requirements for livestock and livestock products produced by animal husbandry

#### 1. Control arrangements

- a) When the control system applying specifically to livestock production is first implemented, the full description of the unit referred to in Chapter (B).1 a) i) of this Title shall include:
  - (i) A full description of the livestock buildings, pasturage, open air areas, etc., and, where applicable, the premises for the storage, packaging and processing of livestock, livestock products, raw materials and inputs; (ii) A full description of the installations for the storage of livestock manure.
- b) The practical measures referred to in Chapter (B).1 a) ii) of this Title shall include:
  - (i) A plan for spreading manure, together with a full description of the areas given over to crop production;
  - (ii) where appropriate, as regards the spreading of manure, the written arrangements with other holdings as referred to in Chapter (B).3 e) of Title IV complying with the provisions of the organic production rules;
  - (iii) A management plan for the organic-production livestock unit.

## 2. Identification of livestock

The livestock shall be identified permanently using techniques adapted to each species, individually in the case of large mammals and individually or by batch in the case of poultry and small mammals.

## 3. Livestock records

Livestock records shall be compiled in the form of a register and kept available to Ecocert at all times at the premises of the holding. Such records shall provide a full description of the herd or flock management system comprising at least the following information:

- a) As regards animals arriving at the holding: origin and date of arrival, conversion period, identification mark and veterinary record;
- b) As regards livestock leaving the holding: age, number of heads, weight in case of slaughter, identification mark and destination;
- c) Details of any animals lost and reasons thereof;
- d) As regards feed: type, including feed supplements, proportions of various ingredients of rations and periods of access to free-range areas, periods of transhumance where restrictions apply;
- e) As regards disease prevention and treatment and veterinary care: date of treatment, details of the diagnosis, the posology; type of treatment product, the indication of the active pharmacological substances involved method of treatment and veterinary prescription for veterinary care with reasons and withdrawal periods applying before livestock products can be marketed labelled as organic.

## 4. Control measures on veterinary medicinal products for livestock

a) Whenever veterinary medicinal products are used the information according to Article 3(e) of this Chapter is to be declared to Ecocert before the livestock or livestock products are marketed as organically produced.



b) Livestock treated shall be clearly identified, individually in the case of large animals; individually, or by batch, or by hive, in the case of poultry, small animals and bees.

## 5. Several production units run by the same operator

Where an operator manages several production units, as provided for in Chapter (D).2.5 of Title IV, the units which produce non-organic livestock or non-organic livestock products shall also be subject to the control system as laid down in Chapter (B) and this Chapter of this Title.

#### (F). Control requirements for beekeeping

#### 1. Specific control measures on beekeeping

- a) A map on an appropriate scale listing the location of hives shall be provided to Ecocert by the beekeeper. Where no areas are identified in accordance with Chapter (E).2.1c) of Title IV, the beekeeper shall provide Ecocert with appropriate documentation and evidence, including suitable analyses if necessary, that the areas accessible to his colonies meet the conditions required in this Standard.
- b) The following information shall be entered in the register of the apiary with regard to the use of feeding: type of product, dates, quantities and hives where it is used.
- c) Whenever veterinary medicinal products are to be used, the type of product, including the indication of the active pharmacological substance, together with details of the diagnosis, the posology, the method of administration, the duration of the treatment and the legal withdrawal period shall be recorded clearly and declared to Ecocert before the products are marketed as organically produced.
- d) The zone where the apiary is situated shall be registered together with the identification of the hives. Ecocert shall be informed of the moving of apiaries
- e) 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. Only food grade equipment may be used in the honey house.
- f) The removals of the supers and the honey extraction operations shall be entered in the register of the apiary.

## 2. <u>Several production units run by the same operator</u>

Where an operator manages several production units, as provided for in Chapter (E).2.2 of Title IV, the units which produce non-organic hives or non-organic beekeeping products shall also be subject to the control system as laid down in Chapter (B) and this Chapter of this Title.

#### (G). Specific control requirements for aquaculture animal production

#### 1. Control arrangements for aquaculture animal production

When the control system applying specifically to aquaculture animal production is first implemented, the full description of the unit referred to in Chapter (B).1 a) i) of this Title shall include:

- a) A full description of the installations on land and at sea;
- b) The environmental assessment as outlined in Chapter (C).3a) of Title IV where applicable;
- c) The sustainable management plan as outlined in Chapter (C).3b) and c) of Title IV where applicable;



d) In the case of molluscs a summary of the special chapter of the sustainable management plan as required by Chapter (F).11.6b) of Title IV.

#### 2. Aquaculture animal production records

The following information shall be provided by the operator in the form of a register which shall be kept up to date and made available for Ecocert at all times at the premises of the holding:

- a) The origin, date of arrival and conversion period of animals arriving at the holding:
- b) The number of lots, the age, weight and destination of animals leaving the holding;
- c) Records of escapes of fish;
- d) For fish the type and quantity of feed and in the case of carp and related species a documentary record of the use additional feed; each farmer must make available to Ecocert a record of FCR (Food Conversion Ratio) figures for the holding in order to report on performance and explain FCRs above 2.5.
- e) Veterinary treatments giving details of the purpose, date of application, method of application, type of product and withdrawal period;
- f) Disease prevention measures giving details of fallowing, cleaning and water treatment.

#### 3. Specific control visits for bivalve mollusks

For bivalve mollusc production inspection visits shall take place before and during maximum biomass production.

#### 4. Several production units run by the same operator

When an operator manages several production units as provided for in Chapter (F).2 of Title IV, the units which produce non-organic aquaculture animals shall also be subject to the control system as laid down in Chapter (B) and this Chapter.

(H). Control requirements for units for preparation of plant, seaweed, livestock and aquaculture animal products and foodstuffs composed thereof

#### 1. Control arrangements

In the case of a unit involved in the preparation for its own account or for account of a third party, and including in particular units involved in packaging and/or re-packaging of such products or units involved in labelling and/or relabelling of such products, the full description of the unit referred to in Chapter (B).1 a) i) of this Title shall show the facilities used for the reception, the processing, packaging, labelling and storage of agricultural products before and after the operations concerning them, as well as the procedures for the transport of the products.

(I). Control requirements for units involved in the production or preparation of organic products and which have contracted out to third parties in part or in total the actual operations concerned

## 1. Control arrangements

With regard to the operations, which are contracted out to third parties, the full description of the unit referred to in Chapter (B).1 a) i) of this Title shall include:

- a) A list of the subcontractors with a description of their activities and an indication of the control bodies or authorities to which they are subject;
- b) Written agreement by the subcontractors that their holding will be subject to the control regime of this Title.



c) All the practical measures, including inter alia an appropriate system of documentary accounts, to be taken at the level of the unit to ensure that the products the operator places on the market can be traced to, as appropriate, their suppliers, sellers, consignees and buyers.

#### (J). Control requirements for units preparing feed

#### 1. Scope

This Chapter applies to any unit involved in the preparation of products referred to in Article 2.c) of Title I on its own account or on behalf of a third party.

## 2. Control arrangements

- a) The full description of the unit referred to in Chapter (B).1 a) (i) of this Title shall indicate:
  - (i) The facilities used for the reception, preparation and storage of the products intended for animal feed before and after the operations concerning them;
  - (ii) The facilities used for the storage of other products used to prepare feeding stuffs;
  - (iii) The facilities used to store products for cleaning and disinfection;
  - (iv) where necessary, the description of the compound feeding stuff that the operator intends to produce, in accordance with Article 15 of Regulation (EC) N° 767/2009, and the livestock species or class for which the compound feeding stuff is intended;
  - (v) Where necessary, the name of the feed materials that the operator intends to prepare.
- b) The measures to be taken by operators, as referred to in Chapter (B).1 a) ii) of this Title, to guarantee compliance with the organic production rules shall include the indications of measures referred to in Chapter (A) of Title V.
- c) Ecocert shall use these measures to carry out a general evaluation of the risks attendant on each preparation unit and to draw up a control plan. This control plan shall provide for a minimum number of random samples depending on the potential risks.

## 3. Documentary accounts

For the purposes of proper control of the operations, the documentary accounts referred to in Chapter (B).4 of this Title shall include information on the origin, nature and quantities of feed materials, additives, sales and finished products.

## 4. Control visits

- a) The control visit referred to in Chapter (B).3 of this Title shall comprise a full physical inspection of all premises. Moreover, Ecocert shall make targeted visits based on a general evaluation of the potential risks of non-compliance with the organic production rules.
- b) Ecocert shall pay particular attention to the critical control points pointed out for the operator, with a view to establishing whether the surveillance and checking operations are carried out correctly.
- c) All the premises used by the operator for the conduct of his activities may be checked as frequently as the attendant risks warrant.



## (K). Infringements and exchange of information

## 1. Measures in case of infringements and irregularities

- a) Where an irregularity is found as regards compliance with the requirements laid down in this Standard, Ecocert shall ensure that no reference to the organic production method is made in the labelling and advertising of the entire lot or production run affected by this irregularity, where this would be proportionate to the relevance of the requirement that has been violated and to the nature and particular circumstances of the irregular activities.
- b) Where a severe infringement or an infringement with prolonged effect is found, Ecocert shall prohibit the operator concerned from marketing products which refer to the organic production method in the labelling and advertising and shall decide the period of application.

## 2. <u>Measures in case of suspicion of infringements and irregularities</u>

a) Where an operator considers or suspects that a product which he has produced, prepared, imported or that he has received from another operator, is not in compliance with organic production rules, he shall initiate procedures either to withdraw from this product any reference to the organic production method or to separate and identify the product. He may only put it into processing or packaging or on the market after elimination of that doubt, unless it is placed on the market without indication referring to the organic production method.

In case of such doubt, the operator shall immediately inform Ecocert. Ecocert may require that the product cannot be placed on the market with indications referring to the organic production method until it is satisfied, by the information received from the operator or from other sources, that the doubt has been eliminated.

b) Where Ecocert has a substantiated suspicion that an operator intends to place on the market a product not in compliance with the organic production rules but bearing a reference to the organic production method, Ecocert can require that the operator may provisionally not market the product with this reference for a time period to be set by him. Before taking such a decision, Ecocert shall allow the operator to comment. This decision shall be supplemented by the obligation to withdraw from this product any reference to the organic production method if Ecocert is sure that the product does not fulfil the requirements of organic production.

However, if the suspicion is not confirmed within the said time period, the decision referred to in the first subparagraph shall be cancelled not later than the expiry of that time period. The operator shall cooperate fully with Ecocert in resolving the suspicion.

#### 3. Exchange of information

- a) Upon a request duly justified by the necessity to guarantee that a product has been produced in accordance with this Standard, Ecocert shall exchange relevant information on the results of its controls with competent authorities, control authorities and other control bodies. Ecocert may also exchange such information on its own initiative.
- b) Where the operator and/or the subcontractors of that operator are checked by different control authorities or control bodies, the control authorities or control bodies shall exchange the relevant information on the operations under their control

Where operators and/or their subcontractors change their control authority or control body, the previous control authority or control body shall hand over the relevant elements of the control file of the operator concerned and the reports referred to in VIII.B.1,b Ecocert

Ecocert shall ensure that non-conformities noted in the report of the previous control authority or control body have been or are being addressed by the operator.

In case of irregularities or infringements found with regard to products under the control of other control authorities or control bodies, Ecocert shall also inform those authorities or bodies without delay.



c) Information on cases of irregularities or infringements affecting the organic status of a product shall be immediately communicated to the Competent Authorities of the Member States where the products are imported. The level of communication shall depend on the severity and the extent of the irregularity or infringement found.

### (L). Risk analysis procedure

The risk analysis procedure shall be designed in such a way that:

- (a) the result of the risk analysis provides the basis for determining the intensity of the unannounced or announced annual inspections and visits
- (b) Additional control visits carried out in accordance with VIII (B) 3. d) of at least 10 % of operators under contract in accordance with the risk category are performed;
- (c) At least 10% of all inspections and visits carried out in accordance with VIII (B) 3 a) & d) are unannounced;
- (d) The selection of operators to be submitted to unannounced inspections and visits is determined on the basis of the risk analysis and that these are planned according to the level of risk.

## IX. Transitional and final provisions

#### 1. Transitional measures

- a) For the purpose of Chapter (B).5d) of Title IV and pending the inclusion of specific substances according to Chapter (G).1 f) of Title IV, only products authorized by Ecocert may be used: Application of annex VII or existing homologation of the cleaning product for use in food industry.
- b) Stocks of products produced, packaged and labelled before 1 July 2012 in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 834/2007 may continue to be brought on the market bearing terms referring to organic production until stocks are exhausted.
- c) Stocks of wines, produced until 31 July 2012 with organic grapes but with a wine-making process that does not comply with the requirements of Chapter (D) of Title V may be brought on the market until stocks are exhausted. Such wine may be labelled as "wine made from organic grapes", and cannot bear the "Organic logo of the EU".'
- d) However the organic logo of the EU may be used for wines produced before 31 July 2012 provided that the operator is able to prove that the wine-making process used complies with Chapter (D) of Title V of this Standard.



# **Annex I**

Compound products or products containing only materials listed here under	Description, compositional requirements, conditions for use		
Farmyard manure	Products comprising a mixture of animal excrements and vegetable matter (animal bedding)  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 origin forbidden		
Composted or fermented mixture of household waste	Product obtained from source separated household waste, 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 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		
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		
Dejecta of worms (vermicompost) and insects			
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) must not be from factory farming origin. The Processes have to be in accordance with Commission Regulation (EU) No 142/2011.  Not to be applied to edible parts of the crop		
Products or by-products of animal origin as below: blood meal hoof meal horn meal bone meal or degelatinized bone meal fish meal meat meal feather, hair and 'chiquette' meal wool fur (1) hair dairy products hydrolysed proteins (2)	(1) Maximum concentration in mg/kg of dry matter of chromium (VI): not detectable  (2) Not to be applied to edible parts of the crop		



Products and by-products of plant origin for fertilisers	Examples: oilseed cake meal, cocoa husks, malt culms		
Seaweeds and seaweed products	As far as directly obtained by: - physical processes including dehydration, freezing and grinding - extraction with water or aqueous acid and/or alkaline solution - fermentation		
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		
Soft ground rock phosphate	Product as specified in point 7 of Annex IA.2. to Regulation (EC) No 2003/2003 of European Parliament and of the Council relating to fertilisers  Cadmium content less than or equal to 90 mg/kg of P205		
Aluminium-calcium phosphate	Product as specified in point 6 of Annex IA.2. of Regulation 2003/2003,  Cadmium content less than or equal to 90 mg/kg of P205  Use limited to basic soils (pH > 7,5)		
Basic slag	Products as specified in point 1 of Annex IA.2. of Regulation 2003/2003		
Crude potassium salt or kainit	Products as specified in point 1 of Annex IA.3. of Regulation 2003/2003		
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		
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)	Products as specified in point 1 of Annex ID. of Regulation 2003/2003 Only of natural origin		
Industrial lime from sugar production	By-product of sugar production from sugar beet		
Industrial lime from vacuum salt production	By-product of the vacuum salt production from brine found in mountains		
Elemental sulphur	Products as specified in Annex ID.3 of Regulation 2003/2003		
Trace elements	Inorganic micronutrients listed in part E of Annex I to Regulation 2003/2003		
Sodium chloride	Only mined salt		
Stone meal and clays			
Leonardite (Raw organic sediment rich in humic acids)	Only if obtained as a by-product of mining activities		
Chitin (Polysaccharide obtained from the shell of crustaceans)	Only if obtained from sustainable fisheries, as defined in Article 3(e) of Council Regulation (EC) No 2371/2002 or organic aquaculture		
Organic rich sediment from fresh water bodies formed under exclusion of oxygen (e.g. sapropel)			



# **Annex II**

All substances listed in this Annex have to comply at least with the conditions for use as specified in the Annex to Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) N° 540/2011 . More restrictive conditions for use for organic production are specified in the second column of each table.

PESTICIDES PLANT PROTECTION PRODUCTS		
Name	Description, compositional requirement, conditions for use	
1. Substance of plant or animal origin		
Azadirachtin extracted from Azadirachta indica (Neem tree)		
Beeswax	Only as Pruning agent/wound protectant	
Hydrolysed proteins excluding gelatine		
Basic substances	Substances not to be used as herbicides but only for the control of pests and diseases Only foodstuff of plant or animal origin	
Plant oils	All uses authorised except herbicide	
Pyrethrins extracted from Chrysanthemum cinerariaefolium		
Quassia extracted from Quassia amara	Only as Insecticide, repellent	
2. Micro-organisms or substances produ	uced by micro-organisms	
Micro-organisms	not from GMO origin	
Spinosad		
3. Substances to be used only in traps an	nd/or dispensers	
Pheromones		
Pyrethroids (only deltamethrin or lambdacyhalothrin)	Only in traps with specific attractants; only against <i>Bactrocera oleae</i> and <i>Ceratitis capitata</i> Wied.	
4. Preparations to be surface-spread bet	tween cultivated plants	
Ferric phosphate (iron (III) orthophosphate)		
5. Other substances from traditional use	in organic farming	
Copper compounds in the form of: copper hydroxide, copper oxychloride, copper oxide, Bordeaux mixture, and tribasic copper sulphate	Up to 6 kg copper per ha per year. For perennial crops, Ecocert may, by derogation from the first paragraph, provide that the 6 kg copper limit can be exceeded in a given year provided that the average quantity actually used over a 5-year period consisting of that year and of the four preceding years does not exceed 6 kg.	
Ethylene		



Calcium carbide	Pineapple flower induction	
Carbon dioxide		
Fatty acid	All uses authorized except herbicide	
Lime sulphur (calcium polysulphide)		
Paraffin oil		
Quartz sand		
Sulphur		
Repellents by smell of animal or plant origin/sheep fat	Only on non-edible parts of the crop and where crop material is not ingested by sheep or goats	
6. Other substances		
Calcium hydroxide	When used as fungicide, only in fruit trees, including nurseries, to control <i>Nectria</i> galligena	
Potassium hydrogen carbonate (aka potassium bicarbonate)		
Aluminium silicate (Kaolin)		
Kieselgur (diatomaceous earth)		
Laminarin	Kelp shall be either grown organically in accordance with Part on "culture of seaweed" in this Standard (or Art 6d of REC 889/2008) or harvested in a sustainable way in accordance with Part on "harvesting of wild seaweed" in this Standard (or Article 6c of REC 889/2008)	



# **Annex III**

Characteristics of housing and minimum surface areas indoor and outdoors for the livestock species

# 1. Bovine, equidae, ovine, caprine and porcine

	Indoors area (net are	Outdoors area (exercice area, excluding pasturage)	
	Live weight minimum (kg)	M2 /head	M2 / head
	up to 100	1,5	1,1
	up to 200	2,5	1,9
Breeding and fattening	up to 350	4	3
bovine and equidae	over 350	5 with a minimum of 1 m2/100 kg	3,7 with a minimum of 0,75 m2/100 kg
Dairy cows		6	4,5
Bulls for breeding		10	30
Character and coats	sheep/goat	1,5	2,5
Sheep and goats	lamb/kid	0,35	0,5
Farrowing sows with piglets up to 40 days	sow	7,5	2,5
	up to 50	0,8	0,6
Eattening pigs	up to 85	1,1	0,8
Fattening pigs	up to 110	1,3	1
	over 110	1,5	1,2
Piglets	over 40 days and up to 30 kg	0,6	0,4
	female	2,5	1,9
Brood pigs	male	6 if pens are used for natural service : 10 m2/boar	8

## 2. Poultry

<u>=:::::::,</u>				
	Indoors area (net area available to animals)			Outdoors area m2 of area available in rotation/head
	Nb animals /m2	cm perch/animal	nest	
Laying hens	6	18	7 per nest or 120 cm2/animal in case of common nest	4 provided that the limit of 170 kg of N/ha/year is not exceeded
Fattening poultry in fixed housing	10 with a maximum of 21 kg live weight/m2	20 (only for guinea fowl)		broilers and guinea fowl: 4 ducks: 4,5 turkey: 10 geese: 15 provided that the limit of 170 kg of N/ha/year is not exceeded
Fattening poultry in mobile housing	16 in mobile poultry houses not exceeding 150 m2 floor space with a maximum of 30 kg liveweight/ m2			2,5 provided that the limit of 170 kg of N/ha/year is not exceeded



# **Annex IV**

# LIVESTOCK MANURE MANAGEMENT: MAXIMUM NUMBER OF ANIMALS PER HECTARE

Class or species	Maximum nb ot animals per ha equivalent to 170 kg N/ha/year
Equines over six months old	2
Calves for fattening	5
Other bovine animals less than 1 year old	5
Male bovine animals from 1 to less than 2 years old	3,3
Female bovine animals from 1 to less than 2 years old	3,3
Male bovine animals 2 years old or over	2
Breeding heifers	2,5
Heifers for fattening	2,5
Dairy cows	2
Cull dairy cows	2
Other cows	2,5
Female breeding rabbits	100
Ewes	13,3
Goats	13,3
Piglets	74
Breeding sows	6,5
Pigs for fattening	14
Other pigs	14
Table chickens	580
Laying hens	230



## **Annex V**

#### **FEED MATERIALS**

1. I	FEED	<b>MATERIALS</b>	<b>OF MINERAL</b>	ORIGIN
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Calcareous marine shells

Maerl

Lithotamn

Calcium gluconate

Calcium carbonate

Magnesium oxide (anhydrous magnesia)

Magnesium sulphate

Magnesium chloride

Magnesium carbonate

Defluorinated monocalcium phosphate

Defluorinated dicalcium phosphate

Calcium magnesium phosphate

Magnesium phosphate

Monosodium phosphate

Calcium sodium phosphate

Sodium chloride

Sodium bicarbonate

Sodium carbonate

Sodium sulphate

Potassium chloride

Sea salt

Coarse rock salt

#### 2. OTHER FEED MATERIALS

Fermentation (by-)products from microorganisms the cells of which have been inactivated or killed (produced or prepared without chemical solvents):

Saccharomyces cerevisiae

Saccharomyces carlsbergiensis



## **Annex VI**

#### FEED ADDITIVES AND OTHER SUBSTANCES USED IN ANIMAL NUTRITION

Feed additives listed in this Annex must be authorized under Regulation (EC) N° 1831/2003

#### 1. Technological additives

a) Preservatives	b) Antioxydant substances
E 200 Sorbic acid E 236 Formic acid E 237 Sodium formate E 260 Acetic acid E 270 Lactic acid E 280 Propionic acid E 330 Citric acid.	1b306 (i) Tocopherol extracts from vegetable oils 1b306 (ii) Tocopherol-rich extracts from vegetable oils (delta rich)

c) Emulsifiers, stabilisers, , thickeners and gelling agents	d) Binders, and anti-caking agents	e) Silage additives
E 322 Lecithin (use restricted to feed for aquaculture animal) Only when derived from organic raw material	E 535 Sodium ferrocyanide (maximum dose rate of 20 mg/kg NaCl calculated as ferrocyanide anion) E 551b Colloidal silica E 551c Kieselgur (diatomeceous earth, purified) 1m558(i) Bentonite E 559 Kaolinitic clays, free of asbestos E 560 Natural mixtures of stearites and chlorite E 561 Vermiculite E 562 Sepiolite E 566 Natrolite-phonolite 1g568 Clinoptilolite of sedimentary origin E 599 Perlite	1k Enzymes, and micro- organisms Use in the production of silage shall only be permitted when weather conditions do not allow for adequate fermentation

#### 2. Sensory additives

2b Flavouring compounds	only extracts from agricultural products

#### 3. Nutritional additives

#### a) Vitamins, provitamins and chemically well-defined substances having similar effect

3a Vitamins and provitamins

- \*derived from agricultural products
- \* Synthetic vitamins identical to vitamins derived from agricultural products for monogastric and aquaculture animals
- \* Synthetic vitamins A, D, and E identical to vitamins derived from agricultural products for ruminants provided of the impossibility for organic ruminants to obtain the necessary quantities of the said vitamins through their feed rations.



#### b) Trace Elements

E1 Iron	lodine	Cobalt
* ferrous carbonate * ferrous sulphate monohydrate and/or heptahydrate * ferric-oxide	* 3b202 calcium iodate, anhydrous * 3b201 potassium iodide * 3b203 coated granulated calcium iodate anhydrous	3b301 Cobalt(II) acetate tetrahydrate 3b302 Cobalt(II) carbonate 3b303 Cobalt(II) carbonate hydroxide (2:3) monohydrate 3b304 Coated granulated cobalt(II) carbonate 3b 305 Cobalt(II) sulphate heptahydrate
E4 Copper	E5 Manganese	E6 Zinc
* cupric oxide  * basic cupric carbonate, monohydrate  * cupric sulphate, pentahydrate  * 3b409 Dicopper chloride trihydroxide (TBCC)	* manganous carbonate * manganous oxide * manganous sulfate, monohydrate	* zinc oxide  * zinc sulphate mono- and/or heptahydrate  * 3b609 zinc chloride hydroxide monohydrate (TBZC)
E7 Molybdenum	E8 Selenium	
* sodium molybdate	* sodium selenate * sodium selenite * selenised yeast inactivated (3b8.10, 3b8.11, 3b8.12, 3b8.13, 3b8.17)	

#### 4. Zoo-technical additives

4a, 4b, 4c, 4d Enzymes and microorganisms.



## **Annex VII**

#### PRODUCTS FOR CLEANING AND DISINFECTION

#### 1. LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION

#### **Buildings and installations**

- \* Potassium and sodium soap
- \* Water and steam
- \* Milk of lime
- \* Lime
- \* Quicklime
- \* Sodium hypochlorite (e.g. as liquid bleach)
- \* Caustic soda
- \* Caustic potash
- \* Hydrogen peroxide
- \* Natural essences of plants
- \* Citric, peracetic acid, formic, lactic, oxalic and acetic acid
- \* Alcohol
- \* Nitric acid (dairy equipment)
- \* Phosporic acid (dairy equipment)
- \* Formaldehyde
- \* Cleaning and disinfection products for teats and milking facilities
- \* Sodium carbonate

#### 2. AQUACULTURE ANIMALS AND ALGAE PRODUCTION

#### 2.1 Equipment and facilities, in the absence of aquaculture animals

- \* ozone
- \* sodium hypochlorite
- \* calcium hypochlorite
- \* calcium hydroxide
- \* calcium oxide
- \* caustic soda
- \* alcohol
- \* potassium permanganate
- \* tea seed cake made of natural camelia seed (use restricted to shrimp production)
- \* mixtures of potassium peroxomonosulphate and sodium chloride producing

hypochlorous acid

# 2.2 Equipment and facilities in the presence as well as in the absence of aquaculture animals

- \* limestone (calcium carbonate) for pH control
- \* dolomite for pH correction (use restricted to shrimp production)
- \* sodium chloride
- \* hydrogen peroxide
- \* sodium percarbonate
- \* organic acids (acetic acid, lactic acid, citric acid)
- \* humic acid
- \* peroxyacetic acids
- \* peracetic and peroctanoic acids
- \* iodophores (only in the presence of eggs)



## **Annex VIII**

Products and substances for use in production of processed organic food, yeast and yeast products

#### A. FOOD ADDITIVES, INCLUDING CARRIERS

For the purpose of the calculation of the organic percentage of the final product, food additives marked with an asterisk (\*) in the column of the code number, shall be calculated as ingredients of agricultural origin.

Name	Code	Foodstuffs of plant origin	Foodstuffs of animal origin	Specific conditions
Vegetable carbon	E 153		х	Ashy goat cheese Morbier cheese
Annato, bixin, norbixin	E 160b(*)		х	Red Leicester cheese Double Gloucester cheese Cheddar Mimolette cheese
Calcium carbonate	E 170	Х	Х	Shall not be used for colouring or calcium enrichment of products
Sulphur dioxide	E 220	Х	X (mead)	Maximum levels available from all sources, expressed as SO2 in mg/l: - In fruit wines, other than grapes
or Potassium metabisulphite	or E224	х	X (mead)	(including cider and perry) and in mead with or without sugar added: 100 mg
Sodium metabisulphite	E 223		Х	Crustaceans
Sodium nitrite	E 250		х	For meat products: For E 250: indicative ingoing amount expressed as NaNO2: 80 mg/kg
or	or			For E 252: indicative ingoing amount expressed as NaNO3: 80 mg/kg For E 250: maximum residual amount expressed as NaNO2: 50 mg/kg
Potassium nitrate	E 252		X	For E 252: maximum residual amount expressed as NaNO3: 50 mg/kg
Lactic acid	E 270	Х	Х	
Carbon dioxide	E 290	Х	Х	
Malic acid	E 296	X		
Ascorbic acid	E 300	Х	X (Meat products)	
Sodium ascorbate	E 301		Х	Meat products in connection with nitrates and nitrites
Tocopherol-rich extract	E 306(*)	X	X	Anti-oxidant
Lecithins	E 322 <mark>(*)</mark>	X	X (Milk products)	Only when derived from organic raw material as from 1 January 2019
Sodium lactate	E 325		X	Milk-based and meat products
Citric acid	E 330	x	x	
Sodium citrates	E 331	Х	Х	
Calcium citrates	E 333	Х		
Tartaric acid (L(+)–)	E 334	X	X (mead)	



Sodium tartrates	E 335	Х		
Potassium tartrates	E 336	Х		
Monocalciumphosphate	E 341 (i)	Х		Raising agent for self-raising flour
Extracts of rosemary	E 392(*)	Х	Х	Only when derived from organic production
Alginic acid	E 400	Х	X (Milk based products)	
Sodium alginate	E 401	Х	X (Milk based products)	
Potassium alginate	E 402	х	X (Milk based products)	
Agar	E 406	Х	X (Milk based and Meat products)	
Carrageenan	E 407	Х	X (Milk based products)	
Locust bean gum	E 410(*)	Х	Х	
Guar gum	E 412(*)	Х	Х	
Arabic gum	E 414(*)	X	Х	
Xanthan gum	E 415	Х	Х	
Gellan gum	E 418	Х	Х	High-acyl form only
Glycerol	E 422	Х		From plant origin For plant extracts and flavourings
Non amidated Pectin	E 440 (i)(*)	Х	X (Milk based products)	
Hydroxypropyl methyl cellulose (HPMC)	E 464	Х	Х	Encapsulation material for capsules
Sodium carbonates	E 500	х	х	
Potassium carbonates	E 501	Х		
Ammonium carbonates	E 503	Х		
Magnesium carbonates	E 504	Х		
Calcium chloride	E 509		Х	Milk coagulation
Calcium sulphate	E 516	Х		Carrier
Sodium hydroxide	E 524	Х		Surface treatment of 'Laugengebäck' and regulation of acidity in organic flavourings
Silicon dioxide gel or colloidal solution	E 551	Х	Х	For herbs and spices in dried powdered form, flavourings and propolis
Talc	E 553b	Х	X (Coating agent for meat products)	
Beeswax	E 901	Х		As a glazing agent-for confectionary only.  Beeswax from organic beekeeping
Candelilla wax	E 902	Х	Х	Only when derived from organic production



Carnauba wax	E 903	х		As a glazing agent for confectionary only. Only when derived from organic raw material
Argon	E 938	Х	Х	
Helium	E 939	Х	Х	
Nitrogen	E 941	Х	Х	
Oxygen	E 948	Х	Х	
Erythritol	E 968	х	Х	Only when derived from organic production without using ion exchange technology'

# B. PROCESSING AIDS AND OTHER PRODUCTS, WHICH MAY BE USED FOR PROCESSING OF INGREDIENTS OF AGRICULTURAL ORIGIN FROM ORGANIC PRODUCTION

"Processing aid" means any substance not consumed as a food ingredient by itself, intentionally used in the processing of raw materials, foods or their ingredients, to fulfil a certain technological purpose during treatment or processing and which may result in the unintentional but technically unavoidable presence of residues of the substance or its derivatives in the final product, provided that these residues do not present any health risk and do not have any technological effect on the finished product.

Name	Foodstuffs of plant origin	Foodstuffs of animal origin	Specific conditions
Water	Х	X	Drinking water within the meaning of Council Directive 98/83/EC
Calcium chloride	X		Coagulation agent
Calcium carbonate	Χ		
Calcium hydroxide	X		
Calcium sulphate	X		Coagulation agent
Magnesium chloride (or nigari)	X		Coagulation agent
Potassium carbonate	Х		Drying of grapes
Sodium carbonate	Х	X	
Lactic acid		Х	For the regulation of the pH of the brine bath in cheese production
Citric acid	X	x	
Sodium hydroxide	Х		Sugar(s) production Oil production excluding olive oil
Sulphuric acid	X (sugar(s) production and candelilla wax production)	X (gelatine production)	
Hydrochloric acid		х	Gelatine production For the regulation of the pH of the brine bath in the processing of Gouda-, Edam and Maasdammer cheeses, Boerenkaas, Friese and Leidse Nagelkaas
Ammonium hydroxide		X	Gelatine production
Hydrogen peroxide		Х	Gelatine production
Carbon dioxide	X	Х	



Nitrogen	Х	X	
Ethanol	Х	X	Solvent
Tannic acid	Х		Filtration aid
Egg white albumen	Х		
Casein	Х		
Gelatin	Х		
Isinglass	Х		
Vegetable oils	Х	Х	Greasing, releasing or anti-foaming agent Only when derived from organic production except those authorized in annex IX
Silicon dioxide gel or colloidal solution	Х		
Activated carbon	X		
Talc	Х		In compliance with the specific purity criteria for food additive E 553b
Bentonite	Х	X (Sticking agent for mead)	
Cellulose	X	X (gelatine production)	
Diatomaceous earth	X	X (gelatine production)	
Perlite	Х	X (gelatine production)	
Hazelnut shells	Х		
Rice meal	X		
Beeswax	Х		Releasing agent Beeswax from organic beekeeping
Carnauba wax	X		Releasing agent Only when derived from organic raw material
			Only when derived from organic production.
Acetic acid/vinegar		X	For fish processing, only from biotechnological source, except if produced by or from GMO
Thiamin hydrochloride	Х	Х	Only for use in processing of fruit wines, including cider and perry and mead
Diammonium phosphate	Х	Х	Only for use in processing of fruit wines, including cider and perry and mead
Wood fibre	Х	Х	The source of timber should be restricted to certified, sustainably harvested wood.
			Wood used must not contain toxic components (post-harvest treatment, naturally occurring toxins or toxins from micro-organisms)



#### C. PROCESSING AIDS FOR THE PRODUCTION OF YEAST AND YEAST PRODUCTS

Name	Primary yeast	Yeast confection/formulations	Specific conditions
Calcium chloride	Х		
Carbon dioxide	Х	X	
Citric acid	Х		For the regulation of the pH in yeast production
Lactic acid	X		For the regulation of the pH in yeast production
Nitrogen	Х	X	
Oxygen	Х	Х	
Potato starch	x	x	For filtering Only when derived from organic production
Sodium carbonate	Х	Х	For the regulation of the pH
Vegetable oils	Х	X	Greasing, releasing or anti-foaming agent Only when derived from organic production except those authorized in annex IX



# **Annex VIII bis**

PRODUCTS AND SUBSTANCES AUTHORISED FOR USE OR ADDITION IN ORGANIC PRODUCTS OF THE WINE SECTOR REFERRED TO IN V.(D).2

Type of treatment in accordance with Annex I A to R(EC) N° 606/2009	Name	Specific conditions
Point 1 : Use for aeration or	Air	
oxygenation  Point 3 : Centrifugating and filtration	Perlite Cellulose Diatomeceous earth	Use only as an inert filtering agent
Point 4: use in order to create an inert atmosphere and to handle the product shielded from the air	Nitrogen Carbon dioxide Argon	
Point 5, 15 and 21 : use	Yeast (**)	
Point 6 : use to encourage yeast development	Di-ammonium phosphate Thiamine hydrochloride	
Point 7 : Use	Sulphur dioxide Potassium bisulphite or potassium metabisulphite	a) The maximum sulphur dioxide content shall not exceed 100 milligrams per litre for red wines as referred to in point 1(a) of Part A of Annex I B to Regulation (EC) No 606/2009 and with a residual sugar level lower than 2 grams per litre; (b) The maximum sulphur dioxide content shall not exceed 150 milligrams per litre for white and rosé wines as referred to in point 1(b) of Part A of Annex I B to Regulation (EC) No 606/2009 and with a residual sugar level lower than 2 grams per litre; (c) For all other wines, the maximum sulphur dioxide content applied in accordance with Annex I B to Regulation (EC) No 606/2009 on 1 August 2010, shall be reduced by 30 milligrams per litre.  A derogation may be granted by Ecocert for the use of sulphur dioxid up to the maximum content to be fixed in accordance with the Annex I B to R(EC) N° 606/2009 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
Point 9 : Use	Charcoal for oenological use	
Point 10 : Clarification	Edible gelatine (*) Plant proteins from wheat or peas and potatoes (*) Isinglass (*) Egg white albumin (*) Tannins (*) Casein	



	Potassium caseinate Silicon dioxide Bentonite Pectolytic enzymes	
Point 12 : Use for acidification purposes	Lactic acid L(+)Tartaric acid	
Point 13 : Use for deacidification purposes	L(+)Tartaric acid Calcium carbonate Neutral potassium tartrate Potassium bicarbonate	
Point 14 : Addition	Aleppo pine resin	
Point 17 : Use	Lactic bacteria	
Point 19 : Addition	L-Ascorbic acid	
Point 22 : Use for bubbling	Nitrogen Argon	
Point 23 : Addition	Carbon dioxide	
Point 24 : Addition for wine stabilisation purposes	Citric acid	
Point 25 : Addition	Tannins (*)	
Point 27 : Addition	Meta-tartaric acid	
Point 28 : Use	Acacia gum (*) (= gum arabic)	
Point 30 : Use to assist the precipitation of tartaric salts	Potassium bitartrate	
Point 31 : Use to eliminate defects of taste or smell in the wine	Cupric citrate	
Point 38 : Use	Oak chips	
Point 39 : Use	Potassium alginate	Manufacture of sparkling and semi- sparkling wines
Type of treatment in accordance with Annex III, point A(2)(b) to Regulation (EC) No 606/2009	Calcium sulphate	Only for "vino generoso" or "vino generoso de licor"
Point 51 : use of inactivated yeasts (**)		

<sup>(\*\*)</sup> For the individual yeast strains: if available, derived from organic raw material.



## **Annex IX**

INGREDIENTS OF AGRICULTURAL ORIGIN NOT PRODUCED ORGANICALLY

#### 1. UNPROCESSED VEGETABLE PRODUCTS AND PRODUCTS DERIVED BY PROCESSES

1.1 Edible fruits, nuts and seeds		1.2 Edible spices and herbs		1.3 Miscellaneous
Acorns	Quercus spp	Pepper (Peruvian)	Schinus molle L.	Algae, including seaweed, permitted
Cola nuts	Cola acuminata	Horseradish seeds	Armoracia rusticana	in non-organic foodstuffs
Gooseberries	Ribes uva-crispa	Lesser galanga	Alpinia officinarum	preparation
Maracujas (passion fruit)	Passiflora edulis	Safflower flowers	Carthamus tinctorius	
Raspberries (dried)	Rubus idaeus	Watercress herb	Nasturtium officinale	
Red currants (dried)	Ribes rubrum			

#### 2. VEGETABLE PRODUCTS

2.1 Fats and oils refined or not, but not chemically modified, derived from plants other than:		2.2 Sugars, starches and other products from cereals and tubers	2.3 Miscellaneous	
Cocoa	Theobroma cacao	Fructose	Pea protein Pisum spp	
Coconut	Cocos nucifera			
Olive	Olea europaea	Rice paper	Rum only obtained from cane sugar juice	
Sunflower	Helianthus annuus			
Palm	Elaeis guineensis	Unleavened bread paper	Kirsch prepared on the basis of fruits and natural flavours	
Rape	Brassica napus, rapa			
Safflower	Carthamus tinctorius	Starch from rice and waxy maize not chemically modified		
Sesame	Sesamum indicum			
Soya	Glycine max			

#### 3. ANIMAL PRODUCTS

Aquatic organisms, not originating from aquaculture Gelatin
Whey powder
Casings



## Annex XI

#### **GROWER GROUP**

#### 1. General organisation of the project

- a) The farmers shall be organised in homogeneous units taking into account the geographical location of the holdings, ecological conditions, production systems and risks
- b) The whole organisation shall market through the same channel (i.e. to the same buyer)
- c) The organisation shall be responsible for centralized input buying/distribution (seeds, propagating material, fertilisers, phytosanitary products, feedingstuffs ...)
- d) There shall be an effective Internal Control System (ICS) / Internal Quality System (IQS) to ensure compliance of the entire group with organic production rules and identify any non-conformities
- e) The definition of small-size growers to be inspected by sampling method is in relation to a maximum turnover (farms bearing an external certification cost that is higher than 2 % of their turnover)
- f) The objective is to overcome the economic difficulties in relation to the control of small operators in developing countries (as defined by OECD).

#### 2. Internal staff of the organisation

- a) There shall be a person responsible for the ICS / IQS
- b) The organisation shall use internal auditors within the ICS
- c) These auditors and other personnel involved in ICS/IQS must be without any conflict of interest
- d) The competence of the ICS / IQS staff members must be in accordance with their tasks
- e) The organisation shall provide regular technical advice/information to the farmers

#### 3. Internal rules

- a) There shall exist formal internal rules
- c) The possible deviations and the associated sanctions shall be described in the internal regulation
- d) The internal regulation shall include a procedure for the integration of new farmers into the organisation
- e) A copy of relevant parts of the internal regulation shall be distributed to each farmer
- or each farmer shall be thoroughly informed about the content and the implications of the internal regulation

#### 4. Internal contracts and agreements

- a) There shall exist a contract between the operator/organisation and each individual grower
- b) The contracts shall be based on the Ecocert format " Agreement in respect of organic production rules" with guidelines on methods the farmers have to follow or shall be based on equivalent format

#### 5. Working of the ICS / IQS

- a)There shall be an annual internal audit program with a schedule to visit each grower at least once a year in case of ICS
- b) There shall be an annual training program for the farmers and personnel of the purchase centers, including technical information and explanations about organic standards
- c) There shall be a regular training program for the staff of the ICS /IQS to upgrade their technical knowledge (techniques and standards)
- d) Every farm shall be visited at least once a year
- e) The farm visit shall take place in the presence of the producers and while the crops are in production
- f) The conventional part of the farms shall also be visited and recorded
- g) The purchase centers, storage facilities and on-farm processing facilities shall be inspected
- h) Internal inspectors shall verify the completeness of farm-level documentation
- i) Internal inspectors shall verify the purchase and distribution of inputs at farm level
- j) The quantities of sales of organic products shall be checked at farm level and compared to the estimated potential of production



#### 6. ICS / IQS centralised documentation and registration system

- a) There shall exist Individual farmers records for all farmers and these records must be updated (including description of parcels and of crop management, field history, date of all use of input materials, estimated yields, date of contract with the organisation)
- b) There shall be maps or sketches of every single farm and they shall be up-to-date (indicating organic fields, surrounding fields, possible contamination risk and buffer zones)
- c) Ground plans or sketches of all the facilities shall be available
- d) Overall maps showing the project area, facilities, storages, offices and purchase points shall be available
- e) There shall be internal visit sheets of the farmers for each visit (including date of the visit, verified points, recommendations and conditions given to the farmer)
- f) There shall be available an annual report of the ICS / IQS showing the fulfilment of the internal visit program, its conclusions, growers in ,growers out and sanctions applied to listed growers
- g) An annual report of the ICS showing the employment and training of ICS / IQS staff shall be available
- h) There shall be available an annual report of the ICS / IQS describing strong and weak points and determining improvement action for the following years as well as the evolution of the organisation
- i) The grower lists shall exist and be updated according to the conclusions of the internal inspections
- j) There shall be up-to-date purchase lists showing each sale and the annual total from each farmer during the year as well as the original estimated amounts
- k) A codification and lot-number system shall be used in practice to ensure traceability from final product to the single farmer/unit.
- I) Stock and financial records shall be kept
- m) The organisation shall have a complaint logbook mentioning the complaints about certified products and the corresponding corrective actions taken