

Committee Final Draft **of the IFOAM Benchmark for Standards¹**

(Version with 'tracked changes')

Bonn, 15 February 2008

All IFOAM Members are invited to send in motions on this Committee Final Draft of the IBS. For further information please refer to the instructions for motions, which can be downloaded from the OGS revision section of the IFOAM website at:

http://www.ifoam.org/about_ifoam/standards/OGS_Revision/OGS_Revision.html

Note: This version contains 'tracked changes' from the 1st to the 2nd revision draft and from the 2nd draft to this Committee Final Draft.

A basic version of the document (without 'tracked changes') can be downloaded from the above mentioned website.

START of motions period: 16 February 2008

END of motions period: 15 April 2008

¹ This is a working title for the draft document and subject to revision by the IFOAM World Board.

I. THE PRINCIPLES OF ORGANIC AGRICULTURE

The Principles are **not subject to consultation**. For further information see IFOAM website at:
http://www.ifoam.org/about_ifoam/principles/index.html

II. IFOAM BENCHMARK FOR STANDARDS (IBS)

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Section A - Introduction

Role of the IFOAM Benchmark for Standards

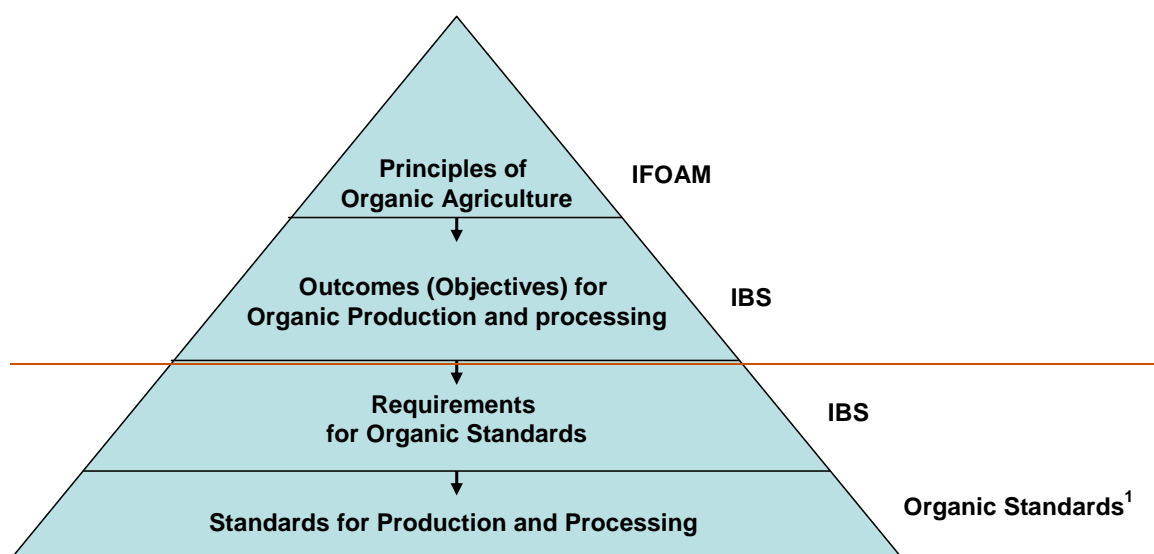
The IFOAM Benchmark for Standards (IBS) provides a crucial link from the Principles of Organic Agriculture to those standards that are applied directly to organic production and processing. The IBS functions as guidance for developing and evaluating these other standards, and for distinguishing organic from not-organic systems. Therefore it is a baseline for determining means to determine which standards and practices can be called “organic”.

A farm or processing plant could never be directly certified to this document. The document is intended for use as a tool for setting more detailed organic standards according to the Principles of Organic Agriculture. In order to link principles and standards, the IBS establishes ~~outcomes (called “objectives in the document) that organic standards should achieve in order to meet are linked to~~ the principles. The IFOAM Benchmark for Standards ~~also~~ sets requirements for what organic standards must address in order to achieve the ~~outcomes (objectives)~~. The requirements do not usually prescribe “how” to achieve the objective, but leave that to organic standards. ~~They are written in language that applies to organic standards, not directly to the farm or processing operation. However, in order to clearly distinguish organic from conventional systems and practices, the IBS do sometimes specify production and processing practices that organic standards must require (called “mandatory practices” in the document), and also practices that organic standards must prohibit (called “prohibited practices” in the document). Organic standards must not merely repeat the language in the IFOAM requirements; they must present specific requirements for operations.~~

This approach in the IBS provides flexibility for organic standards to vary according to the context in which that standard is applied to farming and processing (e.g. ecologyecological context, stage of organic development, product specialization).

Hierarchy of Requirements for Organic Production and Processing

Remark: Graph has been deleted.



¹ must include the mandatory and prohibited practices in the IBS, address all requirements and meet the IBS objectives

Function of the IBS

The IFOAM Benchmark for Standards functions as a guidance for organic standards setting, as a tool for determining equivalence of standards, and as one of the two norms that must be met in the IFOAM Accreditation Program.

Guidance for Organic Standards ~~Setting-setting~~

The IBS is the framework of all other organic standards setting. The IBS states what must shall be achieved by organic production and processing and provides corresponding requirements for standards-setting.

Standards that meet the IBS can be considered and labeled as “organic standards” because they are consistent with the Principles of Organic Agriculture, address what is required by the IBS, and comply with certain mandatory and prohibited practices that the IBS specify.

Tool for Equivalence of Standards

In order to foster equivalence among organic standards, IFOAM develops and maintains a lists a Family of Standards. This Family consists of private and government organic standards recognized by IFOAM as meeting the principles, objectives and requirements of the IFOAM Benchmark for Standards.

Together, IBS and the Family of Standards form a tool for determining the equivalence of organic standards. IFOAM considers standards (with the same scope) in the Family of Standards as equivalent. Development of the Family of Standards is governed by IFOAM policy and procedure-s, which are available on the IFOAM website at: http://www.ifoam.org/about_ifoam/standards/ogs_policies_procedures/ogs_policies_procedures.html

Component of IFOAM Accreditation

The IBS also function in the IFOAM Accreditation Program. This Program is a formal means of verifying that the standards employed by an organic certification body meet the IBS requirements for organic standards and also IFOAM's requirements related to the quality of certification, which is addressed in another document, the IFOAM Accreditation Criteria.

Structure of the IFOAM Basic Standards

IBS Chapters

The IBS consists of 9 Chapters, which focus on certain topics in organic production and processing. Sections within each Chapter further develop the topic of the Chapter. Each of these sections is organized in a uniform structure, and contains the following subsections:

Principles Applied

The Principles of Organic Agriculture relevant to the topic of the Section are stated. In some cases the language is taken directly from IFOAM's Principles of Organic Agriculture and in other cases the spirit and language of the Principles is adapted to the topic. Principles Applied are declarative statements consisting of a single sentence. The subject of the sentence is relating to organic agriculture or a subset thereof.

Objectives

This subsection states the outcomes that must be achieved/achievements expected of by the particular organic farming and production or processing activity with respect to the topic in order to be consistent with the IFOAM Principles Applied. Objectives state the intended accomplishments of organic farming, handling and processing in this context. They always start with the phrase "The objective is" and are followed by a verb phrase e.g. to prevent, to protect, to ensure.

Requirements for Organic Standards

This subsection s presents s those topics and requirements that organic standards must address in order to fulfill the objectives. Specific requirements in organic standards set by standards-setting bodies must not fall outside of the principles and must meet the objectives related to each topic.

Requirements are phrased as those that the organic standards must placed by the standards on the operations. The sections containing requirements always start with the phrase "Standards must require that:"

Some sections list specific operator practices that are prohibited. Prohibited Operator Practices are part of the requirements and continue their numbering scheme, but they are formatted differently for clarification and emphasis. They do not constitute all prohibited practices in organic production and processing. The other requirements also call for organic standards to restrict and prohibit many practices. Organic standards may additionally restrict and prohibit practices in order to fulfill the requirements.

Mandatory and Prohibited Practices

The role of the IBS includes setting a baseline for differentiating organic systems from those that are organic. In order to do this, it is necessary for the IBS to state some practices that are always necessary in organic production and processin and others that are prohibited. Therefore, some Sections include relevant mandatory and prohibited practices.

IBS Criteria for the Evaluation of Substances Used in Organic Production and Processing

The Principles of Organic Agriculture are designed to lead organic production and processing toward minimal and prudent use of all substances.

~~Therefore, organic standards restrict the use of substances in organic production and processing.~~

~~In order to fulfill its role as a guidance and benchmark document, the IBS addresses use of substances in general terms throughout the Chapters, and sometimes very specifically in these Chapters by prohibiting certain substances. A comprehensive set of Criteria for determining allowed and prohibited substances is provided in Section C.~~

~~The Principle of Health states that organic agriculture should avoid the use of fertilizers, pesticides, animal drugs, and food and feed additives that may have adverse health effects. Therefore, most of these substances are prohibited in organic agriculture. The Principle of Ecology also limits the type and range of substances that can be used.~~

Exceptions made are based on the precautionary principle. Criteria to determine what substances are allowed in organic production and processing are contained in Section C.

Organic standards setting bodies must use these Criteria to determine which substances are allowed in their standard and they may also use the Criteria to prohibit certain substances. Lists of substances in organic standards regulated within the IFOAM Accreditation Program must meet the Criteria for Substances Used in Organic Production and Processing.

~~IFOAM maintains an indicative list of substances allowed for use in organic production and processing. IFOAM publishes an Indicative List of Substances for Organic Production and Processing. This list is subject to change via a transparent process administered by IFOAM, process which is documented in IFOAM's Organic Guarantee System Policy and Procedure. The list functions in IFOAM Accreditation and as a reference for organic standards setting worldwide. Standards setting bodies may accept the listed substances for their own standards without further evaluating them according to the Criteria. Substances other than those on this list may be used in organic production and processing if they have been assessed by a standards setting body in a documented process and determined to meet the Criteria for the Evaluation of Substances.~~

~~A current list is available on the IFOAM website. The current indicative list can be downloaded here:~~

~~[http://www.ifoam.org/about_ifoam/standards/OGS_Revision/20071013_Substance Lists.pdf](http://www.ifoam.org/about_ifoam/standards/OGS_Revision/20071013_Substance_Lists.pdf)~~

Development of the IFOAM Benchmark for Standards

The IFOAM Benchmark for Standards is developed in accordance with IFOAM policies and in compliance with the ISEAL Code of Good Practice for Standards Setting.

Section B - Definitions, Principles Applied, Objectives and Requirements

Definitions

~~**Accreditation Criteria:** Specify what is required from the certifier (what has to be in place) and what the certifier has to require from the operator to enable third party certification.~~

~~**Additive:** See Ingredient. A substance which is added to a processed product for a technological purpose and becomes a component of the final product and/or affects its characteristics.~~

Biodiversity: The variety of life forms and ecosystem types on Earth. Includes genetic diversity (i.e. diversity within species), species diversity (i.e. the number and variety of species) and ecosystem diversity (total number of ecosystem types).

Breeding: Selection of plants or animals to reproduce and / or to further develop desired characteristics in succeeding generations.

Certification: The procedure by which a third party gives written assurance that a clearly identified process has been methodically ~~assessed, such that adequate confidence is provided that applied in order to assess the ability of that the operator is~~ producing specified products ~~conform to specified~~ according to specific requirements or standards.

~~**Certification Body:** The body that conducts certification, as distinct from standard-setting and inspection.~~

~~**Contamination:** Pollution of Contact of organic product or land; crops, animals, land or contact products with any material substance that would render the product unsuitable for organic certification status compromise the organic integrity.~~

~~**Conventional:** Conventional means any material; Any production or processing practice or system that is does not certified conform to organic or organic "in-conversion". production practices and standards.~~

Conversion: The transition from non-organic to organic farming.

Conversion Period: The time between the start of the organic management or the last use of substances that are not allowed in organic production, and the certification of organic status of land, crops and or animal husbandry as organic. animals.

Crop Rotation: The practice of alternating the species or families of annual and/or biennial crops grown on a specific field in a planned pattern or sequence so as to break weed, pest and disease cycles and to maintain or improve soil fertility and organic matter content.

~~**Derivative:** A substance that is produced chemically or biologically from another substance.~~

~~**GMO Derivative:** A substance that is produced by or from a GMO. This is traced one step back from the substance to its source. 'Produced from GMO' means that it consists in whole or in part of a GMO. 'Produced by GMO' means that it is a GMO metabolite.~~

~~**Direct Source Organism:** The specific plant, animal, or microbe that produces a given input or ingredient, or that gives rise to a secondary or indirect organism that produces an input or ingredient.~~

Disinfect: To reduce, by physical or chemical means, the number of potentially harmful microorganisms in the environment, to a level that does not compromise food safety or suitability.

Farm Holding: The total area of land under control of one farmer or collective of farmers, and including all the farming activities or enterprises. The farm holding may ~~be divided into farm units~~ consist of one or more farm units.

Farm Unit: A sub-set of a farm holding including parcels of land or blocks or other subdivision.

~~**Good Organic Manufacturing Practice:** The part of the quality assurance which ensures that organic products are consistently produced and controlled to the quality standards appropriate to their intended use.~~

Genetic Engineering: ~~Genetic engineering is a~~ set of techniques from molecular biology (such as recombinant DNA) by which the genetic material of plants, animals, microorganisms, cells and other biological units may be altered in ways or with results that could not be obtained by methods of natural mating and reproduction or natural recombination. Techniques of genetic modification include, but are not limited to: recombinant DNA, cell fusion, micro and macro injection, encapsulation, gene deletion and doubling. Genetically engineered organisms do not include organisms resulting from techniques such as conjugation, transduction and natural hybridization.

Genetically Modified Organism (GMO): A plant, animal, or microbe that is transformed by genetic engineering.

Green Manure: A crop that is grown and then incorporated into the soil for the purpose of soil improvement. May, prevention of erosion, prevention of nutrient loss, mobilization and accumulation of plant nutrients, and balancing soil organic matter. Green manure may include spontaneous crops, plants or weeds.

Habitat: The area over which a plant or animal species naturally exists; ~~the area where a species occurs~~. Also used to indicate types of habitat, e.g. ocean, seashore, riverbank, woodland, grassland.

High Conservation Value Areas: Areas that have been identified as having outstanding and critical importance due to their environmental, socioeconomic, biodiversity or landscape values.

Homeopathic Treatment: Treatment of disease based on administration of remedies prepared through successive dilutions of a substance that in ~~larger amounts~~ higher concentration produces symptoms in healthy subjects similar to those of the disease itself.

~~**Hydroponics**~~**Hydroponic Systems:** Crop production systems in inert media or water using dissociated nutrients as prime source of nutrient supply.

Ingredient: Any substance, including an additive, used in the manufacture or preparation of a product and present in the final product although possibly in a modified form.

Ionizing Radiation: High energy emissions from radio-nucleotides, capable of altering a food's molecular structure for the purpose of controlling microbial contaminants, pathogens, parasites and pests in food, preserving food or inhibiting physiological processes such as sprouting or ripening.

Label: Any written, printed or graphic representation that is present on a product, accompanies the product, or is displayed near and associated with the product.

Operator: An individual or business enterprise, responsible for ensuring that production meets, and continues to meet, the requirements ~~on which the certification is based.~~

Operation: For the purposes of this document an operation is an individual or business enterprise producing, processing or handling agricultural products.

Organic Agriculture: A production system that sustains the health of soils, ecosystems and people. It relies on ecological processes, biodiversity and cycles adapted to local conditions, rather than the use of inputs with adverse effects. Organic agriculture combines tradition, innovation and science to benefit the shared environment and promote fair relationships and a good quality of life for all involved.

Organic: ~~“Organic” refers to the farming~~ The production and processing system and products described in the IFOAM Basic Standards this standard and not specifically referred to “organic chemistry”.

Organic Product: A product ~~which that~~ has been produced, processed, ~~and/or~~ handled in compliance with organic standards.

Organic Quality: ~~Product produced~~ Produced according to standards in compliance or equivalent to the IFOAM Benchmark for Standards.

Parallel Production: ~~Any production~~ A situation where the same operation is growing, breeding, handling or processing producing the same visually indistinguishable products in both a certified an organic system and a ~~non-certified or non-~~ organic system. A situation with “organic” and “in conversion” production of the same product is may also be parallel production.

~~**Primary Ecosystem:** Primary ecosystem or habitat: Pristine and anthropogenously undisturbed ecosystems/habitats.~~

~~**Processing:** The operation of slaughtering, preparation, preserving and packaging of agricultural products and also modifications made to the labeling concerning the presentation of the organic production method. The action of physical manipulation of agricultural products including food fiber and feed, including slaughter, cutting, chopping, blending, juicing, preserving and packaging of agricultural products. The modification and addition of any label concerning an organic product claim. Applies to the handling of food, animal feed, as well as textiles, cosmetics and the industrial alteration of agricultural products.~~

The handling, treatment, transformation and packaging of agricultural and wild products.

~~**Processing Aid:** Any substance or material, not including apparatus or utensils, and not consumed as a food ingredient by itself, intentionally used in the processing of raw materials, products or its ingredients, to fulfill a certain technical purpose during treatment or processing and which may result in the non-intentional, but unavoidable presence of residues or derivatives in the final product.~~

Any substance used in the processing of a product to fulfill a technical purpose and which is not normally a constituent of the product.

Restriction: Limitations on a product or practice that set clear conditions for when it may be used.

~~**Sanitize**~~ Sanitizing: To adequately treat produce or food-contact surfaces by a process Any treatment that is effective in destroying or substantially reducing the numbers of vegetative

cells of microorganisms of public health concern, and other undesirable microorganisms, ~~but without adversely affecting the product or its safety for the consumer.~~

Split Production: Conventional, in conversion and/or organic production, breeding, handling or processing in the same operation.

Synthetic: ~~Manufactured by chemical and industrial processes. May include products not found in nature, or simulation of products from natural sources (but not extracted from natural raw materials). to be regarded as organic. A substance that is formulated or manufactured by a chemical process or by a process that chemically changes a substance extracted from naturally occurring plant, animal, or mineral sources. , except that such term shall not apply to s~~Substances created by naturally occurring biological processes are not considered synthetic.

Standards: Norms that S specify how a product should be grown-produced and processed. ~~to be regarded as organic. For the purposes of this document standards are used to define organic production practices.~~

Sustainable: Using a resource so that the resource is not depleted or permanently damaged, hence is not used faster than it can be regenerated.

1. Organic Ecosystems

1.1. Ecosystem Management and Biodiversity

Principles applied

Organic agriculture is based on living ecological systems and cycles. ~~Organic Agriculture should attain~~ Organic agriculture attains productivity and ecological balance through the design of farming systems, establishment of interconnected habitats and maintenance of biodiversity.

The objective is to ensure the long-term management and resilience of an organic farm holding. ~~To respect, maintain, improve and complete by respecting, maintaining, improving and completing~~ ecological cycles, ~~while also encouraging biodiversity and protecting the quality of~~ ecosystems and the landscape. ~~Organic agriculture deliberately maintains and enhances nature; enhances diversity in plants, animals, and micro-organisms. Biodiversity increases the resilience of organic agriculture.~~

Standards must require that:

1.1.1. Biodiversity ~~is must be is~~ maintained, ~~and~~ or enhanced on the farm holding on crop and/or non-crop habitats.

~~1.1.2. Cultivation and/or animal husbandry actively promotes biological and agronomical diversity within the agricultural context.~~

1.1.3. ~~The management system takes into account the surrounding environment including the natural landscape.~~

1.1.4. ~~Habitat~~ Wildlife habitats and native species ~~be are~~ preserved and/or enhanced wherever possible on the farm holding.

1.1.5. Socially significant elements of the landscape on the farm holding such as historic features or sacred sites ~~be are~~ preserved with the farming system.

Mandatory practices:

1.1.6. ~~Identify measures to~~ Measures that contribute to biodiversity on the farm are identified

Prohibited operator practices:

1.1.7. ~~Clearing primary ecosystems~~ high conservation value areas.

1.1.8. ~~Impinging upon (negatively impacting) designated~~ nature reserves and protected areas.

1.1.9. Negateively impacting high conservation value areas.

1.2. Resource Management

Principles applied

Organic agriculture ~~is based on the sustainable use of~~ uses resources. ~~Organic agriculture~~ sustainably and attains ecological balance through the design of locally adapted farming systems.

~~The **objective is objectives are** to use materials and energy efficiently, in order; to reduce the use of non renewable resources; to protect and to improve the environment.
tal quality and to conserve resources.~~

Standards must require that:

- 1.2.1. Crop production, livestock production, processing and handling systems ~~shall employ measures to~~ reduce, reuse, and/ or recycle residual materials.
- 1.2.2. Measures are employed to prevent land degradation, such as erosion and salinization.
- ~~1.2.3. Water use does not excessively exploit and deplete available water resources.~~
1.1.1.1.2.3. Management systems ensure that water resources are used sustainably.
- 1.2.4. Measures are employed to prevent pollution, and otherwise preserve water quality.
- 1.2.5. ~~Measures are taken to maintain and improve the living soil. The living soil is~~ maintained and improved.
- 1.2.6. Land preparation by burning vegetation is restricted.

Mandatory practices

None specified

Prohibited practices

None specified

1.3. Collection of Wild Products

Principles applied

Organic management sustains and prevents degradation of natural biotic and abiotic resources.

~~The **objective is objectives are to** ensure that ~~the,~~ habitats, biodiversity, air quality, waterways and visual appearance of wild collection areas are protected and benefit from the organic management system not degraded ; and that the wild collection system fits within the natural cycles and ecological balance of the area.~~

Standards must require that:

- ~~1.1.4.1.3.1. Operators are thoroughly familiar with the boundaries of the collection area, which is free from prohibited inputs. Collection does not exceed sustainable yield of the local ecosystem, nor threaten the existence of plant, fungal or animal species, including those not directly exploited.~~
- 1.3.2. Products are collected only from within the boundaries of the clearly defined wild collection area.
- 1.3.3. ~~The collection area is not compromised by pollutants. The collection area is not compromised by treatment or environmental pollution. with substances other than those on the IFOAM Indicative List of Substances for Organic Production and Processing or that comply with the IFOAM Criteria for the Evaluation of Substances Used in Organic Production and Processing.~~
- 1.3.4. The habitat stability and biodiversity of the collection area is not endangered.

Mandatory practices

None specified

Prohibited Operator Practices

None specified

1.3.4. Collecting protected or endangered species

2. Genetically Modified Organisms

Principles applied

~~Immunity, resilience and regeneration are key characteristics of organic production. Practitioners of organic agriculture can enhance efficiency and increase productivity, but this should be in a precautionary manner without risk to human health and well-being or that of the environment. Given the incomplete understanding of ecosystems and agriculture care must be taken.~~

Organic agriculture is managed in a precautionary and responsible manner to protect the health and well-being of current and future generations and the environment.

Organic agriculture ~~should~~ prevents significant risks by adopting appropriate technologies and rejecting unpredictable ones, such as genetic engineering.

~~The **objective is objectives are** to prevent contamination pollution of organic ecosystems and contamination of organic products with genetically modified organisms (GMO) or GMO derivatives and to preserve the genetic integrity of varieties and traditional ecotypes.~~

Standards must require that

2.1. The deliberate use or negligent introduction of genetically modified organisms (GMO) or their derivatives is prohibited in all stages of organic production and processing.

~~**2.2.** The substances from which inputs, processing aids and additives are derived are not GMO.~~
Inputs, processing aids and additives are not produced by or from GMOs, with the exception of vaccines.

Mandatory practices

~~**2.2.2.3.** Inputs processing agents and ingredients are traced back at least one step in the biological chain to the direct source organism from which they are produced.~~

Prohibited operator practices

~~**2.4.** The use of GMOs and GMO derivatives or products containing a GMO or GMO derivative (organic production).~~

~~**2.5.** The use of ingredients, additives or processing aids that are GMOs or are derived from GMOs (processed products).~~

~~**2.4.** Using GMOs, GMO derivatives or products containing a GMO or GMO derivative in any non-organic production activity on a farm holding with split (including parallel) production.~~

3. General Requirements for Plant Production and Animal Husbandry

3.1. Conversion Requirements

Principles applied

Organic agriculture attains productivity and ecological balance through the design and management of sustainable farming systems.

The objective is to clearly identify when organic practices begin and how long they must have to be applied before the operation and products can be considered organic, taking into consideration the balance of the ecosystem and the skills of the operator.

Standards must require that:

3.1.1. A specified date or event is identified as identifies the point at which conversion begins.

3.1.2. A set period of time is defined that must elapse between the start of the conversion period, i.e. when organic management begins, and the achievement of the organic status of the corresponding land, animals and products.

~~3.1.3. The date at which a product may be considered as organic is clearly identified. During the conversion period, all requirements of the applicable standard are met.~~

Mandatory practices

None specified

Prohibited practices

~~3.1.4. The use of prohibited practices and substances during conversion.~~

3.2. Conversion of Plant Production Systems

Principle applied

Organic crop production aims to attain attains productivity and ecological balance.

The objective is to ensure that establish a suitable conversion period is set during which contaminants are reduced, and through of organic management prior to the organic status of a crop, during which contaminants are reduced, and healthy soils and sustainable ecosystems are being established.

Standards must require that:

3.2.1. ~~The length of the~~ There is a minimum conversion period of at least 12 months. is sufficient for improving soil fertility and reestablishing ecosystem balance.

3.2.2. ~~The date at which a harvested crop may be considered as organic is clearly defined. Annual and perennial crops~~ Annual and perennial crops are handled separately. ~~need to be handled separately.~~

~~3.2.3. A specific length of time that must elapse between the application of a prohibited substance or practice and being able to achieve the organic status of the crop. is clearly defined.~~

Mandatory practices

None specified

Prohibited practices

~~3.2.4. The use of prohibited practices and substances during conversion.~~

3.3. Conversion of Animal Production Systems

Principles applied

Organic animal husbandry ~~aims at attaining~~attains a balanced farm ecosystem while ensuring the health and well-being of individual animals.

~~The objective is to ensure that~~apply organic production practices ~~are applied~~ to the entire life cycle of the animals with no ~~routine~~ breaks in the organic management.

Standards must require that:

3.3.1. Animals are raised organically from birth, ~~or~~ hatching, or when this is not possible from early ages subject to a conversion requirement.

3.3.2. ~~Conversion~~There are specific conversion periods ~~appropriate~~ for each species, purpose and production type ~~are clearly defined~~, which are no less than the following:

<u>Production</u>	<u>Conversion period</u>
• <u>Meat (except poultry):</u>	<u>12 months</u>
• <u>dairy:</u>	<u>90 days</u>
• <u>poultry meat/eggs:</u>	<u>42 days</u>

3.3.3. ~~The~~There are specific conditions for simultaneous conversion of land and animals ~~are clearly defined~~.

~~3.3.3.~~ ~~There is a conversion period for the entire operation, including land.~~

3.3.4. ~~In apiculture the conversion period~~ In apiculture there is a conversion of a bee colony ~~is~~ based on the time necessary for the replacement of wax and not less than 12 months.

Mandatory practices

~~None specified~~

Prohibited practices

~~3.3.5. Use of prohibited practices and substances during conversion.~~

3.4. Conversion of Organic-Aquaculture Systems

Principles applied

Organic aquaculture ~~aims at attaining~~attains a balanced ecosystem ~~that and~~ ensures the health and well-being of individual animals.

~~The objective is to convert aquacultural systems in a manner that takes into account the diversity of the environment, species and production methods.~~

~~The objective is to apply organic production practices to the entire life cycle of the animals with no~~ routine breaks in the organic management.

Standards must require that:

~~3.4.1.~~ ~~All relevant requirements of chapter 3, 4 and 5 are complied with.~~

~~3.4.2.~~ ~~Conversion requirements take into account environmental factors and the past use of the site with respect to waste, sediments, water quality and contamination sources.~~

~~3.4.3. The conversion period of the production unit must be at least one life cycle of the farmed organism or one year, whichever is shorter.~~

~~3.4.1. The conversion period of the operation is set depending on the past use of the site with respect to waste, sediments and water quality and is no less than 12 months.~~

~~3.4.2. Aquatic animals are preferably raised organically from birth or hatching or when this is not possible from early ages subject to a conversion requirement.~~

~~3.4.3. Conversion periods appropriate for each species are clearly defined are at least two-thirds of the life-span of the animal or one year, whichever is shorter.~~

Mandatory practices

None specified

Prohibited practices

None specified

3.5. Split Production and Parallel Production

Principles applied

Organic agriculture is managed in a precautionary and responsible manner.

The objective is ~~conversion of the whole farm over time; and~~ to guarantee the integrity of the organic production and products on holdings with split or parallel production.

Standards must require that:

~~3.5.1. The integrity of the organic farm unit must not be is not compromised by the management of the conventional unit non-organic operation.~~

~~3.5.2. Holdings The non-organic and organic parts and products of holdings with split or parallel production ensure the conventional and organic parts and products are completely, and clearly and continuously separated, e.g. physical barriers, management practices, storage of inputs and products.~~

~~3.5.3. Substances not on the IFOAM Indicative List of Substances for Organic Production and Processing or that do not comply with the IFOAM Criteria for the Evaluation of Substances Used in Organic Production and Processing must not be stored along with those allowed.~~

Mandatory practices

~~3.5.3. Prohibited inputs must be stored separately from those used for organic production.~~

Prohibited practices

None specified

3.6. Maintenance of Organic Management

Principles applied

Organic agriculture works with living ecological systems and cycles, while emulating and sustaining them.

The objective is to maintain the ongoing organic system.

Standards must require that:

- 3.6.1. A production system does not rely upon switching between organic and conventional management.

Mandatory practices

~~None specified~~

Prohibited practices

~~None specified~~

3.7. Avoiding Contamination

Principle applied

Organic agriculture is managed in a precautionary and responsible manner.

The objective is to ~~ensure that organic production is conducted in a precautionary manner that seeks to avoid~~ contamination/pollution of the environment and ~~the~~ contamination of products ~~it produces~~.

Standards must require that:

- 3.7.1. Precautionary measures are taken to avoid contamination.
- 3.7.2. Where there is reasonable suspicion of contamination, an investigation is made, the ~~relevant products are analyzed and the~~ source of the contamination sought and measures are taken to address the problem.
- 3.7.3. ~~Restrictions are set on the~~ The use of synthetic coverings, ~~and~~ mulches; ~~taking into consideration the environmental impacts.~~ is restricted.

Mandatory practices

~~3.7.4. All mulches and coverings must be biodegradable or recyclable.~~

Prohibited practices

~~None specified~~

4. Crop Production

4.1. ~~Seed and~~ Propagation Material and Seedlings

Principle applied

Organic management sustains production at all crop stages.

The objective is to ensure that organic practices are implemented along the entire production chain from propagation to final product including the production of seed and propagation materials.

Standards must require that:

- 4.1.1. ~~When available, seed~~ Seed and plant propagation material ~~for annual crops comes from plants that have been under~~ is of organic management ~~for at least one generation.~~ quality unless such seed and material is unavailable.
- 4.1.2. ~~When available, seed and plant propagation material for perennial crops comes from plants that have been raised organically for at least one year.~~

~~4.1.11.4.1.2. Treatment of seed and propagation material is restricted to substances listed on the standard setting body's list of permitted substances. All substances used for treatment of all seed material must be are on the IFOAM Indicative List of Substances for Organic Production and Processing or comply with the IFOAM Criteria for the Evaluation of Substances Used in Organic Production and Processing, unless treatment with other substances is legally required or unless seed not treated with these other substances is regionally unavailable. Exemptions are limited in time.~~

4.1.3. Seedlings are ~~from~~of organic ~~production~~quality.

Mandatory practices

~~None specified~~

Prohibited practices

~~None specified~~

4.2. Soil Conservation and Crop Rotation

Principle applied

Organic crop production sustains and enhances the health of the soil and ecosystem; healthy soils produce healthy crops that foster the health of animals and people.

~~The objective is to practice crop rotation, soil management and suitable conservation techniques that improve the health and condition of the soil and crops, and avoids the use of fertilizers and pesticides.~~

Standards must require that:

4.2.1. A ~~suitable~~ diverse crop rotation is included as an integral part of the ~~management~~ system of the holding. ~~For perennial crops this includes cover crops (green manures) and/or other plant-based ground cover. For annual crops this includes~~ minimum crop rotation practices, cover crops (green manures) or other diverse plant production with comparable achievements.

~~4.2.2. Cover crops, plant-based ground cover are used where appropriate in the organic production system.~~

4.2.2. The management system ~~includes means of~~ is based on conserving or improving soil structure, organic matter, fertility and ~~structure~~biodiversity.

4.2.3. ~~The~~Soil management ~~system prevents~~minimizes erosion and depletion of soil nutrients.

Mandatory practices

~~None specified~~

Prohibited practices

~~None specified~~

4.3. Fertilization~~Management of Soil Fertility~~

Principle applied

Organic crop production systems enrich the living soil, creating an environment that can support the production of healthy, and productive crops.

The objective is to ~~practice a crop management system that seeks to nourish plants primarily through the soil ecosystem, enhances the natural fertility of the soil and avoids the excessive use of fertilizers and achieve nutrient balance.~~

Standards must require that:

~~4.3.1. The management system maintains and enhances soil fertility.~~

~~4.3.2. The management system provides an environment for healthy growing plants that produce yields appropriate for the crop and region.~~

~~4.3.3. Contamination of the environment is avoided.~~

~~4.3.2.4.3.1. The fertility program of a holding is based on the enhancement of enhancing the soil-ecosystem by the use of incorporating green manure and other biodegradable material, green manure and inputs and/ or also by nitrogen fixation from plants; and that mineral.~~

~~4.3.2. Mineral fertilizers are naturally occurring and only used only as a supplement to methods in 4.3.1.~~

~~4.3.3. The use of fertilizing agents must be site adapted and correspond to the needneeds of the plants.~~

~~1.1.13.4.3.4. Pollution of the environment by fertility management inputs and practices is prevented.~~

~~4.3.5. All substances used must be are on the standards setting body's list of permitted substances. IFOAM Indicative List of Substances for Organic Production and Processing or comply with the IFOAM Criteria for the Evaluation of Substances Used in Organic Production and Processing~~

~~4.3.6. Manures containing human excrement (feces and urine) are applied to crops for human consumption only when under specific sanitation requirements.~~

Mandatory practices

~~None specified~~

Prohibited operator practices

~~4.3.6.4.3.7. The use of Using synthetic nitrogen fertilizers, superphosphates and sodium (Chilean) nitrate.~~

~~4.3.7.4.3.8. Hydroponics Producing crops in hydroponic systems.~~

4.4. Pest-, Disease-, Weed-, and Growth Management

Principle applied

Organic crop production sustains and enhances the health of ecosystems and all living matter, from the smallest organisms found in the soil to human beings.

The objective is to improve and sustain the health of crops while maintaining productivity and the integrity of the agro-ecosystem.

Standards must require that:

~~4.4.1. Natural resistance of the crops is enhanced by a combination of Crop production maintains soil and crop health through interrelated positive processes and~~

mechanisms ~~capable of accounting~~ for the management of ~~significant~~ pests, diseases, and weeds. These include but are not limited to ~~a site-~~ and crop adapted fertility management and soil cultivation ~~program~~, choice of appropriate varieties, ~~the~~ enhancement of functional biodiversity; and in case additional measures are required, ~~a~~ restricted use of ~~allowed~~ crop protectants and growth regulators.

4.4.2. All active substances used ~~must be~~ are on the ~~standards setting body's list of permitted substances.~~ IFOAM Indicative List of Substances for Organic Production and Processing or comply with the IFOAM Criteria for the Evaluation of Substances Used in Organic Production and Processing.

4.4.3. Co-formulants (e.g. inerts and synergists) in formulated products are not carcinogens, mutagens, teratogens or neurotoxins.

4.4.4. ~~Soil sterilization is restricted to methods that do not damage the soil's recovery capacity.~~

Mandatory practices

~~None specified.~~

Prohibited practices

~~None specified~~

4.5. Aquatic Plants

Principles applied

~~The health of aquatic plants and their communities cannot be separated from~~ Organic aquaculture maintains the health of the aquatic ecosystem.

The objective is to ~~produce~~ preserve the ecosystem while producing and ~~harvest~~ harvesting aquatic plants ~~without negatively impacting the production area or surrounding areas.~~

Standards must require that:

4.5.1. ~~The harvest of aquatic~~ Aquatic plants ~~does not disrupt the ecosystem, and does not cause~~ are managed in a manner that avoids any degradation of the production area or the surrounding ~~aquatic and terrestrial environment~~ ecosystem.

5. Animal Husbandry

5.1. ~~Animal Health and Welfare~~ General Animal Management

Principles applied

Organic animal husbandry is based on the harmonious relationship between land, plants and animals. It ~~provides animals with conditions and opportunities of life that~~ meets their physiological needs and ~~are in accordance with~~ supports their natural and social behavior and well-being.

The objective is ~~objectives are~~ to ~~produce organic animal products while ensuring that~~ treat animals ~~are treated~~ respectfully, ~~assure~~ assure their health and welfare ~~are assured~~ and ~~that~~ preserve the environment ~~is preserved~~.

Standards must require that:

5.1.1. Living conditions (including housing) provided to the animals:

- afford them comfort and safety
- allow them to exhibit natural behavior
- give them freedom of movement
- allow access, whenever weather allows, to open air, ~~including~~ exercise areas and/ or, pasture, which include shade.

~~1.3.13.5.1.2.~~ Nutrition practices are consistent with ~~their~~ the animals' natural needs ~~and behavior and a weaning period for young mammals must be defined.~~

~~5.1.3.~~ There is a weaning period for young animals, which is based on the natural behavior of the species.

~~5.1.10.5.1.4.~~ Management practices according to Stocking density management ensures sustainable land and water use.

~~5.1.3.~~ Cruel treatment and forceful handling of animals is prohibited.

~~5.1.4.~~ Health care practices and medications that may be used in organic production are clearly defined.

~~5.1.5.~~ Health care practices follow the principle of positive health; the gradual approach of prevention, including appropriate vaccinations, then natural medicines and treatment, and finally if unavoidable, treatment with allopathic drugs.

~~5.1.5.~~ Medications that may be used in organic production are clearly defined.

~~5.1.3.5.1.6.~~ Vaccinations are allowed only for known endemic diseases that are likely to be a problem or when legally required.

~~5.1.4.5.1.7.~~ Medical treatment considered necessary for the welfare of an animal is never withheld in order to maintain the organic status of the animal. Animals ~~must not be~~ are not allowed to suffer for lack of treatment.

~~5.1.5.5.1.8.~~ The use of antibiotic and other allopathic medication is strictly limited to the treatment of illnesses and injuries under the supervision of a veterinarian qualified personnel, and subject to defined withdrawal periods that are not less than double that required by legislation.

~~1.1.16.5.1.9.~~ In order to minimize animal suffering mutilation practices are defined and restricted to necessity and regional needs. Mutilations are prohibited. Standards may allow specific exemptions only when necessary for when good management practices are insufficient to ensure the health and welfare of the animal and/ or operator and alternatives are not available or when it is specifically required for meat quality. Mutilations performed under exceptions employ measures to minimize suffering.

Mandatory practices

None specified

Prohibited operator practices

~~5.1.10.~~ Cruelly treating and forcefully handling animals.

~~5.1.11.~~ Landless ~~Operating landless~~ animal husbandry systems.

~~5.1.16.5.1.12.~~ Confinement of ~~Confining~~ calves for veal production.

~~5.1.15.5.1.13.~~ Keeping rabbits, pigs and poultry ~~any animals~~ confined in cages.

5.1.14. Using hormones or other drugs to promote growth and production.

~~5.1.12-5.1.15. Routine use of~~Routinely using antibiotics and parasiticides-
Using any medical treatment in the absence when there is no risk of illness.

5.4.5.2. Breeds and Breeding

Principles applied

~~Animal breeds adapted to local conditions perform best in organic agriculture.~~
Organic agriculture fits the cycles and ecological balances in nature.
Organic animal husbandry is consistent with local conditions.

The objective is to ~~promote organic production through the use of appropriate~~ animal breeds and breeding techniques that are appropriate for the environment and the wellbeing of the animal itself.

Standards must require that:

5.4.1-5.2.1. Animal production systems use breeds suited to the region and the production method.

5.4.2-5.2.2. Animal production systems use breeds that reproduce successfully under natural conditions and without routine human involvement.

5.4.3-5.2.3. Only breeding techniques consistent with organic production methods are used. This includes artificial insemination.

Mandatory practices

None specified

Prohibited operator practices

5.4.4-5.2.4. ~~The use of~~Using hormones to induce ovulation and birth unless for medical reasons

5.4.5-5.2.5. Employing embryo transfer techniques and cloning.

5.2.5.3. Feed Animal Nutrition

Principles applied

Organic animal production ~~sustains and enhances the health of the animals and is~~ integrated with organic crop production systems- and supplies organic feed to animals in a manner that meets their natural foraging behavior.

The objective is to provide a diet to the animals that ~~contains~~ consists of high quality and nutritious ~~feed that maximizes the content of~~ organic feed.

Standards must require that:

5.2.1-5.3.1. Feed rations meet the nutritional and dietary requirements ~~are suitably addressed~~of the species and ruminants have access to roughage.

5.2.2.5.3.2. The use of non-organic feed ~~is strictly limited to necessity, based on regional production practices. must be is specified, and is strictly limited to non-accessibility of organic feed supply and time limited.~~

5.3.3. Vitamins, trace elements and supplements are from natural sources unless they are not available in sufficient quantity and/ or quality.

~~5.3.3. The carrying capacity of the organic production unit is suitably addressed~~

Mandatory practices

~~None specified~~

Prohibited operator practices

5.2.3.5.3.4. Feeding:

- a. slaughter waste to ruminants.
- b. slaughter products of the same species.
- c. all types of excrements.
- d. any product subjected to solvent extraction (e.g. hexane) or the addition of other chemical agents.
- e. synthetic amino-acid and amino acid isolates.
- f. urea and other synthetic nitrogen compounds.
- g. synthetic growth promoters or stimulants.
- h. synthetic appetizers, preservatives and coloring agents.

5.3.5.4. **Transportation and Slaughter**

Principles applied

~~Animals are treated~~Organic animal husbandry treats animals with respect and care, and maintains their organic integrity throughout the system.

~~The~~ objective is objectives are to minimize stress and suffering and maintain organic integrity of the animals during ~~the~~ their movement, handling and slaughter ~~of animals.~~

Standards must require that:

5.3.1.5.4.1. The organic integrity of the animal must be is maintained during movement, handling and slaughter.

5.3.2.5.4.2. Measures are taken to minimize stress and avoid suffering during transit and holding prior to and during slaughter.

5.3.3.5.4.3. ~~Each animal or group of animals are identifiable at each step of the transport and slaughter process.~~

Mandatory practices

~~None specified~~

Prohibited practices operator practice

5.3.4.5.4.4. ~~Use of~~Using any injurious devices, electric prods, tranquilizers, and stimulants.

5.5. Bee Keeping

Principles applied

The role of organic agriculture, whether in farming, processing, distribution, or consumption, is to sustain and enhance the health of ecosystems and organisms from the smallest in the soil to human beings.

Within the context of organic production systems bee colonies behave as single organisms. Bee management should fit the cycles and ecological balances in nature. These cycles are universal but their operation is site-specific.

Organic bee keeping sustains and enhances the health of ecosystems.

The objective is to maintain bee colonies as an integral part of the ecosystem and maintain their natural cycles.

Standards must require that:

5.5.1. Bee races/~~breeds~~ are adapted to the local environment and conditions.

5.5.2. For the renovation of apiaries 10% of the queen bees and swarms can be replaced by non-organic queen bees and swarms.

~~5.5.2.5.5.3. Hives are placed in sites with a low~~ Hive placement minimizes the risk of contamination ~~within a defined foraging distance.~~

~~5.5.3.5.5.4. The health and welfare of the bee colony is primarily achieved through good management and hygienic practices,~~ including the use of non-contaminating building material and physical sanitation methods.

~~5.5.5. Methods permitted for hive disinfection are restricted.~~

~~5.5.6. All substances used for pest and disease control must be on the standards setting body's list of permitted substances.~~

~~5.5.7. Where preventative measures fail, veterinary medicinal products may be used provided that:
a. preference is first given to phyto-therapeutic and homeopathic treatments, or substances on the standards setting body's list of permitted substances.
a. products are not labeled as organic when allopathic, chemically synthesized medicinal products are used.~~

5.5.5. Where preventative health measures fail, veterinary medicinal products may be used provided that preference is first given to phyto-therapeutic and homeopathic treatments, and then:

- lactic, formic, oxalic, acetic acid
- sulfur
- natural essential oils.

Where veterinary medicinal products are administered, the conversion requirements specified in 3.3.4 apply.

~~1.1.21.5.5.6. Methods permitted for hive and honey comb disinfection are restricted to steam, direct flame, caustic soda and Bacillus thuringiensis.~~

~~5.5.6.5.5.7. Harvesting methods are sustainable and ensure that there are sufficient food reserves are left behind~~ to ensure for the survival of the colony during the dormancy period.

~~5.5.7.5.5.8. Supplementary feeding~~ feed must be is organic and is restricted to colony welfare.

~~5.5.9. Processing practices should maintain the original quality and characteristics of the honey.~~

Mandatory practices

~~None specified~~

Prohibited operator practices

~~5.5.8.5.5.10. The destruction of Deliberately killing bees ~~in the combs~~ as a method of harvesting.~~

~~5.5.9.5.5.11. Clipping the wings of ~~the~~ queen bees.~~

6. Aquaculture Production

6.1. Aquatic Ecosystems

Principles applied

Organic aquaculture supports a healthy and diverse ecosystem ~~that. It provides conditions and opportunities of life to the farmed species that meet and meets their the animals'~~ physiological needs ~~in accordance with~~ and supports their natural and social behavior and well-being.

~~The **objective is** that aquaculture management maintains **objectives are to maintain** well-being of the farmed species, the biodiversity of natural aquatic ecosystems, the health of the aquatic environment, and the quality of surrounding aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems.~~

Standards must require that

~~6.1.1. Verifiable and effective measures are taken to maintain the integrity of the aquatic ecosystem. In particular, the The release of nutrients and waste into the aquatic ecosystem ~~must be is~~ minimized.~~

~~6.1.2. Adequate measures Measures are taken to prevent introduced or the cultivated species stocks from escaping into the ecosystem.~~

~~6.1.3. The production units have an appropriate distance from contamination sources and conventional aquaculture.~~

~~6.1.4. All substances used in the system must be are on the IFOAM Indicative List of Substances for Organic Production and Processing or comply with the IFOAM Criteria for the Evaluation of Substances Used in Organic Production and Processing.~~

~~6.1.5. Inputs, such as fertilizers applied in organic aquaculture systems, are in accordance with the IBS.~~

~~6.1.4. All active substances used must be on the standards setting body's list of permitted substances.~~

6.2. ~~Sources,~~ Breeds and Breeding of Aquatic Animals

Principles applied

~~Aquatic species and breeds adapted to local conditions are best suited for organic aquaculture.~~

Organic aquaculture fits the cycles and ecological balances in nature is consistent with local conditions.

~~The objective is that species and breeds used in organic aquaculture are locally adapted and that the individual animals spend their entire lives on organic units.~~

The objective is to use aquatic animal breeds and breeding techniques that are appropriate for the environment, the species and the wellbeing of the animal itself.

Standards must require that

~~6.2.1. — Animals are raised organically from hatching or from early ages subject to a conversion requirement~~

~~6.2.2. — Appropriate techniques are used for organic breeding and production.~~

6.2.1. The species and breeds used are adapted to the local conditions. Aquatic animal production systems use breeds and breeding techniques suited to the region and the production method.

Mandatory Practices

~~6.2.3. — Brought-in conventional animals must spend two thirds or more of their life span in an organically-managed system.~~

Prohibited operator practices

6.2.2. ~~The use of~~Using artificially polyploid organisms or artificially produced monosex stock.

6.2.3. ~~The use of~~Using synthetic hormones to artificially stimulate reproduction.

6.3. Aquatic Animal Nutrition

Principles applied

~~In organic~~Organic aquaculture closely integrates the health, well-being and nutritional needs of the animals ~~are closely integrated~~ with the maintenance of a healthy ecosystem.

~~The objective is objectives are to ensure~~feed animals ~~are fed~~ according to their natural feeding behavior, and ~~that they receive to meet~~ their nutritional and dietary needs ~~from~~with good quality organic feed.

Standards must require that:

6.3.1. ~~The~~Aquatic animals are fed predominantly organic feed. The use of non-organic feed is specified; it is strictly limited to non-accessibility of organic feed and time limited.

6.3.2. ~~Non-organic feed is only used when available organic feed is of inadequate quantity or quality or when organic aquaculture is in early stages of development. All components of agricultural origin are organic.~~

6.3.3. ~~Non-organic aquatic animal protein and oil may be used provided it is harvested from verifiable sustainable sources and have contamination levels below limits established by the standard-setting body. Non-organic aquatic animal protein and oil may only be used if they derive from wild marine products harvested from verifiable sustainable sources or from by-products from fishery for human consumption~~

6.3.4. Where relevant the diet fed to aquatic animals complies with the requirements of section 5.2.

Mandatory practices

~~None specified~~

Prohibited practices

~~6.3.5. Non-organic aquatic animal protein and oil must not constitute 100% of the diet.~~

6.4. Aquatic Animal Health and Welfare

Principles applied

Organic aquaculture promotes and maintains the health and well-being of the animals.

~~The objective is that~~ ***objectives are to actively promote the welfare of aquatic animals and control*** disease ~~control is based on~~ through preventive, system-based methods.

Standards must require that:

6.4.1. The relevant requirements of section 5.1 are applied

6.4.2. Stocking densities do not compromise animal welfare.

6.4.3. Production units are designed and managed to maintain water quality and the health and natural behavior of the stock.

Mandatory practices

~~None specified~~

Prohibited operator practices

~~6.4.4. The use of~~ Using chemical allopathic ~~prophylactic~~ veterinary drugs prophylactically.

~~6.4.5. The use of~~ Using chemical allopathic veterinary drugs and antibiotics for invertebrates.

~~6.4.5. The use of synthetic hormones and growth promoters to artificially stimulate growth.~~

6.5. Aquatic Animal Transport and Slaughter

Principles applied

~~Handling, transport and slaughter of aquatic~~ Organic aquaculture treats animals ~~is managed~~ in a responsible and humane manner.

~~The objective is to~~ respect ~~meet~~ species-specific needs and to minimize stress and suffering.

Standards must require that:

~~6.5.1. All relevant requirements of section 5.3 are~~ complied with applied.

~~6.5.2. Animals are handled, transported and slaughtered in a way that minimizes stress and suffering, and respects species-specific needs.~~

Mandatory practices

6.5.2. Aquatic vertebrates are ~~must be~~ stunned before slaughter.

Prohibited practices

None specified

7. Processing and Handling

7.1. General

Principle applied

Care Organic processing employs care, precaution and responsibility are the key concerns in management, development and technology choices in organic processing.

The objective are

- ~~To process products with care, avoiding unnecessary processing, maintaining the organic integrity and the authenticity of processed products, avoiding misleading the consumer by preserving the true nature of the product.~~
- ~~To use techniques that are least damaging to the environment, reducing and treating waste and limiting the use of energy.~~

The objectives is are to maintain organic integrity of processed products, contribute to preventative health and well-being, produce high quality products and protect the environment.

Standards must require that:

~~7.1.1. Good organic manufacturing practices are followed throughout all organic processing.~~

7.1.1. ~~Potential sources~~ Risks of product contamination ~~as well as pollution and ecological contamination~~ are identified and ~~eliminated~~ minimized.

7.1.2. Risks of environmental pollution are identified and minimized.

7.1.3. Transparency and traceability ~~of in~~ in the organic processing chain are guaranteed.

~~7.1.4. Substances and methods that chemically react with or modify organic products are restricted.~~

~~7.1.5. Processing, handling and storage use physical, mechanical and biological methods~~

Mandatory practices

~~7.1.3.7.1.4. Organic products are~~ Organic products must be processed separately, in time and/or place, from non-organic products.

~~7.1.4.7.1.5. Measures must be are~~ taken to ~~enable traceability for preventing~~ prevent commingling of organic products with non-organic products in processing, packaging, storage and transport.

Prohibited operator practices

~~7.1.8. Using ionizing radiation~~

~~7.1.9. Extraction of products, ingredients, additives and processing aids with other solvents than water, ethanol, plant and animal oils, vinegar, carbon dioxide and nitrogen.~~

7.2. Ingredients and Processing Aids

Principle applied

~~Organic processed products are made from high quality raw materials. Organic processing delivers products that contribute to preventive health care and well-being high quality organic products. Ingredients as part of an organic product are chosen with care, precaution and responsibility.~~

~~The objective is to maintain/preserve the organic integrity/nature and authenticity of processed products and to maximize the use of organic ingredients, by ensuring that organic ingredients are used whenever possible.~~

Standards must require that:

~~7.2.1. Organic processed products are made from organic ingredients whenever possible except for when they are not available. Use of non-organic ingredients is time-limited. these non-organic ingredients that are in compliance with the labeling provisions.~~

~~7.2.2. The use of non-organic additives and processing aids is limited. For organic food the use of non-organic substances will be to the minimum extent unless they are legally required, alternatives are not available, and they are needed for particular nutritional purpose or essential technological need. Any additives, processing aids or other substances that are used and modify organic products shall be restricted and must be are on the IFOAM Indicative List of Substances for Organic Production and Processing or comply with the IFOAM Criteria for the Evaluation of Substances Used in Organic Production and Processing.~~

~~7.2.3. Substances in organic processed products are from natural sources only, all other substances used must be on the standards setting body's list of permitted substances~~

~~7.2.3. Microorganisms and microbiologically produced ingredients are grown on substances that consist entirely of organic ingredients and permitted substances/organic substrates when available.~~

Mandatory practices

~~7.2.5. All ingredients must be in compliance with the labeling provisions.~~

Prohibited operator practices

~~7.2.4. The use of/Using the same ingredient in organic and non-organic quality in products.~~

~~7.2.5. The use of substances/Using any substance primarily to correct improper losses of properties during processing except where the replacement of nutrients is required by law or strongly recommended by authorities.~~

~~7.2.6. Adding flavoring agents or coloring agents to product formulations that are intended to mimic and/or replace actual agricultural ingredients.~~

7.3. Processing Methods

Principles applied

~~Technologies in organic processing ensure that the finished product is/Organic processing technologies produce healthy, and safe and produced products in an ecologically sound manner. Organic processing is governed by the Precautionary Principle/governs the introduction of new organic processing technologies.~~

~~The objectives is-are to ensure that processing methods do not compromise uphold the organic integrity of the final product and, in the case of food, ensures the and feed, maintain its the nutritional value is-maintained.~~

Standards must require that:

~~7.3.1. Practices used in organic processing do not contaminate the environment.~~

7.3.1. Processing methods other than biological, mechanical or physical techniques are restricted. ~~are kept to a minimum.~~

~~7.3.3. Only other than biological, mechanical or physical processing techniques are restricted used.~~

~~7.3.1. Any additives, processing aids or other substances that are used and modify organic products shall be restricted and must be on the standards setting body's list of permitted substances~~

~~7.3.4. Techniques or substances that negatively affect the product must be restricted.~~
Honey temperatures are maintained as low as possible during processing.

~~7.3.5.~~

Mandatory practices

~~None specified.~~

Prohibited operator practices

~~1.2.4.7.3.2. Using solvents for extraction other than water, ethanol, plant and animal oils, vinegar, carbon dioxide and nitrogen substances that appear on the IFOAM Indicative List of Substances for Organic Production and Processing or that do not comply with the IFOAM Criteria for the Evaluation of Substances Used in Organic Production and Processing.~~

~~7.3.5.7.3.3. Using filtration techniques that chemically react with or modify the organic product at the molecular level.~~

~~7.3.6.7.3.4. The use of Using filtration equipment that contains asbestos.~~

7.3.5. Using ionizing radiation.

7.4. Packaging and Containers

Principle applied

~~Organic products are packaged in a manner that has minimal adverse impact on the product and on the environment.~~

Organic processing maintains the organic integrity of the product while responsibly using resources.

~~The objective is to maintain the organic integrity of the product while efficiently and responsibly using resources.~~

The objective is to package products in a manner that has minimal adverse impact on the product and environment, as well as efficient and responsible use of resources.

Standards must require that:

7.4.1. Packaging and storage/transportation containers do not contaminate the organic product they contain.

- 7.4.2. ~~Packaging materials are reusable, recycled, Use of non-recyclable and non-biodegradable packaging materials is restricted whenever possible.~~

Mandatory practices

~~7.4.3. Using only necessary packaging.~~

~~7.4.4. Measures to ensure that all storage and transportation containers are not contaminated with non-allowed substances.~~

Prohibited operator practices

~~7.4.4.7.4.3. Using packaging that has been treated with non-allowed substances that do not appear on the IFOAM Indicative List of Substances for Organic Production and Processing or that do not comply with the IFOAM Criteria for the Evaluation of Substances Used in Organic Production and Processing.~~

7.5. Cleaning, Disinfecting, and Sanitizing ~~Food and Food~~ Processing Facilities

Principles applied

~~Organic processing produces high-quality products under hygienic conditions while preventing significant risks and protecting the environment.~~

~~Organic processing is conducted in a precautionary and responsible manner to protect the health and well being of current and future generations and the environment.~~

~~The objective is to maintain the organic integrity and safety of the product while producing hygienically safe food products and minimizing the negative impact of cleaning and sanitation on the product and the environment.~~

Standards must require that:

7.5.1. Management systems for cleaning and disinfecting surfaces, machinery and processing facilities are in place.

7.5.2. ~~Measures are taken to protect the organic integrity. Contamination of the product organic products by preventing contamination from pollutants and cleaning, disinfecting and sanitizing substances is prevented.~~

~~7.5.3. Measures are taken to ensure high hygiene quality of the products.~~
7.5.3. Only water and substances not deleterious to organic food can be used in direct contact with organic produce after harvest as cleaners or disinfectants. All other substances are only allowed if legally required. Where there is a risk that cleaning disinfecting and sanitizing substances may come in contact with the organic product only water and substances that appear on the IFOAM Indicative List of Substances for Organic Production and Processing or comply with the IFOAM Criteria for the Evaluation of Substances Used in Organic Production and Processing are used.

Mandatory practices

7.5.5. ~~Substances used to clean, disinfect and sanitize food handling equipment must be clearly separated from those applied directly to food.~~

7.5.6. ~~Flushing, or a similar intervening event, must be applied after the use of any cleaner, sanitizer or disinfectant before organic products can be allowed to come into contact with any surface or equipment.~~

Prohibited practices

~~None specified.~~

7.6. Pest and Disease Control

Principle applied

~~Pests and diseases are controlled in ways that avoid adverse health and environmental effects. Organic processing is conducted in a precautionary and responsible manner to protect the health and well-being of current and future generations and the environment.~~

~~The objective is to protect organic products from pests and diseases by using proper cleaning, sanitation and hygiene while upholding organic product integrity and without compromising the health of humans and the environment and while upholding organic integrity.~~

Standards must require that:

- ~~7.6.1. Pests are managed according to a hierarchy of practices starting with prevention, and then with physical, mechanical and biological methods and substances on the IFOAM Indicative List of Substances for Organic Production and Processing or that comply with the IFOAM Criteria for the Evaluation of Substances Used in Organic Production and Processing.~~
- ~~7.6.2. Before any pest or disease control is undertaken the implications of its use on the ecology is considered and issues arising are addressed.~~
- ~~7.6.3. Processing facilities are designed in such a way that pest infestation is avoided.~~
- ~~7.6.2. Where the practices in 7.6.1 are not effective, and other substances are used they must not do not come into contact with the organic product.~~
- ~~7.6.3. Measures are taken to protect organic products from being contaminated with pest control substances. In particular, procedures for ensuring the maintenance of the organic status of products must be in place where prohibited substances are used.~~

7.7. Textile Fiber Processing

Principle applied

~~Organic fiber is processed from organic raw materials in an environmentally sound way that takes into account the entire production cycle and the life cycle of the product. Organic fiber processing employs care, precaution and responsibility in management, development and technology choices.~~

~~The objectives is-are to ensure the manufacture of organic textiles does u upholds uphold the maintain organic integrity of the product, and protects the environment contribute to preventative human health and end-user well-being and minimize impact on the environment.~~

Standards must require that:

- ~~7.7.1. Whenever possible, organic-In fiber products are processed using only processing preference is given to mechanical, physical and/or microbiological methods.~~
 - ~~7.7.2. A management system is in place that ensures any effluents resulting from wet processing are properly treated before being released into to minimize the negative effects of textile processing on the environment.~~
 - ~~7.7.2.7.7.3. All chemical substances used in organic fiber processing are limited to the minimum quantity necessary to achieve the desired effect.~~
- All substances used meet the criteria for textile processing substances [on the IFOAM](#)

Indicative List of Substances for Organic Production and Processing or that comply with the 7.7.4. IFOAM Criteria for the Evaluation of Substances Used in Organic Production and Processing, in Section C and must be on the standards setting body's list of permitted substances.

~~7.7.4. Recycling of wet treatment baths is allowed only when it leads to environmental or economic advantages.~~

~~7.7.5.7.7.4. Contamination of the organic fiber in the processing chain must be is prevented.~~

~~7.7.6. The use of treatment baths that have been in contact with non-organic fiber products is allowed only when not using them leads to environmental or economic disadvantages. In this case the standard must require that provisions be taken in order to avoid mixing of conventional raw materials with the organic ones.~~

~~7.7.7. Any allowance of sodium hydroxide for mercerizing must be accompanied by requirements for recycling and establish a recovery rate.~~

~~1.3.28.7.7.5. The use of processing aids must be is accompanied by requirements for recycling and an established recovery rate.~~

~~7.7.9. Only printing methods dyes based on water or natural oils are permitted.~~

~~7.7.10. Fiber processing must comply with sections 7.1, 7.5 and 7.6.~~

~~7.7.11. Labeling of textiles shall comply with the requirements of Chapter 8 "Labeling."~~

Mandatory practices

~~7.7.12. An environmental plan for improving the environmental performance of the production unit must be in place and complied with.~~

~~7.7.13. Color residues shall be recycled or disposed of in a safe way.~~

Prohibited practices

~~7.7.14. Use of chlorine and perborate for bleaching.~~

~~7.7.15. The use of aromatic solvents.~~

8. Labeling

Principles Principle applied

~~Organic agriculture should ensure ensures fairness at all levels and to all parties, including— consumers— through transparency in the product chain.~~

~~Appropriate labeling of organically produced products provides transparency, develops consumers' trust and helps to define and~~

~~**The objectives is are** to clearly identify ensure that organic products are clearly identified, to provide relevant information in order for consumers to make informed, conscious choices and to avoid misleading them.~~

Standards must require that:

~~8.1.1. Any item Products labeled as "product of organic agriculture" or "in-conversion", or an equivalent protected term (e.g. biologic or ecological), fully complies comply with the applicable organic standards.~~

~~8.1.2. Labels contain information that ensures traceability in the organic product chain and provides full disclosure of ingredients and including whether or not they are organic.~~

~~8.2. Where non-organic products and ingredients are used they must be clearly identified as such.~~

~~8.1.3. Labels must identify the following:~~

- ~~• the person or company legally responsible for the product~~
- ~~• the body responsible for the organic certification that assures conformity to the applicable organic standard.~~

~~8.1.4. Processed products are categorized into three groups (defined below) and labeled accordingly according to the following minimum requirements:~~

- ~~a. Where 95 to 100% of the ingredients -(by weight) are organic. These products, the product may be labeled as “organic”.~~
- ~~b. LessWhere less than 95% but morenot less than 70% of the ingredients (by weight) are organic. These products, these product cannot be labeled as “organic”, but phrases such as “made with organic ingredients” can be used, provided the proportion of organic ingredients is clearly stated.~~
- ~~c. LessWhere less than 70% of the ingredients (by weight) are organic. These products, the product cannot be labeled as “organic”, but individual ingredients may be called “organic” in the ingredients list.~~

Notes on calculating percentages:

- Water and salt are not included in the percentage calculations of organic ingredients.
- For textiles the percentages refer to the total weight of the fibers and do not include the weight of the non-textile accessories such as buttons and zippers.

~~8.3. Any reference to GMOs on labels must be limited to stating that the production and processing methods themselves have not used GMOs.~~

~~8.2. Labels for in-conversion products or similar terms are clearly distinguishable from labels for organic products.~~

Mandatory practices

~~8.4. Including on the label~~

- ~~• the identity of the person or company legally responsible for the product~~
- ~~• the identity of the control body responsible for the organic certification.~~
- ~~• the origin of the raw material.~~

Prohibited operator practices

~~8.5. Labeling products as “GMO-free” or equivalent claims.~~

9. Social Justice

Principles applied

Organic agriculture builds on relationships that ensure fairness with regard to the common environment and life opportunities of employees and workers.

~~The objective is to achieve a social environment of fairness, safety, equity, respect and justice for all participants of in organic product chains; ensuring equal opportunities, and avoiding discrimination and addressing situations of risk and real social costs.~~

The objective is to achieve fairness, respect and justice, equal opportunities and non-discrimination for employees and workers.

Standards must require that:

~~9.1.~~

- 9.1. In countries ~~with nowhere~~ social legislation ~~is absent or not enforced~~, organic operations have a social policy ~~set in place~~ that is ~~at least compliant with the Convention of the International Labor Organization and other relevant international law. in accordance with the International Labor Organization's Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work~~
- 9.2. Employees and contracted workers have the freedom to associate, the right to organize and the right to bargain collectively.
- 9.3. ~~All employees and workers — regardless of any criteria, e.g. gender, sexual preference, race or creed — enjoy equal opportunities and non-discriminating treatment. All E~~employees and contractersed workers have equal opportunities and are not subject to discrimination.
- 9.4. Employees and contracted workers are guaranteed ~~basic~~ human rights and fair working conditions.

Mandatory practices

~~None specified.~~

Prohibited operator practices

- ~~9.6. — Any production based on the violation of basic human rights and clear cases of social injustice.~~
- 9.5. ~~Any~~ Using any type of forced or involuntary labor.
- 9.6. ~~Child~~ Using child labor without guaranteeing the child's integral well-being.

Section C - Criteria for the Evaluation of Substances Used in Organic Production and Processing

Download The IFOAM Indicative List of Substances for Organic Production and Processing here:

[http://www.ifoam.org/about_ifoam/standards/OGS_Revision/20071013_Substance Lists.pdf](http://www.ifoam.org/about_ifoam/standards/OGS_Revision/20071013_Substance_Lists.pdf)

Introduction

Substances used in organic production, processing and handling must be consistent with the Principles of Organic Agriculture. ~~The Principle of Care states that precaution~~ Precaution and responsibility are the key concerns in management, development and technology choices in organic agriculture, ~~processing and handling.~~

Standard setting bodies ~~must~~ shall at minimum use the following criteria, ~~which are based upon a precautionary approach, as minimum conditions (requirements?)~~ when evaluating substances for inclusion in their standards.

General Criteria

All substances used in organic production and processing must meet ~~all of the~~ following general criteria; and be evaluated as a whole in order to protect the integrity of organic production and processing.

- i) use of the substance is consistent with ~~principles of organic agriculture as outlined in the IBS, the Principles of Organic Agriculture~~
- ii) the substance is necessary/essential for ~~its~~ intended use.
- iii) approved alternatives are not available in sufficient quantity and/or quality
- iv) manufacture, use and disposal of the substance does not result in, or contribute to, harmful effects on the environment.
- v) ~~they have~~ The substance has the lowest negative impact on human or animal health or the environment and quality of life; when compared to alternative substances.
- vi) the consumer ~~shall~~ is not ~~be~~ deceived concerning the nature and quality of the substance;
- ~~vi) the substance is not known to be incompatible with consumer expectations in the region where the standard is applied.~~
- vii) consideration ~~may be~~ is given to social and economic impacts of sourcing and manufacturing the substance

In addition, the following criteria must be applied in the evaluation process:

- a) if the substance is used for fertilization and/or soil conditioning purposes:
 - it is essential for obtaining or maintaining the fertility of the soil or to fulfill specific nutritional requirements of crops, or specific soil-conditioning and rotation purposes which cannot be satisfied by other relevant parts of the IBS.
 - the ingredients are of plant, animal, microbial, biological or mineral origin and may have undergone the following processes: physical (e.g., mechanical, thermal), enzymatic, microbial (e.g., composting, fermentation);
 - ~~In exceptional circumstances chemically synthesized substances may be considered.~~
 - Synthetic nature identical products that are not available in sufficient quantity and quality in their natural form maybe allowed provided all other criteria are satisfied.
 - use does not have a harmful impact on the balance of the soil ecosystem or the physical characteristics of the soil, or water and air quality.
 - use may be restricted to specific conditions, specific regions or specific

commodities.

b) if the substance is used for plant protection, growth regulation or weed control:

- it must be essential for the control of a harmful organism or a particular disease for which other biological, physical, or plant breeding alternatives and/or other management practices consistent with this IBS are not effective.
- ~~account must be taken of~~ it has the potential/least harmful impact (compared to alternatives) on the environment, the ecology/ ecological balance (in particular non-target organisms) and the health of consumers human, livestock, aquatic animals and bees.
- substances must be of plant, animal, microbial, biological or mineral origin and may undergo the following processes: physical (e.g. mechanical, thermal), enzymatic, microbial (e.g. composting, digestion);
 - synthetic substances may be used by exception such as the use in traps or dispensers, or substances that do not come into direct contact with edible produce, or those for which no natural or nature identical alternative is available provided that all other criteria are met.
- ~~however, if in exceptional circumstances, a chemically synthesized substance (such as a pheromone) is used in traps and dispensers, then it may be considered for addition to lists; but only if the substance is not available in sufficient quantities in its natural form, and provided that the conditions for use do not directly or indirectly result in the presence of residues of the substance in the edible plant parts;~~
- use may be restricted to specific target organisms, conditions, specific regions or specific commodities;

c) if the substance is used as an additive and/or processing aid in the preparation or preservation of the product:

- it must otherwise be impossible to produce or preserve the product
- the substance is found in nature, and may have undergone mechanical/physical processes (e.g. extraction, precipitation), biological/enzymatic processes and microbial processes (e.g. fermentation).
 - ~~In exceptional circumstances chemically synthesized substances may be considered.~~
 - Synthetic nature identical products that are not available in sufficient quantity and quality in their natural form maybe allowed provided all other criteria are satisfied.
- ~~use of the substance does not compromise the authenticity of the product or detract from its overall quality.~~
- In the case of textile processing, the relevant criteria above are applied, and in addition
 - The substance may be allowed only if it is biodegradable into non-toxic metabolites, generally recognized as safe and hypoallergenic hypoallergenic
 - The substance shall be prohibited if it is carcinogenic, mutagenic, teratogenic, endocrine disrupting or ~~toxic~~ generally recognized to present a risk to human health.
 - ~~Use of pigments~~ Pigments or ~~mordant smordants~~ mordant smordants containing heavy metals ~~in excess of a specified amount defined by the standard~~ are not allowed restricted.
 - Additives and processing aids including sizes and lubricants must be either organic or biodegradable.

- ~~The use of non-~~Non-biodegradable, bio-accumulating ~~input~~ products and heavy metals shall be prohibited.inputs are restricted.