

DQS Polska sp. z o. o.**Description of the certification process and production rules in organic farming at DQS Polska sp. z o. o.****Scope of the document**

1. Requirements
2. Description of the certification process in organic farming
3. Principles of production in organic farming

1. Requirements

These **rules** have been developed based on the requirements of **REGULATION (EU) 2018/848 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL** of 30 May 2018 on organic production and labelling of organic products and repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 834/2007. The requirements set out in this document are included in the content of this document.

In accordance with the requirements on organic production and labelling of organic products based on **REGULATION (EU) 2018/848 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL** of 30 May 2018 on organic production and labelling of organic products and repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 834/2007, we provide information on production requirements in the further part of this document (EU) 2018/848.

Based on the requirements of Regulation (EU) 2018/848, **principles of organic production and rules on organic production**, related certification, the use of indications referring to organic production in labelling and advertising materials, as well as rules on additional controls to those laid down in Regulation (EU) 2017/625, are established.

Scope of application

Regulation (EU) 2018/848 applies to the following products of agricultural origin, including products of aquaculture and beekeeping, listed in Annex I to the TFEU, and to products derived from such products, where those products are or are intended to be produced, prepared, labelled, distributed, placed on the market or imported into or exported from the Union:

Scope of national ecological certification:

LP	Product categories:
AND	Unprocessed plants and plant products, including seeds and other plant reproductive material
B	Farm animals and unprocessed animal products
D	Processed agricultural products, including aquaculture products, for use as food
E	Forage
F	Wine
G	Other products listed in Annex I to Regulation (EU) 2018/848 or not covered by the previous categories

Scope of third-country organic certification

AND	Unprocessed plants and plant products, including seeds and other plant propagating material (scope not applicable to India)
B	Farm animals and unprocessed animal products
D	Processed agricultural products, including aquaculture products, for use as food
G	Other products listed in Annex I to Regulation (EU) 2018/848 or not covered by the previous categories

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The Regulation also applies to certain other products closely related to agriculture listed in Annex I to this Regulation which are or are intended to be produced, prepared, labelled, distributed, placed on the market, imported into or exported from the Union.

The Regulation applies to any entity participating in activities, at any stage of production, preparation and distribution, relating to the products referred to in paragraph 1.

Mass catering provided by mass caterers as defined in point (d) of Article 2(2) of Regulation (EU) No 1169/2011 shall not be subject to this Regulation, except as set out in this paragraph.

Member States may apply national rules or, in their absence, private standards for the production, labeling, and control of products originating from mass catering operations. The European Union organic production logo shall not be used in the labeling, presentation, or advertising of such products, and shall not be used to advertise a mass caterer.

Unless otherwise specified, this Regulation shall apply without prejudice to related Union legislation, in particular legislation in the areas of food chain safety, animal health and welfare, plant health and plant reproductive material.

This Regulation applies without prejudice to other specific Union acts relating to the placing of products on the market, in particular Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council (1) and Regulation (EU) No 1169/2011.

Detailed **definitions** can be found in **Regulation (EU) 2018/848** , Article 3.

The full requirements for organic production are set out in **Regulation (EU) 2018/848** and in the **implementing and delegated documents** to this Regulation.

The Commission is empowered to adopt delegated acts in accordance with Article 54 to amend the list of products set out in **Annex I** by adding further products to the list or by amending those additions. Only products closely related to agricultural products shall be eligible for inclusion in that list.

The scope of the applicable production rules can be found in **Regulation (EU) 2018/848 Annex II** and is given in this document.

When applying for organic production certification, the requirements of Regulation (EU) 2018/848 and applicable documents must be met .

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2. Description of the certification process in organic farming

Step 1 - Application

- a) Download the application from the DQS Polska website or send a query to DQS Polska at: ecology@dqs.pl – our website offers various applications depending on the manufacturer's needs - please select the appropriate application
- b) Completed application form (completely), signed and, depending on requirements, with attached documents documents, should be sent to the address DQS Polska: ecology@dqs.pl

Step 2 – Application Review

- a. Application Review - The application will be reviewed. As a result of the application review, the applicant may be asked to provide further explanation and evidence.
- b. DQS Polska will prepare a certification agreement and after it is signed and sent to DQS Polska, an on-site inspection will be scheduled.
- c. The agreement specifies the requirements for the entity and the requirements of DQS Polska. This includes certification rules regarding the entity's requirements, e.g., suspension, withdrawal, or limitation of certification.

Step 3 - Execution of the contract

- a. DQS Polska will agree on a date convenient for the entity for the on-site inspection.
- b. The entity will receive an inspection plan with the scope and individual inspection steps.
- c. A DQS Polska inspector will conduct inspections within the scope and location of certification applications. Each inspection is conducted at the site where organic farming production is conducted.
- d. During the inspection, the inspector makes an assessment based on interviews with participants in the production process, assessment of production activities, and assessment of documents and records of the activities conducted.
- e. During the assessment, a product sample may be taken for testing, the decision on the need to take a sample is made by DQS Polska sp. z o. o.
- f. The result of the assessment is a report with indications, if any, of the areas requiring introducing further measures.
- g. The inspection ends with a closing meeting at which the inspector will inform the entity of the preliminary results of the inspection.

Step 4 - Post-Assessment Review

- a. The inspection result, report, information, evidence and records are subjected to an independent compliance assessment (in accordance with the four-eyes principle) by a person not involved in the process.
- b. The result of the review is a decision regarding a certification recommendation, which is dependent on whether the entity meets the certification requirements.

Step 5 - Certification Decision

- a. A positive result of the conformity assessment results in the issuance of a certificate.
- b. The entity is informed of the result of the conformity assessment.

Step 6 - Issuing a certificate

- a. The entity receives a certificate of compliance electronically.
- b. The issued certificate is valid for 12-18 months.

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- c. Certificates issued by DQS Polska sp. z o. o. are available on the DQS website: dqs.pl/CertListEU.php
- d. Certificates issued in national certification and third countries are available on the European Commission website: [Certificate for an organic operator - TRACES NT \(europa.eu\)](https://ec.europa.eu/euro-organic/certificates/certificate-for-an-organic-operator-traces-nt)

Step 7 - Further actions to maintain certification continuity

- a. At least once every 12 months, another inspection is carried out in the scope and location of the business activity – the purpose of the inspection is to assess and confirm compliance with the implemented certification requirements.
- b. Depending on the assessment of compliance with the requirements and the scope of certification, DQS Poland may carry out additional announced and unannounced inspections in accordance with the requirements of Regulation (EU) 2018/848.

Step 8 - Catalog of measures in case of irregularities and violations of the rules

If a producer or producer group is found to have committed irregularities or breaches of the rules of Regulation (EU) 2018/848 on organic farming, as contained in the inspection report or resulting from investigations and compliance assessments, sanctions are applied.

Sanctions are imposed by the Director of DQS Polska at the request of a substantive employee. The entity is obligated to initiate, implement, and demonstrate the actions taken to correct the deficiencies. The detailed scope of sanctions is provided in the DQS Polska document: [Catalog of Measures](https://www.dqsglobal.com/pl/o-nas/akredytacja-i-powiedziamianie/dokumentacja-certyfikacji-zgodnosci-procesow-produkcji-ekologicznej/bio-dqs-control-measures), available on our website (<https://www.dqsglobal.com/pl/o-nas/akredytacja-i-powiedziamianie/dokumentacja-certyfikacji-zgodnosci-procesow-produkcji-ekologicznej/bio-dqs-control-measures>).

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3. Principles of production in organic farming in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2018/848

General principles of organic production

Part I: Crop Production Regulations

Part II: Animal Production Regulations

Part III: Regulations on the production of algae and aquaculture animals – not applicable

Part IV: Regulations on the production of processed food

Part V: Regulations on the production of processed feed

Part VI: Wine – not applicable to third countries

Part VII: Yeasts used for food or feed

Part VIII: Other Products, in accordance with Annex I of Regulation (EU) 2018/848 – are closely related to agricultural products.

General principles of ecological production

The general principles are set out in **Article 5** and include:

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

- a) respecting natural systems and cycles and maintaining and improving the state of soil, water and air, the health of plants and animals and the balance between them;
- b) protection of natural landscape elements, such as natural heritage sites;
- c) using energy and natural resources such as water, soil, organic matter and air responsibly;
- (d) the production of a wide range of high-quality food and other agricultural and aquaculture products that meet consumer demand for goods produced using processes that do not pose a risk to the environment, human health, plant health or animal health and welfare;
- e) ensuring the integrity of organic production at all stages of production, preparation and distribution of food and feed;
- f) appropriate design and management of biological processes based on ecological systems and using natural resources that are internal to the management system using methods that:
 - (i) use living organisms and mechanical production methods;
 - (ii) involve the cultivation of crops in connection with the soil and the production of livestock in connection with agricultural land or the conduct of aquaculture consistent with the principle of sustainable use of water resources;
 - (iii) exclude the use of GMOs, products produced from GMOs and products produced by GMOs other than veterinary medicinal products;
 - (iv) are based on risk assessment and the application of precautionary and preventive measures where appropriate;
- (g) limiting the use of external inputs, where external inputs are required or appropriate management practices and methods as referred to in point (f) do not exist, external inputs shall be limited to:

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- (i) inputs from organic production, in the case of plant reproductive material, preference shall be given to varieties selected for their capacity to meet the specific needs and objectives of organic farming;
- (ii) natural substances or substances derived therefrom;
- (iii) slowly soluble mineral fertilizers;
- (h) adapting the production process, where necessary and within the framework of this Regulation, to take into account sanitary conditions, regional differences in ecological balance, climate and local conditions, stages of development and specific husbandry practices;
- i) exclusion from the entire ecological food chain of animal cloning, the breeding of artificially bred polyploid animals and ionizing radiation;
- j) ensuring a high level of animal welfare, taking into account species-specific needs.

Article 6 sets out **detailed rules applicable to agricultural and aquaculture activities.**

With regard to agricultural and aquaculture activities, organic production is based in particular on the following specific principles:

- a) maintaining and improving soil life and natural soil fertility, soil stability, soil water retention potential and soil biodiversity, preventing and combating soil loss of organic matter, soil compaction and erosion, and providing plant nutrition primarily through the soil ecosystem;
- b) minimizing the use of non-renewable resources and external inputs;
- c) recycling of waste and by-products of plant and animal origin as material in plant and animal production;
- (d) maintaining plant health by applying preventive measures, in particular the selection of appropriate species, varieties or heterogeneous material resistant to pests and diseases, appropriate crop rotation, mechanical and physical methods and the protection of natural enemies of pests;
- e) the use of seeds and animals characterized by high genetic diversity, disease resistance and longevity;
- (f) taking into account the properties of specific organic production systems when selecting plant varieties, in particular agronomic performance, disease resistance, adaptation to diverse local soil and climatic conditions and taking into account natural crossing barriers;
- (g) the use of organic plant reproductive material, such as plant reproductive material of organic heterogeneous material, and organic varieties suitable for organic production;
- h) production of organic varieties using natural reproductive abilities and focusing on maintaining natural crossing barriers;
- (i) without prejudice to Article 14 of Regulation (EC) No 2100/94 and to plant variety rights granted by Member States under national law, the possibility for farmers to use plant reproductive material obtained from their own holdings for the development of genetic resources adapted to the specific conditions of organic production;
- j) taking into account, when selecting animal breeds, a high degree of genetic diversity, the ability of animals to adapt to local conditions, their breeding value, longevity, vitality and resistance to diseases or health problems;
- k) conducting livestock production adapted to local conditions and linked to agricultural land;

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- (l) applying animal husbandry practices that strengthen the immune system and natural defences against diseases, including by ensuring regular exercise and access to open air areas and pastures;
- m) feeding farm animals with organic feed composed of ingredients of agricultural origin obtained in organic production and natural non-agricultural substances;
- n) production of organic products of animal origin from animals raised on organic farms throughout their lives from birth or hatching;
- o) maintaining the health of the aquatic environment and the quality of surrounding aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems in aquaculture production;
- (p) feeding aquatic organisms with feed from sustainable exploitation of fisheries resources in accordance with Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013 or with organic feed composed of agricultural ingredients from organic production, including organic aquaculture, and natural non-agricultural substances;
- q) avoiding any threats to protected species that might result from organic production.

Article 7 - Specific rules applicable to the processing of organic food

The production of organic processed food is based, in particular, on the following detailed principles:

- a) producing organic food from organic agricultural ingredients;
- (b) limiting the use of food additives, non-organic ingredients performing mainly technological and sensory functions, as well as trace elements and processing aids to a minimum and only in the event of an essential technological need or for specific nutritional purposes;
- c) exclusion of substances and processing methods that may be misleading as to the true nature of the product;
- d) careful processing of organic food, preferably using biological, mechanical and physical methods;
- (e) exclusion of food containing or consisting of engineered nanomaterials.

Article 8 - Specific rules applicable to the processing of organic feed

The production of processed organic feed is based in particular on the following detailed principles:

- a) producing organic feed from organic feed materials;
- (b) limiting the use of feed additives and processing aids to a minimum and only in case of an essential technological or zootechnical need or for specific nutritional purposes;
- c) exclusion of substances and processing methods that may be misleading as to the true nature of the product;
- d) careful processing of organic feed, preferably using biological, mechanical and physical methods.

The provisions relating to the individual rules are set out in Annex II of Regulation (EU) 2018/848 and specify:

DETAILED PRODUCTION RULES REFERRED TO IN CHAPTER III of Regulation (EU) 2018/848.

Part I: Crop Production Regulations

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In addition to the production rules laid down in Articles 9 to 12, the rules laid down in this Part shall apply to organic plant production.

1. General requirements

1.1 Organic crops, with the exception of those growing naturally in water, are produced in living soil or living soil mixed with or fertilized with materials and products permitted in organic production in conjunction with subsoil and bedrock.

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

1.3 By way of derogation from point 1.1, the following practices are permitted:

(a) the production of sprouted seeds, including sprouts, shoots and cress, drawing exclusively on the nutritional reserves available in the seeds, by wetting them in clean water, provided that the seeds are organic. The use of a growing medium is prohibited, with the exception of an inert medium intended solely to keep the seeds moist, where the components of that inert medium are authorised in accordance with Article 24;

(b) obtaining chicory heads, including by dipping them in clean water, provided that the plant reproductive material is organic. The use of growing medium is permitted only if its components are authorised in accordance with Article 24.

1.4. By way of derogation from point 1.1, the following practices are permitted:

a) the cultivation of ornamental plants and herbs in pots to be sold to the final consumer together with the pot;

b) growing seedlings or seedlings in containers for further transplanting.

1.5. By way of derogation from point 1.1, soilless cultivation in raised beds is permitted only on areas that were certified as organic for this practice before 28 June 2017 in Finland, Sweden and Denmark. No enlargement of these areas is permitted.

This derogation expires on 31 December 2031.

By 31 December 2026, the Commission shall submit a report to the European Parliament and the Council on the use of soilless tillage in raised beds in organic farming.

This report may, if appropriate, be accompanied by a legislative proposal on soilless cultivation in raised beds in organic farming.

1.6. All plant production techniques used shall prevent or minimize the contribution to environmental pollution.

1.7. Conversion

1.7.1. For plants and plant products to be considered organic, the production rules laid down in this Regulation must have been applied on the parcels during the conversion period for a period of at least two years before sowing or, in the case of grassland or forage crops, for a period of at least two years before their use as organic feed or, in the case of perennial crops other than forage, for at least three years before the first harvest of organic products.

1.7.2. Where an area or one or more plots thereof have been contaminated with products or substances not authorized for use in organic production, the competent

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the authority may, with respect to a given area or given plots, decide to extend the conversion period beyond the period referred to in point 1.7.1,

1.7.3. In the case of treatments with a product or substance not authorized for use in organic production, the competent authority shall require a new conversion period in accordance with point 1.7.1.

This period may be shortened in the following two cases:

(a) in the case of treatment with a product or substance not authorised for use in organic production as part of a mandatory pest or weed control measure, including quarantine organisms or invasive species, which is required by the competent authority of the Member State concerned;

(b) in the case of treatments with a product or substance not authorised for use in organic production as part of a scientific study approved by the competent authority of the Member State concerned.

1.7.4. In the cases referred to in points 1.7.2 and 1.7.3, the length of the conversion period shall be determined taking into account the following requirements:

(a) the degradation process of the product or substance concerned must be such as to ensure, after the conversion period, that there are no significant residues in the soil and, in the case of perennial crops, in the plant;

b) products harvested after the treatments in question may not be placed on the market as organic products or as in-conversion products.

1.7.4.1. Member States shall inform the Commission and other Member States of any decision they take which establishes mandatory measures relating to the treatment with a product or substance not authorised for use in organic production.

1.7.4.2. In the case of treatment with a product or substance not authorized for use in organic production, point 1.7.5(b) shall not apply.

1.7.5. In the case of areas related to organic livestock production:

(a) the rules on conversion apply to the entire area of the production unit in which the animal feed is produced.

(b) notwithstanding point (a), the conversion period may be reduced to one year for pastures and open air areas used by non-herbivorous species.

1.8. Origin of plants, including plant reproductive material

1.8.1. Only organic plant reproductive material shall be used for the production of plants and plant products other than plant reproductive material.

1.8.2. In order to obtain organic plant reproductive material to be used for the production of products other than plant reproductive material, the mother plant and, where applicable, other plants intended for the production of plant reproductive material shall be produced in accordance with this Regulation for at least one generation, or, in the case of perennial crops, for at least one generation during two growing seasons.

1.8.3 When selecting organic plant reproductive material, operators shall give preference to organic plant reproductive material that is suitable for organic farming.

1.8.4. In the case of the production of organic varieties suitable for organic production, breeding work is carried out in organic conditions and is aimed at increasing genetic diversity, based on natural yield, as well as agronomic efficiency, disease resistance, and adaptation to diverse local soil and climatic conditions.

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All propagation practices except those based on plant meristems are subject to certified organic management.

1.8.5. Use of in-conversion and non-organic plant reproductive material

1.8.5.1. By way of derogation from point 1.8.1, where the data collected in the database referred to in Article 26(1) or the systems referred to in Article 26(2) demonstrate that the qualitative and/or quantitative needs of an operator in relation to suitable organic plant reproductive material are not met, the operator may use in-conversion plant reproductive material in accordance with point (a) of the second subparagraph of Article 10(4) or plant reproductive material authorised in accordance with point 1.8.6.

In addition, where organic seedlings are not available, 'in-conversion seedlings' placed on the market in accordance with point (a) of the second subparagraph of Article 10(4) may be used if they are grown as follows:

- (a) in a growing cycle from seed to final seedling of at least 12 months on an agricultural parcel which, during the same period, underwent a conversion period of at least 12 months; or
- (b) on an organic or in-conversion agricultural parcel or in containers, provided that they were covered by the derogation referred to in point 1.4, provided that the seedlings come from in-conversion seeds harvested from plants grown on an agricultural parcel that has undergone a conversion period of at least 12 months.

Where organic or in-conversion plant reproductive material or plant reproductive material authorised in accordance with point 1.8.6 is not available in sufficient quality or quantity to meet the needs of the operator, competent authorities may authorise the use of non-organic plant reproductive material, subject to points 1.8.5.3 to 1.8.5.8.

Such an individual permit shall only be issued in one of the following situations:

- (a) if no variety of the species that the operator wishes to obtain is registered in the database referred to in Article 26(1) or the system referred to in Article 26(2);
- (b) if no operator who places plant reproductive material on the market is able to supply suitable organic plant reproductive material or in-conversion plant reproductive material or plant reproductive material authorised in accordance with point 1.8.6 in time to allow for sowing or planting, provided that the user has ordered the plant reproductive material within a reasonable time to allow for the preparation and delivery of the organic plant reproductive material or in-conversion plant reproductive material or plant reproductive material authorised in accordance with point 1.8.6;
- (c) if the variety that the operator wishes to obtain is not registered as organic or in-conversion plant reproductive material or plant reproductive material accepted in accordance with point 1.8.6 in the database referred to in Article 26(1) or in the schemes referred to in Article 26(2), and the operator can demonstrate that none of the registered alternative varieties of the same species is suitable, in particular in terms of agronomic and soil-climatic conditions and the necessary technological characteristics, for the production that is intended to be obtained;
- (d) where such material is justified for use in research, small-scale field trials, variety conservation or product innovation purposes after approval by the competent authority of the Member State concerned.

Before applying for such an authorisation, operators shall consult the database referred to in Article 26(1) or the systems referred to in Article 26(2) to verify whether suitable organic or in-conversion plant reproductive material or plant reproductive material authorised in accordance with point 1.8.6 is available and thus whether their application is justified.

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Where the requirements of Article 6(i) are met, operators may use both organic and in-conversion plant reproductive material obtained from their own holding, regardless of qualitative and quantitative availability in accordance with the database referred to in Article 26(1) or the system referred to in Article 26(2)(a).

1.8.5.2. By way of derogation from point 1.8.1, operators in third countries may use in-conversion plant reproductive material in accordance with point (a) of the second subparagraph of Article 10(4) or plant reproductive material authorised in accordance with point 1.8.6, if organic plant reproductive material is, for justified reasons, unavailable in sufficient quality or quantity in the territory of the third country where the operator is located.

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

Control authorities or control bodies recognised in accordance with Article 46(1) may authorise operators in third countries to use non-organic plant reproductive material in the organic production unit when organic or in-conversion plant reproductive material or plant reproductive material authorised in accordance with point 1.8.6 is not available in sufficient quality or quantity in the territory of the third country where the operator is located under the conditions laid down in points 1.8.5.3, 1.8.5.4, 1.8.5.5 and 1.8.5.8.

1.8.5.3. Non-organic plant reproductive material shall not be treated after harvest with plant protection products other than those authorised for the treatment of plant reproductive material in accordance with Article 24(1) of this Regulation, unless chemical treatment is recommended in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2016/2031 for phytosanitary purposes by the competent authorities of the Member State concerned for all varieties and heterogeneous material of a given species in the area where the plant reproductive material is to be used.

Where non-organic plant reproductive material subjected to a recommended chemical treatment as referred to in the first subparagraph is used, the plot on which the treated plant reproductive material is grown shall be subject, where applicable, to the conversion period provided for in points 1.7.3 and 1.7.4.

1.8.5.4. Permission to use non-organic plant reproductive material must be obtained before sowing or planting.

1.8.5.5. Permission to use non-organic plant reproductive material shall be granted to individual users on a one-off basis for one season, and the competent authorities, inspection body or entity responsible for granting such permission shall draw up a list of the quantities of permitted plant reproductive material.

1.8.5.6 The competent authorities of the Member States shall establish an official list of the species, subspecies or varieties (grouped where appropriate) for which it has been established that organic plant reproductive material or in-conversion plant reproductive material is available in sufficient quantity and for the relevant varieties in their territory. No authorisations shall be granted for the species, subspecies or varieties listed in that list in the territory of the Member State concerned in accordance with point 1.8.5.1, unless justified by one of the purposes referred to in point 1.8.5.1(d). If the quantity or quality of organic plant reproductive material or in-conversion plant reproductive material available for a given listed species, subspecies or variety appears to be insufficient or inappropriate due to exceptional circumstances, the competent authorities of the Member States may remove the species, subspecies or variety from the list.

The competent authorities of the Member States shall update their list annually and make it publicly available.

By 30 June each year, and for the first time by 30 June 2022, the competent authorities of the Member States shall communicate to the Commission and the other Member States a link to the website where the updated list is available. The Commission shall publish links to the national updated lists on a dedicated website.

1.8.5.7. By way of derogation from point 1.8.5.5, the competent authorities of the Member States may issue a general authorisation to all interested entities on an annual basis for the use of:

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(a) a given species or subspecies, unless the variety has been registered in the database referred to in Article 26(1) or the system referred to in Article 26(2)(a);

(b) a given variety, provided that the conditions set out in point 1.8.5.1(c) are met.

Where a general authorisation is used, operators shall keep records of the quantities used and the competent authority responsible for authorisation shall draw up a list of the quantities of non-organic plant reproductive material authorised.

The competent authorities of the Member States shall update annually and make publicly available their list of species, subspecies and varieties for which a general authorisation has been granted.

By 30 June each year, and for the first time by 30 June 2022, the competent authorities of the Member States shall communicate to the Commission and the other Member States a link to the website where the updated list is available. The Commission shall publish links to the national updated lists on a dedicated website.

1.8.5.8. The competent authorities shall not authorise the use of non-organic seedlings for seedlings of species whose cultivation cycle lasts one growing season, from transplanting the seedlings to the first harvest of the product.

1.8.6. Competent authorities or, where applicable, control bodies recognised in accordance with Article 46(1) may authorise operators producing plant reproductive material for use in organic production to use non-organic plant reproductive material where mother plants or, where applicable, other plants intended for the production of plant reproductive material and produced in accordance with point 1.8.2 are not available in sufficient quality or quantity, and to place such material on the market for use in organic production, provided that the following conditions are met:

(a) non-organic plant reproductive material shall not be treated after harvest with plant protection products other than those authorised in accordance with Article 24(1) of this Regulation, unless chemical treatment is recommended in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2016/2031 for phytosanitary purposes by the competent authorities of the Member State concerned for all varieties and heterogeneous material of a given species in the area where the plant reproductive material is to be used. Where non-organic plant reproductive material subjected to a recommended chemical treatment is used, the agricultural parcel on which the treated plant reproductive material is grown shall be subject, where applicable, to the conversion period provided for in points 1.7.3 and 1.7.4;

(b) the non-organic plant reproductive material used is not a seedling of species whose cultivation cycle lasts one growing season, from transplanting the seedlings to the first harvest of the product;

(c) the plant reproductive material is grown in accordance with all other relevant requirements for organic plant production;

(d) authorisation for the use of non-organic plant reproductive material shall be obtained before the material is sown or planted;

(e) the competent authorities, control authorities or certification bodies responsible for authorisation shall only grant authorisation to individual users for one season at a time and shall list the quantities of authorised plant reproductive material;

(f) by way of derogation from point (e), the competent authorities of the Member States may issue a general authorisation annually for the use of a given species, subspecies or variety of non-organic plant reproductive material and shall establish a publicly available list of the species, subspecies or varieties concerned and update it annually. In that case, those competent authorities shall specify the quantities of non-organic plant reproductive material authorised;

(g) authorisations granted in accordance with this subparagraph shall expire on 31 December 2036.

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By 30 June each year, and for the first time by 30 June 2023, the competent authorities of the Member States shall notify the Commission and the other Member States of the authorisations granted in accordance with the first subparagraph.

Operators who produce and place on the market plant reproductive material produced in accordance with the first subparagraph shall be allowed to make publicly available, on a voluntary basis, appropriate details on the availability of such plant reproductive material in the national systems established in accordance with Article 26(2).

Operators who choose to include such information shall ensure that this information is regularly updated and removed from national systems as soon as the plant reproductive material is no longer available. Where the general authorisation referred to in point (f) is invoked, operators shall record the quantities used.

1.9. Soil management and fertilization

1.9.1. In organic crop production, cultivation practices are used that maintain or increase soil organic matter, enhance soil stability and biodiversity, and prevent soil compaction and erosion.

1.9.2. Soil fertility and biological activity are maintained and increased: a)

with the exception of meadows and perennial forage crops – by applying

multiannual crop rotation, including the mandatory cultivation of legumes as a main or cover crop within the crop rotation and other green manure crops;

(b) in the case of greenhouses or perennial crops other than forage crops, by using short-term green manure crops and legumes, and by using plant diversity; and

c) in all cases – by using manure or organic matter, in both cases preferably composted, from organic production.

1.9.3. Where the nutritional needs of plants cannot be met by the measures provided for in points 1.9.1 and 1.9.2, only fertilisers and soil conditioners authorised for use in organic production pursuant to Article 24 may be used, only to the extent necessary. Operators shall keep records of the use of these products, including the date or dates of application of each product, the name of the product, the quantity used and the names of the crops and plots on which the products were used.

1.9.4. The total amount of livestock manure from farmed animals, as defined in Council Directive 91/676/EEC, applied on in-conversion and organic production units shall be such that the amount of nitrogen does not exceed 170 kg per year per hectare of utilised agricultural area. This limit applies only 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.

1.9.5. Farm operators may enter into written cooperation agreements for the spreading of excess manure from organic production units only with operators of other farms and enterprises that comply with the regulations on organic production. The maximum limit referred to in point 1.9.4 is calculated taking into account all organic production units involved in such cooperation.

1.9.6. To improve the overall condition of the soil or to improve the availability of nutrients in the soil or in crops, preparations of microorganisms can be used.

1.9.7. Appropriate plant-based preparations and microorganism preparations may be used to activate compost.

1.9.8. Mineral nitrogen fertilizers are not used.

1.9.9. Biodynamic preparations may be used.

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1.10. Protection against pests and weeds

1.10.1. Prevention of damage caused by pests and weeds consists primarily of protection through:

- their natural enemies,
- selection of species, varieties and heterogeneous material,
- crop rotation,
- cultivation techniques such as biofumigation, mechanical and physical methods, and
- thermal processes such as solarization and, in the case of crops under cover, shallow steam treatment of the soil (to a maximum depth of 10 cm).

1.10.2. Where plants cannot be adequately protected from pests by the measures provided for in point 1.10.1, or in the case of an identified risk to a crop, only products and substances authorised for use in organic production pursuant to Articles 9 and 24 may be used, and only to the extent necessary. **ym9** Operators shall keep records showing the necessity to use such products, including the date or dates of application of each product, the name of the product, the active substances it contains, the amount used and the crops and plots concerned, as well as the pests and diseases against which they should be used.

1.10.3. For products and substances used in traps or dispensers for products and substances other than pheromones, these traps or dispensers shall prevent the products and substances from entering the environment and from coming into contact with cultivated plants. All traps, including those containing pheromones, must be collected after use and then disposed of safely.

1.11. Products used for cleaning and disinfection

For cleaning and disinfection in plant production, only products authorised for use in organic production pursuant to Article 24 may be used. Operators shall maintain records of the use of these products, including the date or dates of each product's application, the name of the product, the active substances it contains and the place of such application.

1.12. Obligation to retain documentation

Operators shall maintain records of the plots concerned and the yields. In particular, operators shall maintain records of any other external measures applied to each plot and, where applicable, records of any derogations from production rules obtained in accordance with point 1.8.5.

1.13. Preparation of unprocessed products

Where preparation operations other than processing are carried out on plants, the general requirements laid down in Part IV, points 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 1.5 and 2.2.3 shall apply mutatis mutandis to such operations.

2. Detailed regulations regarding individual plants and plant products

2.1. Regulations on mushroom production

In the case of mushroom production, it is permissible to use substrates that contain only the following components:

- a) manure and animal excrements:
 - (i) either from organic production units or from units in their second year of conversion; or

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(ii) referred to in point 1.9.3, only when the product referred to in point (i) is not available and provided that the weight of that manure and animal excrements before composting does not exceed 25 % of the total weight of all components of the substrate, excluding the covering material and any added water;

- (b) products of agricultural origin other than those referred to in point (a) that come from organic production units;
- c) chemically untreated peat;
- d) wood not impregnated with chemicals after felling;
- e) mineral products referred to in point 1.9.3, water and soil.

2.2. Regulations on the collection of wild plants

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

- (a) those areas have not been treated, for a period of at least three years before the harvest, with products or substances other than those authorised for use in organic production pursuant to Articles 9 and 24;
- b) the collection does not affect the balance of the natural habitat or the maintenance of species in the collection area.

Operators shall maintain records of the time and place of collection, the species concerned and the quantity of wild plants collected.

Part II: Animal Production Regulations

In addition to the production rules laid down in Articles 9, 10, 11 and 14, the rules laid down in this Part shall apply to organic livestock production.

1. General requirements

1.1. Except in the case of beekeeping, landless livestock production is prohibited where the farmer intending to engage in organic livestock production neither manages agricultural land nor has entered into a written cooperation agreement with another farmer regarding the use of organic production units or in-conversion production units for these livestock.

Operators shall keep records of any derogations from the livestock production rules obtained in accordance with points 1.3.4.3, 1.3.4.4, 1.7.5, 1.7.8, 1.9.3.1(c) and 1.9.4.2(c).

1.2. Conversion

1.2.1. Where the conversion of a production unit, including pasturage or any land used for the production of animal feed, and animals existing on that production unit at the beginning of the conversion period of that production unit as referred to in points 1.7.1 and 1.7.5 (b) of Part I start at the same time, the animals and animal products may be deemed to be organic at the end of the conversion period of that production unit, even if the conversion period laid down in point 1.2.2 of this Part for the type of animal concerned is longer than the conversion period for the production unit.

By way of derogation from point 1.4.3.1, in the case of simultaneous conversion and during the conversion period of a production unit, the animals existing in that production unit since the beginning of the conversion period may be fed with in-conversion feed produced in the in-conversion production unit during the first year of conversion or with feed in accordance with point 1.4.3.1 or with organic feed.

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Non-organic animals may be introduced into the production unit in conversion after the start of the conversion period in accordance with point 1.3.4.

1.2.2. The specific conversion periods for the animal production lines are defined as follows:

- a) 12 months in the case of bovine animals and equidae intended for meat production, and in any case not less than three quarters of their lifetime;
- b) six months – in the case of sheep, goats and pigs and animals intended for milk production;
- c) 10 weeks – in the case of poultry intended for meat production, with the exception of Pekin ducks, introduced at the age of less than three days;
- d) seven weeks – in the case of Pekin ducks introduced at the age of less than three days;
- e) six weeks – in the case of poultry intended for egg production introduced at the age of less than three days;
- f) 12 months – in the case of bees.

During the conversion period, the wax should be replaced with wax from organic beekeeping.

However, non-organic beeswax can be used:

- (i) where wax from organic beekeeping is not available on the market;
 - (ii) where it has been proven free from contamination by products or substances not authorised for use in organic production; and
 - (iii) provided that it comes from bee cells;
- g) three months – in the case of rabbits;
 - h) 12 months – in the case of cervids.

1.3. Origin of animals

1.3.1 Without prejudice to the provisions on conversion, organic animals shall be born or hatched and reared in organic production units.

1.3.2. With regard to organic animal breeding:

- a) natural methods of reproduction are used; artificial insemination is permitted;
- (b) reproduction is not induced or inhibited by the administration of hormones or other substances having a similar effect, unless this is a form of veterinary treatment administered to an individual animal;
- (c) other forms of artificial reproduction, such as cloning and embryo transfer, are not used;
- d) When selecting breeds, their suitability for organic production and the ability to ensure high animal welfare are taken into account. Breed selection helps prevent any animal suffering and avoids the need for mutilation.

1.3.3. When selecting breeds or lines, priority should be given to breeds or lines with high genetic diversity, taking into account the animals' ability to adapt to local conditions, their breeding value, longevity, vitality, and resistance to disease or health problems without compromising their welfare. Furthermore, when selecting breeds or lines, consideration should be given to avoiding specific diseases or health problems associated with some breeds or lines used in intensive production, such as porcine stress syndrome, which can result in pale, soft, exudative meat (PSE), as well as sudden death, spontaneous abortion, and difficult births requiring cesarean section.

Preference should be given to native breeds and lines.

To select breeds and strains in accordance with the first subparagraph, operators shall use the information available in the systems referred to in Article 26(3).

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1.3.4. Use of non-organic animals

1.3.4.1. By way of derogation from point 1.3.1, for breeding purposes, animals that were non-organically reared may be brought into an organic production unit where the breeds concerned are in danger of being lost to farming as referred to in point (b) of Article 28(10) of Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013 and acts adopted on the basis thereof. In that case, the animals of those breeds need not necessarily be nulliparous.

1.3.4.2. By way of derogation from point 1.3.1, during the renovation of apiaries in an organic production unit, 20 % per year of the queen bees and bee colonies may be replaced by non-organic queen bees and colonies, provided that the queen bees and bee colonies are placed in hives with combs or comb foundations coming from organic production units. In any case, one colony or one queen bee may be replaced by a non-organic colony or queen bee once a year.

1.3.4.3. By way of derogation from point 1.3.1, when a flock is constituted for the first time, or is renewed or reconstituted, and where the qualitative and quantitative needs of farmers cannot be met, the competent authority may decide that non-organically reared poultry may be brought into an organic poultry production unit, provided that pullets intended for egg production and poultry intended for meat production are less than three days old. The products produced from them may only be considered organic if the conversion period laid down in point 1.2 is complied with.

1.3.4.4. By way of derogation from point 1.3.1, where the data collected under the system referred to in Article 26(2)(b) show that the qualitative or quantitative needs of the farmer as regards organic animals are not met, the competent authorities may authorise the introduction of non-organic animals into an organic production unit subject to the conditions provided for in points 1.3.4.4.1 to 1.3.4.4.4.

Before requesting such a derogation, the farmer shall check the data collected under the system referred to in Article 26(2)(b) to verify whether his request is justified.

In the case of operators in third countries, control authorities and control bodies recognised in accordance with Article 46(1) may authorise the introduction of non-organic animals into an organic production unit when organic animals are not available in sufficient quality or quantity in the territory of the country where the operator is located.

1.3.4.4.1. For breeding purposes, when a herd is first established, young non-organic mammals shall be reared in accordance with organic production principles immediately after weaning. In addition, from the day on which animals are introduced into the herd, the following restrictions apply:

- (a) the age of bovine animals, equines and cervids does not exceed six months;
- b) the age of sheep and goats does not exceed 60 days;
- c) the weight of pigs does not exceed 35 kg;
- d) the age of the rabbits does not exceed three months.

1.3.4.4.2. For breeding purposes, male and female nulliparous animals from non-organic herds may be introduced when restocking a herd. They are then reared in accordance with organic production regulations. Furthermore, the number of females is subject to the following annual restrictions:

- (a) a maximum of 10% of adult equidae or bovine animals and 20% of adult pigs, sheep, goats, rabbits or cervids may be introduced;
- (b) in the case of units with fewer than 10 equidae, cervids or bovine animals or rabbits, or fewer than five porcine, ovine or caprine animals, such renewal shall be limited to a maximum of one animal per year.

1.3.4.4.3. The percentages specified in point 1.3.4.4.2 may be increased to 40 % provided that the competent authority has confirmed that one of the following conditions is met:

- a) a significant enlargement of the farm was undertaken;

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- b) one race was replaced by another;
- c) a new specialization in livestock farming was developed.

1.3.4.4.4. In the cases referred to in points 1.3.4.4.1, 1.3.4.4.2 and 1.3.4.4.3, non-organic animals may be deemed as organic when the conversion period laid down in Part II, point 1.2 of this Annex is complied with. The conversion period laid down in point 1.2.2 shall start at the earliest when the animals are introduced into the production unit in conversion.

1.3.4.4.5. In the cases referred to in points 1.3.4.4.1 to 1.3.4.4.4, non-organic animals shall either be kept separate from other livestock or be identifiable before the end of the conversion period referred to in point 1.3.4.4.4.

1.3.4.5. Operators shall retain supporting documentation or documents, including the origin of animals, identification of animals in accordance with the relevant systems (individually or batch/flock/hive), veterinary records of animals introduced to the holding, date of arrival and conversion period.

1.4. Nutrition

1.4.1. General nutritional requirements

The following provisions apply to nutrition:

- (a) feed for farmed animals shall be obtained primarily from the agricultural holding where the animals are kept or from organic or in-conversion production units on other holdings in the same region;
- b) farm animals are fed organic feed or in-conversion feed that meets the animals' nutritional needs at various stages of their development. Restricted feeding is not permitted in livestock production unless justified for veterinary reasons;
- (c) keeping farm animals in conditions that may lead to anaemia, or feeding them a diet that may cause such an effect, is prohibited;
- d) fattening shall always be in accordance with the normal feeding patterns for each species and with animal welfare principles at every stage of the rearing process. Force-feeding of animals is prohibited;
- (e) with the exception of bees, pigs and poultry, farm animals shall have permanent access to pasture whenever conditions permit, or shall have permanent access to roughage;
- f) no growth stimulants or synthetic amino acids are used;
- (g) during the suckling period, animals shall be fed preferably on mother's milk for a minimum period to be determined by the Commission in accordance with Article 14(3)(a); during this period, milk replacers containing chemically synthesised ingredients or ingredients of plant origin shall not be used;
- (h) feed materials of plant, algae, animal or yeast origin must be organic;
- (i) non-organic feed materials of plant, algae, animal or yeast origin, feed materials of microbiological or mineral origin, feed additives and processing aids may only be used if they have been authorised for use in organic production pursuant to Article 24.

1.4.2. Grazing

1.4.2.1. Grazing on organic land

Without prejudice to point 1.4.2.2, organic animals are grazed on organic land. However, non-organic animals may use organic pastures for a limited period each year, provided that the animals have been reared in an environmentally friendly manner on

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areas supported under Articles 23, 25, 28, 30, 31 and 34 of Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013 and that they are not present on the organic land at the same time as organic animals.

1.4.2.2. Grazing on common land and during roundups

1.4.2.2.1. Organic animals may be grazed on common land provided that:

(a) no products or substances not authorised for use in organic production have been used on the common land for at least the last three years;

(b) non-organic animals using common land are reared in an environmentally friendly way in areas supported under Articles 23, 25, 28, 30, 31 and 34 of Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013;

(c) livestock products produced by organic animals when using common land shall not be considered as organic products unless adequate segregation from non-organic animals can be demonstrated.

1.4.2.2.2. During the roundup period, organic animals may graze on non-organic land while being driven from one pasture to another. During this period, organic animals are separated from other animals. Non-organic feed in the form of grass and other plants on which the animals graze is permitted:

(a) for a maximum period of 35 days, including both the journey to and from pasture; or

(b) in relation to a maximum of 10 % of the total annual feed ration calculated as a percentage of the dry matter of feed of agricultural origin.

1.4.3. Feed during the conversion period

1.4.3.1. For farms producing organic livestock:

(a) up to 25 % of the diet formula on average may consist of in-conversion feed from the second year of conversion. This percentage may be increased to 100 % if these in-conversion feeds come from the holding on which the animals are kept; and

(b) up to 20 % of the total average amount of feed fed to livestock may come from grazing or harvesting permanent pasture, perennial forage parcels or protein crops sown on land under organic management in its first year of conversion, provided that such land is part of the same holding.

Where both types of in-conversion feed referred to in points (a) and (b) are fed, the total combined percentage of such feeds shall not exceed the percentage laid down in point (a).

1.4.3.2. The numerical values contained in point 1.4.3.1 are calculated annually as a percentage of the dry matter of feed of plant origin.

1.4.4. Maintaining documentation regarding the feeding system

Operators shall maintain records of the feeding system and, where applicable, the grazing period. In particular, they shall maintain records of the name of the feed, including any form of feed used, e.g. compound feed, the proportion of different feed materials in the rations and the proportion of feed from their own farm or the same region and, where applicable, periods of access to pasture, transhumance periods where restrictions apply, and documents demonstrating the application of points 1.4.2 and 1.4.3.

1.5. Healthcare

1.5.1. Disease prevention

1.5.1.1. Disease prevention is based on the selection of breeds and strains, husbandry practices, the use of high-quality feed, the provision of opportunities for exercise, appropriate stocking density and adequate and suitable housing maintained in a hygienic condition.

1.5.1.2. The use of immunological veterinary medicinal products is permitted.

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1.5.1.3. The prophylactic use of chemically synthesized allopathic veterinary medicinal products, including antibiotics and boluses composed of chemically synthesized allopathic chemical molecules, is prohibited.

1.5.1.4. The use of growth or performance enhancers (including antibiotics, coccidiostats and other artificial growth promoters) and hormones and similar substances for the control of reproduction or for other purposes (e.g. induction or synchronization of oestrus) is prohibited.

1.5.1.5. When obtaining livestock from non-organic production units, special measures, such as screening tests or quarantine periods, shall be applied, as appropriate to local conditions.

1.5.1.6. With regard to cleaning and disinfection, only products for cleaning and disinfection of livestock buildings and facilities permitted for use in organic production pursuant to Article 24 may be used.

Operators shall maintain records of the use of these products, including the date or dates of use of the product, the name of the product, the active substances contained therein and the place of such use.

1.5.1.7. Housing, pens, equipment, and furnishings shall be properly cleaned and disinfected to prevent the spread of infections and the development of disease-carrying organisms. Excrement, urine, and uneaten or spilled feed shall be removed as often as necessary to minimize odor and avoid attracting insects or rodents. Rodenticides (traps only) and products and substances permitted for use in organic production under Articles 9 and 24 may be used to eliminate insects and other pests in buildings and other livestock facilities.

1.5.2. Veterinary care

1.5.2.1. If, despite the implementation of preventive measures to ensure animal health, animals become ill or injured, treatment must be commenced immediately.

1.5.2.2. Diseases shall be treated immediately to prevent animal suffering; if the use of herbal, homeopathic, and other remedies is inappropriate, chemically synthesized allopathic veterinary medicinal products, including antibiotics, may be used where necessary, under strict conditions, and under the responsibility of a veterinarian. In particular, restrictions on treatment cycles and withdrawal periods shall be defined.

1.5.2.3. Feed materials of mineral origin permitted for use in organic production pursuant to Article 24, nutritional additives permitted for use in organic production pursuant to Article 24, and phytotherapeutic and homeopathic products shall be given priority over treatment with chemically synthesised allopathic veterinary medicinal products, including antibiotics, provided that their therapeutic effect is effective for the animal species and the condition for which they are intended.

1.5.2.4. With the exception of vaccinations, treatments for parasitic diseases and other compulsory disease control programmes, where an animal or group of animals receives more than three courses of treatment with chemically synthesised allopathic veterinary medicinal products, including antibiotics, within a 12-month period or more than one course of treatment if their production cycle is less than one year, the livestock concerned or any products derived from them shall not be sold as organic products and the livestock shall undergo the conversion periods referred to in point 1.2.

1.5.2.5. The withdrawal period between the last administration of a chemically synthesised allopathic veterinary medicinal product, including antibiotics, to an animal under normal conditions of use and the production of organically produced products from that animal shall be twice the legal withdrawal period laid down in Article 11 of Directive 2001/82/EC and shall be at least 48 hours.

1.5.2.6. Treatments related to the protection of human and animal health required under EU regulations are permitted.

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1.5.2.7. Operators shall retain records or supporting documentation, including any treatment administered, in particular the identification of the animals treated, the date of treatment, the diagnosis, the dosage, the name of the medicinal product and, where applicable, the veterinary prescription for veterinary care and the withdrawal period applicable before placing on the market and labelling animal products as organic.

1.6. Premises and farming practices

1.6.1. Insulation, heating, and ventilation of buildings shall ensure that air circulation, dust levels, temperature, relative humidity, and gas concentrations are maintained within limits that ensure animal welfare. The building shall allow for sufficient natural ventilation and sufficient natural light.

1.6.2. Livestock housing is not mandatory in areas with suitable climatic conditions for keeping animals outdoors. In such cases, animals must have access to shelters or shaded areas to protect themselves from adverse weather conditions.

1.6.3. The density of farm animals in buildings ensures their comfort and well-being and meets their species-specific needs, which depend in particular on the species, breed, and age of the animals. The behavioral needs of the animals are also taken into account, which depend in particular on group size and gender. The density ensures the animals' well-being by providing them with sufficient space to stand naturally, move around, lie down easily, turn around, groom themselves, assume all natural postures, and perform all natural movements, such as stretching or wing flapping.

1.6.4. The minimum surface areas of premises and open runs, as well as the technical details concerning the premises laid down in the implementing acts referred to in Article 14(3), shall be complied with.

1.6.5. Open-air areas may be partially covered. Shelters are not considered open-air areas.

1.6.6. The total stocking density does not exceed the limit of 170 kg of organic nitrogen per year per hectare of agricultural land.

1.6.7. In order to determine the appropriate livestock density referred to in point 1.6.6, the competent authority shall establish the livestock units corresponding to the limit referred to in point 1.6.6, on the basis of the numerical values established in each of the specific requirements for the type of livestock production.

1.6.8. The use of cages, boxes and flat platforms is not permitted in the rearing of any animal species.

1.6.9. If a farm animal is kept alone for veterinary reasons, it must be kept on a solid surface and provided with a bedding area or other suitable bedding. The animal must be able to turn around freely and stretch to its full length.

1.6.10. Organic animals may not be kept in an enclosure located on very wet or marshy ground.

1.7. Animal welfare

1.7.1. All persons keeping animals and handling animals during transport and slaughter shall have the necessary basic knowledge and skills regarding the health and welfare needs of animals and shall have completed the appropriate training required in particular by Council Regulation (EC) No 1/2005 (1) and Council Regulation (EC) No 1099/2000 (2) to ensure the proper application of the rules set out in this Regulation.

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

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1.7.3. Livestock shall have permanent access to open-air areas allowing the animals to move freely, preferably pasture, whenever weather conditions, the season and the state of the ground allow, except for restrictions and obligations related to the protection of human and animal health imposed on the basis of Union legislation.

1.7.4. Livestock numbers shall be limited to minimise overgrazing, soil stripping, erosion and pollution caused by animals or by the spreading of manure.

1.7.5. Tethering or isolating livestock is prohibited, except for individual animals for limited periods and to the extent justified by veterinary reasons. Isolation of livestock may be permitted for limited periods only when worker safety is at risk or for animal welfare reasons. Competent authorities may authorize the tethering of cattle on holdings with a maximum of 50 animals (excluding young stock) if it is not possible to divide the animals into groups appropriate to their behavioural habits, provided they have access to pastures during the grazing period and have access to open-air runs at least twice a week when grazing is not possible.

1.7.6. The duration of the transport of farm animals shall be kept to a minimum.

1.7.7. All types of suffering, pain and distress shall be avoided and kept to a minimum throughout the animal's life, including at the time of slaughter.

1.7.8. Without prejudice to further amendments to Union legislation on animal welfare, tail-docking of sheep, beak trimming carried out in the first three days of life and dehorning may be exceptionally permitted only on a case-by-case basis where these practices improve the health, welfare or hygiene of the farmed animals or where workers' safety is at risk. Disbudding may only be permitted on a case-by-case basis where it improves the health, welfare or hygiene of the farmed animals or where workers' safety is at risk. The competent authority shall only allow the use of these procedures if the operator has declared and duly justified the need for them and they are carried out by qualified personnel. (1) 1.

Council Regulation (EC) No 1/2005 of 22 December 2004 on the protection of animals during transport and related operations and amending Directives 64/432/EEC and 93/119/EC and Regulation (EC) No 1255/97 (OJ L 3, 5.1.2005, p. 1). (2) 2. Council Regulation (EC) No 1099/2009 of 24 September 2009 on the protection of animals at the time of killing (OJ L 303, 18.11.2009, p. 1).

1.7.9 Any suffering of animals should be kept to a minimum by using appropriate anaesthesia or analgesia and using qualified personnel to carry out procedures, as well as performing procedures at the most appropriate age for the animal.

1.7.10. Physical castration is permitted in cases justified by maintaining product quality and traditional production practices, but only under the conditions set out in point 1.7.9.

1.7.11. Loading and unloading of animals is carried out without the use of coercion or any type of electrical or other painful stimulation. The use of allopathic sedatives, both before and during transport, is prohibited.

1.7.12. Operators shall retain records or supporting documentation including any specific measures taken and the justification for the application of points 1.7.5, 1.7.8, 1.7.9 or 1.7.10. For animals leaving the holding, the following data shall be recorded, where applicable: age, number of animals, weight of animals to be slaughtered, relevant identification (individually or batch/flock/hive), date of departure and place of destination.

1.8. Preparation of unprocessed products

Where preparation operations other than processing are carried out on farmed animals, the general requirements set out in Part IV, points 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 1.5 and 2.2.3 shall apply mutatis mutandis to such operations.

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1.9. Additional general provisions

1.9.1. For cattle, sheep, goats and equines 1.9.1.1. Nutrition

The following provisions apply to nutrition:

(a) at least 60 % of the feed shall come from the same farm or, where this is not possible or such feed is not available, shall be produced in cooperation with other organic or in-conversion production units and feed operators using feed and feed material from the same region.

This percentage will be increased to 70% from 1 January 2024;

(b) animals shall have access to pasture whenever conditions permit;

(c) notwithstanding point (b), bulls over one year of age shall be provided with access to pasture or open air areas;

(d) where animals have access to pastures during the grazing period and the winter housing system allows the animals to move freely, the obligation to provide open-air areas may be waived during the winter months;

(e) the rearing system is based on the maximum use of pastures, in accordance with their availability at different times of the year;

f) at least 60% of the dry matter of the daily ration should consist of roughage, green fodder, dried fodder or silage. For animals intended for milk production, the proportion of these feeds may be reduced to 50% for a maximum period of three months during early lactation.

1.9.1.2. Premises and husbandry practices

The following requirements apply to premises and farming practices:

a) the floor in the rooms is smooth but not slippery;

(b) the premises shall have a sufficiently comfortable, clean and dry area for lying or resting, with a solid construction without slats. The resting area shall have a spacious, dry lying area covered with litter. The litter shall consist of straw or other suitable natural material. The litter may be improved and enriched with any mineral products permitted as fertilizers or soil conditioners for use in organic production pursuant to Article 24;

(c) notwithstanding point (a) of the first subparagraph of Article 3(1) and the second subparagraph of Article 3(1) of Council Directive 2008/119/EC (1), the keeping of calves over one week old in individual boxes shall be prohibited, except for individual animals for a limited period and in so far as is necessary for veterinary reasons;

d) If a calf is kept alone for veterinary reasons, it shall be kept on a solid surface and provided with a bedding area. The calf must be able to turn around freely and stretch out to its full length.

1.9.2. Regarding Cervidae 1.9.2.1.

Nutrition

The following provisions apply to nutrition:

(a) at least 60 % of the feed shall come from the same farm or, where this is not possible or such feed is not available, shall be produced in cooperation with other organic or in-conversion production units and feed operators using feed and feed material from the same region.

This percentage will be increased to 70% from 1 January 2024.

(b) animals shall have access to pasture whenever conditions permit;

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(c) where animals have access to pastures during the grazing period and the winter housing system allows the animals to move freely, the obligation to provide open-air areas may be waived during the winter months;

(d) the rearing system shall be based on maximum use of pastures, in accordance with their availability throughout the year; (1) Council Directive 2008/119/EC of 18 December 2008 laying down minimum standards for the protection of calves (OJ L 10, 15.1.2009, p. 7).

e) at least 60% of the dry matter of the daily feed ration shall consist of roughage, green fodder, dried fodder or silage. For female cervids producing milk, the proportion of these feeds may be reduced to 50% for a maximum period of three months during early lactation;

f) during the vegetation period, the run must be able to graze naturally. The keeping of animals in runs that are unable to provide fodder for grazing is prohibited.;

g) supplementary feeding is only permitted in the event of insufficient grazing opportunities due to bad weather conditions;

h) Animals kept in runs must be provided with clean, fresh water. Where there is no readily available natural water source, watering areas must be provided.

1.9.2.2. Premises and husbandry practices

The following provisions apply to premises and farming practices:

a) cervids are provided with hiding places, shelters and fences that do not pose a threat to the animals;

b) in deer enclosures, the animals must be able to roll in mud, which allows them to clean their fur and regulate their body temperature;

c) the floor in all rooms is smooth but not slippery;

d) all rooms shall have a sufficiently large, comfortable, clean, and dry lying/resting area of solid construction without slats. The resting area shall have a spacious, dry lying area covered with litter. The litter shall consist of straw or other suitable natural material. The litter may be improved and enriched with any mineral products permitted under Article 24 as a fertilizer or soil conditioner for use in organic production;

e) feeding areas should be located in areas that are sheltered from the weather and accessible to both the animals and their caregivers. The ground near the feeding areas should be paved, and the feed rack must be covered;

(f) if continuous access to feed cannot be ensured, feeding places shall be designed so that all animals can feed simultaneously.

1.9.3. For pigs 1.9.3.1.

Nutrition

The following requirements apply to nutrition:

(a) at least 30 % of the feed shall come from the same farm or, where this is not possible or such feed is not available, shall be produced in cooperation with other organic or in-conversion production units and feed operators using feed and feed material from the same region;

b) bulk, green fodder, dried fodder or silage is added to the daily feed ration;

(c) where farmers cannot obtain protein feed exclusively from organic production and the competent authority has confirmed that organic protein feed is not available in sufficient quantity,

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Non-organic protein feed may be used until 31 December 2026 Ÿ provided that the following conditions are met:

- (i) it is not available in organic form;
- (ii) was manufactured or prepared without chemical solvents;
- (iii) its use is limited to feeding piglets weighing up to 35 kg with specific protein compounds; and
- (iv) the maximum permitted percentage over a 12-month period for these animals does not exceed 5%. The percentage of dry matter of feed of agricultural origin must be calculated.

1.9.3.2. Premises and husbandry practices

The following provisions apply to premises and farming practices:

- a) the floor in the rooms is smooth but not slippery;
- (b) the premises shall have a sufficiently comfortable, clean and dry area for lying or resting, with a solid construction without slats. The resting area shall have a spacious, dry lying area covered with litter. The litter shall consist of straw or other suitable natural material. The litter may be improved and enriched with any mineral products permitted as fertilizers or soil conditioners for use in organic production pursuant to Article 24;
- (c) there must always be provided a bed with bedding made of straw or other suitable material, large enough for all the pigs in the pen to lie down at the same time, so that each pig occupies as much space as possible;
- (d) sows shall be kept in groups, except in the final stages of pregnancy and during the suckling period, during which sows shall be able to move freely in their runs and their movement may only be restricted for short periods;
- (e) subject to additional requirements for straw, a few days before the expected date of farrowing, sows shall be provided with sufficient straw or other suitable natural material to enable them to build a nest;
- f) The runs allow pigs to relieve themselves and root. Various substrates can be used for rooting purposes.

1.9.4. In the case of poultry

1.9.4.1. Origin of animals

To avoid the use of intensive production methods, poultry are reared until they reach a minimum slaughter age or slow-growing poultry lines adapted to open-air farming are maintained.

The competent authority shall establish criteria for slow-growing lines or draw up a list of such lines and make this information available to operators, other Member States and the Commission.

If a farmer does not use slow-growing poultry lines, the following minimum slaughter age applies:

- a) 81 days for chickens;
- b) 150 days for capons;
- c) 49 days for Pekin ducks;
- d) 70 days for female Muscovy ducks;
- e) 84 days for male Muscovy ducks;
- f) 92 days for Mulard ducks;
- g) 94 days for guinea fowl;

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- (h) 140 days for male turkeys and roasting geese; and
- i) 100 days for female turkeys.

1.9.4.2. Nutrition

The following provisions apply to nutrition:

- (a) at least 30 % of the feed shall come from the farm itself or, where this is not possible or such feed is not available, shall be produced in cooperation with other organic or in-conversion production units and feed operators using feed and feed material from the same region;
- b) bulk, green fodder, dried fodder or silage is added to the daily feed ration;
- (c) where farmers are unable to obtain protein feed exclusively from organic production for poultry species and the competent authority has confirmed that organic protein feed is not available in sufficient quantity, non-organic protein feed may be used until 31 December 2026 provided that the following conditions are met:
 - (i) it is not available in organic form;
 - (ii) was manufactured or prepared without chemical solvents;
 - (iii) its use is limited to feeding young poultry with specific protein compounds; and
 - (iv) the maximum permitted percentage over a 12-month period for these animals does not exceed 5%. The percentage of dry matter of feed of agricultural origin must be calculated.

1.9.4.3. Animal welfare

Plucking live poultry is prohibited.

1.9.4.4. Premises and husbandry practices

The following requirements apply to premises and farming practices:

- (a) at least one third of the floor area is solid, i.e. not constructed of slats or grids, and is covered with a litter material such as straw, wood shavings, sand or peat;
- b) in laying hen houses there is a sufficiently large area available for the collection of droppings;
- (c) buildings shall be emptied of livestock before a new batch of poultry is introduced. During this time, buildings and equipment shall be cleaned and disinfected. In addition, after the rearing of each batch of poultry, runs shall be left empty for a period to be determined by the Member States to allow vegetation to regrow. The operator shall keep records or documentation to support the application of such period. These requirements shall not apply where poultry are not reared in batches, are not kept in runs and are allowed to move freely throughout the day;
- (d) poultry shall have access to open air areas for at least one third of their life. However, laying hens and poultry for slaughter shall have access to open air areas for at least one third of their life, except in the case of temporary restrictions imposed on the basis of Union legislation;
- (e) continuous access to open air is provided throughout the day from as early an age as possible and whenever physiological and physical conditions allow, except for temporary restrictions imposed on the basis of Union legislation;
- (f) by way of derogation from point 1.6.5, in the case of breeding birds and pullets less than 18 weeks old, where the conditions set out in point 1.7.3 are met with regard to restrictions and obligations related to the protection of human and animal health imposed on the basis of Union legislation and where, as a result, breeding birds and pullets less than 18 weeks old do not have access to open air areas, the sheds shall be considered as open air areas and in such cases shall be fenced with wire mesh separating them from other birds;

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- (g) open-air areas for poultry shall allow birds easy access to an adequate number of waterers;
- (h) open-air areas for poultry are mainly covered with vegetation;
- (i) where the availability of feed available in a given area is limited, for example due to long-term snow cover or drought, supplementary feeding of roughage shall be part of the poultry diet;
- (j) where poultry are kept indoors due to restrictions or obligations imposed on the basis of Union legislation, the birds shall have permanent access to sufficient quantities of roughage and appropriate material to satisfy their ethological needs;
- (k) waterfowl shall have access to a stream, pond, lake or pool whenever weather and hygiene conditions permit, so as to meet species-specific needs and animal welfare requirements; when weather conditions do not permit such access, water shall be available to enable them to dip their heads and clean their plumage;
- (l) natural light may be supplemented by artificial light so that the maximum lighting duration per day is 16 hours with an uninterrupted night rest period of at least eight hours without artificial light;
- m) the total usable area of poultry houses for slaughter in the production unit does not exceed 1 600 m²;
- n) no more than 3,000 laying hens are allowed in one room of the hen house.

1.9.5. For rabbits 1.9.5.1.

Nutrition

The following requirements apply to nutrition:

- (a) at least 70 % of the feed comes from the farm itself or, where this is not possible or such feed is not available, be produced in cooperation with other organic or in-conversion production units and feed operators using feed and feed material from the same region;
- b) rabbits shall have access to pasture whenever conditions permit;
- c) the management system is based on the maximum use of pastures, in accordance with their availability at particular times of the year;
- d) When grass is not available in sufficient quantity, fibrous feed such as straw or hay shall be provided. Forage plants shall constitute at least 60% of the diet.

1.9.5.2. Premises and husbandry practices

The following requirements apply to premises and farming practices:

- (a) the housing shall have a sufficiently comfortable, clean and dry lying/resting area of solid construction without slats. The resting area shall have a spacious, dry lying area covered with litter. The litter shall consist of straw or other suitable natural material. The litter may be improved and enriched with any mineral products permitted as fertilizers or soil conditioners for use in organic production under Article 24;
- b) rabbits are kept in groups;
- c) farms keep resistant breeds adapted to external conditions;
- d) rabbits have access to:
 - (i) a covered shelter with dark hiding places;
 - (ii) an outdoor enclosure with vegetation, preferably pasture;

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- (iii) a raised platform on which they can sit, indoors or outdoors;
- (iv) nesting material for all nursing females.

1.9.6. In the case of bees

1.9.6.1. Origin of animals

In beekeeping, priority is given to the species *Apis mellifera* and its local ecotypes.

1.9.6.2. Nutrition

The following provisions apply to nutrition:

- a) at the end of the production season, the hives are left with a supply of honey and pollen sufficient for the bees to survive the winter;
- b) Artificial feeding of bee colonies is only permitted when the survival of the hive is threatened by climatic conditions. In such cases, bee colonies are fed with organic honey, organic pollen, organic sugar syrup, or organic sugar.

1.9.6.3. Health care

With regard to health protection, the following provisions apply:

- (a) for the protection of frames, hives and combs, in particular against pests, only rodenticides, used in traps, and appropriate products and substances authorised for use in organic production pursuant to Articles 9 and 24, may be used;
- b) the use of physical means for disinfecting apiaries, such as the use of hot steam and direct sun exposure, is permitted;
- (c) the practice of destroying maggots is permitted solely for the purpose of isolating *Varroa destructor* infection;
- d) if, despite preventive measures, colonies become ill or infected, they shall be treated immediately and, if necessary, they may be placed in isolated apiaries;
- e) in cases of *Varroa destructor* infection, formic, lactic, acetic and oxalic acid, as well as menthol, thymol, eucalyptol or camphor may be used;
- (f) where treatment with chemically synthesised allopathic medicinal products, including antibiotics, other than products and substances authorised for use in organic production pursuant to Articles 9 and 24 is used, the colonies to be treated shall be placed in isolated apiaries for the period of treatment and all wax shall be replaced by wax from organic apiaries.
Then, for such families, the conversion provided for in point 1.2.2 applies for a period of 12 months.

1.9.6.4. Animal welfare

The following additional general provisions apply to beekeeping:

- a) the destruction of bees on combs as a method related to the collection of beekeeping products is prohibited;
- b) mutilation of bees, such as clipping the wings of a queen bee, is prohibited.

1.9.6.5. Premises and husbandry practices

The following provisions apply to premises and farming practices:

- (a) apiaries shall be placed in areas which provide nectar and pollen sources consisting essentially of organically produced crops or, as appropriate, of spontaneous vegetation, or forests not managed in accordance with organic production rules, or crops treated only with low environmental impact methods;

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- b) apiaries are located at a sufficient distance from sources that may lead to contamination of bee products or to poor bee health;
- (c) the apiary shall be sited so that, within a radius of 3 km from the apiary, nectar and pollen sources consist essentially of organically produced plants or spontaneous vegetation or crops treated only with methods with a low environmental impact, corresponding to the methods laid down in Articles 28 and 30 of Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013, which do not pose a risk to the qualification of beekeeping as organic. These requirements do not apply to areas where there is no flowering or where hives are dormant;
- (d) hives and materials used in beekeeping shall be made essentially of natural materials presenting no risk of contamination of the environment or of the apiculture products;
- e) the beeswax used for new foundations comes from ecological production units;
- f) only natural products such as propolis, wax and vegetable oils may be used in hives;
- g) the use of synthetic repellents during honey extraction operations is prohibited;
- h) it is prohibited to obtain honey from combs containing maggots;
- (i) beekeeping shall not be considered as organic if it is carried out in regions or areas designated by Member States as regions or areas where organic beekeeping is not possible.

1.9.6.6. Obligation to retain documentation

Operators shall keep a map to an appropriate scale or the geographical coordinates of the location of the hives, to be submitted to the control authority or control body, demonstrating that the areas accessible to the bee colony meet the requirements of this Regulation.

The following information should be entered in the apiary register regarding feeding: name of the product used, dates, quantities and hives in which the product is used.

The zone in which the apiary is located is recorded along with the identification of the hives and the period of relocation.

All measures taken, including the removal of supers and honey extraction, are recorded in the apiary register. The amount and dates of honey harvesting should also be recorded.

Part III: Regulations on the production of algae and aquaculture animals – not applicable

Part IV: Regulations on the production of processed food

In addition to the general production rules laid down in Articles 9, 11 and 16, the requirements laid down in this Part shall apply to the organic production of processed food.

1. General requirements for the production of processed food

1.1. Food additives and processing aids and other substances and ingredients used in food processing, as well as other processing practices such as smoking, comply with the principles of good manufacturing practice (1).

1.2. Operators producing processed food shall establish and maintain appropriate procedures based on the systematic identification of critical processing steps.

1.3. The application of the procedures referred to in point 1.2 shall ensure that manufactured products are always processed in accordance with this Regulation.

1.4. Entities shall comply with the procedures referred to in point 1.2 and, without prejudice to Article 28, implement those procedures and, in particular:

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- (a) take precautionary measures and keep records of those measures;
- (b) implement appropriate cleaning activities, monitor their effectiveness and maintain records of these activities;
- (c) ensure that non-organic products are not placed on the market with an indication referring to organic production.

1.5. During preparation, processed organic, in-conversion, and non-organic products are kept separate in time and space. If organic, in-conversion, or non-organic products, in any combination, are processed or stored in a processing unit, the operator:

- (a) inform the competent authority or, where appropriate, the control authority or control body accordingly; (1) Good manufacturing practices (GMP) as defined in Article 3(a) of Commission Regulation (EC) No 2023/2006 of 22 December 2006 on good manufacturing practice for materials and articles intended to come into contact with food (OJ L 384, 29.12.2006, p. 75).
- (b) carry out operations continuously until their production has been completely stopped, in a way that ensures that they are separated in time or space from similar operations performed on any other type of product (organic, in-conversion or non-organic);
- (c) before and after operations, stores organic products, products in conversion and non-organic products in a way that ensures that they are separated from each other in time or space;
- d) provides an updated record of all activities and quantities processed;
- (e) take the necessary measures to ensure the identification of lots and to avoid any mixing or exchange of organic, in-conversion and non-organic products;
- f) only handles organic or in-conversion products after appropriate cleaning of the production equipment.

1.6. Products, substances and techniques that recreate properties lost during the processing and storage of organic food, correct the effects of negligence during the processing of organic food or otherwise may be misleading as to the true nature of products intended to be marketed as organic food shall not be used.

1.7. Entities shall keep documentation confirming the permits for the use of non-organic ingredients of agricultural origin for the production of processed organic food in accordance with Article 25, if they have obtained or used such authorisations.

2. Detailed requirements for the production of processed food

2.1. The following conditions are met **with respect to the composition of processed organic food** :

- (a) the product in question is produced mainly from ingredients of agricultural origin or from products intended for use as food, listed in Annex I; for the purpose of determining whether a product is produced mainly from those products, added water and salt shall not be taken into account;
- b) the organic ingredient is not present together with the same ingredient in non-organic form;
- c) the in-conversion ingredient is not present together with the same ingredient in organic or non-organic form.

2.2. Use of certain products and substances in food processing

2.2.1. In food processing, with the exception of products and substances from the wine sector, to which point 2 of Part VI applies, and with the exception of yeast, to which point 1.3 of Part VII applies, only food additives, processing aids and non-organic substances may be used.

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ingredients of agricultural origin permitted under Article 24 or 25 for use in organic production and the products and substances referred to in point 2.2.2.

2.2.2. The following products and substances may be used in food processing:

(a) preparations of micro-organisms and food enzymes normally used in food processing, provided that the food enzymes to be used as food additives have been authorised for use in organic production pursuant to Article 24;

(b) substances and products defined in Article 3(2)(c) and (d)(i) of Regulation (EC) No 1334/2008 labelled as natural flavouring substances or natural flavouring preparations in accordance with Article 16(2), (3) and (4) of that Regulation;

(c) colours for marking meat and eggs in accordance with Article 17 of Regulation (EC) No 1333/2008;

(d) natural colours and natural coating substances in the case of traditional decorative colouring of the shells of boiled eggs produced with a view to their being placed on the market at a certain period of the year;

e) drinking water and organic or non-organic salt (containing sodium or potassium chloride as the main ingredient), commonly used in food processing;

f) minerals (including trace elements), vitamins, amino acids and microelements, provided that:

(i) their use in food for normal consumption is "directly legally required" in the sense of being directly required by provisions of Union law or national law in compliance with Union law, with the consequence that that food cannot be placed on the market at all as food for normal consumption if those minerals, vitamins, amino acids or trace elements are not added; or

(ii) in the case of food marketed as having specific health or nutritional characteristics or effects or in relation to the needs of specific groups of consumers:

— in products referred to in points (a) and (b) of Article 1(1) of Regulation (EU) No 609/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council (1), their use is authorised under that Regulation and acts adopted pursuant to Article 11(1) of this Regulation in relation to those products, or

— in products covered by Commission Directive 2006/125/EC (2), their use is permitted under that Directive. (1) Regulation (EU) No 609/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 12 June 2013 on food intended for infants and young children, food for special medical purposes, and total diet replacement for weight control and repealing Council Directive 92/52/EEC, Commission Directives 96/8/EC, 1999/21/EC, 2006/125/EC and 2006/141/EC, Directive 2009/39/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council and Commission Regulations (EC) No 41/2009 and (EC) No 953/2009 (OJ L 181, 29.6.2013, p. 35). (2) Commission Directive 2006/125/EC of 5 December 2006 on processed cereal-based foods and baby foods for infants and young children (OJ L 339, 6.12.2006, p. 16).

2.2.3. Only cleaning and disinfection products permitted for use in processing under Article 24 may be used for this purpose.

Operators shall maintain records of the use of these products, including the date or dates of each product use, the name of the product, the active substances it contains and the location of such use.

2.2.4. For the purposes of the calculation referred to in Article 30(5), the following requirements shall apply:

(a) certain food additives permitted for use in organic production pursuant to Article 24 shall be classified as ingredients of agricultural origin;

(b) preparations and substances referred to in point 2.2.2. points (a), (c), (d), (e) and (f) are not considered ingredients of agricultural origin;

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c) yeast and yeast products are classified as ingredients of agricultural origin.

2.3. Operators must maintain records of all products used in food production. In the case of composite products, complete recipes/compositions showing input and output quantities must be kept at the disposal of the competent authority or certification body.

Part V: Regulations on the production of processed feed

In addition to the general production rules laid down in Articles 9, 11 and 17, the rules laid down in this Part shall apply to the organic production of processed feed.

1. General requirements for the production of processed feed

1.1. Feed additives, processing aids and other substances and ingredients used in feed processing, as well as other processing practices such as smoking, comply with the principles of good manufacturing practice.

1.2. Operators producing processed feed shall establish and update appropriate procedures based on the systematic identification of critical processing steps.

1.3. The application of the procedures referred to in point 1.2 shall ensure that manufactured products are always processed in accordance with this Regulation.

1.4. Entities shall comply with the procedures referred to in point 1.2 and implement those procedures without prejudice to Article 28, in particular:

(a) take precautionary measures and keep records of those measures;

(b) implement appropriate cleaning activities, monitor their effectiveness and maintain records thereof;

(c) ensure that non-organic products are not placed on the market with an indication referring to organic production.

1.5. During preparation, processed organic, in-conversion, and non-organic products are kept separate in time and space. If organic, in-conversion, or non-organic products, in any combination, are processed or stored in a processing unit, the operator:

(a) inform the control authority or certification body accordingly;

(b) carry out operations continuously until they are completely completed, in a way that ensures that they are separated in time or space from similar operations performed on any other type of product (organic, in-conversion or non-organic);

(c) before and after operations, stores organic products, products in conversion and non-organic products in a way that ensures that they are separated from each other in time or space;

d) provides an updated record of all activities and quantities processed;

(e) take the necessary measures to ensure the identification of batches and to avoid any mixing or exchange of in-conversion and non-organic products;

f) only handles organic or in-conversion products after appropriate cleaning of the production equipment.

2. Specific requirements for the production of processed feed

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2.1. Organic feed materials or feed materials in conversion may not be included in organic feed products at the same time as the same feed materials produced by non-organic methods.

2.2. Feed materials used or processed in organic production shall not be processed with chemically synthesized solvents.

2.3. Only non-organic feed materials of algae, animal or yeast origin, feed materials of mineral origin, and feed additives and processing aids that have been permitted for use in organic production pursuant to Article 24 may be used for feed processing.

2.4. Only cleaning and disinfection products permitted for use in processing under Article 24 may be used for this purpose.

Operators shall maintain records of the use of these products, including the date or dates of each product use, the name of the product, the active substances it contains and the location of such use.

2.5. Operators shall maintain records of all materials used in the production of feed. In the case of the production of composite products, full recipes/compositions showing the quantities of inputs and outputs must be kept at the disposal of the competent authority or certification body.

Part VI: Wine does not apply to third countries

1. Scope of application

1.1 In addition to the general production rules laid down in Articles 9, 10, 11, 16 and 18, the rules laid down in this Part shall apply to the organic production of wine-sector products referred to in Article 1(2)(l) of Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013.

1.2. Except where expressly provided otherwise in this Part, Commission Regulations (EC) No 606/2009 (1) and (EC) No 607/2009 (2) shall apply.

2. Use of certain products and substances

2.1. Wine sector products are produced from organic raw materials.

2.2. Only products and substances authorised for use in organic production pursuant to Article 24 may be used in the production of wine products, including during oenological practices, processes and treatments, subject to the conditions and limits laid down in Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013 and Regulation (EC) No 606/2009, in particular Annex IA thereto.

2.3. Operators shall maintain records of the use of all products and substances used in winemaking and for cleaning and disinfection, including the date or dates of each product's use, the name of the product, the active substances it contains and, where applicable, the place of such use.

3. Oenological practices and restrictions

3.1 Without prejudice to Sections 1 and 2 of this Part and the specific prohibitions and restrictions laid down in points 3.2, 3.3 and 3.4, only oenological practices, processes and treatments, including the restrictions provided for in Article 80 and Article 83(2) of Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013 and in Articles 3, 5 to 9 and 11 to 14 of Regulation (EC) No 606/2009 and in the Annexes to those Regulations, used before 1 August 2010 are permitted.

3.2. The following oenological practices, processes and treatments are prohibited:

- (a) partial concentration by cooling in accordance with point (c) of Section B.1 of Part I of Annex VIII to Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013;

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(b) elimination of sulphur dioxide by physical processes in accordance with point 8 of Annex IA to Regulation (EC) No 606/2009;

(c) electro dialysis to ensure the tartaric stabilisation of the wine in accordance with point 36 of Annex IA to Regulation (EC) No 606/2009; (1) Commission Regulation (EC) No 606/2009 of 10 July 2009 laying down certain detailed rules for implementing Council Regulation (EC) No 479/2008 as regards the categories of grapevine products, oenological practices and the applicable restrictions (OJ L 193, 24.7.2009, p. 1). (2) Commission Regulation (EC) No 607/2009 of 14 July 2009 laying down certain detailed rules for the implementation of Council Regulation (EC) No 479/2008 as regards protected designations of origin and geographical indications, traditional terms, labelling and presentation of certain wine sector products (OJ L 193, 24.7.2009, p. 60).

(d) partial dealcoholisation of wine in accordance with point 40 of Annex IA to Regulation (EC) No 606/2009;

(e) treatment with cation exchange resins to ensure tartaric stabilisation of the wine in accordance with point 43 of Annex IA to Regulation (EC) No 606/2009.

3.3. The following oenological practices, processes and treatments are permitted under the following conditions:

(a) in the case of heat treatment in accordance with point 2 of Annex IA to Regulation (EC) No 606/2009, provided that the temperature does not exceed 75 °C;

(b) in the case of centrifugation and filtration with or without an inert filtering agent in accordance with point 3 of Annex IA to Regulation (EC) No 606/2009, provided that the pore size is not smaller than 0,2 micrometre.

3.4 Any changes introduced after 1 August 2010 relating to oenological practices, processes and treatments provided for in Regulation (EC) No 1234/2007 or Regulation (EC) No 606/2009 may only be applied in the organic production of wine after those measures have been included as permitted in this Section 3 and, where necessary, after an assessment has been carried out in accordance with Article 24 of this Regulation.

Part VII: Yeasts used as food or feed

In addition to the general production rules laid down in Articles 9, 11, 16, 17 and 19, the rules laid down in this Part shall apply to the organic production of yeast used as food or feed.

1. General requirements

1.1. Only organically produced substrates are used for the production of organic yeast. However, until 31 December 2024, the addition of up to 5% non-organic yeast extract or autolysate to the substrate (calculated as dry matter) for the production of organic yeast is permitted if operators are unable to obtain yeast extract or autolysate from organic production.

1.2. Organic yeast must not be present in organic food or feed together with non-organic yeast.

1.3. The following products and substances may be used for the production and preparation of organic yeast:

(a) processing aids authorised for use in organic production pursuant to Article 24;

(b) products and substances referred to in Part IV, point 2.2.2, points a), b) and e).

1.4. Only cleaning and disinfection products permitted for use in processing under Article 24 may be used for this purpose.

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1.5. Operators shall maintain records of all products and substances used in yeast production and for cleaning and disinfection, including the date or dates of use of each product, the name of the product, the active substances it contains, and the location of such use.

Part VIII: Other Products

Applies to products covered by Regulation (EU) 2018/848 ARTICLE 2 PARAGRAPH 1

Other Products

- yeast used as food or feed,
- mate, sweetcorn, vine leaves, palm hearts, hop shoots and other similar edible parts of plants and products made from them,
- sea salt and other types of salt used in food and feed,
- silkworm cocoon suitable for rolling,
- natural gums and resins,
- beeswax,
- essential oils,
- natural cork stoppers, non-agglomerated and without any binding substances,
- cotton, uncarded and uncombed,
- wool, uncarded and uncombed,
- raw hides and skins,
- traditional herbal preparations based on plants.

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