

IMO IN ORGANIC STANDARD

- for EU equivalent certification in countries outside the
EU

Version 9
06/2021

Based on:

- ▶ Council Regulation (EC) No 834/2007 of 28 June 2007
- ▶ Commission Regulation (EC) No 889/2008 of 5 September 2008

And including amendments of

- ▶ Commission Regulation (EC) No 967/2008 of 29 September 2008
- ▶ Commission Regulation (EC) No 1254/2008 of 15 December 2008
- ▶ Commission Regulation (EC) No 710/2009 of 5 August 2009
- ▶ Commission Regulation (EC) No 271/2010 of 24 March 2010
- ▶ Commission Regulation (EC) No 344/2011 of 08 April 2011
- ▶ Commission Regulation (EC) No 505/2012 of 14 June 2012
- ▶ Commission Regulation (EC) No 392/2013 of 29 April 2013
- ▶ Commission Regulation (EC) No 354/2014 of 08 April 2014
- ▶ Commission Regulation (EC) No 2016/673 of 29 April 2016
- ▶ Commission Regulation (EC) No 2016/1842 of 14 October 2016
- ▶ Commission Regulation (EC) No 2018/1584 of 22 October 2018
- ▶ Commission Regulation (EC) No 2019/2164 of 17 December 2019
- ▶ Commission Regulation (EC) No 2021/181 of 15 February 2021

INTRODUCTION

This IMO IN Organic Standard for EU equivalent certification in Third countries (outside the EU) has been adapted from Regulation (EC) No 834/2007, Regulation (EC) No 889/2008 and their amendments. It is a standard for organic operators who work outside the European Union and who wish to be certified as meeting the requirements that are equivalent to the requirements of the Regulations of the European Union.

The Regulations of the European Union include requirements with respect to the control system, which are based on the presence of certain administrative structures in the Member States and on the level of the institutions of the European Union which may not be present in non-EU countries. Where relevant and appropriate, the competence entrusted to authorities in the Member States, has been entrusted to IMO IN in this Standard and thereby considered as compliant. Where the reference is made to institutions, services or technical requirements which are not available, not relevant or inappropriate in non-EU countries, these are replaced by equivalent measures in this Standard.

The language of the IMO IN Organic Standard follows closely the language of the Regulations of the European Union. It deviates only where organic production in non-EU countries is based on equivalent conditions to meet the requirements of the European Union.

In order to facilitate international cooperation and trade, IMO IN has aimed to harmonize its Organic Standard with the standards of other certification bodies and for this reason the structure and wording of the standard created by IOAS (International Organic Accreditation Service) has also been taken into account wherever adequate.

[This version \(version 9, 06/2021\) incorporates the amendments to Regulation \(EC\) No. 889/2008, published by the Commission through Regulation \(EC\) No 2021/181 of 15 February 2021, that are relevant to IMO IN's scope of accreditation.](#)

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IMO IN Organic Standard for EU equivalent certification in countries outside the EU

Sec		EU ref. ¹	C I E ²
1.	Objectives		
	<p>This Standard provides the basis for the sustainable development of organic production while ensuring the effective functioning of the market, guaranteeing fair competition, ensuring consumer confidence and protecting consumer interests.</p> <p>It establishes common objectives and principles to support the rules set out under this Standard concerning:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) all stages of production, preparation and distribution of organic products and their control; and b) the use of indications referring to organic production in labeling and advertising. 	834-Art. 1	C
2.	Scope		
2.1	Agricultural products for the EU market		
	<p>This Standard shall apply to the following products originating from agriculture, where such products are placed on the EU market or are intended to be placed on the EU market:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) live or unprocessed agricultural products; b) processed agricultural products for use as food; c) yeasts used as food or feed. <p>The products of hunting and fishing of wild animals shall not be considered as organic production.</p>	834-Art. 1	C
2.2	Operators		
	<p>This Standard shall apply to any operator involved in activities, at any stage of production, preparation and distribution, relating to the products set out in 2.1.</p> <p>However, mass catering operations shall not be subject to this Standard.</p>	834-Art. 1	C
2.3	Framework of relevant law		
	<p>This Standard shall be applied within the framework of relevant national or international law concerning such products, such as provisions governing the production, preparation, marketing, labeling and control, including legislation on foodstuffs and animal nutrition.</p>	834-Art. 1	C
3.	Objectives for organic production		
	<p>The following objectives and principles in paragraphs 3 and 4 are not standards in themselves but set the framework for the application of all subsequent requirements and shall be used as points of reference when questions of interpretation arise.</p> <p>Organic production shall pursue the following general objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) establish a sustainable management system for agriculture that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) respects nature's systems and cycles and sustains and enhances the health of soil, water, plants and animals and the balance between them; ii) contributes to a high level of biological diversity; iii) makes responsible use of energy and the natural resources, such as water, soil, organic matter and air; 	834-Art. 3	C

Sec		EU ref. ¹	C I E ²
	iv) respects high animal welfare standards and in particular meets animals' species-specific behavioural needs; b) aim at producing products of high quality; c) aim at producing a wide variety of foods and other agricultural products that respond to consumers' demand for goods produced by the use of processes that do not harm the environment, human health, plant health or animal health and welfare.	834-Art. 3	C
4.	Principles of organic production		
4.1	Overall principles		
	Organic production shall be based on the following principles: a) the appropriate design and management of biological processes based on ecological systems using natural resources which are internal to the system by methods that: (i) use living organisms and mechanical production methods; (ii) practice land-related crop cultivation and livestock production or practice aquaculture which complies with the principle of sustainable exploitation of fisheries; (iii) exclude the use of GMOs and products produced from or by GMOs with the exception of veterinary medicinal products; (iv) are based on risk assessment, and the use of precautionary and preventive measures, when appropriate; b) the restriction of the use of external inputs. Where external inputs are required or the appropriate management practices and methods referred to in paragraph (a) do not exist, these shall be limited to: (i) inputs from organic production; (ii) natural or naturally-derived substances; (iii) low solubility mineral fertilisers; c) the strict limitation of the use of chemically synthesized inputs to exceptional cases these being: (i) where the appropriate management practices do not exist; and (ii) the external inputs referred to in paragraph (b) are not available on the market; or (iii) where the use of external inputs referred to in paragraph (b) contributes to unacceptable environmental impacts; d) the adaptation, where necessary, and within the framework of this Standard, of the rules of organic production taking account of sanitary status, regional differences in climate and local conditions, stages of development, and specific husbandry practices.	834-Art. 4	C
4.2	Specific principles applicable to farming		
	In addition to the overall principles set out in Article 4, organic farming shall be based on the following specific principles: a) the maintenance and enhancement of soil life and natural soil fertility, soil stability and soil biodiversity preventing and combating soil compaction and soil erosion, and the nourishing of plants primarily through the soil ecosystem; b) the minimisation of the use of non-renewable resources and off-farm inputs;	834-Art. 5	C

4.3 Specific principles applicable to processing of organic food

Sec		EU ref. ¹	C I E ²
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> c) the recycling of wastes and by-products of plant and animal origin as inputs in plant and livestock production; d) taking account of the local or regional ecological balance when taking production decisions; e) the maintenance of animal health by encouraging the natural immunological defence of the animal, as well as the selection of appropriate breeds and husbandry practices; f) the maintenance of plant health by preventative measures, such as the choice of appropriate species and varieties resistant to pests and diseases, appropriate crop rotations, mechanical and physical methods and the protection of natural enemies of pests; g) the practice of site-adapted and land-related livestock production; h) the observance of a high level of animal welfare respecting species-specific needs; i) the production of products of organic livestock from animals that have been raised on organic holdings since birth or hatching and throughout their life; j) the choice of breeds having regard to the capacity of animals to adapt to local conditions, their vitality and their resistance to disease or health problems; k) the feeding of livestock with organic feed composed of agricultural ingredients from organic farming and of natural non-agricultural substances; l) the application of animal husbandry practices, which enhance the immune system and strengthen the natural defence against diseases, in particular including regular exercise and access to open air areas and pastureland where appropriate; m) the exclusion of rearing artificially induced polyploidy animals; and n) the maintenance of the biodiversity of natural aquatic ecosystems, the continuing health of the aquatic environment and the quality of surrounding aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems. o) the feeding of aquatic organisms with feed from sustainable exploitation of fisheries as defined in Article 3 of Council Regulation (EC) No 2371/2002 of 20 December 2002 on the conservation and sustainable exploitation of fisheries resources under the Common Fisheries Policy (OJ L 358, 31.12.2002, p. 59) or with organic feed composed of agricultural ingredients from organic farming and of natural non-agricultural substances. 	834-Art. 5	C

In addition to the overall principles set out in Article 4, the production of processed organic food shall be based on the following specific principles:	834-Art. 6	C
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) the production of organic food from organic agricultural ingredients, except where an ingredient is not available on the market in organic form; b) the restriction of the use of food additives, of non organic ingredients with mainly technological and sensory functions and of micronutrients and processing aids, so that they are used to a minimum extent and only in case of essential technological need or for particular nutritional purposes; c) the exclusion of substances and processing methods that might be misleading regarding the true nature of the product; d) the processing of food with care, preferably with the use of biological, mechanical and physical methods. 		
5. General Production Rules		
5.1 Compliance with standards		
Operators shall comply with the production rules set out in the relevant sections 5–9. In order to demonstrate compliance they are obliged to maintain the relevant records described in section 10.	834-Art. 8	C
5.2 Adherence to the control system		
<p>1. Any operator who produces, prepares, stores, or exports from a third country organic products or who places such products on the market shall, prior to placing on the market of any products as organic or in conversion to organic submit her/his undertaking to control by IMO IN.</p> <p>2. The first subparagraph shall apply also to exporters who export products produced in compliance with the production rules laid down in this Standard.</p> <p>Where an operator contracts out any of the activities to a third party, that operator shall nonetheless be subject to the requirements referred to in point (a), and the subcontracted activities shall be submitted to control by IMO IN.</p> <p>IMO IN shall keep an updated list containing the names and addresses of operators under its control. This list shall be made available to the interested parties.</p>	834-Art. 28	C
<p>3. Where an operator runs several production units in the same area, the units producing non-organic crops, together with storage premises for farm input products shall also be subject to this Standard and shall be submitted to control by IMO IN</p>	889-Art. 73	C
5.2.1 Minimum control requirements		
<p>1. When the control arrangements are first implemented, the operator shall draw up and subsequently maintain:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) a full description of the unit and/or premises and/or activity; (b) all the practical measures to be taken at the level of the unit and/or premises and/or activity to ensure compliance with the organic production rules; (c) the precautionary measures to be taken in order to reduce the risk of contamination by un authorised products or substances and the cleaning measures to be taken in storage places and throughout the operator's production chain. <p>Where appropriate, the description and measures provided for in the first subparagraph may be part of a quality system as set up by the operator.</p> <p>2. The description and the measures referred to in paragraph 1 shall be contained in a declaration, signed by the responsible operator. In addition, this declaration shall include an undertaking by the operator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) to perform the operations in accordance with the organic production rules; (b) to accept, in the event of infringement or irregularities, the enforcement of the measures of the organic production rules; (c) to undertake to inform in writing the buyers of the product in order to ensure that the indications referring to the organic production method are removed from this production. 	889-Art. 63 392/2013	C

<p>Where appropriate, the description and measures provided for in the first subparagraph may be part of a quality system as set up by the operator.</p> <p>2. The description and the measures referred to in paragraph 1 shall be contained in a declaration, signed by the responsible operator. In addition, this declaration shall include an undertaking by the operator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) to perform the operations in accordance with the organic production rules; (b) to accept, in the event of infringement or irregularities, the enforcement of the measures of the organic production rules; (c) to undertake to inform in writing the buyers of the product in order to ensure that the indications referring to the organic production method are removed from this production. <p>The declaration provided for in the first subparagraph shall be verified by IMO IN that issues a report identifying the possible deficiencies and non-compliances with the organic production rules. The operator shall countersign this report and take the necessary corrective measures.</p> <p>(d) to accept, in cases where the operator and/or the subcontractors of that operator are checked by IMO IN and other certification bodies considered equivalent by EU, the operator will accept the exchange of information between the other certification bodies and IMO IN.</p> <p>(e) to accept, in cases where the operator and/or the subcontractors of that operator change their certification body, the operator will accept for transmission of their control files to the subsequent control body;</p> <p>(f) to accept, in cases where the operator withdraws from the control system, to inform without delay the relevant certification body;</p> <p>(g) to accept, in cases where the operator withdraws from the control system, that the control file is kept for a period of at least five years;</p> <p>(h) to accept to inform the relevant certification body without delay of any irregularity or infringement affecting the organic status of their product or organic products received from other operators or subcontractors.';</p> <p>3. For the application of Article 5.2.1 of this Standard the operator shall notify the following information to IMO IN:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Name and address of operator; (b) Location of premises and, where appropriate, parcels (land register data) where operations are carried out; (c) Nature of operations and products; (d) Undertaking by the operator to carry out the operation in accordance with the provision laid down in this Standard; (e) In the case of an agricultural holding, the date on which the producer ceased to apply products not authorised for organic production on the parcels concerned. 	<p>889-Art.71</p> <p>834-Art. 29</p>	<p>C</p> <p>C</p>
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<p>4. Each year, the operator shall notify IMO IN of his schedule of production of crop products, giving a breakdown by parcel, before the date indicated by IMO IN.</p> <p>5. IMO IN shall provide documentary evidence to any such operator who is subject to its controls and who in the sphere of his activities, meets the requirements laid down in this Standard. The documentary evidence shall at least permit the identification of the operator and the type or range of products as well as the period of validity.</p> <p>6. In case of electronic certification as referred to in 5.2.1 (point 5 & 7) of this Standard, the signature in the documentary evidence shall not be required if the authenticity of the documentary evidence is otherwise shown by a tamper-proof electronic method.6. The operator shall verify the documentary evidence of his/her suppliers.</p> <p>7. IMO IN shall use the form of the documentary evidence with all details as shown in Annex XII.</p>	<p>889-Art. 68 392/2013</p>	<p>C</p> <p>C</p>
5.2.2 Modification of control arrangements		
<p>The operator responsible shall notify any change in the description or of the measures referred to in Article 5.2.1 and in the initial control arrangements set out in Articles 5.2.5.1, 5.2.5.2, 5.2.5.3, 5.2.5.4, 5.2.5.5 to IMO IN in due time.</p>	<p>889-Art. 64</p>	<p>C</p>
5.2.3 Control visits		

<p>1. IMO IN shall carry out at least once a year a physical inspection of all operators. For inspection and certification of producer groups in non-EU countries, the rules defined in Annex XV apply.</p>	<p>889-Art. 65 392/2013</p>	<p>C E</p>
<p>2. IMO IN shall take and analyse samples for detecting of products not authorised for organic production, for checking production techniques not in conformity with the organic production rules or for detecting possible contamination by products not authorised for organic production. The number of samples to be taken and analysed by IMO IN every year shall correspond to at least 5 % of the number of operators under its control. The selection of the operators where samples have to be taken shall be based on the general evaluation of the risk of non- compliance with the organic production rules. This general evaluation shall take into account all stages of production, preparation and distribution.</p> <p>IMO IN shall take and analyse samples in each case where the use of products or techniques not authorised for organic production is suspected. In such cases no minimum number of samples to be taken and analysed shall apply.</p> <p>Samples may also be taken and analysed by IMO IN in any other case for detecting of products not authorised for organic production, for checking production techniques not in conformity with the organic production rules or for detecting possible contamination by products not authorised for organic production.</p>		<p>C</p>
<p>3. A control report shall be drawn up after each visit, countersigned by the operator of the unit or his representative.</p>		
<p>4. Moreover, certification body shall carry out random control visits, primarily unannounced, based on the general evaluation of the risk of non-compliance with the organic production rules, taking into account at least the results of previous controls, the quantity of products concerned and the risk for exchange of products.</p>		<p>C</p>
<p>IMO IN has a documented risk analysis procedure. The risk analysis procedure shall be designed in such a way that: (a) the result of the risk analysis provides the basis for determining the intensity of the unannounced or announced annual inspections and visits; (b) additional random control visits carried out in accordance with 5.2.3, point 4 of at least 10 % of operators under contract in accordance with the risk category are performed; (c) at least 10 % of all inspections and visits carried out in accordance with 5.2.3 , point 1 & 4 are unannounced; (d) the selection of operators to be submitted to unannounced inspections and visits is determined on the basis of the risk analysis and that these are planned according to the level of risk.</p>	<p>889- Art. 92c (2) 392/2013</p>	<p>C</p>

<p>In the context of this Standard the nature and frequency of the controls shall be determined on the basis of an assessment of the risk of occurrence of irregularities and infringements as regards compliance with the requirements laid down in this Standard.</p> <p>In any case, all operators with the exception of wholesalers dealing only with pre-packaged products and operators selling to the final consumer or user as described in Article 5.2 (2), shall be subject to a verification of compliance at least once a year. IMO IN shall offer adequate guarantees of objectivity and impartiality, and have at its disposal the qualified staff and resources necessary to carry out its functions; shall provide proof that it</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) has the expertise, equipment and infrastructure required to carry out inspection and certification (iii) has a sufficient number of suitable qualified and experienced staff; and (iii) is impartial and free from any conflict of interest as regards the exercise of inspection and certification <p>IMO IN is accredited to the most recently notified version, by a publication in the C series of the Official Journal of the European Union, of European Standard EN 45011 or ISO Guide 65 (General requirements for bodies operating product certification systems), and is authorised by the Commission</p> <p>IMO IN communicates the results of the controls carried out to the Commission on a regular basis and whenever the Commission so requests. If the results of the controls indicate non-compliance or point to the likelihood of non-compliance, IMO IN shall immediately inform the Commission; there is an effective coordination between the delegating Commission and IMO IN.</p> <p>IMO IN shall have the following</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the standard control procedure to be followed, containing a detailed description of the control measures and precautions that the body undertakes to impose on operators subject to its control; the measures that IMO IN intends to apply where irregularities and/or infringements are found. <p>The certification body shall give the Commission and its representatives access to its offices and facilities and provide any information and assistance deemed necessary by the Commission.</p> <p>The certification body shall ensure that at least the precautionary and control measures referred to in paragraph 2 are applied to operators subject to its control.</p> <p>By 31 January each year at the latest the certification body shall transmit to the Commission a list of the operators which were subject to its controls on 31 December of the previous year. A summary report of the control activities carried out during the previous year shall be provided by 31 March each year.</p>	834- Art. 27	C
5.2.4 Access to facilities		
<p>1. The operator shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) give IMO IN, for control purposes, access to all parts of the unit and all premises, as well as to the accounts and relevant supporting documents; (b) provide IMO IN with any information reasonably necessary for the purposes of the control; (c) submit, when requested by IMO IN, the results of its own quality assurance programmes. 	889-Art. 67	C
5.2.5 Control requirements		
5.2.5.1 Control requirements for plants and plant products from farm production or collection		

<p>1. The full description of the unit referred to in Article 5.2.1 (a) shall:</p> <p>(a) be drawn up even where the operator limits his activity to the collection of wild plants;</p> <p>(b) indicate the storage and production premises and land parcels and/or collection areas and, where applicable, premises where certain processing and/or packaging operations take place; and</p> <p>(c) specify the date of the last application on the parcels and/or collection areas concerned of products, the use of which is not compatible with the organic production rules.</p> <p>2. In case of collection of wild plants, the practical measures referred to in Article 5.2.1 (1) (b) shall include any guarantees given by third parties which the operator can provide to ensure that the provisions of Article 6.6 (2) of this Standard are complied with.</p>	889-Art. 70	C
5.2.5.3 Control requirements for units for preparation of plant products and foodstuffs composed of plant and livestock products		
<p>In the case of a unit involved in the preparation for its own account or for account of a third party, and including in particular units involved in packaging and/or re-packaging of such products or units involved in labelling and/or re-labelling of such products, the full description of the unit referred to in Article 5.2.1 (1) (a) shall show the facilities used for the reception, the processing, packaging, labelling and storage of agricultural products before and after the operations concerning them, as well as the procedures for the transport of the products.</p>	889- Art. 80	C
5.2.5.4 Control requirements for units involved in the production, preparation of organic products and which have contracted out to third parties in part or in total the actual operations concerned		
<p>With regard to the operations, which are contracted out to third parties, the full description of the unit referred to in Article 5.2.1 (1) (a) shall include:</p> <p>(a) a list of the subcontractors with a description of their activities and an indication of the certification bodies to which they are subject;</p> <p>(b) written agreement by the subcontractors that their holding will be subject to inspection and certification.</p> <p>c) all the practical measures, including inter alia an appropriate system of documentary accounts, to be taken at the level of the unit to ensure that the products the operator places on the market can be traced to, as appropriate, their suppliers, sellers, consignees and buyers.</p>	889- Art. 86	C
5.2.6 Measures in case of suspicion of infringements and irregularities		

<p>1. Where an operator considers or suspects that a product which he has produced, prepared or that he has received from another operator, is not in compliance with organic production rules, he shall initiate procedures either to withdraw from this product any reference to the organic production method or to separate and identify the product. He may only put it into processing or packaging or on the market after elimination of that doubt, unless it is placed on the market without indication referring to the organic production method.</p> <p>In case of such doubt, the operator shall immediately inform IMO IN. IMO IN may require that the product cannot be placed on the market with indications referring to the organic production method until it is satisfied, by the information received from the operator or from other sources, that the doubt has been eliminated.</p> <p>2. Where IMO IN has a substantiated suspicion that an operator intends to place on the market a product not in compliance with the organic production rules but bearing a reference to the organic production method, IMO IN can require that the operator may provisionally not market the product with this reference for a time period to be set by that certification body. Before taking such a decision, IMO IN shall allow the operator to comment. This decision shall be supplemented by the obligation to withdraw from this product any reference to the organic production method if the certification body is sure that the product does not fulfil the requirements of organic production.</p> <p>However, if the suspicion is not confirmed within the said time period, the decision referred to in the first subparagraph shall be cancelled not later than the expiry of that time period. The operator shall cooperate fully with IMO IN in resolving the suspicion.</p> <p>Where an irregularity is found as regards compliance with the requirements laid down in this Standard, IMO IN shall ensure that no reference to the organic production method is made in the labelling and advertising of the entire lot or production run affected by this irregularity, where this would be proportionate to the relevance of the requirement that has been violated and to the nature and particular circumstances of the irregular activities.</p> <p>Where a severe infringement or an infringement with prolonged effect is found, IMO IN shall prohibit the operator concerned from marketing products which refer to the organic production method in the labelling and advertising for a period to be agreed with IMO IN.</p> <p>Information on cases of irregularities or infringements affecting the organic status of a product shall be immediately communicated between the certification bodies and competent authorities. The level of communication shall depend on the severity and the extent of the irregularity or infringement found.</p>	<p>889- Art. 91</p> <p>834- Art. 30</p>	<p>C</p>
<p>5.2.7 Exchange of information</p>		

	<p>1. Where the operator and his subcontractors are checked by different certification bodies, the declaration referred to Article 5.2.1 (2) shall include an agreement by the operator on his behalf and that of his subcontractors, that the different certification bodies can exchange information on the operations under their control and on the way this exchange of information can be implemented.</p> <p>2. Exchange of information between control authorities, control bodies and competent authorities</p> <p>1. Where the operator and/or the subcontractors of that operator are checked by IMO IN and other equivalent certification bodies, the certification bodies shall exchange the relevant information on the operations under their control.</p> <p>2. Where operators and/or their subcontractors change their certification body, the change shall be notified without delay to the concerned certification body.</p> <p>The previous certification body shall hand over the relevant elements of the control file of the operator concerned and the reports referred to in the second subparagraph of 5.2.1, point 2 to the subsequent certification body.</p> <p>Whenever IMO IN is the new certification body, it shall ensure that non-conformities noted in the report of the previous certification body have been or are being addressed by the operator."</p> <p>3. Where the operator withdraws from the control system, IMO IN shall, without delay, inform the European Commission.</p> <p>4. Where IMO IN finds irregularities or infringements affecting the organic status of products, it shall without delay inform the European Commission which designated or approved it in accordance with Article 27 of Regulation (EC) No 834/2007.</p> <p>The European Commission may require, on its own initiative, also any other information on irregularities or infringements.</p> <p>In case of irregularities or infringements found with regard to products under the control of other equivalent certification bodies, it shall also inform those certification bodies without delay."</p> <p>Exchange of information: Upon a request duly justified by the necessity to guarantee that a product has been produced in accordance with this Standard, IMO IN shall exchange relevant information on the results of its controls with the Commission and other certification bodies. IMO IN may also exchange such information on its own initiative.</p>	<p>889- Art. 92</p> <p>392/2013</p> <p>834- Art. 31</p>	<p>C</p> <p>C</p> <p>C</p>
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5.2.8 Import of products providing equivalent guarantees			
	<p>A product imported from a third country may also be placed on the Community market as organic provided that:</p> <p>the product has been produced in accordance with production rules equivalent to those referred to in 5 & 9</p> <p>the operators have been subject to control measures of equivalent effectiveness to those referred to in 5.2 and such control measures have been permanently and effectively applied;</p> <p>the operators at all stages of production, preparation and distribution in the third country have submitted their activities to a certification body recognised in accordance with paragraph 3;</p> <p>"the product is covered by a certificate of inspection issued by IMO IN recognised in accordance with paragraph 3, which confirms that the product satisfies the conditions set out in this paragraph.</p> <p>The original of the certificate referred to in this paragraph shall accompany the goods to the premises of the first consignee; thereafter the importer must keep the certificate at the disposal of the control authority or the control body in EU for not less than two years.</p>	834-Art. 33	C
5.3 Prohibition on the use of GMOs			
	<p>1. Genetically modified organisms (GMOs), and products produced from or by GMOs shall not be used as food, feed, processing aids, plant protection products, fertilisers, soil conditioners, seeds, vegetative propagating material, micro-organisms, and animals in organic production.</p> <p>2. For the purpose of the prohibition referred to in the above mentioned paragraph, operators using such non-organic products purchased from third parties shall require the vendor to confirm that the products supplied have not been produced from or by GMOs.</p> <p>3. An optional model for such a vendor declaration is set out in Annex XIII.</p>	834-Art. 9	C
		889-Art. 69	C
5.4 Prohibition on the use of ionising radiation			
	The use of ionising radiation for the treatment of organic food or feed, or of raw materials used in organic food or feed is prohibited.	834-Art. 10	C
6. Farm Production			
6.1 General farm production rules			
	<p>1. The entire agricultural holding shall be managed in compliance with the requirements applicable to organic production.</p> <p>2. A holding may be split up into clearly separated units which are not all managed under organic production. As regards animals, different species shall be involved. As regards plants, different varieties that can be easily differentiated shall be involved.</p> <p>3. Where not all units of a holding are used for organic production, the operator shall keep the land, animals, and products used for, or produced by, the organic units separate from those used for, or produced by, the non-organic units and keep adequate records to show the separation.</p>	834-Art. 11	C

6.2 Conversion			
6.2.1 General requirements			
	<p>1. The following rules shall apply to a farm on which organic production is started:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) the conversion period shall start at the earliest when the operator has notified his/her activity to IMO IN; b) during the conversion period all rules established by this Standard shall apply; c) conversion periods specific to the type of crop or animal production shall be defined (see paragraphs 6.2.2–6.2.4); d) on a holding or unit partly under organic production and partly in conversion to organic production, the operator shall keep the organically produced and in-conversion products separate and the animals separate or readily separable and keep adequate records to show the separation; e) in order to determine the conversion period referred to above, a period immediately preceding the date of the start of the conversion period may be taken into account, in so far as certain conditions concur; f) animals and animal products produced during the conversion period referred to in subparagraph (c) shall not be marketed with the indications referred to in 9.1 used in the labelling and advertising of products. 	834-Art. 17	C
6.2.2 Conversion — Plants and plant products			
	<p>1. For plants and plant products to be considered organic, the production rules as referred to in section 6.4 of this Standard must have been applied on the parcels during a conversion period of at least two years before sowing, or, in the case of grassland or perennial forage, at least two years before its use as feed from organic farming, or, in the case of perennial crops other than forage, at least three years before the first harvest of organic products.</p> <p>2. IMO IN may decide to recognise retroactively as being part of the conversion period any previous period in which:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the land parcels were registered in an official environmental protection or similar programme, provided that the measures concerned ensure that products not authorised for organic production have not been used on those parcels, or (b) the parcels were natural or agricultural areas which were not treated with products not authorised for organic production. <p>The period referred to in point 6.2.2 (2)(b) can be taken into consideration retroactively only where satisfactory proof has been furnished to IMO IN allowing it to satisfy itself that the conditions were met for a period of at least three years.</p> <p>3. IMO IN may decide, in certain cases, where the land had been contaminated with products not authorised for organic production, to extend the conversion period beyond the period referred to in paragraph 1.</p>	889-Art. 36	C

6.3	Parallel production		
6.3.1	Parallel production — Plant production		
	<p>1. Where an operator's holding faces climatic, geographical or structural constraints, a producer may apply to IMO IN to run organic and non-organic production units in the same area under the following provisions:</p> <p>(a) in the case of the production of perennial crops, which require a cultivation period of at least three years, where varieties cannot be easily differentiated, provided the following conditions are met:</p> <p>(i) the production in question forms part of a conversion plan in respect of which the producer gives a firm undertaking and which provides for the beginning of the conversion of the last part of the area concerned to organic production in the shortest possible period which may not in any event exceed a maximum of five years;</p> <p>(ii) appropriate measures have been taken to ensure the permanent separation of the products obtained from each unit concerned;</p> <p>(iii) IMO IN is notified of the harvest of each of the products concerned at least 48 hours in advance.</p> <p>(iv) upon completion of the harvest, the producer informs IMO IN of the exact quantities harvested on the units concerned and of the measures applied to separate the products;</p> <p>(v) the conversion plan has been approved by the certification body; this approval shall be confirmed each year after the start of the conversion plan;</p> <p>(b) in the case of areas intended for agricultural research or formal education agreed by IMO IN and provided the conditions set out in point 6.3.1 (1)(a)(ii)(iii)(iv) and the relevant part of point (v) are met;</p> <p>(c) in the case of production of seed, vegetative propagating material and transplants and provided the conditions set out in point 6.3.1 (1)(a)(ii)(iii)(iv) and the relevant part of point (v) are met;</p> <p>(d) in the case of grassland exclusively used for grazing.</p>	889-Art. 40.	C
6.4	Plant production rules		
	In addition to the general farm production rules laid down in paragraph 6.1, the following rules shall apply to organic plant production:	834-Art. 12.1	C
6.4.1	Seeds		
	1. For the production of products other than seed and vegetative propagating material only organically produced seed and propagating material shall be used. To this end, the mother plant in the case of seeds and the parent plant in the case of vegetative propagating material shall have been produced in accordance with the rules laid down in this Standard for at least one generation, or, in the case of perennial crops, two growing seasons;	834-Art. 12.1	C

6.4.1.1	Use of seed or vegetative propagating material not obtained by the organic production method
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<p>1. Where organic seed or vegetative propagating material is not available on the market,</p> <p>(a) seed and vegetative propagating material from a production unit in conversion to organic farming may be used,</p> <p>(b) where point (a) is not applicable, the certification body may authorise the use of non-organic seed or vegetative propagating material if not available from organic production. However, for the use of non-organic seed and seed potatoes the following paragraphs (2) to (9) apply:</p> <p>2. Non-organic seed and seed potatoes may be used, provided that the seed or seed potatoes are not treated with plant protection products, other than those authorised for treatment of seed in accordance with paragraph 6.4.3 only if the chemical treatment is prescribed for phytosanitary purposes by the competent authority of the country of production. In order to grant this exception, the operator has to hand in an official statement of this authority stating:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the reason for treatment - the name of the agent used - the species and varieties treated 	<p>889-Art. 45</p>	<p>E</p> <p>C</p>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the area/region of treatment (if applicable) - the duration and time of the treatment. <p>3. Species for which it is established that organically produced seed or seed potatoes are available in sufficient quantities and for a significant number of varieties may not be subject of authorisations pursuant to paragraph 1(b) above, unless these are justified by one of the purposes referred to in paragraph 5(c) below.</p> <p>4. The responsibility for granting the authorisation referred to in paragraph 1(b) rests with IMO IN.</p> <p>5. Authorisation to use seed or seed potatoes not obtained by the organic production method may only be granted in the following cases:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) where no supplier, meaning an operator who markets seed or seed potatoes to other operators, is able to deliver the seed or seed potatoes before sowing or planting in situations where the user has ordered the seed or seed potatoes in reasonable time; (b) where the user is able to demonstrate that the desired variety and none of the registered alternatives of the same species are appropriate and that the authorisation therefore is significant for her/his production; (c) where it is justified for use in research, test in small-scale field trials, or for variety of conservation purposes agreed by IMO IN. <p>6. The authorisation shall be granted for each season and before the sowing of the crop.</p> <p>7. The authorisation shall be granted only to individual users for one season at a time and IMO IN responsible for the authorisations shall register the quantities of seed or seed potatoes authorised.</p> <p>8. By way of derogation from paragraph 7, IMO IN may grant to all users a general authorisation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) for a given species when and in so far as the condition laid down in paragraph 5(a) is fulfilled; (b) for a given variety when and in so far as the conditions laid down in paragraph 5(b) are fulfilled. <p>The authorisations referred to in this paragraph shall be clearly indicated in records maintained by IMO IN.</p> <p>All authorisations shall be documented with the</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - scientific name of species, variety, denominations, - justification for authorisation, - quantity of seed or seed potato authorised, - chemical treatment for phytosanitary purposes. - period of validity 	889-Art. 45	E
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6.4.2 Soil management and amendments

	<p>1. Organic plant production shall use tillage and cultivation practices that maintain or increase soil organic matter, enhance soil stability and soil biodiversity, and prevent soil compaction and soil erosion;</p> <p>2. The fertility and biological activity of the soil shall be maintained and increased by multi-annual crop rotation including legumes and other green manure crops, and by the application of livestock manure or organic material, both preferably composted, from organic production;</p> <p>3. The use of Biodynamic preparations is allowed;</p> <p>4. In addition, fertilisers and soil conditioners may only be used if they have been authorised for use in organic production under Annex X;</p> <p>5. Mineral nitrogen fertilisers shall not be used.</p>	834-Art. 12.1	C
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6.4.2.1 Resort to fertilisers and soil conditioners

	<p>1. Where the nutritional needs of plants cannot be met by cultivation practices, crop rotation and the application of organic material (paragraph 6.4.2) only fertilisers and soil conditioners referred to in Annex I and Annex Ia of this Standard may be used in organic production and only to the extent necessary.</p> <p>Operators shall keep documentary evidence of the need to use the product.</p> <p>2. The total amount of livestock manure applied on the holding may not exceed 170 kg of nitrogen per year/hectare of agricultural area used. This limit shall only apply to the use of farmyard manure, dried farmyard manure and dehydrated poultry manure, composted animal excrements, including poultry manure, composted farmyard manure and liquid animal excrements.</p> <p>3. Organic production holdings may establish written cooperation agreements exclusively with other holdings and enterprises which comply with the organic production rules, with the intention of spreading surplus manure from organic production. The maximum limit as referred to in paragraph 2, shall be calculated on the basis of all of the organic-production units involved in such cooperation.</p> <p>4. Appropriate preparations of micro-organisms may be used to improve the overall condition of the soil or the availability of nutrients in the soil or in the crops.</p> <p>5. For compost activation appropriate plant-based preparations or preparations of micro-organisms may be used.</p>	889-Art. 3	<p>E</p> <p>C</p> <p>C</p> <p>C</p> <p>C</p>
6.4.2.2	Hydroponic production is prohibited.	889-Art. 4	C
6.4.3	Pest prevention and treatment		
	<p>1. The prevention of damage caused by pests, diseases and weeds shall rely primarily on the protection by natural enemies, the choice of species and varieties, crop rotation, cultivation techniques and thermal processes;</p> <p>2. In the case of an established threat to a crop, plant protection products may only be used if they have been authorised for use in organic production under Annex X.</p>	834-Art. 12.1	<p>C</p> <p>C</p>
6.4.3.1	Resort to pest treatments		
	<p>1. Where plants cannot be adequately protected from pests and diseases by the measures mentioned above, only products referred to in Annex II and Annex IIa of this Standard may be used in organic production.</p> <p>Operators shall keep documentary evidence of the need to use the product.</p> <p>2. For products used in traps and dispensers, except pheromone dispensers, the traps and/or dispensers, shall prevent the substances from being released into the environment and prevent contact between the substances and the crops being cultivated. The traps shall be collected after use and disposed of safely.</p>	889-Art. 5	<p>E</p> <p>C</p> <p>C</p>
6.4.4	Contamination		
	All plant production techniques used shall prevent or minimise any contribution to the contamination of the environment.	834-Art. 12.1	C
6.4.5	Storage of input products		
	In case of organic plant, seaweed, livestock and aquaculture animal production units, storage of input products other than those authorized under this Standard is prohibited in the production unit.	889-Art. 35	C

6.4.6 Cleaning and disinfection			
	Products for cleaning and disinfection in plant production shall be authorised by IMO IN according to the criteria defined in Annex X.	834-Art. 12.1	C
6.4.7 Products and substances used in farming and criteria for their authorisation			
	<p>1. IMO IN shall, in accordance with the procedure referred to in Annex X, authorise for use in organic production and include in a restricted list the products and substances, which may be used in organic farming for the following purposes:</p> <p>a) as plant protection products;</p> <p>b) as fertilisers and soil conditioners;</p> <p>2. The authorisation of the products and substances referred to in paragraph 1 is subject to the objectives and principles laid down in Sections 3 & 4 and the following general and specific criteria which shall be evaluated as a whole:</p> <p>a) their use is necessary for sustained production and essential for its intended use;</p> <p>b) all products and substances shall be of plant, animal, microbial or mineral origin except where products or substances from such sources are not available in sufficient quantities or qualities or if alternatives are not available;</p> <p>c) in the case of products referred to in paragraph 1(a), the following shall apply:</p> <p>(i) their use is essential for the control of a harmful organism or a particular disease for which other biological, physical or breeding alternatives or cultivation practices or other effective management practices are not available;</p> <p>(ii) if products are not of plant, animal, microbial or mineral origin and are not identical to their natural form, they may be authorised only if their conditions for use preclude any direct contact with the edible parts of the crop;</p> <p>d) in the case of products referred to in paragraph 1(b), their use is essential for obtaining or maintaining the fertility of the soil or to fulfil specific nutrition requirements of crops, or specific soil-conditioning purposes;</p> <p>3.a) IMO IN may lay down conditions and limits as regards the agricultural products to which the products and substances referred to in paragraph 1 can be applied to, the application method, the dosage, the time limits for use and the contact with agricultural products and, if necessary, decide on the withdrawal of these products and substances.</p> <p>3.c) IMO IN shall, in accordance with the procedure referred to in Annex X, accept products and substances used before the adoption of 834/2007 till they are withdrawn by the Commission.</p> <p>5. The use of products and substances not covered under paragraph 1 and 4 shall be accepted by IMO IN, subject to the objectives and principles laid down Sections 2 & 3 and the general criteria in this section.</p>	834-Art. 16	C

6.5 Mushroom production			
	<p>For production of mushrooms, substrates may be used, if they are composed only of the following components:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) farmyard manure and animal excrements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) either from holdings producing according to the organic production method; (ii) or referred to in Annex I, only when the product referred to in point (i) is not available; and when they do not exceed 25 % of the weight of total components of the substrate, excluding the covering material and any added water, before composting; b) products of agricultural origin, other than those referred to in point (a), from holdings producing according to organic production method; c) peat not chemically treated; d) wood, not treated with chemical products after felling; e) mineral products referred to in Annex I, water and soil. 	889-Art. 6	C
6.6 Wild plant collection			
	<p>The collection of wild plants and parts thereof, growing naturally in natural areas, forests and agricultural areas is considered an organic production method provided that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) those areas have not, for a period of at least three years before the collection, received treatment with products other than those authorised for use in organic production under Annex I; b) the collection does not affect the stability of the natural habitat or the maintenance of the species in the collection area. 	834-Art. 12.2	C

7. Preserved and processed products			
7.1 General rules			
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The preparation of processed organic food shall be kept separate in time or space from non-organic food. 2. Substances and techniques that reconstitute properties that are lost in the processing and storage of organic food, that correct the results of negligence in the processing of these products or that otherwise may be misleading as to the true nature of these products shall not be used. 	834-Art. 19	C

7.2	Rules for preserving products and for the production of processed feed and food	
	<p>1. Operators preserving products or producing processed feed or food shall establish and update appropriate procedures based on a systematic identification of critical processing steps. The application of those procedures shall guarantee at all times that preserved or processed products comply with the organic production rules.</p> <p>2. Operators shall comply with and implement the procedures referred to in paragraph 1. In particular, operators shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) take precautionary measures to avoid the risk of contamination by unauthorised substances or products; (b) implement suitable cleaning measures, monitor their effectiveness and record those measures; (c) guarantee that non-organic products are not placed on the market with an indication referring to the organic production method. <p>3. Where non-organic products are also prepared or stored in the preparation unit concerned, the operator shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) carry out the operations continuously until the complete run has been dealt with, separated by place or time from similar operations carried out on non-organic products; (b) store organic products, before and after the operations, separate by place or time from non-organic products; (c) inform the control authority or control body of the operations referred to in points (a) and (b) and keep available an updated register of all operations and quantities processed; (d) take the necessary measures to ensure identification of lots and to avoid mixtures or exchanges with non-organic products; (e) carry out operations on organic products only after suitable cleaning of the production equipment." <p>4. Additives, processing aids and other substances and ingredients used for processing feed or food and any processing practice applied, such as smoking, shall respect the principles of good manufacturing practice.'</p> 	<p>889-Art. 26</p> <p>C</p>
7.3	Split operations	
	<p>Further to the provisions laid down in 7.2, when non-organic products are also prepared or stored in the preparation unit concerned, the operator shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) carry out the operations continuously until the complete run has been dealt with, separated by place or time from similar operations performed on non-organic products; b) store organic products, before and after the operations, separate by place or time from non-organic products; c) inform IMO IN thereof and keep available an updated register of all operations and quantities processed; d) take the necessary measures to ensure identification of lots and to avoid mixtures or exchanges with non-organic products; e) carry out operations on organic products only after suitable cleaning of the production equipment. 	<p>889-Art. 26</p> <p>C</p>

7.4	Ingredients		
	<p>The following conditions shall apply to the composition of organic processed food:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) the product shall be produced mainly from ingredients of agricultural origin; in order to determine whether a product is produced mainly from ingredients of agricultural origin, added water and cooking salt shall not be taken into account; b) only additives, processing aids, flavourings, water, salt, preparations of micro-organisms and enzymes, minerals, trace elements, vitamins, as well as amino acids and other micronutrients in foodstuffs for particular nutritional uses may be used, and only in so far as they have been authorised for use in organic production in accordance with Annex VIII; c) non-organic agricultural ingredients may be used only if they have been listed in Annex IX. d) an organic ingredient shall not be present together with the same ingredient in non-organic form or an ingredient in conversion; e) food produced from in-conversion crops shall contain only one crop ingredient of agricultural origin. 	834-Art. 19	C
7.4.1	Use of certain products and substances in processing of food		
	<p>1. Only the following substances can be used in the processing of organic food, with the exception of wine:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) substances listed in Annex VIII to this Standard; b) preparations of micro-organisms and enzymes normally used in food processing; however, enzymes to be used as food additives have to be listed in Annex VIII. c) substances, and products 4 labelled as natural flavouring substances or natural flavouring preparations; d) colours for stamping meat and eggshells⁵; e) drinking water and salt (with sodium chloride or potassium chloride as basic components) generally used in food processing; f) minerals (trace elements included), vitamins, amino acids and micronutrients, provided that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) their use in food for normal consumption is 'directly legally required', in the meaning of being directly required by provisions of Union law or provisions of national law compatible with Union law, with the consequence that the food cannot be placed at all on the market as food for normal consumption if those minerals, vitamins, amino acids or micronutrients are not added; or (ii) as regards food placed on the market as having particular characteristics or effects in relation to health or nutrition or in relation to needs of specific groups of consumers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — 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 (*), their use is authorised by that Regulation and acts adopted on the basis of Article 11(1) of that Regulation for the products concerned, — in products regulated by Commission Directive 2006/125/EC (**), their use is authorised by that Directive, or — in products regulated by Commission Directive 2006/141/EC (***), their use is authorised by that Directive. 	889-Art. 27	C

	<p>(*)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).</p> <p>(**)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).</p> <p>(***)Commission Directive 2006/141/EC of 22 December 2006 on infant formulae and follow-on formulae and amending Directive 1999/21/EC (OJ L 401, 30.12.2006, p. 1).';</p> <p>2. For the purpose of the calculation referred to at 9.1,</p> <p>a) food additives listed in Annex VIII and marked with an asterisk in the column of the additive code number, shall be calculated as ingredients of agricultural origin;</p> <p>b) preparations and substances referred to in paragraph (1)(b),(c),(d),(e), and (f) of this Art. and substances not marked with an asterisk in the column of the additive code number shall not be calculated as ingredients of agricultural origin.</p> <p>c) yeast and yeast products shall be calculated as ingredients of agricultural origin as of 31 December 2013.</p> <p>3. The use of the following substances listed in Annex VIII is expected to be re-examined before 31 December 2010:</p> <p>a) Sodium nitrite and potassium nitrate in with a view to withdrawing these additives;</p> <p>b) Sulphur dioxide and potassium metabisulphite in;</p> <p>c) Hydrochloric acid in Section B for the processing of Gouda, Edam and Maasdammer cheeses, Boerenkaas, Friese, and Leidse</p>		
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⁴ As defined in Art.s 1(2)(b)(i) and 1(2)(c) of Council Directive 88/388/EEC (14) according to Art.s 9(1)(d) and (2) of that Directive

⁵ In accordance with, respectively, Art. 2(8) and Art. 2(9) of European Parliament and Council Directive 94/36/EC (15);

7.4.2 Use of certain non-organic ingredients of agricultural origin in processing food			
	An ingredient of agricultural origin may only be used in non-organic form if it has been listed in Annex IX.	889-Art. 28	C
7.4.3 General rules on the production of organic yeast			
	<p>1. For the production of organic yeast only organically produced substrates shall be used. Other products and substances may only be used in so far as they have been authorised for use in organic production in accordance with Annex VIII.</p> <p>2. Organic yeast shall not be present in organic food or feed together with non-organic yeast.</p>	834-Art. 20	C
7.4.4 Substances in the production, confection and formulation of yeast			
	<p>The following substances may be used in the production, confection and formulation of yeast:</p> <p>(a) substances listed in Annex VIII, of this Standard; (b) products and substances referred to in Article 4.7.1 (1)(b) and (e) of this Standard.</p>	889-Art. 27a	C
7.4.5 Exceptional production rules with regard to the use of specific products and substances			
7.4.5.1 Addition of non-organic yeast extract			

	<p>The addition of up to 5 % non-organic yeast extract or autolysate to the substrate (calculated in dry matter) is allowed for the production of organic yeast, where operators are unable to obtain yeast extract or autolysate from organic production.</p> <p>The availability of organic yeast extract or autolysate shall be re-examined by 31 December 2013 with a view to withdrawing this provision.'</p>	889-Art. 46a	C
7.5 Collection, packaging, transport and storage of products			
7.5.1 Collection of products and transport to preparation units			
	Operators may carry out simultaneous collection of organic and non-organic products, only where appropriate measures are taken to prevent any possible mixture or exchange with non-organic products and to ensure the identification of the organic products. The operator shall keep the information relating to collection days, hours, circuit and date and time of reception of the products available to IMO IN.	889-Art. 30	C
7.5.2 Packaging and transport of products to other operators or units			
	<p>1. Operators shall ensure that organic products are transported to other units, including wholesalers and retailers, only in appropriate packaging, containers or vehicles closed in such a manner that substitution of the content cannot be achieved without manipulation or damage of the seal and provided with a label stating, without prejudice to any other indications required by law:</p> <p>(a) the name and address of the operator and, where different, of the owner or seller of the product;</p> <p>(b) the name of the product or a description of the compound feedingstuff accompanied by a reference to the organic production method;</p>	889-Art. 31	C
	<p>(c) the name and/or the code number of IMO IN to which the operator is subject; and</p> <p>(d) where relevant, the lot identification mark according to a marking system agreed with IMO IN which permits to link the lot with the accounts referred to in Section 10.</p> <p>The information referred to in points (a) to (d) of the first subparagraph may also be presented on an accompanying document, if such a document can be undeniably linked with the packaging, container or vehicular transport of the product. This accompanying document shall include information on the supplier and/or the transporter.</p> <p>2. The closing of packaging, containers or vehicles shall not be required where:</p> <p>a) transportation is direct between an operator and another operator who are both subject to control by IMO IN.</p> <p>b) the products are accompanied by a document giving the information required under paragraph 1, and</p> <p>c) both the expediting and the receiving operators shall keep documentary records of such transport operations available for verification by IMO IN of such transport operations.</p>		
7.5.3 Reception of products from other units and other operators			

	<p>On receipt of an organic product, the operator shall check the closing of the packaging or container where it is required and the presence of the indications provided to in 7.5.2.</p> <p>The operator shall crosscheck the information on the label referred to in 7.5.2 with the information on the accompanying documents. The result of these verifications shall be explicitly mentioned in the documentary accounts referred to in Section 10.</p> <p>2. The operator shall verify the documentary evidence of his/her suppliers.</p> <p>3. The form of the documentary shall include all details shown in Annex XII.</p>	<p>889-Art. 33</p> <p>834-Art. 29</p>	<p>C</p> <p>C</p>
7.5.4 Storage of products			
	<p>1. For the storage of products, areas shall be managed in such a way as to ensure identification of lots and to avoid any mixing with or contamination by products and/or substances not in compliance with the organic production rules. Organic products shall be clearly identifiable at all times.</p> <p>2. In case where operators handle both non-organic products and organic products and the latter are stored in storage facilities in which also other agricultural products or foodstuffs are stored:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) the organic products shall be kept separate from the other agricultural products and/or foodstuffs; b) every measure shall be taken to ensure identification of consignments and to avoid mixtures or exchanges with non-organic products; c) suitable cleaning measures, the effectiveness of which has been checked, have been carried out before the storage of organic products; operators shall record these operations. 	<p>889-Art. 35</p>	<p>C</p>

8.	Labelling		
8.1	Use of terms referring to organic production		
	<p>1. A product shall be eligible for bearing terms referring to the organic production method where, in the labelling, advertising material, or commercial documents, such a product, its ingredients or feed materials have been obtained in accordance with the rules laid down in this Standard.</p> <p>In the labelling and advertising of live or unprocessed agricultural products, terms referring to the organic production method may be used only where all the ingredients of that product have also been produced in accordance with the requirements laid down in this Standard.</p> <p>The terms referred to in paragraph 1 shall not be used for the labelling, advertising and commercial documents of a product which does not satisfy the requirements set out under this Standard.</p> <p>Furthermore, any terms, including terms used in trademarks, or practices used in labelling or advertising liable to mislead the consumer or user by suggesting that a product or its ingredients satisfy the requirements set out under this Standard shall not be used.</p> <p>2. Labelling as referred to in paragraph 1 shall not be used for a product for which it has to be indicated in the labelling or advertising that it contains GMOs, consists of GMOs, or is produced from GMOs.</p> <p>3. As regards processed food, the labelling referred to in paragraph 1 may be used:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) in the sales description, provided that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) the processed food complies with 7.1 (1), 7.4.1 (a),(b) & (d); (ii) at least 95 % by weight, of its ingredients of agricultural origin are organic; b) only in the list of ingredients, provided that the food complies with 7.4; c) in the list of ingredients and in the same visual field as the sales description, provided that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) the main ingredient is a product of hunting or fishing; (ii) it contains other ingredients of agricultural origin that are all organic; (iii) the food complies with 7.1 (1), 7.4.1 (a),(b) & (d). <p>The list of ingredients shall indicate which ingredients are organic. In the case where points (b) and (c) of this paragraph apply, the references to the organic production method may only appear in relation to the organic ingredients and the list of ingredients shall include an indication of the total percentage of organic ingredients in proportion to the total quantity of ingredients of agricultural origin. The terms and the indication of percentage referred to in the previous subparagraph shall appear in the same colour, identical size and style of lettering as the other indications in the list of ingredients.</p>	834-Art. 23	C

8.2	Compulsory indications		
	<p>1. Where terms in line with 8.1, 1. are used:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) the code number of the control authority or control body to which the operator who has carried out the most recent production or preparation operation is subject, shall also appear in the labelling; b) the Organic production logo of the European Union as regards pre-packaged food shall also appear on the packaging; c) where the Organic production logo of the European Union is used, an indication of the place where the agricultural raw materials of which the product is composed have been farmed, shall also appear in the same visual field as the logo and shall take one of the following forms, as appropriate: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> "EU Agriculture", where the agricultural raw material has been farmed in the EU; "non-EU Agriculture", where the agricultural raw material has been farmed in third countries; "EU/non-EU Agriculture", where part of the agricultural raw materials has been farmed in the Community and a part of it has been farmed in a third country. <p>The above mentioned indication "EU" or "non-EU" may be replaced or supplemented by a country in the case where all agricultural raw materials of which the product is composed have been farmed in that country.</p> <p>For the above mentioned "EU" or "non-EU" indication, small quantities by weight of ingredients may be disregarded provided that the total quantity of the disregarded ingredients does not exceed 2 % of the total quantity by weight of raw materials of agricultural origin.</p> <p>The above mentioned "EU" or "non-EU" indication shall not appear in a colour, size and style of lettering more prominent than the sales description of the product. The use of the Organic production logo of the European Union and the indication referred to in the first subparagraph shall be optional for products imported from third countries. However, where the Organic production logo of the European Union appears in the labelling, the indication referred to in the first subparagraph shall also appear in the labelling.</p> <p>2. The indications referred to in paragraph 1 shall be marked in a conspicuous place in such a way as to be easily visible, clearly legible and indelible</p>	834-Art. 24	C
8.3	Organic production logos		
	<p>1. The Organic production logo of the European Union may be used in the labelling, presentation and advertising of products which satisfy the requirements set out under this Standard. The Organic production logo of the European Union shall not be used in the case of in-conversion products and food as referred to in 8.1 (3) (b) and (c).</p> <p>2. National and private logos may be used in the labelling, presentation and advertising of products which satisfy the requirements set out under this Standard.</p> <p>3. The Commission shall lay down specific criteria as regards presentation, composition, size and design of the Organic production logo of the European Union</p>	834-Art. 25	C

8.4 Organic production logo of the European Union			
	<p>In accordance with 8.3 (3), the organic production logo of the European Union (hereinafter “Organic logo of the EU”) shall follow the model set out Annex XI to this Standard.</p> <p>For the purpose of labelling, the organic logo of the EU shall only be used if the product concerned is produced in accordance with the requirements of this Standard, by operators who comply with the requirements of the control system referred to in 5.2, 5.2.1, 5.2.3 & 5.2.8</p>	<p>889-Art. 57</p> <p>344/2011</p>	<p>C</p> <p>C</p>
8.4.1 Conditions for the use of the code number and place of origin			
	<p>1. The indication of the code number of the certification body referred to in Article 8.2 shall,</p> <p>(a) start with the acronym identifying the the third country, as referred to in the international standard for the two letter country codes under ISO 3166 (Codes for the representation of names of countries and their subdivisions);</p> <p>(b) include a term which establishes a link with the organic production method, as referred to in Article 8.1 in accordance with Part B(2) of Annex XI to this Standard;</p> <p>(c) include the following reference number 147 in accordance with Part B(3) of Annex XI to this Standard; and</p> <p>(d) be placed in the same visual field as the Organic logo of the EU, where the Organic logo of the EU is used in the labelling.’;</p> <p>2. The indication of the place where the agricultural raw materials of which the products is composed have been farmed, as referred to in Article 8.2(1)(c) , shall be placed immediately below the code number referred to in paragraph 1.</p>	889-Art. 58	C

9. Record keeping responsibilities of operators			
9.1 General			
	<p>1. Stock and financial records shall be kept in the unit or premises and shall enable the operator to identify and IMO IN to verify:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) the supplier and, where different, the seller, or the exporter of the products; b) the nature and the quantities of organic products delivered to the unit and, where relevant, of all materials bought and the use of such materials, and, where relevant, the composition of the compound feedingstuffs; c) the nature and the quantities of organic products held in storage at the premises; d) the nature, the quantities and the consignees and, where different, the buyers, other than the final consumers, of any products which have left the unit or the first consignee's premises or storage facilities; e) in case of operators who do not store or physically handle such organic products, the nature and the quantities of organic products bought and sold, and the suppliers, and where different, the sellers or the exporters and the buyers, and where different, the consignees. <p>2. The documentary accounts shall also comprise the results of the verification at reception of organic products and any other information required by IMO IN for the purpose of proper control. The data in the accounts shall be documented with appropriate justification documents. The accounts shall demonstrate the balance between the input and the output.</p> <p>3. Where an operator runs several production units in the same area, the units for non-organic products, together with storage premises for input products must also be subject to the minimum control requirements.</p>	889-Art. 66	C
9.2 Plant production records			
	<p>Plant production records shall be compiled in the form of a register and kept available to IMO IN at all times at the premises of the holding. In addition to 9.1, such records shall provide at least the following information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) as regards the use of fertiliser: date of application, type and amount of fertiliser, parcels concerned; b) as regards the use of plant protection products: reason and date of treatment, type of product, method of treatment; c) as regards purchase of farm inputs: date, type and amount of purchased product; d) as regards harvest: date, type and amount of organic or in conversion crop production. 	889-Art. 72	C
10 Entry into force and application			
	This standard shall enter into force from the date the Commission approves the application for equivalence. This Standard shall be binding in its entirety and applicable in countries outside EU.	889-Art. 97	E

Annexes

Note: The following annexes will be continuously updated, on the basis of Amendments to Regulation (EC) No 889/2008

ANNEX I

I Fertilizers, soil conditioners and nutrients referred to in Article 6.4.2.1

Name Compound products or products containing only materials listed hereunder:	Description, compositional requirements, conditions for use
Farmyard manure	Product comprising a mixture of animal excrements and vegetable matter (animal bedding). Factory farming origin forbidden
Dried farmyard manure and dehydrated poultry manure	Factory farming origin forbidden
Composted animal excrements, including poultry manure and composted farmyard manure included	Factory farming origin forbidden
Liquid animal excrements	Use after controlled fermentation and/or appropriate dilution Factory farming origin forbidden
Composted or fermented mixture of household waste	Product obtained from source separated household waste, which has been submitted to composting or to anaerobic fermentation for biogas production Only vegetable and animal household waste Only when produced in a closed and monitored collection system, accepted by the Member State Maximum concentrations in mg/kg of dry matter: cadmium: 0,7; copper: 70; nickel: 25; lead: 45; zinc: 200; mercury: 0,4; chromium (total): 70; chromium (VI): not detectable
Peat	Use limited to horticulture (market gardening, floriculture, arboriculture, nursery)
Mushroom culture wastes	The initial composition of the substrate shall be limited to products of this Annex
Dejecta of worms (vermicompost) and insects	
Guano	
Composted or fermented mixture of vegetable matter	Product obtained from mixtures of vegetable matter, which have been submitted to composting or to anaerobic fermentation for biogas production
Biogas digestate containing animal by-products co-digested with material of plant or animal origin as listed in this Annex	Animal by-products (including by-products of wild animals) of category 3 and digestive tract content of category 2 (categories 2 and 3 as defined in Regulation (EC) No 1069/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council ⁽¹⁾) must not be from factory farming origin. The Processes have to be in accordance with Commission Regulation (EU) No 142/2011. Not to be applied to edible parts of the crop

Products or by-products of animal origin as below: Blood meal Hoof meal Horn meal Bone meal or degelatinised bone meal Fish meal Meat meal Feather, hair and “chiquette” meal Wool Fur (1) Hair Dairy products Hydrolysed proteins (2)	(1) Maximum concentration in mg/kg of dry matter of chromium (VI): not detectable (2) Not to be applied to edible parts of the crop
Products and by-products of plant origin for fertilisers	Examples: oilseed cake meal, cocoa husks, malt culms
Hydrolysed proteins of plant origin	
Seaweeds and seaweed products	As far as directly obtained by: (i) physical processes including dehydration, freezing and grinding (ii) extraction with water or aqueous acid and/or alkaline solution (iii) fermentation
Sawdust and wood chips	Wood not chemically treated after felling
Composted bark	Wood not chemically treated after felling
Wood ash	From wood not chemically treated after felling
Soft ground rock phosphate	Product as specified in point 7 of Annex IA.2. to Regulation (EC) No 2003/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council (2). Cadmium content less than or equal to 90 mg/kg of P205
Aluminium-calcium phosphate	Product as specified in point 6 of Annex IA.2. to Regulation (EC) No 2003/2003, Cadmium content less than or equal to 90 mg/kg of P205 Use limited to basic soils (pH > 7,5)
Basic slag	Products as specified in point 1 of Annex IA.2. to Regulation (EC) No 2003/2003
Crude potassium salt or kainit	Products as specified in point 1 of Annex IA.3. to Regulation (EC) No 2003/2003
Potassium sulphate, possibly containing magnesium salt	Product obtained from crude potassium salt by a physical extraction process, containing possibly also magnesium salts

Name Compound products or products containing only materials listed hereunder:	Description, compositional requirements, conditions for use
Stillage and stillage extract	Ammonium stillage excluded
Calcium carbonate, for instance: chalk, marl, ground limestone, Breton ameliorant, (maerl), phosphate chalk	Only of natural origin
Mollusc waste	Only from sustainable fisheries, as defined in Article 4 (1) (7) of Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013 or organic aquaculture
Egg shells	Factory farming origin forbidden.
Magnesium and calcium carbonate	Only of natural origin e.g. magnesian chalk, ground magnesium, limestone
Magnesium sulphate (kieserite)	Only of natural origin
Calcium chloride solution	Foliar treatment of apple trees, after identification of deficit of calcium
Calcium sulphate (gypsum)	Products as specified in point 1 of Annex ID. to Regulation (EC) No 2003/2003 Only of natural origin
Industrial lime from sugar production	By-product of sugar production from sugar beet and sugar cane
Industrial lime from vacuum salt production	By-product of the vacuum salt production from brine found in mountains
Elemental sulphur	Products as specified in Annex ID.3 to Regulation (EC) No 2003/2003
Trace elements	Inorganic micronutrients listed in part E of Annex I to Regulation (EC) No 2003/2003
Sodium chloride	
Stone meal and clays	
Leonardite (Raw organic sediment rich in humic acids)	Only if obtained as a by-product of mining activities
Humic and fulvic acids	Only if obtained by inorganic salts/solutions excluding ammonium salts; or obtained from drinking water purification
Xylite	Only if obtained as a by-product of mining activities (e.g. by- product of brown coal mining)
Chitin (Polysaccharide obtained from the shell of crustaceans)	Only if obtained from sustainable fisheries, as defined in Article 4(1)(7) of Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013 or organic aquaculture
Organic rich sediment from fresh water bodies formed under exclusion of oxygen (e.g. sapropel)	Only organic sediments that are by-products of fresh water body management or extracted from former freshwater areas When applicable, extraction should be done in a way to cause minimal impact on the aquatic system Only sediments derived from sources free from contaminations of pesticides, persistent organic pollutants and petrol like substances Maximum concentrations in mg/kg of dry matter: cadmium: 0,7; copper: 70; nickel: 25; lead: 45; zinc: 200; mercury: 0,4; chromium (total): 70; chromium (VI): not detectable

Name Compound products or products containing only materials listed hereunder:	Description, compositional requirements, conditions for use
Biochar — pyrolysis product made from a wide variety of organic materials of plant origin and applied as a soil conditioner	Only from plant materials, untreated or treated with products included in Annex II. Maximum value of 4 mg polycyclic aromatic hydro-carbons (PAHs) per kg dry matter (DM). This value shall be reviewed every second year taking into account the risk of accumulation due to multiple applications'

⁽¹⁾ Commission Regulation (EU) No 142/2011 of 25 February 2011 implementing Regulation (EC) No 1069/ 2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down health rules as regards animal by-products and derived products not intended for human consumption and implementing Council Directive 97/78/EC as regards certain samples and items exempt from veterinary checks at the border under that Directive (OJ L 54, 26.2.2011, p. 1).

⁽²⁾ Regulation (EC) No 2003/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 October 2003 relating to fertilisers (OJ L 304, 21.11.2003, p. 1).

ANNEX Ia

Ia Fertilizers, soil conditioners and nutrients equivalent to those listed in Annex I

Note: No products authorised yet

ANNEX II

Pesticides — Plant protection products referred to in Article 6.4.3.1

All the substances listed in this Annex have to comply at least with the conditions for use as specified in the Annex to Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 540/2011 ⁽¹⁾. More restrictive conditions for use for organic production are specified in the second column of each table.

1. Substances of plant or animal origin

Name	Description, compositional requirement, conditions for use
Allium sativum (Garlic extract)	
Azadirachtin extracted from Azadirachta indica (Neem tree)	
Beeswax	Only as pruning agent/wound protectant
COS-OGA	
Hydrolysed proteins excluding gelatine	
Laminarin	Kelp shall be either grown organically in accordance with Article 6d or harvested in a sustainable way in accordance with Article 6c
Maltodextrin	
Pheromones	Only in traps and dispensers.
Plant oils	All uses authorised, except herbicide .
Pyrethrins	Only from plant origin
Quassia extracted from Quassia amara	Only as insecticide, repellent
Repellents by smell of animal or plant origin/ sheep fat	Only on non-edible parts of the crop and where crop material is not ingested by sheep or goats
Salix spp. Cortex (a.k.a. willow bark)	
Terpenes (eugenol, geraniol and thymol)	

2. Basic substances

Basic substances based on food (including: Le-cithins, sucrose, fructose, vinegar, whey, chitosan hydrochloride ⁽¹⁾ , and Equisetum arvense etc.)	Only those basic substances as defined by Article 23 of Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009 ⁽²⁾ which are food as defined in Article 2 of Regulation (EC) No 178/2002 and have plant or animal origin Substances not to be used as herbicides
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⁽¹⁾ Obtained from sustainable fisheries or organic aquaculture.

⁽²⁾ Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 October 2009 concerning the placing of plant protection products on the market (OJ L 309, 24.11.2009, p. 1).

⁽¹⁾ Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 540/2011 of 25 May 2011 implementing Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards the list of approved active substances (OJ L 153, 11.6.2011, p. 1).

3. Micro-organisms or substances produced by or derived from micro-organisms

Name	Description, compositional requirement, conditions for use
Micro-organisms	Not from GMO origin
Spinosad	
Cerevisane	

4. Substances other than those mentioned in Sections 1, 2 and 3

Name	Description, compositional requirement, conditions or restrictions to use
Aluminium silicate (Kaolin)	
Calcium hydroxide	When used as fungicide, only in fruit trees, including nurseries, to control <i>Nectria galligena</i>
Carbon dioxide	
Copper compounds in the form of: copper hydroxide, copper oxychloride, copper oxide, Bordeaux mixture, and tribasic copper sulphate	
Diammonium phosphate	Only as attractant in traps
Ethylene	
Fatty acids	All uses authorised, except herbicide
Ferric phosphate (iron (III) orthophosphate)	Preparations to be surface-spread between cultivated plants
Hydrogen peroxide	
Kieselgur (diatomaceous earth)	
Lime sulphur (calcium polysulphide)	
Paraffin oil	
Potassium and sodium hydrogen carbonate (a.k.a. potassium/sodium bicarbonate)	
Pyrethroids (only deltamethrin or lambda-cyhalothrin)	Only in traps with specific attractants; only against <i>Bactrocera oleae</i> and <i>Ceratitis capitata</i> Wied
Quartz sand	
Sodium chloride	All uses authorised, except herbicide
Sulphur'	

ANNEX IIa

IIa Pesticides — plant protection products equivalent to those listed in Annex II

1. Taking into account regional differences in climate and local conditions, IMO IN may allow plant extracts to be used as plant protection agents, where the following conditions apply:

- The plant extracts are natural or naturally-derived substances in the understanding of Article 4.1
- The plant extracts are not used as herbicides.

For recognition the following criteria must be met:

- Specifications of plant extracts have been provided
- The plant extracts may not include tobacco (*Nicotiana tabacum*).

ANNEX VIII

VIII Certain products and substances for use in production of processed organic food, yeast and yeast products referred to in Article 7.4.1 (1) (a)

Note: IMO IN will update this annex continuously and appropriately on the basis of amendments to Regulation (EC) No 834/2007 and 889/2008

For authorisation of processing aids and other products which may be used for processing of ingredients of agriculture origin from organic production, IMO IN shall refer to Regulation 834/2007 and 889/2008 and relevant annexes. However, processing aids and other products may only be authorised, if their use is permitted under national law.

SECTION A — FOOD ADDITIVES, INCLUDING CARRIERS

For the purpose of the calculation referred to in section 9.1, food additives marked with an asterisk in the column of the code number, shall be calculated as ingredients of agricultural origin

Code	Name	Preparation of foodstuffs of		Specific conditions and restrictions in addition to Regulation (EC) No 1333/2008
		plant origin	Animal origin	
E 153	Vegetable carbon		X	Ashy goat cheese Morbier cheese
E 160b*	Annatto, Bixin, Norbixin		X	Red Leicester cheese Double Gloucester cheese Cheddar Mimolette cheese
E 170	Calcium carbonate	X	X	Shall not be used for colouring or calcium enrichment of products
E 220	Sulphur dioxide	X	X(Only for mead)	In fruit wines (wine made from fruits other than grapes, including cider and perry) and mead with and without added sugar: 100 mg/l (Maximum levels available from all sources, expressed as SO ₂ in mg/l)
E 223	Sodium metabisulphite		X	Crustaceans
E 224	Potassium metabisulphite	X	X (Only for mead)	In fruit wines (wine made from fruits other than grapes, including cider and perry) and mead with and without added sugar: 100 mg/l (Maximum levels available from all sources, expressed as SO ₂ in mg/l)
E250	Sodium nitrite		X	For meat products. May only be used, if it has been demonstrated to the satisfaction of the competent authority that no technological alternative, giving the same guarantees and/or allowing to maintain the specific features of the product, is available. Not in combination with E252. Indicative ingoing amount expressed as NaNO ₂ : 80 mg/kg, maximum residual amount expressed as NaNO ₂ : 50 mg/kg
E252	Potassium nitrate		X	For meat products. May only be used, if it has been demonstrated to the satisfaction of the competent authority that no technological alternative, giving the same guarantees and/or allowing to maintain the specific features of the product, is available. Not in combination with E250. Indicative ingoing amount expressed as NaNO ₃ : 80 mg/kg, maximum residual amount expressed as NaNO ₃ : 50 mg/kg

Code	Name	Preparation of foodstuffs of		Specific conditions and restrictions in addition to Regulation (EC) No 1333/2008
		plant origin	Animal origin	
E 270	Lactic acid	X	X	
E 290	Carbon dioxide	X	X	
E 296	Malic acid	X		
E 300	Ascorbic acid	X	X	With regard to foodstuffs of animal origin: Meat products
E 301	Sodium ascorbate		X	With regard to foodstuffs of animal origin: Meat products in connection with nitrates and nitrites
E 306(*)	Tocopherol-rich extract	X	X	Anti-oxidant
E 322(*)	Lecithins	X	X	With regard to foodstuffs of animal origin: Milk products. Only when derived from organic production. Applicable as of 1 January 2022. Until that date, only when derived from organic raw material.
E 325	Sodium lactate		X	Milk-based and meat products
E 330	Citric acid	X	X	
E 331	Sodium citrates	X	X	
E 333	Calcium citrates	X		
E 334	Tartaric acid (L(+)-)	X	X(Only for meat)	With regard to foodstuffs of animal origin: Mead.
E 335	Sodium tartrates	X		
E 336	Potassium tartrates	X		
E 341 (i)	Monocalcium phosphate	X		Raising agent for self-raising flour
E 392*	Extracts of Rosemary	X	X	Only when derived from organic production
E 400	Alginic acid	X	X	With regard to foodstuffs of animal origin: milk- based products
E 401	Sodium alginate	X	X	With regard to foodstuffs of animal origin: milk- based products and sausages based on meat
E 402	Potassium alginate	X	X	With regard to foodstuffs of animal origin: milk- based products
E 406	Agar	X	X	With regard to foodstuffs of animal origin: milk- based products and meat products
E 407	Carrageenan	X	X	With regard to foodstuffs of animal origin: milk- based products
E 410*	Locust bean gum	X	X	Only when derived from organic production. Applicable as of 1 January 2022.

Code	Name	Preparation of foodstuffs of		Specific conditions and restrictions in addition to Regulation (EC) No 1333/2008
		plant origin	Animal origin	
E 412*	Guar gum	X	X	Only when derived from organic production. Applicable as of 1 January 2022.
E 414*	Arabic gum	X	X	Only when derived from organic production. Applicable as of 1 January 2022.
E 415	Xanthan gum	X	X	
E 417	Tara gum powder	X	X	Thickener Only when derived from organic production. Applicable as of 1 January 2022.
E 418	Gellan gum	X	X	High-acyl form only Only when derived from organic production. Applicable as of 1 January 2022.
E 422	Glycerol	X	X	Only from plant origin Only when derived from organic production. Applicable as of 1 January 2022. For plant extracts, flavourings, humectant in gel capsules and as a surface coating of tablets
E 440 (i)*	Pectin	X	X	With regard to foodstuffs of animal origin: milk-based products
E 464	Hydroxypropyl methyl cellulose	X	X	Encapsulation material for capsules
E 500	Sodium carbonates	X	X	
E 501	Potassium carbonates	X		
E 503	Ammonium carbonates	X		
E 504	Magnesium carbonates	X		
E 509	Calcium chloride		X	Milk coagulation
E 516	Calcium sulphate	X		Carrier
E 524	Sodium hydroxide	X		Surface treatment of “Laugengebäck” and regulation of acidity in organic flavourings
E 551	Silicon dioxide	X	X	For herbs and spices in dried powdered form, flavourings and propolis
E 553b	Talc	X	X	With regard to foodstuffs of animal origin: surface treatment of sausages
E 901	Beeswax	X		As a glazing agent for confectionary only. Beeswax from organic production
E 903	Carnauba wax	X		As a glazing agent for confectionary As a mitigating method for mandatory extreme cold treatment of fruit as a quarantine measure against harmful organisms (Commission Implementing Directive (EU) 2017/1279) ⁽¹⁾ Only when derived from organic production. Applicable as of 1 January 2022. Until that date, only when derived from organic raw material.

Code	Name	Preparation of foodstuffs of		Specific conditions and restrictions in addition to Regulation (EC) No 1333/2008
		plant origin	Animal origin	
E 938	Argon	X	X	
E 939	Helium	X	X	
E 941	Nitrogen	X	X	
E 948	Oxygen	X	X	
E 968	Erythritol	X	X	Only when derived from organic production without using ion exchange technology

(¹) Commission Implementing Directive (EU) 2017/1279 of 14 July 2017 amending Annexes I to V to Council Directive 2000/29/EC on protective measures against the introduction into the Community of organisms harmful to plants or plant products and against their spread within the Community (OJ L 184, 15.7.2017, p. 33).

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

Name	Preparation of all foodstuffs of plant origin	Preparation of all foodstuffs of animal origin	Specific conditions and restrictions in addition to Regulation (EU) No 1333/2008
Water	X	X	Drinking water within the meaning of Council Directive 98/83/EC
Calcium chloride	X	X	Coagulation agent, with regard to foodstuffs of animal origin: sausages based on meat
Calcium carbonate	X		
Calcium hydroxide	X		
Calcium sulphate	X		Coagulation agent
Magnesium chloride (or nigari)	X		Coagulation agent
Potassium carbonate	X		With regard to foodstuffs of plant origin: drying of grapes
Sodium carbonate	X	X	
Lactic acid		X	With regard to foodstuffs of animal origin: for the regulation of the pH of the brine bath in cheese production
L(+)-lactic acid from fermentation	X		With regard to foodstuffs of plant origin: for the preparation of plant protein extracts
Citric acid	X	X	
Sodium hydroxide	X		With regard to foodstuffs of plant origin: for sugar(s) production; for oil production excluding olive oil production; for the preparation of plant protein extracts
Sulphuric acid	X	X	Gelatine production Sugar(s) production

Hop extract	X		With regard to foodstuffs of plant origin: only for antimicrobial purposes in production of sugar. When available from organic production
Name	Preparation of all foodstuffs of plant origin	Preparation of all foodstuffs of animal origin	Specific conditions and restrictions in addition to Regulation (EU) No 1333/2008
Pine rosin extract	X		With regard to foodstuffs of plant origin: only for antimicrobial purposes in production of sugar. When available from organic production
Hydrochloric acid		X	With regard to foodstuffs of animal origin: Gelatine production; for the regulation of the pH of the brine bath in the processing of Gouda-, Edam and Maasdammer cheeses, Boerenkaas, Friese and Leidse Nagelkaas
Ammonium hydroxide		X	With regard to foodstuffs of animal origin: gelatine production
Hydrogen peroxide		X	With regard to foodstuffs of animal origin: gelatine production
Carbon dioxide	X	X	
Nitrogen	X	X	
Ethanol	X	X	Solvent
Tannic acid	X		Filtration aid
Egg white albumin	X		
Casein	X		
Gelatin	X		
Isinglass	X		
Vegetable oils	X	X	Greasing, releasing or anti-foaming agent. Only when derived from organic production
Silicon dioxide gel or colloidal solution	X		
Activated carbon	X	X	
Talc	X		In compliance with the specific purity criteria for food additive E 553b
Bentonite	X	X	With regard to foodstuffs of animal origin: as a sticking agent for mead
Cellulose	X	X	With regard to foodstuffs of animal origin: Gelatine production
Diatomaceous earth	X	X	With regard to foodstuffs of animal origin: Gelatine production

Perlite	X	X	With regard to foodstuffs of animal origin: Gelatine production
Hazelnut shells	X		
Rice meal	X		
Beeswax	X		Releasing agent. Beeswax from organic production

Name	Preparation of all foodstuffs of plant origin	Preparation of all foodstuffs of animal origin	Specific conditions and restrictions in addition to Regulation (EU) No 1333/2008
Carnauba wax	X		Releasing agent. Only when derived from organic production. Applicable as of 1 January 2022. Until that date, only when derived from organic raw material
Acetic acid/vinegar		X	Only when derived from organic production. For fish processing only. From natural fermentation, Not to be produced by or from GMO
Thiamin hydrochloride	X	X	Only for use in processing of fruit wines, including cider and perry and mead
Diammonium phosphate	X	X	Only for use in processing of fruit wines, including cider and perry and mead
Wood fibre	X	X	The source of timber should be restricted to certified, sustainably harvested wood. Wood used must not contain toxic components (post-harvest treatment, naturally occurring toxins or toxins from micro-organisms)

SECTION C — PROCESSING AIDS FOR THE PRODUCTION OF YEAST AND YEAST PRODUCTS

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

ANNEX IX

IX Ingredients of agricultural origin which have not been produced organically referred to in Article 7.4.2

Note: IMO IN will update this annex continuously and appropriately on the basis of amendments to Regulation (EC) No 889/2008

1. UNPROCESSED VEGETABLE PRODUCTS AS WELL AS PRODUCTS DERIVED THEREFROM BY PROCESSES

1.1. Edible fruits, nuts and seeds:

- acorns *Quercus* spp.
- cola nuts *Cola acuminata*
- gooseberries *Ribes uva-crispa*
- maracujas (passion fruit) *Passiflora edulis*
- raspberries (dried) *Rubus idaeus*
- red currants (dried) *Ribes rubrum*

1.2. Edible spices and herbs:

- pepper (Peruvian) *Schinus molle* L.
- horseradish seeds *Armoracia rusticana*
- lesser galanga *Alpinia officinarum*
- safflower flowers *Carthamus tinctorius*
- watercress herb *Nasturtium officinale*

1.3. Miscellaneous:

Algae, including seaweed, permitted in non-organic foodstuffs preparation

2. VEGETABLE PRODUCTS

2.1. Fats and oils whether or not refined, but not chemically modified, derived from plants other than:

- cocoa *Theobroma cacao*
- coconut *Cocos nucifera*
- olive *Olea europaea*
- sunflower *Helianthus annuus*

- palm *Elaeis guineensis*
- rape *Brassica napus*, rapa
- safflower *Carthamus tinctorius*
- sesame *Sesamum indicum*
- soya *Glycine max*

2.2. The following sugars, starches and other products from cereals and tubers:

- fructose
- rice paper
- unleavened bread paper
- starch from rice and waxy maize, not chemically modified

2.3. Miscellaneous:

- pea protein *Pisum spp.*
- rum, only obtained from cane sugar juice
- kirsch prepared on the basis of fruits and flavourings as referred to in Article 27(1)(c).

3. ANIMAL PRODUCTS

aquatic organisms, not originating from aquaculture, and permitted in no-organic foodstuffs preparation

- gelatin
- whey powder 'herasuola'
- casings

ANNEX X

X Products and substances used in farming and criteria for their authorisation

1. For authorisation of products and substances for use in organic production, IMO IN refers to the Regulation 889/2008 and its relevant annexes and amendments thereof. Additionally, products and substances may only be authorised, if their use is permitted under national law in the country of certification.

2

a) By way of derogation from paragraph 1 IMO IN may authorize for use in organic production and include in a restricted list the products and substances, which may be used in organic farming for the following purposes:

- as plant protection products;
- as fertilisers and soil conditioners;

The authorisation of such products for use in organic production and their inclusion in Annex Ia and IIa shall be subject to the criteria laid down in paragraph 3. Special consideration is given to products which are traditionally used in region concerned.

b) IMO IN may, by way of derogation from paragraph 1, authorise for use in organic production products and substances for cleaning and disinfection, provided they are classified for use in the food industry.

3. The authorisation of the products and substances referred to in paragraph 1 is subject to the objectives and principles of organic farming and the following general and specific criteria which shall be evaluated as a whole:

- (a) Their use is necessary for sustained production and essential for its intended use.
- (b) All products and substances shall be of plant, animal, microbial or mineral origin except where products or substances from such sources are not available in sufficient quantities or qualities or if alternatives are not available.
- (c) For plant protection products, the following shall apply:
 - (i) Their use is essential for the control of a harmful organism or a particular disease for which other biological, physical or breeding alternatives or cultivation practices or other effective management practices are not available.
 - (ii) if products are not of plant, animal, microbial or mineral origin and are not identical to their natural form, they may be authorised only if their conditions for use preclude any direct contact with the edible parts of the crop;
- (d) For fertilisers and soil conditioners, the following shall apply: Their use is essential for obtaining or maintaining the fertility of the soil or to fulfil specific nutrition requirements of crops, or specific soil- conditioning purposes;

4. The use of products and substances not covered under paragraph 1 shall only be authorised for use in organic farming if they are in line with the objectives and principles of organic farming and the general criteria in paragraph 3.

ANNEX XI XI Organic logo of the EU

Note: IMO IN will update this annex continuously and appropriately on the basis of amendments to Regulation (EC) No 889/2008

A. Organic logo of the EU

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



2. The reference colour in Pantone is Green Pantone No 376 and Green (50 % Cyan + 100 % Yellow), when a four- colour process is used.

3. The Organic logo of the EU can also be used in black and white as shown, only where it is not practicable to apply it in colour:



4. If the background colour of the packaging or label is dark, the symbols may be used in negative format, using the background colour of the packaging or label.

5. If a symbol is used in colour on a coloured background, which makes it difficult to see, a delimiting outer line around the symbol can be used to improve contrast with the background colours.

6. In certain specific situations where there are indications in a single colour on the packaging, the Organic logo of the EU may be used in the same colour.

7. The Organic logo of the EU must have a height of at least 9 mm and a width of at least 13,5 mm; the proportion ratio height/width shall always be 1:1,5. Exceptionally the minimum size may be reduced to a height of 6 mm for very small packages.

8. The Organic logo of the EU may be associated with graphical or textual elements referring to organic farming, under the condition that they do not modify or change the nature of the Organic logo of the EU, nor any of the indications mentioned at Article 9.4.1. When associated to national or private logos using a green colour different from the reference colour mentioned in point 2, the Organic logo of the EU may be used in that non-reference colour.

9. The use of the Organic logo of the EU shall be in accordance with the rules accompanying its registration as Organic Farming Collective Mark in the Benelux Office for Intellectual Property and in the Community and International Trademark Registers.

ANNEX XII

XII Model of documentary evidence to the operator according to Article 29(1) of Regulation (EC) No 834/2007 referred to in Article 68 of Regulation (EC) No 889/2008

Note: IMO IN will update this annex continuously and appropriately on the basis of amendments to Regulation (EC) No 889/2008

Documentary evidence to the operator according to Article 29(1) of Regulation (EC) No 834/2007	
1. Document Number:	
2. Name and address of operator: main activity (producer, processor, importer, etc.):	3. Name, address and code number of control body/authority
4. Product groups/Activity: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Plant and plant products: — Seaweed and seaweed products: — Livestock and livestock products: — Aquaculture animals and aquaculture animal products: — Processed products: 	5. Defined as: organic production, in-conversion products; and also non-organic production where parallel production/processing pursuant to Article 11 of Regulation (EC) No 834/2007 occurs
6. Validity period: Plant products from to Seaweed products from..... to Livestock products from to Aquaculture animal products from to Processed products from to.....	7. Date of control(s):
8. This document has been issued on the basis of Article 29(1) of Regulation (EC) No 834/2007 and of Regulation (EC) No 889/2008. The declared operator has submitted his activities under control, and meets the requirements laid down in the named Regulations. Date, place: Signature on behalf of the issuing control body/authority:	

ANNEX XIII

XIII Model of a vendor declaration referred to at 5.3 (3)

Note: IMO IN will update this annex continuously and appropriately on the basis of amendments to Regulation (EC) No 889/2008

Vendor declaration

Name, address of vendor:

Identification (e.g. lot or stock number): Product name: Components:

(Specify all components existing in the product/used the last in the production process)

.....

I declare that this product was manufactured neither 'from' nor 'by' GMOs as those terms are used in Articles 2 and 9 of Council Regulation (EC) No 834/2007. I do not have any information which could suggest that this statement is inaccurate.

Thus, I declare that the above named product complies with Article 9 of Regulation (EC) No 834/2007 regarding the prohibition on the use of GMOs.

I undertake to inform our customer and its control body/authority immediately if this declaration is withdrawn or modified, or if any information comes to light which would undermine its accuracy.

I authorise the control body, which supervises our customer to examine the accuracy of this declaration and if necessary to take samples for analytic proof. I also accept that this task may be carried out by an independent institution which has been appointed in writing by the control body.

The undersigned takes responsibility for the accuracy of this declaration.

Country, place, date, signature of vendor: Company stamp of vendor (if appropriate):

ANNEX XIV XIV Definitions

Note: IMO IN will update this annex continuously and appropriately on the basis of amendments to Regulation (EC) No 834/2007 and 889/2008

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

- a) **"organic production"** means the use of the production method compliant with the rules established in this Regulation, at all stages of production, preparation and distribution;
- b) **"stages of production, preparation and distribution"** means any stage from and including the primary production of an organic product up to and including its storage, processing, transport, sale or supply to the final consumer, and where relevant labelling, advertising, export and subcontracting activities;
- c) **"organic"** means coming from or related to organic production;
- d) **"operator"** means the natural or legal persons responsible for ensuring that the requirements of this Regulation are met within the organic business under their control;
- e) **"plant production"** means production of agricultural crop products including harvesting of wild plant products for commercial purposes;
- f) **"livestock production"** means the production of domestic or domesticated terrestrial animals (including insects);
- (g) the definition of **"aquaculture"** is that given in Council Regulation (EC) No 1198/2006 of 27 July 2006 on the European Fisheries Fund;
- (h) **"conversion"** means the transition from non organic to organic farming within a given period of time, during which the provisions concerning the organic production have been applied;
- (i) **"preparation"** means the operations of preserving and/or processing of organic products, including slaughter and cutting for livestock products, and also packaging, labelling and/or alterations made to the labelling concerning the organic production method;
- (j) the definitions of **"food"**, **"feed"** and **"placing on the market"** are those given in Regulation (EC) No. 178/2002 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 28 January 2002 laying down the general principles and requirements of food law, establishing the European Food Safety Authority and laying down procedures in matters of food safety;
- (k) **"labelling"** means any terms, words, particulars, trade marks, brand name, pictorial matter or symbol relating to and placed on any packaging, document, notice, label, board, ring or collar accompanying or referring to a product;
- (l) the definition of **"pre-packaged foodstuff"** is that given in Article 1 (3)(b) of Directive 2000/13/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 March 2000 on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to the labelling, presentation and advertising of foodstuffs;
- (m) **"advertising"** means any representation to the public, by any means other than a label, that is intended

or is likely to influence and shape attitude, beliefs and behaviours in order to promote directly or indirectly the sale of organic products;

- (n) **"competent authority"** means the central authority of a third country that is competent for the organisation of official controls in the field of organic production, where appropriate in a third country.
- (p) **"certification body"** means an independent private third party carrying out inspection and certification in the field of organic production in accordance with the provisions set out under this Standard;
- (q) **"mark of conformity"** means the assertion of conformity to a particular set of standards or other normative documents in the form of a mark;
- (r) the definition of **"ingredients"** is that given in Article 6 (4) of Directive 2000/13/EC;
- (s) the definition of **"plant protection products"** is that given in Council Directive 91/414/EEC of 15 July 1991 concerning the placing of plant protection products on the market;
"control file" means all the information and documents transmitted, for the purposes of the control system, to IMO IN by an operator subject to the control system as referred to in sec.5.2, point 1 & 2, including all the relevant information and documents relating to that operator or the activities of that operator held by IMO IN, with the exception of information or documents that have no bearing on the operation of the control system.¹;
- (t) the definition of **"Genetically modified organism (GMO)"** is that given in Directive 2001/18 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 12 March 2001 on the deliberate release into the environment of genetically modified organisms and which is not obtained through the techniques of genetic modifications listed in Annex I.B of that Directive;
- (u) **"produced from GMOs"** means derived in whole or in part from GMOs but not containing or consisting of GMOs;
- (v) **"produced by GMOs"** means derived by using a GMO as the last living organism in the production process, but not containing or consisting of GMOs nor produced from GMOs;
- (w) the definition of **"feed additives"** is that given in Regulation (EC) No 1831/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 22 September 2003 on additives for use in animal nutrition;
- (x) **"equivalent"**, in describing different systems or measures, means that they are capable of meeting the same objectives and principles by applying rules which ensure the same level of assurance of conformity;
- (y) **"processing aid"** means any substance not consumed as a food ingredient by itself, intentionally used in the processing of raw materials, foods or their ingredients, to fulfil a certain technological purpose during treatment or processing and which may result in the unintentional but technically unavoidable presence of residues of the substance or its derivatives in the final product, provided that these residues do not present any health risk and do not have any technological effect on the finished product;
- (z) the definition of **"ionising radiation"** is that given in Council Directive 96/29/Euratom of 13 May 1996 laying down basic safety standards for the protection of the health of workers and the general public against the dangers arising from ionizing radiation and as restricted by Article 1 (2) of Directive 1999/2/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 22 February 1999 on the approximation of the laws of the Member States concerning foods and food ingredients treated with ionising radiation.
- (aa) **"mass catering operations"** means the preparation of organic products in restaurants, hospitals, canteens and other similar food business at the point of sale or delivery to the final consumer.

ab) 'non-organic': means not coming from or not related to a production in accordance to this Standard

- ac) 'veterinary medicinal products': means products as defined in Article 1(2) of Directive 2001/82/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council (OJ L 311, 28.11.2001, p. 1.) concerning the Community code relating to veterinary medicinal products;
- ad) 'importer': means the natural or legal person within the community who presents a consignment for release for free circulation into the Community, either in person, or through a representative;
- af) 'first consignee' means the natural or legal person to whom the imported consignment is delivered and who will receive it for further preparation and/or marketing;
- ag) 'holding' means all the production units operated under a single management for the purpose of producing agricultural products;
- ah) 'production unit' meaning all assets to be used for a production sector such as production premises, land parcels, pasturages, open air areas, livestock buildings, the premises for the storage of crops, crop products, livestock products, raw materials and any other input relevant for this specific production sector;
- ai) 'hydroponic production' means the method of growing plants with their roots in a mineral nutrient solution only or in an inert medium, such as perlite, gravel or mineral wool to which a nutrient solution is added;
- aj) 'veterinary treatment' means all courses of a curative or preventive treatment against one occurrence of a specific disease;
- ak) 'in-conversion feedingstuffs' means feedingstuffs produced during the conversion period to organic production, with the exclusion of those harvested in the 12 months following the beginning of the conversion as referred to in Article 17(1)(a) of Regulation (EC) No 834/2007.
- al) **"preserving"** means any action, different from farming and harvesting, that is carried out on products, but which does not qualify as processing as defined in point (u), including all actions referred to in point (n) of Article 2(1) of Regulation (EC) No 852/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council (*) and excluding packaging or labelling of the product;
- am) **"processing"** means any action referred to in point (m) of Article 2(1) of Regulation (EC) No 852/2004, including the use of substances referred to in section 7.4b of IMO IN OS. Packaging or labelling operations shall not be considered as processing.

Annex XV

XV Producer Groups: Inspection and Certification Requirements

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1 Requirements for Non-EU-Countries with Regard to Group Certification

1.1 Preface

IMO Equivalence Certification in Non-EU-Countries defines the following requirements for group certification:

1.1.1 Scope: Eligibility for Group Certification

Group certification is restricted to operators in developing countries (as defined by OECD⁹). Operators who wish to be certified as a group have to fulfil the following requirements:

- In principle only small farmers can be members of the group covered by group certification. Larger farms (i.e. farms bearing an external certification cost that is lower than 2 % of their turnover) can also belong to the group but have to be inspected annually by IMO. Also processors and exporters of the group are externally inspected each year.
- The farmers of the group must apply similar production systems and the farms should be in geographical proximity. A group project may have several clusters (subgroups) of close by located farmers, if the internal organisation and ICS is fine tuned to cover all relevant aspects and can guarantee consistent supervision of the different subprojects. The external evaluation of IMO will also consider sub-groups (clustering) in selection of farms for re-inspection and clustering may increase the overall external control rate to ensure appropriate supervision of performance.
- A group may be organised on itself, i.e. as a cooperative, or as a structured group of producers affiliated to a processor or an exporter as described above.
- The group must be established formally, based on written agreements with its members. It shall have a central management, established decision procedures and legal capacity.
- When intended for export, marketing of the products must be carried out as a group. Group members may not sell their certified products individually.

1.1.2 General Rules for the internal Control System (ICS)

An Internal Control System (ICS) is a documented internal quality assurance system that includes a contractual arrangement with each individual member of the group.

A group which fulfils the above mentioned requirements and wishes to be certified has to establish an Internal Control System (ICS). This system shall assure farmers' compliance with the IMO Organic Standard. The group shall realise internal inspections of all farmers on basis of Regulation (EC) 834/2007 and 889/2008 and applicable IMO rules, according to defined procedures. It has to assure that all farmers who shall be certified are internally inspected once a year by internal inspectors.

The ICS shall consist of the following main elements:

- **Internal organic standard:** This document shall define the criteria, standards and internal procedures to guarantee compliance with Regulation (EC) 834/2007 and 889/2008 and applicable IMO rules.
- **Personnel:** The operator shall assure that qualified staff is responsible for running the quality management system with clearly defined responsibilities; sufficient and suitably trained internal inspectors; rules to avoid potential conflicts of interest of ICS staff;

- **Infrastructure:** The operator shall provide means of transport, adequate data processing facilities etc.;

⁹ <http://www.oecd.org>

- **Training and Information:** of farmers and staff shall be realised according to the IMO Organic Standard, the specific certification requirements that are laid down in the internal organic standard and relevant ICS procedures;
- **Farm control and approval procedures have to include:**
 - Farmers' registration and contract with each farmer who shall be certified;
 - Annual inspections of all farmers registered for certification: Verification of fields and facilities to prove compliance with the IMO Organic Standard requirements;
 - Approval/sanction procedures: Evaluation of results of internal inspections and decision on approval or sanction according to defined procedures. In case of severe infringements, the operators shall inform IMO immediately;
- **Documentation:** Organisations that are to be certified on basis of an ICS have to present all forms, procedures and documents related to the Internal Control System (e.g. internal organic standard, contracts, inspection report forms, etc.). This can be done in form of an ICS manual. A description of the production unit (farms, facilities, production and harvest/post-harvest activities), ICS documents and measures to ensure equivalence with the organic regulation shall be given in the IMO Operator Profile Smallholder Groups with ICS (IMO I 14.1). Results of the internal inspection have to be adequately documented.

1.2 Distribution and Update Management of the ICS Manual

The group has to establish a transparent document management ensuring that the internal procedures and documents always up to date and all relevant parts distributed to all parties.

1.2.1 Distribution of the ICS Manual

All relevant parts of the ICS manual and descriptions of ICS procedures must be made available in appropriate form to the persons responsible for implementing the respective requirements or procedures. Farmers should have access to the manual.

- The complete ICS manual must be distributed to the members of the organic approval committee and/or the organic approval manager as well as to the internal inspectors.
- The full ICS manual shall also be made available to farmers upon request.

1.2.2 Improvement and Update of the ICS Manual

The ICS manual shall reflect the reality of the ICS and current requirements of the certification standard.

- The ICS manual shall be reviewed on a regular basis and updated when necessary.
- Changes shall be communicated to all staff concerned.

1.3 Overview of the Organic Operation

A basic description of the organic project has to be provided:

- An overview on the organic project, farms and facilities must be given.
- An overview on the ICS system shall be provided, including a description of ICS procedures,

documents and forms.

- There must be a description of all the steps of product flow that take place under responsibility of the ICS operator.

1.4 Basic Risk Assessment

Risks which might jeopardize the organic product quality at different levels of farm production and product flow must be known and considered in all internal control procedures.

- A detailed initial risk assessment must be completed.
- The risk assessment has to identify risks on farm level as well as during buying, handling, transport, storage, processing and export, as far as the product is under responsibility of the ICS operator.
- The ICS shall take all measures to minimise the identified risks.

1.5 Internal Organic Standard

- The internal organic standard shall be written by the ICS operator for the specific local situation of the organic project and shall summarise all applicable requirements of Regulation 834/2007 and 889/2008.
- It must be presented in an adequate language and form, according to the knowledge of ICS staff and farmers.

1.6 Farm Control and Approval Procedures

1.6.1 Registration of new farmers

All farmers that shall be certified need to be formally registered as organic farmers.

- For each farmer the total area under his/her management (including non-organic fields), the organic crops with area (or number of plants/trees in mixed cropping) and his/her farming methods need to be recorded in a Farm Entrance Form (farm data sheet). For each farm the date of last application of prohibited inputs has to be recorded.
- A commitment declaration (contract) must be signed between each farmer and the ICS operator. The contract has to be in a language which is understood by the farmer. The contract must contain commitments to fulfil the internal organic standard. The consequences of violation of the contract must be clear (sanction policy). It must also grant permission for internal and external inspectors to inspect farms and farmer records. The contract shall also be available in the language of communication with IMO IN.
- An overview map (village or community map) must be provided showing where each organic farm is located. An up-to-date map showing the fields of each farmer must be available in the following cases:
 - farms with annual organic export crops in rotation,
 - organic farms in areas with high risk of drift
 - when non-organic crops are grown by the organic farmer
- If the farm data changes (e.g. purchase or sales of fields), a new farm entrance form/basic farm data sheet must be completed, or the data in the farm file must be updated (e.g. in update forms).

1.6.2 Internal Inspections

Each registered organic farmer is inspected at least once a year by qualified internal inspectors.

- There has to be at least one documented internal inspection per calendar year.
- The inspection must be carried out in presence of the farmer (or his/her representative) and must include a visit of the whole farm, storage of inputs and harvested products, as well as

verification of post-harvest handling/processing activities and animal husbandry. The internal inspector shall verify if the internal organic standard has been respected and if the conditions of last year's internal inspection have been fulfilled.

- The visit shall be documented in the Farm Inspection Report which has to cover sufficiently all relevant certification aspects and information with regard to non-conformities and corrective

actions. The report shall be signed by the internal inspector and acknowledged by the farmer (or his/her representative).

- In case of severe non-compliances, the problems have to be reported immediately to the ICS Manager and all measures have to be taken according to the internal sanction procedures.

1.6.3 Yield Estimates

There has to be a yield estimate for the organic cash crop of each farmer.

The internal inspection shall provide yield estimates of the crop to be certified for each farmer. The estimates shall be available before harvest (or for a defined harvest period).

1.6.4 Internal Approval Procedures

The ICS operator must have defined procedures to approve or sanction farmers.

- All internal farm reports shall be screened by the internal approval staff (organic approval manager and/or the organic approval committee with special focus on critical/difficult cases. The assessment of the internal inspector shall be checked, the internal approval status determined, and conditions are set (if necessary).
- The farmers' list as the summary of the internal inspection shall be finalised and approved. The approved farmers list (AFL) shall show complying farmers with their respective status (organic or in conversion). Deviating farmers shall be listed in a separate sanctioned farmers' list. For the external inspection an updated Approved Farmers' List (AFL) shall be available (see also chapter 5.6 for requirements of the farmers list).

1.6.5 Non-compliances and Sanctions

In case of non-compliances appropriate corrective measures have to be taken by the ICS.

- Procedures in case of non-compliances and on the implementation of sanction measures shall be defined and implemented.
- Sanctions have to be documented (list of sanctioned farmers, documentation of identified non-conformities and follow up of corrective measures in files). Buying staff shall be informed accordingly in order to assure that no product is purchased from sanctioned farmers.
- Farmers that have used prohibited inputs in their organic crop must again undergo the full conversion period (if they remain in the organic project). In such cases it has to be checked whether the farmers have already delivered produce and whether this (now no longer certified) produce has been commingled with other organic produce. If this has been the case, IMO has to be notified immediately and the commingled produce kept separate until further instructions.

1.6.6 Documentation of the ICS

The ICS shall ensure that all relevant documentation for each certified farmer is available for the external inspection. The internal inspection has to be documented. The following documents must be available for each farmer:

- Formal commitment to fulfill the internal organic standard (written contract)
- Farm entrance form (farm data sheet), including last use of prohibited inputs
- Update farm data: update crop information (areas, crops), use of inputs, harvested quantities.

- Maps (if required for single farmer as described in chapter 5.1)
- Annual Farm Inspection report
- Notes on trainings or advice given to the farmer

As a summary of the internal control the following lists must be prepared:

- Farmers' list with farmers' codes, names and location of the farmers, total area, area under organic crop (or number of plants), date of registration, date of last use of prohibited inputs, yield estimate, date of internal inspection, name of internal inspector, internal approval status (approved/sanctioned, or organic/in conversion C0, C1, C2)
- List of sanctioned farmers with reason and duration of sanction (if relevant)

1.7 Organisation and ICS Personnel

Responsibilities for all tasks of the ICS shall be clearly defined. Staff must be aware of their responsibilities and qualified for their job. The ICS operator has to ensure that there is sufficient qualified personnel to implement the ICS procedures as described in the ICS procedures/Manual.

1.7.1 Organisational Chart

An organisational chart (or similar) of the operator's organisation shall be available. In such a chart an overview on organisational units, hierarchies and the positions of the organic project staff shall be given.

1.7.2 The ICS Coordinator (ICS Manager)

There has to be an assigned ICS coordinator who is in charge of coordinating the Internal Control System, organising the internal inspections, coordinating between field staff and approval staff, coordinating the external inspection, and acting as the contact person for IMO.

The ICS coordinator or ICS Manager shall be in charge of ensuring that the ICS is implemented. He/she shall organise the extension service and the internal inspection (who inspects where and when), shall ensure that staff has all resources available to do the inspections/extension (e.g. means of transport etc.), shall make sure that all farmers are inspected and all new farmers registered properly. He/she shall organise the staff trainings and shall coordinate all relevant aspects with the organic certification body (including timely information on changes or problematic issues, results of the internal inspections, etc).

1.7.3 Internal Inspector

Internal inspectors shall be in charge of the annual internal inspections of all registered organic farmers.

- There must be a sufficient number of internal inspectors.
- Internal inspectors must be sufficiently qualified to perform a thorough and objective internal inspection.
- There must be a conflict of interest declaration available for each internal inspector.

The following requirements have to be fulfilled to consider an internal inspector "sufficiently qualified":

- fluency in the local language and idiosyncrasy of the farmers
- can read and write
- is familiar with the agricultural production and ecological systems of the area
- is familiar with principles of organic agriculture, internal control procedures and forms, and with the internal organic standard
- must not have conflicts of interest that might affect his/her work

1.7.4 Organic Approval Personnel

There has to be a qualified person ("Organic Approval Manager") or approval committee who is assigned to take the internal approval decisions.

- Approval personnel must be qualified and able to take objective decisions.
 - There has to be a signed declaration of conflicts of interest available for all approval personnel.
- An approval manager or member of the approval committee shall fulfill at least the following requirements:

- He/she must be familiar with the principles of organic agriculture.
- He/she must be familiar with the internal organic standard and all relevant procedures.
- He/she must be well respected among the farmers and the organisation.
- He/she must not have conflicts of interests

1.7.5 Conflicts of Interest

The ICS personnel must not have any conflicts of interest that might hinder their work.

- The Internal Inspector is not allowed to inspect his/her own farm or that of his close family (direct relatives).
- All possible conflicts of interests have to be declared in a written statement. Alternative solutions have to be found for those cases where a conflict of interests would arise (this can be done for example by exchanging staff between different regions for doing the internal inspection).

1.8 Training

1.8.1 Training of ICS Personnel

The internal inspectors have to be sufficiently qualified to perform a thorough and objective inspection.

- Each internal inspector needs to receive regular appropriate training by a competent person.
- The date of participation and content of the training of all ICS staff shall be documented in the staff files.

1.8.2 Training of Farmers

Farmers shall be trained in organic farming. Training can be provided internally (by own staff) or by external organisations (e.g. NGOs).

- Each farmer has to receive at least one initial advisory visit or training course on organic farming. The farmers have to receive at least one annual extension visit or training on organic farming.
- The participation and content of trainings need to be documented.

1.8.3 Buying, Handling, Processing, Export

The organisation has to define clear procedures in order to guarantee the integrity of the certified product as long as it is under its responsibility, in order to avoid commingling between different qualities (organic, in conversion, and non-organic), as well as contamination with chemicals during purchase, storing, transport, or processing. These procedures shall be communicated to the farmers and the involved staff in a clear way and the organisation shall implement a surveillance system of the product flow during all steps under its responsibility.

1.8.4 Buying Procedures

The buying procedures shall ensure traceability and integrity of the organic product. Buying procedures shall include the following minimum requirements:

- The organic status of the delivering farmer must be checked.

- The supplied amount harvested shall be compared with the estimated yield. In case of doubt, the produce shall be kept apart until clarification by the ICS Coordinator. If the farmer delivers more produce than the estimated quantity further clarifications are required (usually under co-ordination of the ICS coordinator). This may include an assessment of why the yield estimate was not correct/up to date or an additional inspection of the farm to check whether the higher yield is reasonable.
- Deliveries shall be registered in the buying record and farmer shall be issued a receipt (stating delivered quantities). All documents have to indicate the organic quality ("organic" or "conversion").
- Bags have to be labeled as organic/in conversion

(If the conversion product is to be marketed as conventional (not as organic in-conversion), no separate handling of the product is necessary).

1.8.5 Storage and Handling Procedures

During all handling of organic produce the organic quality of the product and compliance with respective documentary requirements of the IMO Organic Standard must be ensured.

Therefore buying procedures need to include the following minimum requirements:

- General Handling Requirements at all stages of product flow:
 - Identification of the product according to the quality (organic, in conversion) during all stages of product flow
 - Strict separation according to quality (organic, in conversion, non-organic)
 - No use of prohibited methods (fumigation of containers, irradiation/ionisation, etc.)
- Requirements during storage
 - Organic warehouses or those part in which organic products are stored must be labelled as "organic"
 - Facility pest management must comply with IMO Rule on Pest Management.

1.8.6 Organic Processing and Exports

Processing done at a central processing site (e.g. own or contracted processing plant) and marketing are subject to annual external inspection.

1.8.7 Buying, Handling and Processing Personnel

Staff involved in buying, handling, storage and processing shall be trained, knowledgeable and competent in implementing the relevant procedures.

1.9 External Inspection and Certification

1.9.1 Reporting to IMO

Group management shall report annually to IMO, including important changes in the group's production and management practices. A summary of results of the internal inspection and approval process has to be submitted (see 5.4). This shall be done by updating IMO Operator Profile (IMO I 14.1) and by presenting the updated Approved Farmers List with all results of the internal control.

1.9.2 Assessment of the ICS

During annual external inspection, the effectiveness of the Internal Control System shall be evaluated, with the aim to assess compliance of all farmers with the applicable requirements of Regulation (EC) No. 834/2007, 889/2008 and applicable IMO rules. External inspection shall include the verification of ICS procedures and documents, assessment of staff qualification as well as the re-inspection of a sample of individual farms.

1.9.3 Risk based re-inspection rate

The percentage of external re-inspections must be determined on basis of a risk assessment according to the requirements of the guideline of the European Commission (Guidelines on imports of organic products into the European Union; Section 8: Evaluation of the equivalence of organic producer group certification schemes applied in developing countries). The risk factor and the number of producers to be inspected shall be documented in the Inspection Report ICS (IMO II 14.3, chapter 2.3 – Determination of inspection procedures – determination of inspection scheme based on risk assessment). Risks shall be assessed on different levels, factors to define the risk shall include:

- Risks related to the crops (e.g. farming practices/intensity in the area, risk of use of unallowed inputs, risk of drift)
- Risks related to the farms (e.g. farmers not well trained, farmers grow also conventional crops, size of the farms). Larger farms are always inspected annually.
- Risks related to ICS and project organisation (e.g. degree of similarity of the production systems and the crops within the group, experience and performance of the ICS, problems encountered in previous years, staff qualification, risk of conflicts of interest, lack of staff/resources for effective control, changes in ICS staff, increase in farmers' numbers, difference in value between organic and conventional products – high incentives for farmers to sell products other than their own as organic, risks for intermingling and/or contamination)
- Other general risks in the project area (e.g. governmental/private input distribution in the project area, risk of contamination by malaria eradication programmes or similar interventions)

Minimum number of farms to be inspected shall be calculated as follows:

Number of group members = n	Normal risk factor 1	Medium risk factor 1.2	High risk factor 1.4
Minimum	10	12	14
n	Square root of n	1.2 square root of n	1.4 square root of n

Based on the minimum number of re-inspections the inspector shall define the overall re-inspection schedule. The inspector shall select the farms to be re-inspected, hereby considering the following aspects:

- External inspection of all bigger farms: All farms whose turnover is so big that that organic individual certification costs would remain below 2% of turnover must always be inspected externally each year.
- Selection of farms with higher risk (e.g. farmers with conventional units, new farmers)
- Selection of farmers randomly
- Suitable overview on different clusters (subgroups) of farmers, if applicable:
 - A) Same product and same production methods and farming system: Rotating selection of subgroups to gain sufficient overview.
 - B) Different products and farming systems: Every subgroup is visited each year.
- The inspector shall bear in mind that farms re-inspected should be predominantly different from one year to the other.

During external inspection, the inspector shall compare his observations with the findings of the internal inspection. He/she evaluates effectiveness and objectivity of the Internal Control System and assesses whether the internal farm control and approval procedures fulfil minimum requirements and the system is able to guarantee that the organic activities of all farmers comply with the applicable requirements.

1.9.4 Realisation of external inspection

External inspection shall include the following control measures:

- Overall risk assessment of the organic project
- Interviews with ICS staff
- Review of all relevant ICS documentation, if ICS manual and internal organic standard are complete and up to date and available to all ICS staff

- Verification of records on registration, training of farmers, internal inspections, approval/sanctions, follow up of corrective measures. It shall be assessed whether the ICS manual and related related forms fulfil the set minimum requirements and if the procedures defined in the ICS manual reflect the reality. It shall be verified if new farmers have been registered as required and if all farmers have been internally inspected.
- Assessment of responsibilities and qualification of staff (if responsibilities are clearly defined and documented, if there are sufficient internal inspectors, if training of ICS staff is adequate, if potential conflicts of interest have been declared and sufficiently avoided).
- Realisation of farm re-inspections which shall include an interview with the farmer and visit of fields, facilities, post harvest handling, and verification of ICS documents kept for each farmer, records on farm management and use of inputs, comparison of findings with data of the Approved Farmers List. It shall be verified if ICS documents correspond to reality and result in principle the same findings as those of the external inspection. The external inspector shall assess whether the internal inspections are thorough and if all non-compliances with the IMO Organic Standard have been duly identified.
For evaluation of performance of internal inspectors, the external inspector can undertake witness audits; i.e. accompanies internal inspection visits to evaluate their effectiveness.
- Inspection of buying centres, storage, processing and export, verification of records and calculation of the product flow, verification of measures to avoid commingling or contamination of products, separation of different qualities, identification of bags and storage areas
- Realisation of a closing meeting with group management and responsible staff including review of non-compliances identified.

1.9.5 Certification

Group certification means that the organisation is treated as one entity. The group has to be aware that sanctions caused by infringements of single producers may affect the whole group and that certification of the whole group will be suspended if the ICS is found to be deficient.

In case IMO detects during external inspection non-conformities which had not been detected or adequately sanctioned by the ICS, there shall be the following options:

- a) If it is obviously an individual, isolated case, while the ICS in general performs well, only the individual group member shall be sanctioned accordingly and the ICS shall be reminded to still further improve internal inspectors training and risk awareness. If it is not clear, whether the problem is isolated or systemic, the number of re-inspected farms shall be increased. If it is obvious that the problem is related to deficiencies in the ICS, the whole group shall be suspended from certification as mentioned under b).
- b) If it is found that the ICS is deficient, the group shall be suspended from certification, until evidence of implementation of corrective measures has been assessed by IMO. A time period is set in which corrections and new internal inspections have to be realised. The operator shall inform IMO after completion of all measures. A second external inspection shall be realised in order to assess compliance of the ICS by verifying ICS documentation and inspecting the required number of farmers, resulting in an external control rate of three times the square root of the number of farms in the group. Certification shall only be granted once full efficiency of the ICS can be assured again.