# PHILIPPINE NATIONAL STANDARD

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Organic Agriculture - Specification

Part 1: Conversion to Organic Agriculture

**Part 2:** Crop production

Part 3: Livestock

Part 4: Processing

Part 5: Special products

Part 6: Labeling and consumer information



#### **Foreword**

Philippine National Standards Specification for Organic Agriculture was initially prepared by the Organic Certification Center of the Philippines (OCCP) and was adopted by the Department of Agriculture through the Bureau of Agriculture and Fisheries Product Standards (BAFPS). The BAFPS' Technical Committee on Crops and Livestock subjected these organic agriculture standards to a series of Technical Reviews and Public Consultations. After each technical review the corresponding revision was made particularly, in the conversion, crop production and livestock segment of the standard.

These Standards for Organic Agriculture have been prepared for the purpose of providing a uniform approach to the requirements, which is the basis of the following: conversion to organic agriculture, crop production, livestock, processing, special products, labeling and consumer information.

Organic agriculture standards consist of the following parts which linked to each other:

Part 1: Conversion to organic agriculture

Part 2: Crop production

Part 3: Livestock
Part 4: Processing

Part 5: Special products

Part 6: Labeling and consumer information

These standards should be treated as one standard on organic agriculture with the various parts complementing each other.

Conversion is the process of changing an agricultural system from conventional to organic. The period covered during this process is known as transition. This includes the total change of inputs of artificial fertilizer and/ or pesticide to inputs that conform to this standard.

Conversion is the determining factor through which an organic agriculture farming system can be certified. The converted organic production system has agricultural products that are produced on farms and livestock operations that promote a healthy ecosystem, including an encouragement of biodiversity and soil biological life. This follows a basic principle of organic farming that growing plants in healthy balanced soils produces healthy food products. Likewise, it emphasizes the use of proactive management practices to prevent problems. Furthermore, its mode of production uses mechanical, biological, and cultural methods as opposed to the use of synthetic chemicals.

Crop production in organic agriculture is holistic production management systems, which promotes and enhances agroecosystem health, including biodiversity, biological cycles, and soil biological activity. It emphasizes the use of management practices in preference to the use of off-farm inputs, taking into account that regional conditions require locally adapted systems. This is accomplished by using, where possible, cultural, biological and mechanical methods, as opposed to using synthetic materials, or fulfill any specific function within the system. An organic crop production system is designed to:

- **!** Enhance biological diversity within the whole system;
- ❖ Increase soil biological activity
- ❖ Maintain long-term fertility;
- \* Recycle wastes of plant and animal origin in order to return nutrient to the land, thus minimizing the use of non-renewable resources;
- \* Rely on renewable resources in locally organized agricultural systems;
- ❖ Promote the healthy use of soil, water and air as well as minimize all forms of pollution thereto that may result from agricultural practices;

Livestock operation shall meet the following requirements in terms of animal husbandry management, breeds and breeding, mutilations, animal nutrition, brought-in animals, veterinary medicine, transport and slaughter, draft animals, conversion, livestock manure, free range areas and livestock housing in accordance to this guideline.

This standard on livestock includes any cattle, sheep, goat, swine, poultry, or equine animals used for food or in the production of food, fiber, feed, or other agricultural-based consumer products; wild or domesticated game; or other non-plant life, except such shall not include aquatic animals for the production of food, fiber, feed, or other agricultural-based consumer products.

It promotes a livestock operations that promote healthy ecosystems, including an encouragement of biodiversity and soil biological life. The lists of livestock materials that are allowed, restricted and prohibited are spelled-out for the purpose of this standard.

Processing involve cooking, baking, heating, drying, mixing, grinding, churning, separating, extracting, cutting, freezing or otherwise manufacturing of food or food product. It includes changing the physical characteristics of a food, and the packaging, canning or otherwise enclosing such food in a container. It does not include sorting or cleaning if such is done with water only.

This standard of processing shall meet the following requirements in terms of post harvest operations, storage and transportation, pest control in storage and processing, ingredients of agricultural origin, other ingredients and

processing, methods of processing, methods of cleaning and packing in accordance to this guideline.

Standard on organic agriculture for special products includes herb, mushrooms and wild honey. Herb in this specific guideline is a plant that is not woody and with no persistent parts above ground level. Mushroom on the other hand is any of various fleshy fungi, including toadstools, puffballs and morels and lastly, wild honey is a sweet, viscous fluid produced by bees from the nectar collected from flowers of wild plants.

The distinct concern of this standard is the over-harvesting of wild herbs and wild honey to avoid and to ensure the sustainability of the species concerned. Despite the vehement prohibition from using chemical pesticides, fungicides, herbicides, or fertilizers to the special products mentioned in this standard, mushrooms also, must be free from contamination of heavy metals and pollutants.

This individual standard specification of labeling and consumer information of organic agriculture applies to organic products that are produced, handled and processed according to these organic standards. These means that products applying organic farming systems may be labeled as "produced of organic agriculture "or similar terms.

However, specificity is definitely dependent on other standards stated above. Furthermore, 'Organic' is a labeling term that denotes products that have been produced in accordance with organic production standards and certified by a duly constituted body or authority.

**Organic agriculture – Specification** 

## Part 1: Conversion to organic agriculture

## 1 Scope

This standard establishes a system for organic agriculture mainly for conversion to organic agriculture.

#### 2 References

The titles of the standards publications referred to in this standard are listed on the inside back cover.

#### 3 Definitions

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

#### 3.1

## conventional agriculture

farming systems dependent on the input of artificial fertilizers and/or pesticides or failing to conform to the Philippine National Standards in any other way

#### 3.2

#### conversion

the process of changing an agricultural system from conventional to organic. This covers what is sometimes known as transition

## 3.3

#### conversion period

the time between the probable start of organic management, and the certification of crops and/or animal husbandry as organic

#### 3.4

## farm unit

an agricultural area or production managed organically, which a farmer or a group owns or in any other way is responsible for

#### 3.5

#### organic

in this text the word refers to the particular farming and processing systems described in these standards and not in the classical Chemical sense (The latter shall be clearly marked with a + for ease of identification). The term Organic is nearly synonymous in other languages to "biological" or "ecological"

#### 3.6

## parallel production

simultaneous production of conventional, in conversion and/or organic crops or animal products, which cannot be distinguished from each other

#### 3.7

#### standards

are norms, sets of guidelines, requirements and principles that are used as in organic agriculture and processing. The term "standards," as used here refers to Philippine National Standards relevant to local agroecosystems production

## 4 Minimum requirements

The provisions for conversion to organic agriculture shall meet the following requirements:

## 4.1 Conversion requirements

- **4.1.1** The Standards' minimum requirements must be met from the beginning of the conversion period onward.
- **4.1.2** Before products from a farm can be certified as organic, inspection shall have been carried out during the conversion period.
- **4.1.3** The conversion plan shall at least include:
- Field and farm history and present situation (crops, pest management, fertilizing, animal husbandry)
- A schedule for the progression of conversion
- Aspects which shall be improved during the conversion period (e.g. crop rotations, manure management, soil conversion, water management, livestock management, fodder plan, pest management, environmental conditions, including time limits).
- **4.1.4** If the whole farm does not get converted at once (see 4.1.5) or if a field is decertified, the responsible farmers have to ensure:
- Fixed demarcation between the conventionally and organically farmed parts
- That the organically farmed parts are inspectable
- That all farm records and accounting are identifiable for both farming systems
- ➤ That no parallel production takes place
- ➤ Those converted areas are not switched back and forth between organic and conventional management.
- **4.1.5** The certification program can reduce the conversion period in case of:
- > Uncultivated land is claimed for organic agriculture;
- > Traditional agriculture, which has already been fulfilling the full standards for several years;

where this can be verified by reliable means and sources. In such cases, inspection shall be carried out at least six months before the first harvest.

## 4.2 Length of conversion period

- **4.2.1** Plant products can be certified organic when the full requirements of these standards have been met:
- For annual crops: at least twelve (12) months before the start of the production cycle,
- For perennials: at least eighteen (18) months of management according to the full standards requirements before the first harvest.
- **4.2.2** If the whole farm is not converted or if certification is withdrawn from the field the responsible farmer should quarantine:
- a. A clear boundary between the organic and the conventional sectors.
- b. That the same varieties not produced in both sectors: organic and conventional.
- c. That the quarantine records be identifiable for each type of production, allowing the certification body to audit both productions.
- d. The conventional areas are not switched back and forth between organic and conventional management.
- e. Same requirement must exist in case of parallel production.
- f. The whole area that will be used for the ecological production will be included in a conversion plan that will formally bind the producer to gradually incorporate lots or areas, completing the conversion of the last lots within a five (5) year period.
- **4.2.3** A 3-year conversion period (before the start of the production cycle) is required on lands heavily treated with synthetic chemicals over several years. The certification program decides whether this rule applies on a specific site.
- **4.2.4** Products may be sold with an indication referring to the conversion to organic farming, when the full requirements of the Standards have been met for at least one year.
- **4.2.5** No conversion period is required in the case of; clearing new land or virgin land for organic agriculture
- a.1 By virgin land, it is understood those that have not suffered the incidence of cultural activities, or those in which no tilling or alterations of it's natural or original characteristics could be proved for it's whole history. It implies that, the land has not been tilled and that it is in equilibrium, under forest, natural grasslands (grazed or not).

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- a.2 Inspection and follow up of virgin new lands be done by direct inspection, identifying the natural equilibrium of the different flora, the biodiversity and the soil characteristic, comparing them with the surrounding or neighboring natural zones.
- a.3 Traditional agriculture which has been fulfilling the full standards for several years

## 4.2.6 Exceptions:

## More prolonged transition:

- a. Presence of pesticides in the soil. Applicant should wait until the residues decrease to an acceptance level, e.g. organophosphates, organochlorides, etc.
- b. Any particular problem, identified by the certification committee,
- c. Communication problems with the owner, manager or advisor.

#### **Shorter transition:**

- a. Starting on vir gin or permanent prairie: zero year
- b. Proof that the two preceding years were in Organic Agriculture.
- c. Proof that there were no purchases of fertilizers or pesticides.
- d. Written evidences from two neighbors.

## **Organic agriculture – Specification**

# Part 2: Crop production

## 1 Scope

This standard establishes a system for organic agriculture mainly for crop production purposes.

#### 2 References

The titles of the standards publications referred to in this standard are listed on the inside back cover.

## 3 Definitions

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

#### 3.1

## conventional agriculture

farming systems dependent on the input of artificial fertilizers and/or pesticides, or failing to conform to the Philippine National Standards in any other way

#### 3.2

## conversion

the process of changing an agricultural system from conventional to organic. This covers what is sometimes known as transition

## 3.3

#### farm unit

an agricultural area or production managed organically, which a farmer or a group owns or in any other way is responsible for

#### 3.4

#### organic

refers to the particular farming and processing systems described in these standards and not in the classical Chemical sense

(The latter shall be clearly marked with a + for ease of identification). The Organic is nearly synonymous in other languages to "biological" or "ecological"

#### 3.5

#### standards

are norms, sets of guidelines, requirements and principles that are used as in organic agriculture and processing. The term "standards," as used here refers to both the IFOAM Basic Standards upon whom the Philippine National Standard is based, relevant to local agro ecosystems production. Standards are actually norms or guidelines by which a product or process can be labeled "organic". These sets of norms determine the conditions by which the producers follow

## 4 Minimum requirements

The provisions for organic agriculture for crop production shall meet the following requirements:

## 4.1 Choice of crops and varieties

- **4.1.1** Seeds and plant materials shall be from certified organic production, when available.
- **4.1.2** When certified organic seed and plant materials are not available, chemically untreated conventional materials may be used provided that they have not been treated with pesticides not otherwise permitted by these standards.
- **4.1.3** When untreated conventional seeds and planting materials are not available, chemically treated seeds and plant materials maybe used. The certification body shall established time limits and conditions for exemptions for acceptable use of any chemically treated seeds and plant materials.
- **4.1.4** Non-organically produced but untreated seeds, bulbs, tubers and plant materials derived from tissue culture maybe used to produced organic crops, only if, an equivalent organically produced variety is commercially unavailable, with the exceptions of the seeds used for sprouts, which must be organic.
- **4.1.5** Where treatments are limited to materials on permitted substances as prescribed in the list.
- **4.1.6** Where the use of treated seeds is required by government authorities or phytosanitary regulations, necessary to prevent the spread of endemic diseases, or;
- **4.1.7** Where natural disaster like floods, drought, earthquake or other unanticipated circumstances has occurred, causing the destruction of organic seed production, then treated seeds can be used.
- **4.1.8** The used of genetically engineered seeds, transgenic plants or plant materials is not allowed.
- **4.1.9** Plant varieties should be bred to retain natural reproduction method

- **4.1.10** In cases where organic seedlings or planting stock have been destroyed by floods, drought and any natural disaster, conventional sources maybe used as emergency measure, but subject to the approval of the certifying body.
- **4.1.11** For perennial crops, non-organically produced planting stocks maybe used to produce which maybe sold, labeled or represented as "organically produced" only after the planting stocks has been maintained under a system of organic management on a certified organic farm for a period of no less than 18 months.

## 4.2 Crop rotations and soil management practices

- **4.2.1** In lowland rice cultivation, green manuring or rotation with legumes or other nitrogen fixing plants has to be applied at least once a year.
- **4.2.2** In intensive vegetable cultivation, there shall be at least one legumes crop in rotation within three years. Crop rotation patterns must be documented.
- **4.2.3** In perennial crops, intercropping, cover crops or mulching must ensure that the soil is sufficiently covered for most part of the year.
- **4.2.4** Tillage and cultivation implements shall be selected and use in a manner that maintains or improves soil physical or biological quality and minimizes erosion.
- **4.2.5** Appropriate conservation measures, including best management practices such as grass waterways, contour strips, catch ponds, buffers, and cover crops to prevent wind and water erosion, shall be established. Reasonable water conservation measures must be taken to avoid excessive exploitation and depletion of water resources.

## 4.3 Fertilization policy

- **4.3.1** Biodegradable materials of microbial, plant or animal origin produced on organic farms should be the basis of the fertilization program.
- **4.3.2** If biodegradable materials from organic farms are not available in sufficient amounts, materials from conventional farms may be used, but shall not exceed 50% of the applied materials. The proportions of these materials should be reduced with time and such stopgap measures should not exceed 5 years.
- **4.3.3** When supplementary application of fertilizer is needed, the materials must be certified as organic fertilizer or correspond with the requirements of Appendix 2.1 to 2.4.
- **4.3.4** In order to prevent over application of biodegradable material, a maximum application of material containing 170 kg Nitrogen per hectare per year shall not be exceeded on a specific plot. Farms shall keep suitable records on the application of manures.
- **4.3.4.1** Runoff diversions or other means must be implemented to prevert contamination of crop production areas with animal wastes from adjacent livestock holding facilities, fields or waste storage areas.

- **4.3.4.2** Raw (uncomposted) manure shall be applied in a manner that prevents or minimizes contamination of crops, soil or water, by nitrates or bacteria, pathogenic microbes, heavy metals and residues of prohibited substances.
- 1. To a crop not intended for human consumption, including a cover crop, or;
- 2. On land use for crops intended for human consumption, provided that the manure is incorporated into the soil and applied sufficient time to ensure that the crop is safe for human consumption.
- a) Raw manure maybe applied no less than 90 days prior to harvest of a crop for human consumption, whose edible portion does not come in contact with the soil surface or soil particles;
- b) Products likely to be eaten raw, (nitrate accumulators) leafy greens, or crops exposed to contact with soil, such as root crops, shall require 120 days between application of raw materials and harvest.
- **4.3.5** Organic and mineral fertilizers, and particularly those rich in nitrogen (e.g. blood meal, farmyard slurry) should be applied in such a way that it will have minimum adverse effect on the quality of crops (nutritive quality, nitrate content, taste, keeping quality, and plant resistance) and environment (e.g. on ground and surface water). Storage places of manure and compost sites should be covered or sheltered in order to prevent leaching of nutrients and pollution of water.
- **4.3.6** Untreated sewage and manure containing human feces shall not be used on vegetable production for human consumption, unless it has undergone a process of anaerobic fermentation (e.g. biogas process) or high temperature composting.
- **4.3.7** Mineral fertilizers conforming to Appendix 2.4 shall only be applied in combination with a fertilization program based on biodegradable material and in case of obvious nutrient deficiency.
- **4.3.8** Mineral fertilizers shall be applied in their natural composition and shall not be rendered more soluble by chemical treatment.
- **4.3.9** Mineral inputs, which may have a considerable content of heavy metals and/or other toxic substances, shall not be used (Refer to Appendix 2.4).

# 4.4 Commercial production of organic fertilizer

Other macro elements may be used for enrichment provided they come from materials indicated in Appendix 2.4

**4.4.1** For compost activation, appropriate plant-based preparations or microorganism preparations, not genetically modified, may be used to hasten decomposition of organic residues. The introduction of worms for vermicomposting is allowed.

Synthetic nitrogenous additives are prohibited.

- **4.4.2** The organic fertilizer produced should be such that the original materials are no longer recognizable, free from plant and animal pathogens, soil-like in texture, contain not less than 20% organic matter (O.M.) over dry basis and can supply nutrients to plants.
- **4.4.3** Care must be exercised to prevent contamination of ground and surface water due to leaching of nutrients from composted materials. Safety precautionary measures for production workers such as wearing masks, gloves, and boots should be undertaken.
- **4.4.4** Packaging shall be "environmentally friendly", simple and not deceptive.

## 4.5 Pest, disease and weed management

- **4.5.1** The use of synthetic pesticides (herbicides, fungicides, insecticides, molluscicides, nematicides, etc.) is prohibited.
- **4.5.2** Products used for pest, disease and weed management prepared at the farm from local plants, animals and microorganisms are allowed.
- **4.5.3** Products that may be used **n** the control of pests and diseases are indicated in Appendix 2.5. Recommended plants for the control of some pests/diseases are enumerated in Appendix 2.6.
- **4.5.4** Thermic weed control and physical methods for pest, disease and weed management are permitted. Thermic sterilization of soils to combat pests and diseases can be allowed by the certification body in circumstances where a proper rotation or renewal of soil cannot take place. Permission shall be given on a case to case basis but is not recommended.
- **4.5.5** All equipment used for pesticides and fertilizers application on unconverted areas of the farm shall be properly cleaned and free from residues when used for applying permitted substances on organically managed areas. However, the spraying equipment in particular should be used exclusively in organic farms.

## 4.6 Growth regulators

- **4.6.1** All synthetic products like growth regulators and dyes (e.g. for cosmetic alterations of organic products) are prohibited.
- **4.6.2** Products used for regulating growth and development of plants prepared on the farm itself from local plants; animals and microorganisms are allowed.

#### 4.7 Pollution control

**4.7.1** Buffer zones could be a dike, which is planted with-purpose tree species of sufficient density. Products of the zone shall not be sold as organic but can be used as fodder for livestock.

The minimum buffer zone applies also to irrigation "right of way" passing through lands on certification program. Larger distances maybe required by the certification body. It is

the growers' responsibility to demonstrate with harvest/sales records that the buffer zone crops are not sold as organic.

- **4.7.2** In cases of reasonable suspicion of pollution, an analysis of the relevant products, crops an/or soil quality should be done. The certification body decides whether the respective crops can still be sold as organic.
- a. Same requirements must exist in case of parallel production.
- b. The whole area that will be used to the ecological production will be included in a conversion plan that will formally bind the producer to gradually incorporate lots or areas, completing the conversion of the last lots within a five (5) year period.
- **4.7.3** In cases of risk or reasonable suspicion of pollution, specific limits shall be set for the maximum yearly addition of heavy metals and other pollutants.

The grower must notify the certification body c/o the certification Committee, of this withdrawal in writing within one week or before the crop is harvested whichever comes first. Failure to give timely notice of the use of prohibited materials can be grounds for decertification and/or expulsion from the certification body. The remaining acreage or animals in the certification program must meet the boundary and buffer zone requirement. Land that is voluntarily withdrawn from the program may be re-entered in the program only after the grower has submitted a withdrawal form and a new map will be submitted. Residue testing maybe required.

#### 4.8 Soil and water conservation

- **4.8.1** Clearing of land through the means of burning, organic matter shall be restricted to the absolute minimum. The use of burning for pH correction needs approval of the certification body.
- **4.8.2** Relevant measures shall be taken to prevent soil erosion and ensure water conservation.
- **4.8.3** Relevant measures shall be taken to prevent salinization.
- **4.8.4** The number of livestock must be closely related to the area available in order to prevent over grazing, erosion and pollution of ground and surface water. Maximum stocking rates shall correspond with the maximum application of manure containing 170 kg Nitrogen per hectare per year as described in Appendix 3.

## 4.9 Diversity in crop production

The diversity of crops and cropping systems on organic farms shall endeavor to achieve the following objectives:

- **4.9.1** To maintain and promote diversity that is suited to local agro-ecosystem.
- **4.9.2** To develop indicators for successive progression of indigenous flora and fauna.

- **4.9.3** To promote fruit-bearing trees and medicinal plants in forest areas.
- **4.9.4** To develop repellants (plants that repel pests) and attractants (plants that attracts beneficial insects).

Minimum rotation practices should be established. Operators are required to manage pressures from insects, weeds, diseases, and other pests, while maintaining or increasing soil organic matter, fertility, microbial activity and general soil health.

**4.9.5** Crop diversification systems include crop rotation, intercropping, alley cropping, relay cropping, and multi-storey cropping (Appendix 1).

# 4.10 Collection of non cultivated materials and minor forest products

- **4.10.1** Collected products shall only be certified organic if derived from a stable -growing environment. Harvesting or gathering the product shall not exceed the sustainable yield of the ecosystem, or threaten the existence of plant or animal species.
- **4.10.2** Produce can only be certified if derived from a clearly defined collecting area not exposed to prohibited substances at least one year prior to the first harvest and if subject to regular inspection.
- **4.10.3** The operator managing the harvesting or gathering of the products shall be clearly identified and be familiar with the collecting area in question.
- **4.10.4** The collection or harvest area shall be at an appropriate distance from conventional farming or other sources of pollution and contamination.
- **4.10.5** The operator who manages the harvesting or gathering of common resources products shall be clearly identified and must be familiar with the defined collecting area.

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## **Organic agriculture – Specification**

## Part 3: Livestock

## 1 Scope

This standard establishes a system for organic agriculture mainly for livestock production purposes.

#### 2 References

The titles of the standards publications referred to in this standard are listed on the inside back cover.

#### 3 Definitions

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

#### 3.1

## agricultural inputs

all substances or materials used in the production or handling of organic agricultural products

#### 3.2

#### agricultural products

any agricultural commodity or product, whether raw or processed, including any commodity or product derived from livestock for human or livestock consumption

#### 3.3

#### animal drug

any drug that is intended for use in livestock, including any drug intended for use in livestock feed but not including such livestock feed

#### 3.4

## breeder stock

female livestock whose offspring may be incorporated into an organic operation at the time of their birth

#### 3.5

## certified operation

a crop or livestock production, wild-crop harvesting or handling operation, or portion of such operation that is certified by an accredited certifying agent such as utilizing a system of organic production

#### 3.6

#### feed

edible materials that are consumed by livestock for their nutritional value. Feeds may be concentrates (grains) or roughage (hay, silage, and fodder). The term "feed" encompasses all agricultural commodities, including pasture ingested by livestock for nutritional purposes

## 3.7

#### feed additive

a substance added to feed in micro quantities to fulfill a specific nutritional need; i.e., essential nutrients in the form of amino acids, vitamins and minerals

## 3.8

## forage

vegetative material in a fresh, dried, or ensiled state (pasture, hay, or silage), that is fed to livestock

#### 3.9

#### livestock

any cattle, sheep, goat, swine, poultry, or equine animals used for food or in the production of food, fiber, feed, or other agricultural-based consumer products; wild or domesticated game; or other non-plant life, except such term shall not include aquatic animals for the production of food, fiber, feed, or other agricultural-based consumer products

## 3.10

#### pasture

land used for livestock grazing that is managed to provide feed value and maintain or improve soil, water, and vegetative resources

#### 3.11

#### slaughter stock

any animal that is intended to be slaughtered for consumption by humans or other animals

## 4 Minimum requirements

The provisions for organic agriculture for animal husbandry shall meet the following requirements:

## 4.1 Animal husbandry management

- **4.1.1** Management of the environment of the animals shall take into account the behavioral needs of the animals and provide for:
- Sufficient free movement;
- Sufficient fresh air and natural daylight according to the needs of the animals;
- Protection against excessive sunlight, temperatures, rain, and wind according to the needs of the animals;
- Enough lying and/or resting area according to the needs of the animals. For all animals requiring bedding, natural materials shall be provided;
- An ample access to fresh water and feed according to the needs of the animals.

**4.1.2** All animals shall have access to open air and grazing as applicable to the type of animal and season.

Landless animal husbandry systems are not allowed.

The Certification Program may allow exceptions in individual cases where:

- Permanent housing is the traditional practice and is not affecting the welfare of the animals
- The specific farm structure prevents access to grazing sites.

A time limit shall be set for each individual exception.

- **4.1.3** When artificial lighting prolongs natural daylight, the Certification Program shall prescribe maximum hours respective to species, geographical considerations and general health of animals. For poultry, a maximum light phase of 16 hours shall not be exceeded.
- **4.1.4** Herd animals shall not be kept individually. Sick animals and those about to give birth can be kept separately for a limited period. The Certification program may allow further exceptions in specific cases.
- **4.1.5** Nomadic modes of livestock management are allowed.

## 4.2 B reeds and breeding

- **4.2.1** The Certification Program shall ensure that breeding goals are such that livestock diversity is maintained. Indigenous breeds should be preserved and promoted. Breeding activities shall be in line with the following principles:
- A reasonable production level on a low input level
- Adaptation to local circumstances
- Longevity,
- Good health.
- Quality of animal products,
- To have breeds which can give birth naturally.
- **4.2.2** Embryo transfer techniques and cloning are not allowed. Nevertheless artificial insemination are permitted.
- **4.2.3** The use of genetically engineered species or breeds is not allowed.

#### 4.3 Mutilations

- **4.3.1** Mutilations are not allowed. The Certification Program may allow the following exceptions in specific cases if they are improving the welfare, health or hygiene of the animals or for safety reasons:
- Tail cutting of lambs
- Trimming of beaks
- De-horning

- Ringing
- Cutting of teeth
- Tattooing

These practices shall not cause suffering. Physical castration is allowed in order to maintain the quality of products, if qualified personnel carry them out at the most appropriate age and any suffering to the animals is reduced to a minimum.

Keeping the animals tethered are forbidden. However the inspection body can authorize this practice for individuals upon justification by producer, that this is necessary for safety or welfare reasons, and that such tethering is for a limited time only.

#### 4.4 Animal nutrition

**4.4.1** Considering the low availability of organic fodder in the following maximum percentages (dry matter) of conventional fodder in the average diet of each animal are tolerated:

Year 1	40%
Year 2	20%
until Year 3	10% for ruminants
	15% for others.

These maximum percentages shall be followed the whole year round. They can be calculated using average dry matter requirements of farm animal varieties.

- **4.4.2** In specific cases, the certifying body may allow exceptions to these percentages, with specific time limits and conditions in the following cases:
- Unforeseen severe natural or man-made events
- Extreme climatic conditions.
- **4.4.3** For the calculation of feeding allowances, food produced within the same farm during the first year of organic management may be classed as fully organic.
- **4.4.4** The diet shall be offered to the animals in a form allowing them to execute their natural feeding behavior.
- **4.4.5** Each animal must have daily access to roughage.
- **4.4.6** The prevailing part (more than 50%) of the feed shall come from the farm unit itself or be produced in co-operation with other organic farms or processors in the region.
- **4.4.7** The following products shall not be included in, nor added to the feed or in any other way be given to farm animals:
- Synthetic growth promoters or stimulants
- Synthetic appetizers
- Preservatives, except when used as a processing aid
- Artificial coloring agents

- Urea
- Farm animal by-products (e.g. abattoir waste) to ruminants
- Droppings, dung or other manure;
- Feed subjected to solvent extraction (e.g. with hexane) or the addition of other chemical agents (e.g. soy and rapeseed meal).
- Pure amino acids
- Genetically engineered organisms or products thereof.
- Only allowed products in the Annex should be used as additives and processing aids in the silage.
- **4.4.8** The following feed ingredient groups should it not be generally used from synthesized or unnatural sources:
- Concentrated vitamins
- Trace element supplements

Exceptions may be made in cases of specific deficiencies.

- **4.4.9** Generally, no synthetic chemical fodder preservatives are allowed. The following products maybe used alternatively:
- Bacteria, fungi, and enzymes (unless genetically engineered)
- By-products of food industry (e.g. molasses)
- Plant-based products

The certification program in case of special weather conditions can grant specific exceptions.

- **4.4.10** Young stock from mammals shall be generally raised using systems, which rely on organic whole milk. In emergencies, the Certification Program may allow the use of milk from non-organic farming system or dairy based milk substitutes, which do not contain antibiotics or synthetic additives.
- **4.4.11** A minimum weaning time of 10 weeks shall be kept for calves.

## 4.5 Brought-in animals

**4.5.1** Breeding stock may be brought in from conventional farms with a yearly maximum of 10% of the adult animals on the farm.

If more than 10% of conventional breeding stock is brought in (maximum 10%), this needs prior approval by the Certification Program. Exceptions can be granted with specific time limits in the following cases:

- Unforeseen severe natural or man made events
- Considerable enlargement of the farm
- Establishment of a new type of animal production on the farm or a new livestock specialization is developed
- For small holdings or when a major extension to the farm is undertaken

**4.5.2** Where livestock is obtained from units not complying with this regulation, special attention must be paid to the animal health measures. The inspection body, may apply, depending on the local circumstances, special measures such as: screening tests and quarantine periods.

## 4.6 Veterinary medicine

- **4.6.1** The well being of the animals is superior in the choice of illness treatment. The use of allopathic drugs is allowed when no other justifiable alternatives are available and when preventive measures are not successful.
- **4.6.2** Where allopathic medicines are used, the withholding period shall be at least double the legal period and at least 48 hours if not specified.
- **4.6.3** Prophylactic use of allopathic medicines or antibiotics is not allowed even for preventive measures.
- **4.6.4** Permitted veterinary treatments are indicated in Appendix 3. The use of the following substances is forbidden:
- All steroids and other synthetic growth promoters;
- Substances of synthetic origin for production stimulation and suppression of natural growth;
- Hormones for heat induction and heat synchronization unless used for individual animals against reproductive disorders, justified by veterinary indications.
- **4.6.5** Vaccinations shall be used only when diseases are known to exist in the region of the farm and cannot be controlled by other management techniques. This always requires the approval of the Certification Program. Legally required vaccinations are, however, allowed. Genetically engineered live viral vaccines shall not be used.
- **4.6.6** Records of sick animals treated allopathically shall be kept, clearly identifying the animals concerned. All allopathic veterinary treatment with synthetic drugs, including details of the treatment and its duration, as well as all brand names of drugs used, shall be included.
- **4.6.7** On the basis of these records, the Certification Program shall set conditions for each individual farm to minimize the need for the application of allopathic medicines.

#### 4.7 Draft animals

Draft animals shall be well cared for and must be used in a humane manner that causes the least possible stress and suffering.

# Transport and slaughter

**4.7.1** Throughout the entire process, there shall be a person who is responsible for the well being of the animals.

**4.7.2** The handling shall be calm and gentle. The use of electric sticks and such instruments shall be restricted according to the type of animal.

Transport shall not result in physical damage of the animal.

- **4.7.3** The transport shall be well organized and appropriate to the needs of the animals, taking into consideration:
- Stress caused to the animal and person in charge;
- Fitness of the animal;
- Loading and unloading;
- Mixing different groups of animals or animals of different sex;
- The grip of the feet on floors and ramps;
- Equipment shall be of good quality and in good order;
- Extreme temperatures and relative humidity;
- Hunger and thirst;
- Circumstances and events during transport or slaughter, which are different to what the animal was used to on the farm (e.g. bedding material, social ties);
- Specific needs of each animal.
- **4.7.4** No chemically synthesized tranquilizers or stimulants shall be given prior to or during transport.
- **4.7.5** Each animal or group of animals shall be identifiable during all steps.
- **4.7.6** In case of transport by axle, transport time to the slaughterhouse shall not exceed 8 hours.
- **4.7.7** The equipment used for stunning should be in good working order and should affect the deep laying parts of the brain in one (quick) act. Its proper functioning should be inspected regularly. Equipment relying on gas or electricity should be monitored in such a way that it can be monitored continuously.
- **4.7.8** For Poultry, the minimum age for slaughter shall be:
- a. 70 days for chickens
- b. 90 days for capons
- c. 49 days for Peking ducks
- d. 50 days for female Muscovy ducks
- e. 50 days for male Muscovy ducks
- f. 92 days for Mallard ducks
- g. 94 days for Guinea fowls
- h. 140 days for turkeys and roasting geese

#### 4.8 Conversion

**4.8.1** The conversion period may be reduced to one year for pastureland, open airs runs and exercise areas, used by non-herbivorous species. The period may be reduced to six months where the land concerned has not, in the recent past; received treatments with the products other than those to referred to in the Appendix 4 for prohibited materials.

- **4.8.2** If livestock are to be sold organic products, the livestock must be reared from according to the rules laid down in these standards for at least:
- Twelve months in the case of horses and cattle including buffalo for meat production and in any case three quarters of their lifetime.
- Six months in the case of animals for milk production.
- **4.8.3** Calves and small ruminants for meat production can be sold as organically reared during a transitional period of two years provided that:
- a. They come from extensive husbandry;
- b. They are reared in organic production unit until the time of sale or slaughter for a minimum period of six months for calves and two months for small ruminants; and
- c. The origin of the animals complies with the conditions expressed in the Section 4.5 Brought in Animals.
- **4.8.4** If there is simultaneous conversion of the complete production unit, including livestock, pasture areas or any land used for animal feed, the total combined conversion period for both livestock and pasture areas and any land used for animal feed, shall be reduced to 24 months, subject to the following conditions:
- a. The animals are fed mainly with products from the production units;
- b. The existing animals and their offspring, at the same time, used for pastures or animal feeding.

#### 5 Livestock manure

**5.1** Where necessary, the total stocking density shall be reduced to avoid exceeding the limit mentioned.

To determine the appropriate density of the livestock referred, the livestock units equivalent to 170 kilograms Nitrogen per hectare/year of agricultural areas used for the various categories of the animals shall be set by the inspection body.

- **5.2** The maximum limit of 170 kilograms Nitrogen per hectare/year of agricultural area used will be calculated on the basis of organic production units involved in such a cooperation.
- **5.3** The inspection body may establish lower limits than those specified, taking into account, the characteristics of the area concerned, and the application of Nitrogen fertilizers to the land and the soil Nitrogen available to the plants.

## 6 Free range areas and livestock housing

**6.1** The livestock must have access to feeding and watering stations. Insulation, heating and ventilation of the buildings must ensure that air circulation, dust level, temperature, relative humidity and gas concentration are kept within limits which are not harmful to the animals. The building must permit plentiful ventilation and light to enter.

- **6.2** Free range, open air exercise areas, or open air runs must, if necessary, provide sufficient protection against rain, wind, sun and extreme temperature depending on the local weather conditions and the breed concerned.
- **6.3** The stocking density shall take into account the behavioral needs of the animals, which depend in particular on the size and sex of the group. The optimum density will seek to ensure the animal welfare by providing them with sufficient space to stand naturally, lie down easily, turn around, groom themselves, assume all natural postures and make all natural movements such as stretching and wing flapping (Appendix 3).

## 7 Mammals

- **7.1** All mammals must have access to pasturage or open-air exercise areas or an open-air run, which maybe partially covered. They must be able to use those areas whenever the physiological condition of the animals; the weather conditions and the state of the ground permit, unless there are national requirements relating to specific animal health problems that prevent this. Herbivorous must have an access to pasturage whenever conditions allow (Appendix 5).
- **7.2** Bulls over one year old must have access to pasturage or open-air exercise areas or open-air run.
- **7.3** The final phase of cattle, pigs and sheep for meat purposes may take place indoors, provided that this indoor period does not exceed one fifth of their lifetime and in any case for a maximum period of three months.
- **7.4** Livestock housing must have a smooth, but not slippery floors. At least half of the total floor area must be solid, that is, not of slatted or of grid construction.
- **7.5** The housing must provide with a comfortable, clean and dry lying / rest area of sufficient size, consisting of a solid construction, which is not slatted. Ample dry bedding strewn with litter materials must be provided in the rest area. The litter must comprise straw or other suitable natural materials. The litter maybe improved and enriched with any mineral product authorized for use as fertilizer in organic farming.
- **7.6** As regards to the rearing of calves, the housing of calves in individual boxes are prohibited after the age of one week.

# 8 Poultry

- **8.1** Poultry must be reared in open range conditions and cannot be kept in cage.
- **8.2** Waterfowl must have access to stream, pod or lake whenever the weather conditions permit, in order to respect animal welfare requirements or hygienic conditions.
- **8.3** Building for all poultry must meet the following minimum conditions:
- a. At least one third should be solid, that is, not slatted, nor of grid construction and covered with a litter materials such as straw, wood shavings, sand or turf.

- b. In poultry houses for laying hens, a sufficiently large part of the floor area available to the hens must be available for the collection of droppings.
- c. They must have perches of a size and number commensurate with the size of the groups and of the birds (Appendix 5).
- d. They must have exit / entry pop-holes of a size adequate for the birds and these pop-holes must have a combined length of at least 4 meters per 100-meter square area of the house available to the birds.
- e. Each poultry house must not contain more than:
- 4,800 chickens
- 3,000 laying hens
- 5,200 guinea fowls
- 4,000 female Muscovy ducks or Peking ducks
- 3,200 male Muscovy or Peking ducks or other ducks
- 2,500 capons, geese or turkeys
- The total usable areas of the poultry houses for meat production on any single production unit must exceed 1,600 square meter. The housing areas should accommodate three chickens per one-meter square.
- **8.4** In the case of laying hens, natural light maybe supplemented by artificial means, to provide a maximum of 16 hours light per day with a continuous nocturnal rest without artificial light of at least eight (8) hours.
- **8.5** Poultry must have access to open-air whenever the weather condition permit and whenever possible must have such access for at one third of their life. These open-air runs must be mainly covered with vegetation, be provided with protective facilities and permit animals to have easy access to adequate numbers of drinking and feeding stations.
- **8.6** For health reasons, buildings must be emptied of livestock between each batch of poultry reared. The buildings and fittings are to be cleaned and disinfected during this time. In addition, when the rearing of each batch of poultry has been completed, runs must be left empty to allow vegetation to grow back and for health reasons. The inspection body must establish the period in which runs must be empty. This requirement shall not apply to small numbers of poultry which are not kept in runs and which are free to roam, throughout the day.

# **Organic agriculture – Specification**

## **Part 4: Processing**

## 1 Scope

This standard establishes a system for organic agriculture mainly for processing purposes.

#### 2 References

The titles of the standards publications referred to in this standard are listed on the inside back cover.

#### 3 Definitions

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

#### 3.1

## ingredient

any substance, including a food additive, used in the manufacture or preparation of a food or present in the final product, although in a modified form

## 3.2

#### food additives

enrichment, supplement or any other optional components added to a product, which affects it's keeping quality, consistency, color, smell, taste or other organoleptic properties

#### 3.3

## preparation

the operation of preserving and /or processing of agricultural products (including slaughter and cutting for livestock products), and also packaging and /or alterations made to the labeling concerning the presentation of organic production method of the fresh, preserved and/or processed products

#### 3.4

## processing

cooking, baking, heating, drying, mixing, grinding, churning, separating, extracting, cutting, freezing or otherwise manufacturing of food or food product. It includes changing the physical characteristics of a food, and the packaging, canning or otherwise enclosing such food in a container. It does not include sorting or cleaning if such is done with water

#### 3.5

## processing aid

substances or materials not including apparatus or utensils and not consumed as a food ingredient itself, intentionally used in the processing of raw materials, food or food ingredients to fulfill a certain technological purpose during treatment or processing and which may result in the non-intentional but unavoidable presence of residues or derivatives in the final product. (e.g., grease, cooking oil, etc.)

#### 3.6

#### raw materials

all ingredients other than additives

#### 3.7

## restricted inputs

inputs for which there are conditions for the use imposed by the certification program

# 4 Minimum requirements

The provisions for organic agriculture for processing shall meet the following requirements:

## 4.1 Postharvest operations

- **4.1.1** Organic produce shall neither be mixed nor switched with non-organic produce. Handlers and processors shall not co-mingle organic products with non-organic products.
- **4.1.2** Processing and handling shall be done separately in time or place from processing of non-organic products. When equipment is not exclusively used for organic products, the machineries should be properly cleaned before processing organic products.
- **4.1.3** All products shall be adequately identified through the whole process until final labeling.
- **4.1.4** Genetically modified organisms and product thereof are not allowed.
- **4.1.5** Pollution sources shall be identified and contamination be avoided.

## 4.2 Storage and transportation

- **4.2.1** Organic and non-organic products shall not be stored and transported together except when physically separated and labeled.
- **4.2.2** For cleaning or disinfection of storage facilities, environmental friendly measures and products shall be used. The application of synthetic substances, which are harmful to human health, must be avoided.
- **4.2.3** Beside storage at ambient temperature, the following special conditions of storage are permitted:
- Cooling or freezing in refrigerated containers equipped with temperature measurement devices.

- Pure ice made from water which fulfill the WHO standards for drinking water
- Controlled atmosphere (with gases like CO<sub>2</sub>, O<sub>2</sub>N<sub>2</sub>) is allowed

The Certifying Body may approve exceptions of these rules if measures correspond to the principle of maintaining the quality and integrity of the products.

**4.2.4** Only natural ripening agents are allowed.

## 4.3 Pest control in storage and processing

- **4.3.1** Fumigation with pesticides and other chemical treatment of plant and storage facilities shall be avoided. If no alternative solution can be found, Certifying Body may approve exceptional application.
- **4.3.2** There shall never be direct or indirect contact between organic products and prohibited substances (e.g., pesticides). When any doubt
- **4.3.3** arises, it shall be ensured that no residues are present in the organic product.
- **4.3.4** It is not allowed to use irradiation of products for pest and disease control.
- **4.3.5** In case there is suspicion of traces of pesticides in the storage facilities, these have to be cleaned by suitable means.

## 4.4 Ingredients of agricultural origin

- **4.4.1** In cases where an ingredient of agricultural origin, which is listed in Appendix 6, is not available in sufficient quantity or quality from organic origin, non-organic raw materials can be used to a limited extent. These raw materials shall not be genetically engineered. On request of processors, further ingredients can be added to the list of Appendix 6.
- **4.4.2** The same ingredient in one product shall not be derived from both an organic and non-organic origin.
- **4.4.3** Mineral (including trace elements) vitamins and similar isolated ingredients shall be used, unless there use is legally required or where severe dietary or nutritional deficiency can be demonstrated.

## 4.5 Other ingredients and processing

- **4.5.1** The use of additives and processing aids are restricted. A list of components and restrictions are provided in Appendix 6.
- **4.5.2** Additives and processing aids shall only be used under the following conditions:
- If the purpose is to maintain the nutritional value of a product;
- If the purpose is to enhance the keeping quality or stability of the product;
- If the purpose is to provide the product with an acceptable composition, consistency, and appearance;

- There is no possibility of producing a similar product without the use of the additive or processing aid;
- It is not included in amounts greater than the minimum required to achieve its function;
- It does not in any major way detrimentally affects the environment;
- It shall not deceive the consumer, concerning the nature, substance, and quality of the food.
- **4.5.3** Salt and water may be used in organic products provided that specifications made in Appendix 6 are met.
- **4.5.4** Preparations of microorganisms and enzymes normally used in food processing may be used, except for genetically engineered microorganisms and their products.

## 4.6 Methods of processing

- **4.6.1** The following kinds of processes are approved:
- Mechanical & physical processes
- Biological processes (e.g. fermentation)
- Smoking, drying
- Extraction
- Precipitation
- Filtration

Removal of the whole food shall be restricted. It should be carried out by the restriction of permitted techniques and materials (e.g. certain ion exchange resins and absorption techniques). Filtration equipment shall not contain asbestos or substances that may negatively affect the product.

- **4.6.2** Extraction shall only take place with water, ethanol, oil,  $CO_2$ ,  $N_2$  or acids provided that they are used in applications and qualities allowed in Appendix 6.
- **4.6.3** Processing containers should be 'Food–grade quality' Stainless Steel, Ceramic, or Glass

## 4.7 Methods of cleaning

- **4.7.1** Operators shall take all necessary precautions to protect organic food against contamination by substances prohibited in organic farming and handling pest, disease-causing organisms and foreign substances.
- **4.7.2** Only substances that appear in the appendix and water may be used in direct contact with organic food. Any water used in organic processing must be potable.

- **4.7.3** Operations that use cleaners, sanitizers, and disinfectants on food contacts surfaces shall use them in a way that maintains the organic integrity of the food. Unless otherwise noted in the Appendix, the operator is required to perform an intervening event between the use of any cleaners, sanitizers or disinfectant and the contact of the organic food in that surface. Acceptable intervening events include a hot-water rinse, a sufficient flush of organic product that is not sold as organic product or adequate time for the substances to volatilize.
- **4.7.4** Operators shall prevent the residues of boiler water additives from direct contact with organic food by the use of entrained water, filters, traps or other means that prevent steam in contact with organic foods from carrying such compounds
- **4.7.5** Handlers and processors shall make a plan and maintain a report of cleaners, disinfectants and sanitizers used by certified organic handling and processing operations. This report should include a list of the cleaning, disinfecting and sanitizing agents currently used in certified organic facilities.

Approved methods of cleansing are:

- Washing with clean water, abrasives, and organic soaps
- Pasteurization

Operators should select cleaners, sanitizers and disinfectants based on avoidance of residual contamination, rapid biodegradability, low toxicity, worker safety and a life cycle impact of their manufacture, use and disposal. In particular, operators should avoid endocrine disrupting, ozone depletion and trihalomethane-forming compounds whenever possible.

The use of cleaning compounds should minimize the disposal of effluent and the use of disinfectants. Graywater recycling for uses other than handling or processing food is preferred over either recirculation or disposal.

**4.7.6** The cleanliness of the food processing premises shall be maintained at all times.

#### 4.8 Packaging

- **4.8.1** Packaging material shall not contaminate food and shall be able to maintain the aseptic condition of the product.
- **4.8.2** Packaging shall, whenever possible, be "Environmental Friendly," simple, and not deceptive.

Packaging materials and storage containers or bins that contain a synthetic fungicide, preservatives or fumigants are prohibited.

- **4.8.3** Organic products must be packed in reused bags or containers that have been in direct contact with any substances that would likely compromise the integrity of the product or ingredient placed in those containers, unless reusable bags or containers has been thoroughly cleaned and poses no risk of contamination.
- **4.8.4** Packaging materials shall be sterilized if appropriate.

Organic agriculture - Specification

**Part 5: Special products** 

## 1 Scope

This standard establishes a system for organic agriculture mainly for special products purposes.

#### 2 References

The titles of the standards publications referred to in this standard are listed on the inside back cover.

#### 3 Definitions

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

#### 3.1

#### herb

a plant that is not woody and with no persistent parts above ground level

#### 3.2

#### mushroom

any of various fleshy fungi, including toadstools, puffballs and morels

## 3.3

#### wild honey

a sweet, viscous fluid produced by bees from the nectar collected from flowers of wild plants

# 4 Minimum requirements

The provisions for organic agriculture for processing shall also be applicable for special products and shall meet the following requirements:

## 4.1 Mushrooms

- **4.1.1** Substrate materials must be free of pollutants.
- **4.1.2** Substrates must not be contaminated with heavy metals.
- **4.1.3** Chemical pesticides, fungicides, herbicides, or fertilizers must not be used.
- **4.1.4** Clean, uncontaminated water must be used.

## 4.2 Wild Honey

- **4.2.1** The forage area of the bees should be free from chemical contamination and other pollutants.
- **4.2.2** Over-harvesting must be avoided to ensure the sustainability of the species concerned.
- **4.2.3** Smoke can be used to drive bees from harvest site.
- **4.2.4** Honey must be filtered through a sterilized cloth and sediment allowed to settle.
- **4.2.5** Label must specify source and moisture content.
- **4.2.6** Honey must be stored and distributed in a hygienic fashion.
- **4.2.7** Care should be taken to keep the moisture content low (preferably 16-20%).

## 4.3 Herbs

- **4.3.1** Over-harvesting wild herbs must be avoided to ensure the sustainability of the species concerned.
- **4.3.2** Only herbs in their prime shall be harvested.
- **4.3.3** Herbs shall not be dried in direct sunlight to preserve their benefits, neither shall they be dried in locations prone to contamination.
- **4.3.4** The package shall be labeled with an expiration date depending on the product and process.

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**Organic agriculture – Specification** 

Part 6: Labeling and consumer information

## 1 Scope

This standard establishes a system for organic agriculture mainly for labeling and consumer information purposes.

#### 2 References

Titles of standards published and other references of this standard are listed on the inside back cover.

#### 3 Definitions

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

#### 3.1

#### label

a display of written, printed, or graphic material on the immediate container of an agricultural product or any such material affixed to a bulk container containing an agricultural product, except for package liners or a display of written, printed, or graphic material which contains only information about the weight of the product

#### 3.2

## labeling

any written, printed, or graphic presentation that is present on the label of a product accompanies the product or displayed near the product

## 4 Minimum requirements

The provisions for organic agriculture for labeling and consumer information shall meet the following requirements:

#### 4.1 Labeling

**4.1.1** Only products that are produced, handled and processed according to these Standards may be labeled as "produce of organic agriculture" or similar.

- **4.1.2** Mixed products which contain conventional agricultural ingredients listed in Appendix 6 may be labeled in the following ways (weight percentages shall refer to the state of an ingredient at the beginning of the processing): Where a minimum 95% of the ingredients are of certified organic origin, products may be labeled "certified organic" or similar and should carry the logo of the certification program.
- **4.1.3** Where less than 95%, but not less than 70%, of the ingredients are of certified organic origin, products may not be labeled "organic". The word "organic" may be used on the principal display in statements like "made with organic ingredients" provided there is a clear statement of the proportion of the organic ingredients. An indication that the product is covered by the Certification Program may be used, close to the indication of the proportion of organic ingredients;

Where less than 70% of the ingredients are of certified organic origin, the indication that an ingredient is organic may appear in the ingredient list. Such product may not be labeled "organic."

- **4.1.4** In the calculation of percentage of organic ingredients, added water and salt shall not be included.
- **4.1.6** When used, conversion labels should be clearly distinguishable from the full organic label.
- **4.1.7** Products, which only consist of certified wild ingredients, shall be labeled "wild" or "natural". A multi-ingredients product containing from both certified organic agricultural and certified wild/natural origin may be labeled as organic.
- **4.1.8** All raw materials of multi-ingredient product shall be listed on the product label in order of their weight percentage. It shall be apparent which raw materials are of organic origin and which are not.
- **4.1.9** Beside the raw materials, all additives shall be listed with their full name.

References

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Organic Certification Center of the Philippines, Organic Agriculture Standards for Crops and Animal Production, 2002

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