

MAYACERT, S.A.

STANDARD OF ORGANIC PRODUCTION MAYACERT, S.A.

Version 7. January 2020

Document name: Standard of organic production	Code Norm_eco	Vers ion 4	Date January 2020	Ultimately responsible: Quality responsible	Where is the original: Quality responsible	Page 2 of 138
---	------------------	------------------	----------------------	---	--	------------------

Index

I. INTRODUCTION	7
1.1. OBJECTIVE AND SCOPE.....	7
1.2. DEFINITIONS	8
II. ORGANIC PRODUCTION OBJECTIVES AND PRINCIPLES.....	13
2.1. ORGANIC PRODUCTION OBJECTIVES.....	13
2.2. ORGANIC PRODUCTION PRINCIPLES.....	13
2.3. AGRICULTURAL MATTERS SPECIFIC PRINCIPLES	14
2.4. SPECIFIC PRINCIPLES APPLICABLE TO ORGANIC FOOD PROCESSING.....	15
2.5. SPECIFIC PRINCIPLES APPLICABLE TO ORGANIC FEED PROCESSING	15
III. PRODUCTION GENERAL STANDARDS.....	16
3.1. PROHIBITION OF GENETICALLY MODIFIED ORGANISMS (GMOs) USE	16
3.2. PROHIBITION OF IONIZING RADIATION USE	16
3.3. PROHIBITION OF HYDROPONIC PRODUCTION	16
3.4. GENERAL STANDARDS FOR PRODUCTION ON HOLDINGS	17
IV. PLAT PRODUCTION STANDARDS.....	17
4.1. SOIL FERTILITY MAINTENANCE AND/OR IMPROVEMENT:.....	17
4.2. SOIL CONSERVATION STRUCTURES	18
4.3. ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION PREVENTION.....	19
4.4. PEST, DISEASE AND WEED HANDLING	19
4.5. SEEDS AND PLANT REPRODUCTION MATERIALS	20
4.6. CLEANING AND DISINFECTION PRODUCTS	21
4.7. SLASH.....	21
4.8. WILD COLLECTION	22
4.9. MUSHROOM PRODUCTION SPECIFIC STANDARDS.....	22
V. LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION STANDARDS.....	23
5.1. ORIGIN OF ANIMALS	23
5.2. ORIGIN OF ORGANIC ANIMALS	23
5.3. ORIGIN OF NON-ORGANIC ANIMALS	23
5.4. LIVESTOCK PRACTICES AND HOUSING CONDITIONS	24
5.5. REPRODUCTION.....	25
5.6. LIVESTOCK HOUSING STANDARDS.....	26
5.7. HOUSING CONDITIONS AND LIVESTOCK PRACTICES FOR MAMMALS	26
5.8. SPECIFIC CONDITIONS FOR HOUSING AND POULTRY BREEDING METHODS	27
5.9. SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS AND HOUSING CONDITIONS IN BEEKEEPING	28
5.10. ACCESS TO OPEN AIR AREAS	29
5.11. STOCKING DENSITY.....	29
5.12. PROHIBITION OF LANDLESS LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION	29
5.13. SIMULTANEOUS PRODUCTION OF ORGANIC AND NON-ORGANIC LIVESTOCK.....	30
5.14. MANAGEMENT OF ANIMALS	30
5.15. FEED.....	31
5.16. FEED	31

Document name: Standard of organic production	Code Norm_eco	Vers ion 4	Date January 2020	Ultimately responsible: Quality responsible	Where is the original: Quality responsible	Page 2 of 138
---	------------------	------------------	----------------------	---	--	------------------

FROM OWN HOLDING OR OTHER ORGANIC HOLDINGS	31
5.17. MEETING THE ANIMAL'S NUTRITIONAL REQUIREMENTS.....	32
5.18. IN-CONVERSION FEED	32
5.19. USE OF CERTAIN PRODUCTS AND SUBSTANCES IN FEED	33
5.20. GENERAL STANDARDS FOR DISEASE PREVENTION AND VETERINARY TREATMENT	33
5.20.1. PROPHYLAXIS OR DISEASE PREVENTION.....	34
5.20.2. VETERINARY TREATMENT	35
5.21. SPECIFIC RULES ON DISEASE PREVENTION AND VETERINARY TREATMENT IN BEEKEEPING.....	36
5.22. LIVESTOCK PREMISES OR FACILITIES CLEANING AND DISINFECTION.....	36
VI. PRODUCTS AND SUBSTANCES USED IN FARMING AND CRITERIA FOR THEIR AUTHORIZATION	37
CONVERSION TO ORGANIC PRODUCTION	39
7.1. GENERAL STANDARDS FOR CONVERSION TO ORGANIC PRODUCTION	39
7.2. CONVERSION STANDARDS FOR AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION AND AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS	39
7.3. CONVERSION STANDARDS APPLICABLE TO LAND ASSOCIATED WITH ORGANIC LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION.....	42
7.4. LIVESTOCK AND LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS.....	42
VIII. PRODUCTION OF PROCESSED FEED AND FOOD.....	43
8.1. GENERAL STANDARDS FOR PROCESSED FEED PRODUCTION.....	43
8.2. GENERAL STANDARDS FOR PROCESSED FOOD PRODUCTION	43
8.3. GENERAL STANDARDS FOR ORGANIC YEAST PRODUCTION	44
8.4. STANDARDS APPLICABLE TO PROCESSED FEED AND FOOD PRODUCTION	44
8.5. CRITERIA FOR CERTAIN PRODUCTS AND SUBSTANCES IN PROCESSING	45
8.6. USE OF CERTAIN PRODUCTS AND SUBSTANCES IN FOOD PROCESSING.....	46
8.7. AUTHORIZATION OF NON-ORGANIC FOOD INGREDIENTS OF AGRICULTURAL ORIGIN	47
8.8. USE OF CERTAIN NON-ORGANIC INGREDIENTS OR AGRICULTURAL ORIGIN IN FOOD PROCESSING	49
IX. PRODUCTS COLLECTION, PACKAGING, TRANSPORT AND STORAGE.....	49
9.1. PRODUCTS COLLECTION AND TRANSPORT TO PREPARATION UNITS	49
9.2. PRODUCT PACKAGING AND TRANSPORT TO OTHER OPERATORS OR UNITS	49
9.3. SPECIFIC STANDARDS FOR FEED TRANSPORT TO OTHER PRODUCTION OR PREPARATION UNITS OR STORAGE PREMISES.....	50
9.4. PRODUCT RECEPTION FROM OTHER UNITS AND OTHER OPERATORS	50
9.5. SPECIFIC STANDARDS FOR PACKAGING APPLICABLE TO PRODUCTS EXPORT.....	51
9.6. PRODUCT STORAGE.....	51
X. FLEXIBILITY OR EXCEPTIONS	51
10.1. PRODUCTION EXCEPTIONAL STANDARDS	52
10.2. ANIMALS TETHERING.....	53
10.3. PARALLEL PRODUCTION	53
10.4. BEEKEEPING UNITS FOR POLLINATION PURPOSES MANAGEMENT.....	56
10.5. NON-ORGANIC ANIMAL USE.....	56
10.7. NON-ORGANIC WAX USE.....	57
10.8. MANAGEMENT PROBLEMS SPECIFIC OF ORGANIC LIVESTOCK	57
10.9. NON-ORGANIC YEAST EXTRACT ADDITION.....	57
10.10. CATASTROPHIC CIRCUMSTANCES.....	58
XI. PRODUCT LABELING.....	58

Document name: Standard of organic production	Code Norm_eco	Vers ion 4	Date January 2020	Ultimately responsible: Quality responsible	Where is the original: Quality responsible	Page 2 of 138
---	------------------	------------------	----------------------	---	--	------------------

11.1. USE OF TERMS REFERRING TO ORGANIC PRODUCTION	58	11.2. COMPULSORY INDICATIONS.....	60
ORGANIC EU LOGO.....	61	11.4. CONDITIONS APPLICABLE TO THE USE OF NUMERICAL CODE AND PLACE OF ORIGIN.....	61
11.5. SPECIFIC LABELING REQUIREMENTS.....	62		
11.5.1. SPECIFIC FEED LABELING REQUIREMENTS.....	62	11.5.1.1. Scope, trademarks use and sale descriptions	62
Indications on processed feed	62	11.5.1.2. Terms of use of indications on processed feed.....	63
11.5.2. LABELING REQUIREMENTS SPECIFIC FOR IN-CONVERSION PRODUCTS OF PLANT ORIGIN.....	64		
XII. CONTROLS AND RECORDS.....	64		
12.1. CONTROL SYSTEM	64	12.2. CONTROL SYSTEM ENFORCEMENT.....	65
SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS	66	12.3. MEASURES IN CASE OF INFRINGEMENT OR IRREGULARITIES	67
INFORMATION EXCHANGE	67	12.4. CONTROL PROVISIONS AND PRODUCER OR OPERATOR'S COMMITMENT.....	67
MODIFICATION OF THE CONTROL PROVISIONS.....	70	12.5. CONTROL VISITS FOR OPERATORS.....	70
PRODUCT REGISTRATION AND FINANCIAL RECORDS	72	12.6. PRODUCTION UNITS ACCESS AND CONTROL	73
12.10. SELLER'S STATEMENT	73	12.11. CONTROL REQUIREMENTS SPECIFIC FOR PLANTS AND PLANT PRODUCTS FROM AGRICULTURE PRODUCTION OR COLLECTION	73
12.12.1. Control provisions	74	12.12.2. Communications.....	74
12.13. PLANT PRODUCTION RECORDS.....	74	12.13.1. SEPARATION AND DOCUMENTATION.....	74
12.13.2. SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS FOR FIRST INSPECTION	75	12.14. HOLDING OF SEVERAL PRODUCTION UNITS RUN BY THE SAME OPERATOR.....	75
12.15. CONTROL REQUIREMENTS APPLICABLE TO LIVESTOCK AND ANIMAL PRODUCTS PRODUCED THROUGH LIVESTOCK PRACTICES	75	12.15.1. Control measures.....	75
12.15.2. Identification of animals.....	76	12.15.3. Animal registration	76
12.15.4. Control measures applicable to veterinary drugs	76	12.15.5. Control measures specific for beekeeping	76
12.15.6. Holding of several production units run by the same operator	77	12.16. CONTROL REQUIREMENTS APPLICABLE TO MANUFACTURING UNITS OF PLANT AND ANIMAL PRODUCTS, AND FOOD PRODUCTS MADE FROM THE PREVIOUS PRODUCTS.....	77
12.16.1. Control measures.....	77	12.17. CONTROL REQUIREMENTS APPLICABLE TO THE UNITS ENGAGED IN PRODUCTION, PREPARATION AND EXPORT OF ORGANIC PRODUCTS, WHICH HAVE SUBCONTRACTED WITH THIRD PARTIES A PART OR THE ENTIRE OPERATION AS SUCH	78
12.17.1. Control measures.....	78	12.18. CONTROL	

Document name: Standard of organic production	Code Norm_eco	Vers ion 4	Date January 2020	Ultimately responsible: Quality responsible	Where is the original: Quality responsible	Page 2 of 138
---	------------------	------------------	----------------------	---	--	------------------

REQUIREMENTS APPLICABLE TO UNITS ENGAGED IN FEED PREPARATION..... 78 12.18.1.
 Scope..... 78
 12.18.2. Control measures..... 78 12.18.3.
 Documented accounting 79 12.18.4. Control
 visits 79

XIII. CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR PRODUCER GROUPS..... 79 XIV.

TRADE 89

14.1. EXPORT OF PRODUCTS WITH EQUIVALENT GUARANTEES 89 14.2.
 CONTROL MEASURES 89 14.3.
 DOCUMENTED ACCOUNTING..... 90 14.4.
 INFORMATION OF EXPORTED REMITTANCES..... 90 14.5.
 CONTROL VISITS 90 14.6.
 CONTROL MEASURES 91

XV. FINAL AND TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS..... 91 15.1.

ORGANIC PRODUCTION COMMITTEE..... 91 XVI.

VIOLATIONS AND INFORMATION EXCHANGE..... 91

16.1. MEASURES IN CASE OF SUSPECTED VIOLATION OR IRREGULARITIES 91 16.2.
 EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION BETWEEN CONTROL AUTHORITIES, CONTROL BODIES
 AND COMPETENT AUTHORITIES..... 93 16.2.1.
 WHERE THE OPERATOR AND/OR HIS SUBCONTRACTORS ARE INSPECTED BY OTHER AUTHORITIES OR CONTROL BODIES, THE
 AUTHORITIES OR CONTROL BODIES SHALL EXCHANGE WITH MAYACERT RELEVANT INFORMATION CONCERNING OPERATIONS
 SUBJECT TO ITS CONTROL, PROVIDED THAT THE OPERATOR HAS A CONTRACT WITH MAYACERT..... 93 16.2.2. WHEN
 THE OPERATOR AND/OR ITS SUBCONTRACTORS CHANGE AUTHORITY OR CONTROL BODY:..... 93 IF MAYACERT IS THE
 PRECEDING INSPECTION BODY, IT SHALL FORWARD THE RELEVANT ELEMENTS OF THE CONTROL FILE OF THE OPERATOR IN
 QUESTION CONTROL, AS WELL AS THE REPORTS REFERRED TO IN THE SECTION ON GOVERNANCE MANDATES AND
 COMMITMENT FROM THE PRODUCER OR OPERATOR OF THE PRESENT STANDARD, TO THE NEW AUTHORITY OR
 CONTROL BODY..... 93 IF MAYACERT IS THE
 NEW BODY OF CONTROL, SHALL ENSURE THAT NON-CONFORMITIES NOTED IN THE REPORT OF THE PREVIOUS CONTROL
 AUTHORITY OR CONTROL BODY HAVE BEEN OR ARE BEING ADDRESSED BY THE OPERATOR. 93 16.2.3. WHEN THE
 OPERATOR WITHDRAWS FROM THE CONTROL REGIME, MAYACERT SHALL WITHDRAW THE CERTIFICATE AND REMOVED FROM
 THE LIST OF CERTIFIED OPERATORS ON THEIR WEBSITE..... 93 16.2.4. WHERE MAYACERT DETECTS
 IRREGULARITIES OR INFRINGEMENTS AFFECTING THE ORGANIC CHARACTER OF PRODUCTS, IT SHALL INFORM WITHOUT DELAY THE
 EUROPEAN COMMISSION..... 93 THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION MAY REQUIRE ALSO, ON
 ITS OWN INITIATIVE, ANY OTHER INFORMATION ABOUT IRREGULARITIES OR
 INFRINGEMENTS..... 93 IN THE
 EVENT OF IRREGULARITIES OR INFRINGEMENTS DETECTED IN RELATION TO PRODUCTS SUBJECT TO THE CONTROL OF OTHER
 AUTHORITIES OR CONTROL BODIES, MAYACERT ALSO INFORMS WITHOUT DELAY THOSE AUTHORITIES OR CONTROL BODIES.93
 16.3. DISCLOSURE..... 93 XVII.
 SUPERVISION BY COMPETENT AUTHORITIES 94

XVIII. ANNEXES:..... 95

18.1. ANNEX I FERTILIZERS, SOIL CONDITIONERS AND NUTRIENTS REFERRED TO IN THIS
 STANDARD..... 95

18.2. ANNEX II PHYTOSANITARY PESTICIDES REFERRED TO IN THIS STANDARD 95

Document name: Standard of organic production	Code Norm_eco	Vers ion 4	Date January 2020	Ultimately responsible: Quality responsible	Where is the original: Quality responsible	Page 2 of 138
---	------------------	------------------	----------------------	---	--	------------------

18.3. ANNEX III
MINIMAL SURFACES, INDOOR AND OUTDOORS AND OTHER CHARACTERISTICS OF THE
VARIOUS SPECIES AND TYPES OF PRODUCTION REFERRED TO IN THIS
STANDARD..... 107 18.4. ANNEX IV NUMBER OF ANIMALS PER HECTARE
REFERRED TO
IN ARTICLE OF THIS STANDARD 110
18.5. ANNEX V 112
MATERIALS FOR ANIMAL FEED PREMIUMS REFERRED TO IN THIS STANDARD.....
112 18.6. ANNEX VI ADDITIVES USED IN FEEDINGSTUFFS FEEDINGSTUFFS REFERRED TO IN
THIS
STANDARD..... 114
18.7. ANNEX VII CLEANING AND DISINFECTION PRODUCTS 118
18.8. ANNEX VIII CERTAIN PRODUCTS AND SUBSTANCES FOR USE IN PRODUCTION OF
PROCESSED ORGANIC FOOD, YEAST AND YEST PRODUCTS REFERRED IN THIS
STANDARD. ... 121 18.9. ANNEX IX INGREDIENTS THAT HAVE NOT BEEN PRODUCED
ECOLOGICALLY REFERRED TO IN THIS
STANDARD..... 128 18.10. ANNEX
X..... 131 18.11. ANNEX XI LOGO
MENTIONED IN THE PRESENT EU ORGANIC STANDARD 133 18.12. ANNEX XII MODEL OF
DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE TO THE OPERATOR ACCORDING TO THIS STANDARD 135 ANNEX XII BIS
..... 136 ANNEX XII TER
..... 137 ENTRY REFERRED TO
IN THIS STANDARD. 137 18.13. ANNEX
XIII..... 138 MODEL OF
DECLARATION OF THE SELLER MENTIONED IN THIS STANDARD..... 138

Document name: Standard of organic production	Code Norm_eco	Vers ion 4	Date January 2020	Ultimately responsible: Quality responsible	Where is the original: Quality responsible	Page 2 of 138
---	------------------	------------------	----------------------	---	--	------------------

STANDARD OF ORGANIC PRODUCTION

I. INTRODUCTION

1.1. OBJECTIVE AND SCOPE

1.1.1. This standard is the foundation for the implementation of organic systems for regulatory compliance both domestically and internationally and thus, ensures the organic identity of the certified products and thereby ensures credibility and confidence of all entities in the chains of production, processing and marketing for the consumer's benefit.

This standard will also apply to all producers who are interested in certifying crops, processing facilities, entities of marketing and export of organic products in countries where there is no national Organic Regulation.

Excluded from this standard are:

- a. Livestock species different than: bovine (including Bubalus and Bison) , equine, swine, sheep, goats, poultry and bees.
- b. Aquaculture animals.
- c. Algae.
- d. Winemaking.

However, this standard will apply similarly to previous products until specific production standards are established for them.

This standard establishes the requirements for:

- a. All stages of production, processing or transformation and marketing and export of organic products and their controls.
- b. Use of directions in the labeling and advertising referring to organic production.

1.1.2. This standard will be applied to the following products from agriculture to be marketed as organic:

- a. Agricultural products alive or unprocessed.

Document name: Standard of organic production	Code Norm_eco	Vers ion 4	Date January 2020	Ultimately responsible: Quality responsible	Where is the original: Quality responsible	Page 2 of 138
---	------------------	------------------	----------------------	---	--	------------------

- b. Processed agricultural products for human consumption.
- c. Feed.
- d. Vegetative reproductive material and seed for cultivation.

Products of hunting and fishing of wild animals are not considered organic products. This standard also applies to yeast intended for human or animal consumption.

1.1.3. This standard applies to any operator involved in activities at any stage of production, preparation and distribution related to the products listed in this section.

However, collective catering operations will not be subject to this standard.

1.1.4. This standard will be applied without prejudice to other local or national provisions in conformity with this standard for the products specified in this section, such as: rules governing production, preparation, marketing, labeling and control, including legislation on food products and animal nutrition.

1.2. DEFINITIONS

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

1.2.1. Organic production: the use of production methods in accordance to the requirements of this standard, at all stages of production, preparation and distribution, including the conversion period mentioned in article 10.

1.2.2. Agricultural raw material: An agricultural product which has not undergone any conservation or transformation operation.

1.2.3. Precautionary measures: Measures that must be taken by operators in every stage of production, preparation, and distribution, to guarantee the conservation of biodiversity and soil quality; precautionary measures and control of plagues and diseases, and measures that must be taken to avoid negative effects in the environment, animal health, or plant health.

1.2.4. Stages of production, preparation and distribution: any stage, from primary production of an organic product to its storage, processing, transport, sale and supply to the final consumer; as well as activities of labeling, advertising, export and subcontracting.

Document name: Standard of organic production	Code Norm_eco	Vers ion 4	Date January 2020	Ultimately responsible: Quality responsible	Where is the original: Quality responsible	Page 2 of 138
---	------------------	------------------	----------------------	---	--	------------------

- 1.2.5. Ecological:** from or relating to organic production.
- 1.2.6. Operator:** natural or legal person responsible for ensuring compliance with the requirements of this Regulation in each stage of production, preparation, and distribution performed under the control of said person.
- 1.2.7. Plant production:** production of crop products including harvesting of wild plant products for commercial purposes.
- 1.2.8. Plant products:** Plant products as defined in article 3, point 6 of the Standard (EC) no. 1107/2009
- 1.2.9. Animal production:** Production of domestic or domesticated terrestrial animals, including insects.
- 1.2.10. Livestock production:** production of domestic or domesticated terrestrial animals (including insects).
- 1.2.11 Farmer:** a natural or legal person or a group of natural or legal persons, regardless of the legal status of this group and its members under national law, who carries out an agricultural activity.
- 1.2.12. Aquaculture:** breeding or cultivation of aquatic organisms using techniques designed to increase above the natural capacity of the environment, the production of the organisms in question; throughout the entire breeding or cultivation stage to harvesting including, these will be owned by a natural or legal person.
- 1.2.13. Aquaculture products:** aquaculture products as defined in Article 4 (1) point 34 of Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013.
- 1.2.14. Conversion:** transition from non-organic to organic farming for a specified period of time in which the provisions of this Regulation relating to organic production apply.
- 1.2.15. Product in Conversion:** A product that is obtained during the conversion period mentioned in article 10.
- 1.2.16. Preparation:** operations to preserve and/or processing of organic products (including slaughter and cutting for livestock products), as well as packaging, labeling and/or alterations to the labeling concerning the organic production method.
- 1.2.17. Food or foodstuff:** any substance or product intended to be ingested by human or reasonably expected to be, whether it is wholly or partially processed or not. Food includes drinks, chewing gum and any substance, including water, intentionally incorporated into the food during its manufacture, preparation or treatment.
Food does not include:
- a. Feed.
 - b. Alive animals, unless they are prepared to be marketed for human consumption.
 - c. Plants before harvest.
 - d. Drugs.

Document name: Standard of organic production	Code Norm_eco	Vers ion 4	Date January 2020	Ultimately responsible: Quality responsible	Where is the original: Quality responsible	Page 2 of 138
---	------------------	------------------	----------------------	---	--	------------------

- e. Cosmetics.
- f. Tobacco and tobacco products.
- g. Narcotics or psychotropic substances.
- h. Residues and contaminants.

1.2.18.Feed: any substance or product, including additives, for oral feeding of animals, whether it has been wholly or partially processed or not.

1.2.19.Marketing: the holding of food or feed for the purpose of sale; including offering for sale or any other form of transfer, whether onerous title or free, as well as sale, distribution or other forms of transfer.

1.2.20. Labeling: any Word, term, detail, trademark, trade name, pictorial or symbol placed on any packaging, document, notice, label, plate, ring or necklace, related thereto, accompanying or referring to a product.

1.2.21.Packaged food product: the selling unit intended to be presented to the ultimate consumer and to mass caterers without further processing, consisting of a food product and the packaging into which it was put before being offered for sale, whether such packaging encloses the product completely or only partially, but in such a way that the contents cannot be altered without opening or modifying such packaging.

1.2.22.Advertising: any representation to the public, by any means other than labeling, that pursues or can influence attitudes, beliefs and behaviors in order to promote directly or indirectly the sale of organic products.

1.2.23.Competent authority: the central authority of a country qualified for the organization of official inspections in the organic production field in accordance with the provisions hereof, or any other authority to which competence has been conferred; if so, it will include the corresponding authority of a third country.

1.2.24.Control Agency: an private and independent third party carrying out inspection and certification in the organic production field in accordance with the provisions established in this standard; where appropriate, it will also include the corresponding to a third country or the corresponding agency operating in a third country.

1.2.25.Conformity mark: the approval of compliance with a particular set of standards or other normative documents, expressed as a mark.

1.2.26.Ingredient:

Ingredient means:

- a. Any substance, including additives, used in manufacture or preparation of food products and still present in the finished product eventually in modified form.
- b. When a food product’s ingredient has been made from various ingredients, the latter will be considered as ingredients of such product.

Document name: Standard of organic production	Code Norm_eco	Vers ion 4	Date January 2020	Ultimately responsible: Quality responsible	Where is the original: Quality responsible	Page 2 of 138
---	------------------	------------------	----------------------	---	--	------------------

- c. However, it is not regarded as ingredients:
- i. Components of an ingredient that during manufacturing process, have been temporarily separated to be reintroduced later in an amount not exceeding the initial content.
 - ii. Additives:
 - Whose presence in a given food product is solely due to the fact that they were contained in one or more ingredients of that food product, provided that they serve no technological function in the finished product.
 - used as processing aids.
 - iii. Substances used in quantities strictly necessary as solvents or support for additives and flavorings.
 - iv. Substances that are not additives but are used in the same way and for the same purpose as processing aids and are still present in the finished product, even if in altered form.

1.2.27. Phytosanitary products: active substances and preparations containing one or more active substances presented in the form in which they are offered for distribution to users, designed to:

- a. Protect plants or plant products against all harmful organisms or prevent their action, as long as such substances or preparations are not defined otherwise later;
- b. Influence the vital processes of plants otherwise than as a nutrient, (e.g., growth regulators);
- c. Improve the conservation of plant products, as long as such substances or products are not subject to special provisions of the preservatives Council or Commission;
- d. Destroy undesired plants; or
- e. Destroy part of plants, or control or prevent an undesired growth of these.

1.2.28. Genetically modified organism (GMOs): organism, except humans, whose genetic material has been altered in a way that it is not produced naturally by mating or natural recombination.

1.2.29. Obtained from GMOs: derivatives in whole or in part from GMOs but not containing or consisting of GMOs.

1.2.30. Products obtained through GMOs: derivatives in which GMOs has been used as the last living organism of the production process, but not containing or consisting of GMOs.

1.2.31. Animal feed additive: substances, microorganisms and preparations, other than raw materials for feed and premixes, which are intentionally added to feed or water in order to perform one or more of the following functions:

Document name: Standard of organic production	Code Norm_eco	Vers ion 4	Date January 2020	Ultimately responsible: Quality responsible	Where is the original: Quality responsible	Page 2 of 138
---	------------------	------------------	----------------------	---	--	------------------

- a. Positively influence the characteristics of feed.
- b. Positively influence the characteristics of animal products.
- c. Favorably influence the color of ornamental fish and birds.
- d. Meet the nutritional needs of animals.
- e. Positively influence the environmental consequences of animal production.
- f. Positively influence the production, activity or welfare of animals, particularly by affecting the gastro-intestinal flora or digestibility of feed, or
- g. Have a coccidiostat or histomonal effect.

1.2.32. Equivalent: in describing different systems or measures, equals: capable of meeting the same objectives and principles by applying standards which ensure the same level of assurance of conformity.

1.2.33. Processing aid: all substance not consumed as a food ingredient, intentionally used in the processing of raw materials, foods or their ingredients, to fulfill a certain technological objective during treatment or processing and which result may be the unintentional but technically unavoidable presence of residues of the substance or its derivatives in the final product, provided that these residues do not pose a health risk or have a technological effect in the final product.

1.2.34. Ionizing radiation: energy transfer in the form of particles or electromagnetic waves of a wavelength equal to or less than 100 nanometers or a frequency equal to greater than 3×10^{15} Hz, capable of producing ions directly or indirectly.

The following definitions will also be taken into account:

1.2.35. Non-organic: that it is not from a production that meets this standard or not related to it.

1.2.36. Veterinary drugs: any substance or combination of substances:

- a. Which presents itself as having healing or preventive properties concerning animal diseases; or
- b. Which may be administered to an animal with the purpose of restoring, correcting or modifying the animal's physiological functions by exerting a pharmacological, immunological or metabolic action, or to make a medical diagnosis.

1.2.37. Importer: natural or legal person that introduces foreign products in a country.

1.2.38. First consignee: natural or legal person to whom it is given the imported product and who collects this for its further preparation or marketing.

1.2.39. Exploitation: all production units operated under a single management with the purpose of producing live or non-processed agricultural products, including products originating from aquaculture and beekeeping, referred to in Article 2 (1) (a), or products listed in Annex I other than essential oils and yeast.

1.2.40. Production unit: all assets that can be used for a production sector, such as production premises, plots, pastures, outdoors, buildings or parts of buildings for

Document name: Standard of organic production	Code Norm_eco	Vers ion 4	Date January 2020	Ultimately responsible: Quality responsible	Where is the original: Quality responsible	Page 2 of 138
---	------------------	------------------	----------------------	---	--	------------------

livestock, hives, fish ponds, containment systems for algae or animals from aquaculture, rearing units, concessions on the coast or sea floor, premises of crop storage, plant products, algae products, animal products, raw materials and any other input suitable as stipulated in points 10, 11, or 12.

- 1.2.41. Unit of organic production:** Unit of production, excluding the period of conversion referred to in article 10, managed in accordance with the requirements applicable to organic production.
- 1.2.42. Unit of production in conversion: Unit of production, during the period of conversion referred to in article 10, managed in accordance with the requirements applicable to organic production; it may be made up of parcels of land or other assets for which the conversion period referred to in article 10, which begins at different times.
- 1.2.43. Unit of non-organic production:** unit of production which is not managed in accordance with the requirements applicable to organic production.
- 1.2.44. Hydroponic production:** method of growing plants with their roots in a mineral nutrient solution only or in an inert medium, such as perlite, gravel or mineral Wood, to which is added a nutrient solution.
- 1.2.45. Veterinary treatment:** all kinds of curative or preventive treatment of a particular disease outbreak.
- 1.2.46. In conversion feed:** feed produced during the conversion period to organic production, excluding those harvested in the 12 months following the start of the conversion, as provided in this standard.
- 1.2.47. Energy from renewable sources:** means renewable non-fossil energy sources: wind, solar, geothermal, wave, tidal, hydropower, landfill gas, sewage treatment plant gas and biogases.
- 1.2.48. Control file:** means all the information and documents transmitted, for the purposes of the control system, to the competent authorities of a country or to control authorities and control bodies by an operator subject to the control system as referred in the present standard, including all the relevant information and documents relating to that operator or the activities of that operator held by competent authorities, control authorities and control bodies, with the exception of information or documents that have no bearing on the operation of the control system.
- 1.2.49. Preservation:** Any action different than breeding and harvesting carried out on products, but which does not meet the transformation characteristics defined in letter u), including all actions in article 2, paragraph 1, letter n, of Regulation (CE) n.o 852/2004 of the European Parliament and Board (1) and not including the packaging and labeling of the product.
- 1.2.50. Transformation:** Any action listed in article 2, paragraph 1, letter m), Regulation (CE) n.o 852/2004, included the use of substances mentioned in article 19, paragraph 2,

Document name: Standard of organic production	Code Norm_eco	Vers ion 4	Date January 2020	Ultimately responsible: Quality responsible	Where is the original: Quality responsible	Page 2 of 138
---	------------------	------------------	----------------------	---	--	------------------

letter b), of Regulation (CE) n.o 834/2007. The operations of packaging and labeling are not considered as transformation.

1.2.51. Farm Surface: Farm surface as defined in article 4, point 5, paragraph 1, letter e of the Regulation (EU) n.o 1307/2013.

1.2.52. Vegetables: Vegetables as defined in article 3, point 5, of Regulation (CE) n.o 1107/2009.

1.2.53. Materials of plant reproduction: plants and all their parts, including seeds, in any stage of growth, from which complete plants can be obtained and intended for such purpose.

1.2.54. Ecological heterogeneous material: a collection of plants from a single botanical taxon of the lowest known rank that:

- a) Has common phenotypic characteristics;
- b) It is characterized by a high genetic and phenotypic diversity among the individual reproductive units, so that this group of plants is represented by the material as a whole and not by a reduced number of units;
- c) It is not a variety within the meaning of Article 5 (2) of Council Regulation (EC) No 2100/94 of the Board;
- d) It is not a mixture of varieties; and
- e) It has been obtained in accordance with this Regulation.

1.2.55. Organic variety suitable for organic production: variety as defined in Article 5 (2) of Regulation (EC) No 2100/94 which:

- a) is characterized by high genetic and phenotypic diversity between individual breeding units; and
- b) comes from organic production activities referred to in Annex II, part I, point 1.8.4, of this Regulation;

1.2.56. Mother plant: an identified plant from which plant propagation material is taken for the reproduction of new plants.

1.2.57. Generation: Group of plants which constitutes a single stage in the filiation of plants.

1.2.58. Pest: a pest as defined in Article 1 (1) of the Regulation (EU) 2016/2031 of the European Parliament and of the Council.

1.2.59 Phytosanitary Products: Products covered in article 2 of Regulation (EC) n.o. 1107/2009;

1.2.60. Porch: the supplemental, covered, uninsulated exterior portion of a building intended for poultry that in its greater side is usually equipped with wire fences or chain mail, it is subject to the weather conditions outside, has natural lighting and artificial where appropriate, and has a floor with a bed.

1.2.61. Pullets: Young (female) animals of the Gallus gallus species with less than eighteen weeks of life.

1.2.62. Laying hens: animals of the Gallus gallus species intended for the production of eggs

Document name: Standard of organic production	Code Norm_eco	Vers ion 4	Date January 2020	Ultimately responsible: Quality responsible	Where is the original: Quality responsible	Page 2 of 138
---	------------------	------------------	----------------------	---	--	------------------

for consumption and with at least eighteen weeks of life.

- 1.2.63. Usable surface:** A usable surface as defined in article 2, section 2, letter d), of the Board 1999/74/EC of the Council.
- 1.2.64. Aquaculture:** aquaculture as defined in article 4, section 1, point 25, of Regulation (EU) n.o 1380/2013 of European Parliament and of the Council.
- 1.2.65. Aquaculture Products:** Aquaculture products as defined in article 4, section 1, point 34 of the Regulation (EU) n.o 1380/2013.
- 1.2.66. Aquaculture facility with closed recirculation:** a facility, on earth or in a tank, in which aquaculture is developed in a closed environment which implies repeated circulation of water and depends on a permanent supply of external energy to stabilize the environment of aquaculture animals.
- 1.2.67. Energy from renewable sources:** The non-fossil renewable energy sources, such as the wind, solar, geothermal, wave, tidal and hydraulic energy, landfill gases, gases from treatment plants and biogas.
- 1.2.68. Hatchery:** A place for breeding, hatching and rearing for the first stages of life of aquaculture animals, particularly fish and shellfish;
- 1.2.69. Nursery:** A place where an intermediate aquaculture production system is applied between the hatchery and final fattening phases; the nursery phase is completed in the first third of the cycle production, except in the case of species subjected to a smoltification process;
- 1.2.70. Water Pollution:** Pollution as defined in Article 2, point 33, of Directive 2000/60 / EC and in Article 3, point 8, of Directive 2008/56 / EC of the European Parliament and of the Council, in the waters in which each of these Directives are applicable;
- 1.2.71. Polyculture:** The aquaculture rearing of two or more species that are usually of different trophic levels, in the same unit of cultivation.
- 1.2.72. Production Cycle:** The period of life of an aquaculture animal or of an alga since the earliest stage of life (fertilized eggs in the case of aquaculture animals) until collection.
- 1.2.73. Local native species:** Aquaculture species that are neither exotic nor locally absent within the meaning of Article 3, points 6 and 7, respectively, of Council Regulation (EC) No 708/2007, as well as the species listed in Annex IV of that Regulation;
- 1.2.74. Veterinary treatment:** all kinds of curative or preventive treatment of an outbreak of a specific disease;
- 1.2.75. Veterinary medicinal product:** a veterinary medicinal product as defined in Article 1, point 2 of Directive 2001/82/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council.
- 1.2.76. Preparation:** The operations of conservation or transformation of organic products or in conversion, or any other operation carried out in an unprocessed product that does not alter the initial product, including slaughter, cutting, cleaning or grinding, and the packaging, labeling or labeling modifications related to organic production.

Document name: Standard of organic production	Code Norm_eco	Vers ion 4	Date January 2020	Ultimately responsible: Quality responsible	Where is the original: Quality responsible	Page 2 of 138
---	------------------	------------------	----------------------	---	--	------------------

- 1.2.77. Food:** Food as defined in Article 2 of Regulation (EC) n.o 178/2002 of European Parliament and of the Council;
- 1.2.78. Feed:** feed as defined in Article 3, Point 4, or Regulation (EC) n.o 178/2002;
- 1.2.79. Raw materials for Feed:** feed materials as defined in Article 3 (2) section 2 letter g (EC) of the European Parliament and of the Council.
- 1.2.80. Marketing;** marketing as defined in Article 3, point 8 of Regulation (EC) n.o 178/2002
- 1.2.81. Traceability:** The possibility of finding and following the trace, through all stages of production, preparation, and distribution of a food, a feed, or any product referred to in article 2, section 1, or a substance intended to be incorporated in food or feed or in any product referred to in article 2, section 1, or with the probability of being so;
- 1.2.82. Production, preparation, and distribution stage;** any stage, from the primary production of an organic product to its storage, transformation, transportation, and sale or supply to the final consumer, and where appropriate, the activities of labeling, advertising, import, export and outsourcing.
- 1.2.83. Ingredient:** An ingredient as defined in Article 2, section 2, letter f, of Regulation (EU) n.o 1169/2011 or, for products other than food, any substance or product used in the production or preparation of products, which is still present in the final product, even in a modified form;
- 1.2.84. Labeling:** any word, term, detail, registered trademark, trademark, illustrated motif of symbol related to a product and placed, on any container, document, leaflet, label, plate, ring or necklace, that accompanies or refers to a product;
- 1.2.85. Advertising:** any presentation of products to the public, by any means other than labeling, which has the purpose or probable effect of influencing attitudes, beliefs and behavior in order to directly or indirectly promote the sale of products;
- 1.2.86. Competent Authorities:** the Competent authorities as defined in Article 3, point 3, of Regulation (EU) 2017/625;
- 1.2.87. Control Authority:** an organic control authority as defined in Article 3, point 4, of Regulation (EU) 2017/625, or an authority recognized by the Commission or by a third country recognized by the Commission, in order to carry out controls in third countries with a view to importing organic and in-conversion products into the Union;
- 1.2.88. Control body:** a delegated body as defined in Article 3, point 5, of Regulation (EU) 2017/625 or a body recognized by the Commission, or by a third country recognized by the Commission, in order to carry out controls in third countries with a view to importing organic and in-conversion products into the Union;
- 1.2.89. Non-compliance:** non-compliance with the provisions of this regulation or non-compliance with the delegated or implementing acts adopted in accordance with this Regulation.

Document name: Standard of organic production	Code Norm_eco	Vers ion 4	Date January 2020	Ultimately responsible: Quality responsible	Where is the original: Quality responsible	Page 2 of 138
---	------------------	------------------	----------------------	---	--	------------------

- 1.2.90. Genetically modified organism -or- GMO:** a genetically modified organism as defined in Article 2, point 2, of Directive 2001/18 / EC of the European Parliament and of the Council, which has not been obtained through genetic modification techniques listed in Annex IB of said Directive;
- 1.2.91. Obtained from GMOs:** derived totally or partially from GMOs but not containing or being composed of GMOs;
- 1.2.92. Products obtained from GMOS:** by-products in which GMOs have been used as the last living organism in the production process, but without containing or being composed of GMOs or having been obtained from GMOs;
- 1.2.93. Food additive:** a food additive as it is defined in Article 3, section 2, letter (a) of Regulation (EC) No. 1333/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council.
- 1.2.94. Feed additive:** A feed additive as defined in Article 2, section 2, letter (a) of Regulation (EC) n.o. 1831/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council.
- 1.2.95. Artificial Nanomaterial:** An artificial nanomaterial as defined in Article 3, section 2, letter (f) of Regulation (EU) 2015/2283 of the European Parliament and of the Council.
- 1.2.96. Equivalence:** meeting the same objectives and principles by applying standards that guarantee the same level of assurance of conformity;
- 1.2.97. Processing aid:** a processing aid as defined in Article 3, section 2, letter (b) of Regulation (EC) n.o. 1333/2008 for food and in Article 2, section 2, letter (h) of Regulation (EC)) n.o 1831/2003 for animal feed;
- 1.2.98. Food enzyme:** a food enzyme as defined in Article 3, section 2, letter (a) of Regulation (EC) n.o 1332/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council;
- 1.2.99. Ionizing Radiation:** an ionizing radiation as defined in article 4, number 46 of Council Directive 2013/59 / Euratom of the Council
- 1.2.100. Packaged Food:** a packaged food as defined in Article 2, section 2, letter (e) of Regulation (EC) n.o 1169/2011
- 1.2.101. Chicken Coop, or hen house:** a fixed or mobile building to house flocks, which has all the surfaces covered by roofs and includes a porch; the hen house can be divided in turn into separate compartments, where each one houses a single flock.
- 1.2.102. Soil-linked cultivation:** production in living soil or in soil that is mixed or fertilized with materials and products that are allowed in organic production, in relationship with the subsoil and bedrock;
- 1.2.103. Unprocessed products:** Unprocessed products as defined in Article 2, section 1, letter (n) of Regulation (EC) n.o 852/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council, regardless of packaging or labeling operations;
- 1.2.104. Processed Products:** processed products as defined in Article 2, section 1, letter (o) of Regulation (EC) n.o 852/2004, regardless of packaging or labeling operations;
- 1.2.105. Transformation:** Transformation as defined in Article 2, section 1, letter (m) of

Document name: Standard of organic production	Code Norm_eco	Vers ion 4	Date January 2020	Ultimately responsible: Quality responsible	Where is the original: Quality responsible	Page 2 of 138
---	------------------	------------------	----------------------	---	--	------------------

Regulation (EC) n.o 852/2004; the use of the substances referred to in articles 24 and 25 of this Regulation is included, but packaging or labeling operations are not included.

1.2.106. Integrity of organic or in-conversion products: when the product does not present any non-compliance that:

- a) affects, at any stage of production, preparation and distribution, the organic or conversion characteristics of the product; or
- b) is repetitive or intentional.

1.2.107. Enclosure: a place that includes a part in which animals can be protected against adverse weather conditions.

1.2.108. Non-organic: that it does not come from a production that conforms to this Standard or that is not related to it.

1.2.109. Veterinary drugs: any substances or combination of substances:

- a) that is presented as having curative or preventive properties with respect to animal diseases; or
- b) that can be administered to the animal in order to restore, correct or modify the physiological, immunological or metabolic action, or to establish a medical diagnosis.

1.2.110. Importer: the natural or legal person who introduces foreign products into a country.

1.2.111. First Recipient: the natural or legal person to whom the imported product is delivered and who collects it for further preparation or marketing.

1.2.112. Holding: all production units that operate under a single management in order to produce agricultural products.

1.2.113. Production Unit: all elements that can be used for a productive sector, such as production premises, plots, pastures, outdoor areas, buildings for livestock, fish ponds, containment systems for algae or aquaculture animals, coastal or seabed concessions, storage facilities for plant crops, plant products, algae products, animal products, raw materials and other suitable input for this specific productive sector.

1.2.114. Hydroponic production: the method of growing plants with their roots in a solution of mineral nutrients only or in an inert medium, such as perlite, gravel, or mineral wool, to which a nutrient solution is added.

1.2.115. Veterinary treatment: all kinds of curative or preventive treatment of an outbreak of a specific disease;

1.2.116. Feed in conversion: the feed produced during the period of conversion to organic production, excluding those harvested during the 12 months following the beginning of the conversion, as provided in this Standard.

1.2.117. Energy from renewable sources: non-fossil renewable energy sources (wind, solar, geothermal, wave, tidal and hydraulic energy, biomass, landfill gases, gases from

Document name: Standard of organic production	Code Norm_eco	Vers ion 4	Date January 2020	Ultimately responsible: Quality responsible	Where is the original: Quality responsible	Page 2 of 138
---	------------------	------------------	----------------------	---	--	------------------

treatment plants and biogas). Hatchery 'means a place of breeding, hatching and rearing through the early life stages of aquaculture animals, finfish and shellfish in particular.

II. ORGANIC PRODUCTION OBJECTIVES AND PRINCIPLES

2.1. ORGANIC PRODUCTION OBJECTIVES

Organic products shall pursue the following objectives:

2.1.1. To ensure that an agricultural system:

- i. Respects the natural cycles and systems, preserves and improves the health of soil, water, plants, animals and the balance between them.
- ii. Contributes to achieve a high degree of biodiversity.
- iii. Makes responsible use of energy and natural resources such as water, soil, organic matter and air.
- iv. Meets high animal welfare standards and meets the behavioral needs of each species.

2.1.2. To look to produce high quality products.

2.1.3. To produce a wide variety of food and other agricultural products that meet consumer demand for products obtained through processes that do not harm the environment, human health, animal health and welfare not plants health.

2.2. ORGANIC PRODUCTION PRINCIPLES

Organic production shall be based on the following principles:

2.2.1. Proper design and management of biological processes based on ecological systems using natural resources from their own system by methods that:

- i. Use living organisms and mechanical production methods.
- ii. Develop crop and livestock production linked to the ground.
- iii. Exclude GMOs use and products produced from such, except veterinary drugs.
- iv. Are based on risk assessment and application of precautionary and preventive measures, if applicable.

2.2.2. Restricting the use of external inputs. If necessary or if the methods and management

Document name: Standard of organic production	Code Norm_eco	Vers ion 4	Date January 2020	Ultimately responsible: Quality responsible	Where is the original: Quality responsible	Page 2 of 138
---	------------------	------------------	----------------------	---	--	------------------

practices mentioned in subsection 2.2.1. do not exist, these shall be limited to:

- i. Means from organic production.
- ii. Natural substances or derived from natural substances.
- iii. Low solubility mineral fertilizers.

2.2.3. Strict limitation of use of chemically synthesized inputs to exceptional cases when:

- i. Appropriate management practices do not exist.
- ii. External inputs mentioned in subsection 2.2.2 are not available in the market,
or
- iii. Use of external inputs referred to in subsection 2.2.2 contribute to unacceptable environmental effects.

2.2.4. Adaptation, if necessary and within a framework of this organic production standard taking into account health status, regional differences in climate, as well as conditions, development stages and specific local livestock practices.

2.3. SPECIFIC PRINCIPLES IN AGRARIAN MATTERS

2.3.1. Growth and maintenance of live and soil fertility, prevention and combating soil compaction and soil erosion and plant nourishing with nutrients primarily through the soil ecosystem.

2.3.2. Minimization of nonrenewable resources and means of production use from outside the farm or plot.

2.3.3. Recycling waste and by-products of plant and animal origin as resources for crop and livestock production.

2.3.4. Take into account the local and regional ecological balance when making production decisions.

2.3.5. Animal health maintenance by strengthening the animal's natural immune system as well as selection of appropriate breeds and livestock practices.

2.3.6. Maintenance of plant health through preventive measures, such as choosing species and varieties resistant to pests and diseases, appropriate crop rotation, mechanical and physical methods, and the protection of natural enemies.

2.3.7. Practice on site-adapted and soil-linked livestock production.

2.3.8. Maintenance of a high level of animal welfare respecting each species' needs.

2.3.9. Obtaining organic livestock products from animals reared on organic farms from birth and throughout their lives.

2.3.10. Choice of breeds taking into account the animal's capacity to adapt to local conditions, their vitality and resistance to disease or health problems.

2.3.11. Livestock feeding with organic feed (livestock feed) made of ingredients from

Document name: Standard of organic production	Code Norm_eco	Vers ion 4	Date January 2020	Ultimately responsible: Quality responsible	Where is the original: Quality responsible	Page 2 of 138
---	------------------	------------------	----------------------	---	--	------------------

organic agriculture and natural farming substances.

2.3.12. Application of livestock practices that improve the immune system and strengthen the animals' natural defense against disease, including regular exercise and Access to outdoors and grazing areas, if applicable.

2.3.13. Exclusion of artificially induced polyploid animals' breeding.

2.4. SPECIFIC PRINCIPLES APPLICABLE TO ORGANIC FOOD PROCESSING

2.4.1. Organic food production starting from organic agricultural ingredients, except where the market does not have organic ingredients.

2.4.2. Restriction to minimum of food additives, non-organic ingredients that mainly have technical and sensory functions as well as technological oligoelements and adjuvants, so as to use as little as possible and only in case of essential technological need or with specific nutritional purposes.

2.4.3. Exclusion of substances and processing methods that may be misleading about the true nature of the product.

2.4.4. Feed transformation with care, preferably using biological, mechanical and physical methods.

2.5. SPECIFIC PRINCIPLES APPLICABLE TO ORGANIC FEED PROCESSING

2.5.1. Organic feed production starting from organic raw material, for animal feed, except when the market does not have organic raw materials for animal feed.

2.5.2. Restriction to minimum of feed additives, as well as processing aids, and allow it only in case of essential technological or zootechnical need, or for specific nutrition reasons.

2.5.3. Exclusion of substances and processing methods that may lead to error about the true nature of the product.

2.5.4. Feed transformation with care, preferably using biological, mechanical and physical methods.

III. PRODUCTION GENERAL STANDARDS

Document name: Standard of organic production	Code Norm_eco	Vers ion 4	Date January 2020	Ultimately responsible: Quality responsible	Where is the original: Quality responsible	Page 2 of 138
---	------------------	------------------	----------------------	---	--	------------------

Operators shall comply with the production standards established in this Regulation.

3.1. PROHIBITION OF GENETICALLY MODIFIED ORGANISMS (GMOs) USE

3.1.1 Mayacert standard prohibits the use of GMOs and products produced from or by GMOs as food, feed, processing aids, phytosanitary products, fertilizers, soil conditioners, seeds and vegetative reproductive material, microorganisms and animals.

3.1.2 For the purpose of prohibition of GMOs and products produced from GMOs for food or feed. If the bought product is certified organic by a regime recognized by the European Union under Regulation (EC) No. 1235/2008 (Annex III or Annex IV) or of “EU-origin”, no further action is necessary.

3.1.3 For the purposes of prohibition of GMOs and products obtained from or by GMOs for products other than food or feed established in this standard. If the bought product is not certified organic by a regime recognized by the European Union under Regulation (EC) No. 1235/2008 (Annex III or Annex IV) or of “EU-origin”, the operator must submit a statement from the seller that the product has not been obtained from or by GMOs, or by laboratory tests show that the product is free of GMO's in case of primary products.

Annex X shows a list of some products that MAYACERT considere that may represent a risk that have been produced with or by GMOs.

3.2. PROHIBITION OF IONIZING RADIATION USE

Ionizing radiation is prohibited to treat livestock feed or raw materials used in organic food or organic feed.

3.3. PROHIBITION OF HYDROPONIC PRODUCTION

Hydroponic production is not considered an organic method.

3.4. GENERAL STANDARDS FOR PRODUCTION ON HOLDINGS

Document name: Standard of organic production	Code Norm_eco	Vers ion 4	Date January 2020	Ultimately responsible: Quality responsible	Where is the original: Quality responsible	Page 2 of 138
---	------------------	------------------	----------------------	---	--	------------------

The entire farm will be managed in compliance with the requirements applicable to organic production.

However, a holding may be split into aquaculture production units or facilities clearly separated, of which not all will be managed under organic production. With respect to animals, there must be different species. With respect to plants, there must be different varieties that can be easily differentiated.

In cases where, in accordance with the preceding paragraph, not all holding's units are intended for organic production, farmers will keep land, animals and products used for organic production or that are produced in organic units, separated from those used or produced in non-organic units, and will keep adequate records that show said separation.

IV. PLAT PRODUCTION STANDARDS

In addition to the production general standards on holdings, organic plant production will be subject to the following standards:

4.1. SOIL FERTILITY MAINTENANCE AND/OR IMPROVEMENT:

- a. Implement tillage practices that maintain and increase organic matter, strengthen soil biodiversity and prevent soil compaction and soil erosion.
- b. Maintain and increase soil fertility through crop rotation, use of green fertilizers and preferably composted manure.

MAYACERT emphasizes that organic fertilization must ensure soil fertility maintenance and improvement through:

- i. Use of plant materials and/or animals for organic matter content that are chemical residues free.
- ii. Use of manure preferable composted, chemical residues free. If fresh manure is used, it must not be used within 120 days before harvest.
Manure must be from extensive livestock farming only.

iii. Poultry manure, manure and liquid manure of animals from conventional animal LIVESTOCK is allowed, provided it meets the following conditions:

- Producer must submit information regarding the holding's

Document name: Standard of organic production	Code Norm_eco	Vers ion 4	Date January 2020	Ultimately responsible: Quality responsible	Where is the original: Quality responsible	Page 2 of 138
---	------------------	------------------	----------------------	---	--	------------------

- management from which manure comes.
 - Producer must present laboratory analysis showing the absence of pollution substances.
- c. Biodynamic preparations usage is allowed.
 - d. Only fertilizer and soil conditioners mentioned in annex I of this Regulation may be used in organic production, and only when it is necessary. Operators must keep supporting documents that justify the need to use the product. Nitrogen mineral fertilizers cannot be used.
 - e. The total amount of manure used in agriculture in relation to water protection against pollution produced by nitrates, must not exceed 170 Kg N per hectare, per year. This data will apply only to the use of farm manure, dried farm manure and dehydrated poultry manure, solid animal manure mulch, including poultry manure, composted manure, and liquid animal manure.
 - f. Farms dedicated to organic production may establish written cooperation agreements exclusively with other farms and businesses that meet organic production standards, with the intent of applying surplus manure from organic production.
 - g. Adequate microorganisms' preparations may be used to improve general soil conditions or nutrient availability in the soil or in crops.
 - h. Herbal based preparations or microorganisms preparations may be used for compost activation.

4.2. SOIL CONSERVATION STRUCTURES

- a. Level curves planting is recommended on land with slopes less than 10%.
- b. Level curves planting is also recommended on land with slopes between 10% and 30% and other conservation structures must be implemented, such as infiltration ditches, live barriers and/or field bunding and other appropriate structures for these slopes conditions.
- c. Land with slopes greater than 30% must be cultivated with agroforestry systems or a combination of the above techniques.
- d. Soil should be kept covered with vegetation and organic matter in order to protect it from erosion.

4.3. ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION PREVENTION

- a. All techniques used in production must prevent or minimize any environmental

Document name: Standard of organic production	Code Norm_eco	Vers ion 4	Date January 2020	Ultimately responsible: Quality responsible	Where is the original: Quality responsible	Page 2 of 138
---	------------------	------------------	----------------------	---	--	------------------

pollution. For this purpose:

- i. The operator must identify residues which may occur in his operation.
- ii. Implementation of treatment or proper handling systems (reuse, recycling and/or residues reduction) is considered a priority aspect where there is a discharge of any type of residues that may alter the soil or subsoil physical, chemical and mineralogical quality and/or may be harmful to human life, flora, fauna and natural resources.

4.4. PEST, DISEASE AND WEED HANDLING

- a. Damage prevention by pests, diseases and weeds will rely primarily on protection of natural enemies, choosing resistant species and varieties, crop rotation, cultivation techniques and thermal processes.

Among other crop management, Mayacert considers:

- i. Elimination of crop residues however, burning them is not accepted.
- ii. Shade management and plant density.

- b. In case that the existence of a threat to a crop or cultivation has been found, only organic production authorized phytosanitary products can be used, such as those listed in this standard's Annex II. Operators must keep records of the need to use such products.

Mayacert accepts use of hydrated lime (calcium hydroxide) in preparations only, such as Bordeaux mixture and lime sulfur mixture to treat diseases in coffee, cocoa and fruit orchards and nurseries, provided it is demonstrated that hydrated lime (calcium hydroxide) comes from a natural process.

Among other control methods, Mayacert considers:

- i. Natural enemies' introduction.
- ii. Traps and repellents use.
- iii. Use of mulch or cover material, green manure.
- iv. Practice hand or mechanical cleaning.
- v. Grazing where possible.
- vi. Plastic covers use, provided that these are removed at the end of harvest and removed from the productive unit.

- c. For products used in traps and dispensers, except pheromone dispensers, such traps and dispensers will prevent the substances from being released into the

environment as well as contact between substances and cultivated plants.

Document name: Standard of organic production	Code Norm_eco	Vers ion 4	Date January 2020	Ultimately responsible: Quality responsible	Where is the original: Quality responsible	Page 2 of 138
---	------------------	------------------	----------------------	---	--	------------------

Traps must be collected after they have been used and will be safely disposed of.

4.5. SEEDS AND PLANT REPRODUCTION MATERIALS

4.5.1. For the production of products other than seeds and plant reproduction materials, only seeds and reproduction materials organically produced can be used; with this purpose, the female parent in the case of seeds and parent in the case of plant reproductive materials must have been produced in accordance with standards established in this standard, at least for one generation or, in case of perennial crops, two growing seasons.

4.5.2. When it is necessary to ensure access to seeds and plant reproduction material, if they do not exist in the market in organic form:

- a. Seeds and plant reproduction material from a production unit in conversion stage to organic agriculture can be used.
- b. Mayacert may authorize use of non-organic seed and/or plant reproduction material, only under the following situations described in points i) to vii):
 - i. If there is evidence that local seed and/or plant reproduction material cannot be obtained.
 - ii. Evidence with documents of the seed and plant reproduction material origin must be presented.
 - iii. Seed and/or plant reproduction material has not been treated with prohibited substances and were not produced using GMOs or have not used GMOs in their production, for this purpose it has to be obtained from the supplier:
 - A written statement about the handling of the seed reproduction site and/or plant reproduction material site.
 - A written statement, which confirms that the seed and/or plant reproduction material have not been treated with prohibited substances and that it was produced not using GMOs or that GMOs have not been used in its production.
 - iv. In the case of seedlings from conventional seedbeds, specifically for the establishment of new plantations in those perennial crops whose production period begins three years after its establishment in final field; its use may be accepted, considering that in that period it automatically goes through its conversion period defined in this Standard.
 - v. Authorization to use non-organic seed and/or plant reproduction material must be obtained before planting.

Document name: Standard of organic production	Code Norm_eco	Vers ion 4	Date January 2020	Ultimately responsible: Quality responsible	Where is the original: Quality responsible	Page 2 of 138
---	------------------	------------------	----------------------	---	--	------------------

- vi. Only specific users will be authorized and for one season only.
- vii. The producer must agree to produce his own organic seed.
- c. Among the seeds that MAYACERT considers generate suspicion of coming from GMOs, are those of the following crops:
 - i. Corn
 - ii. Soy
 - iii. Sugarcane
 - iv. Cotton
 - v. Rice
 - vi. Potato
 - vii. Banana
 - viii. Wheat
 - ix. Agave
 - x. Carnation

4.5.3. Information will be obtained from all organic seed suppliers available and a list will be drawn up as reference for the operators on the website of Mayacert.

4.5.4. MAYACERT will not delegate to any local authority the responsibility to authorize use of non-organic seed and/or plant reproduction material.

4.5.5. MAYACERT will keep records of cases in which it has been authorized use of non organic seed and/or plant reproduction material.

4.6. CLEANING AND DISINFECTION PRODUCTS

Cleaning and disinfection products will be used in plant production in case they have been authorized by MAYACERT for use in organic production.

4.7. SLASH

Guama forest fields (vegetative natural regeneration) removing is allowed as long as it is not primary forest and that the areas are of agricultural use. Primary forest and natural forest that has been removed for agriculture cannot be certified as organic, unless this process has happened at least 30 years ago.

Document name: Standard of organic production	Code Norm_eco	Vers ion 4	Date January 2020	Ultimately responsible: Quality responsible	Where is the original: Quality responsible	Page 2 of 138
---	------------------	------------------	----------------------	---	--	------------------

4.8. WILD COLLECTION

Collection of wild plants or parts of these that grow naturally in natural areas, forests and agricultural areas will be considered an organic production method, provided it meets the following conditions:

- a. These areas have not, for a period of at least three years prior collection, received treatment with products other than the ones authorized for organic production.
- b. Collection does not affect the natural habitat stability or maintenance of species in the area.
- c. The operator must submit evidence of area management to demonstrate non-use of prohibited substances at least the last three years prior to collection. Evidence must be of third parties related to organic production or related to the activity taking place in the production units (government units, NGOs , etc.) that support the history and/or management in the last three years.
- d. The operator must submit a management plan for the area where it is established that the collection rate does not affect the species natural regeneration process and collection must be done at the right time.
- e. There must be a written endorsement from the competent authority for wild collection in protected areas.

4.9. MUSHROOM PRODUCTION SPECIFIC STANDARDS

Substrates may be used for mushroom production provided they are composed of the following components only:

- a. Farm manure and animal waste.
 - i. From holdings whose production meets organic production.
 - ii. Materials listed in Annex I of this standard may be used, only when the product mentioned in subparagraph i) is not available, and when not exceeding 25% of the total weight of the substrate ingredients (excluding covering material and any added water) before becoming fertilizer.
- b. Products of agricultural origin, other than those referred to in section a, from holdings whose production meets the organic method.
- c. No chemically treated turf.
- d. Wood that has not been chemically treated after felling.
- e. Mineral products listed in Annex I of this Standard, water and soil.

Document name: Standard of organic production	Code Norm_eco	Vers ion 4	Date January 2020	Ultimately responsible: Quality responsible	Where is the original: Quality responsible	Page 2 of 138
---	------------------	------------------	----------------------	---	--	------------------

Necessary measures for implementation of plant production standards must be adopted, following the requirements of this Standard and in special cases MAYACERT will analyze them through a technical committee or with support from field experts and will convey the decisions to the operators.

V. LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION STANDARDS

In addition to the general organic production standards, organic livestock production must meet the following requirements:

5.1. ORIGIN OF ANIMALS

- a. Organic livestock must be born and raised on organic farms.
- b. For breeding purposes, non-organic breeding animals may be taken to a farm, under specific conditions. Such animals and their products may be deemed organic after compliance with the conversion period.
- c. Animals on the farm at the beginning of the conversion period and their products may be deemed organic after compliance with the conversion period.

5.2. ORIGIN OF ORGANIC ANIMALS

- a. When selecting breeds or strains, it shall be taken into account the animals' capacity to adapt to environmental conditions and their vitality and disease resistance. In addition, this selection should be made taking into account the need to avoid specific diseases or health problems associated with some breeds or strains used in intensive stock farming, e.g. porcine stress syndrome, PSE Syndrome (Pale, soft and exudative pork), sudden death, spontaneous abortions and difficult births requiring cesarean. Preference should be given to indigenous breeds and strains.
- b. In regards to bees, priority will be given to the use of *Apis mellifera* and their local ecotypes.

5.3. ORIGIN OF NON-ORGANIC ANIMALS

Document name: Standard of organic production	Code Norm_eco	Vers ion 4	Date January 2020	Ultimately responsible: Quality responsible	Where is the original: Quality responsible	Page 2 of 138
---	------------------	------------------	----------------------	---	--	------------------

- a. Non-organic animals may be brought into a holding for breeding purposes, only when there are insufficient organic animals and subject to conditions in subparagraphs b to e of this paragraph.
- b. When a herd or flock is constituted for the first time, non-organic young mammals will grow up in accordance with the organic production standards immediately after weaning. In addition, the following restrictions will be applied on the date on which the animals enter the herd:
 - i. Buffalo, calves and foals must be less than six months old.
 - ii. Lambs and kids must be less than 60 days old.
 - iii. Piglets must weigh less than 35 Kg.
- c. Non-organic nulliparous male and female adult mammals intended for the herd or flock renewal will grow up later in accordance with the organic production standards. In addition, the number of female mammals will be subject to the following annual restrictions:
 - i. Non-organic females must represent a maximum of 10% of adult equine or bovine animals (including Bubalus and Bison species) and 20% of the adult porcine, sheep or goats.
 - ii. On units with less than 10 equine or bovine animals, or less than 5 swine, sheep or goats, the above renewal is limited to a maximum of one animal per year.
- d. Percentages mentioned in the previous paragraph may be increased up to 40%, subject to Mayacert's prior authorization in the following cases:
 - i. When undertaking a major enlargement of the holding.
 - ii. When proceeding to a change of breed.
 - iii. When starting a new livestock specialization.
 - iv. When breeds are at risk of neglect, in which case animals of those breeds not necessarily may be nulliparous.
- e. For apiaries' renovations, 10% per year of the queen bees and swarms of an organic production unit may be replaced by non-organic queens and swarms, provided that the queens and swarms are placed in hives with combs or sheets of wax from organic production units.

5.4. LIVESTOCK PRACTICES AND HOUSING CONDITIONS

- a. Staff responsible for animals must possess basic knowledge and techniques needed in the area of animal health and welfare.
- b. Livestock practices, including livestock density, and housing conditions must meet the

Document name: Standard of organic production	Code Norm_eco	Vers ion 4	Date January 2020	Ultimately responsible: Quality responsible	Where is the original: Quality responsible	Page 2 of 138
---	------------------	------------------	----------------------	---	--	------------------

development and physiological and behavioral needs of the animals.

- c. Livestock must have permanent access to the outdoors, preferably to pastures, whenever weather conditions and ground state permit, unless there are restrictions and obligations related to protection of human and animal health under local or national law.
- d. The number of livestock will be limited in order to minimize overgrazing and deterioration and erosion and soil pollution caused by animals or spread of their droppings.
- e. Organic livestock must be kept separate from other livestock. However, organically raised animals will be allowed to graze on communal land and non-organically raised animals on organic lands, under certain restrictive conditions.
- f. Animals' tethering or isolation must be prohibited except in case of individual animals for a limited period justified on safety, welfare or veterinary reasons.
- g. Animals' transport time will be reduced to a minimum.
- h. Throughout the animals' life, including slaughter, suffering, including mutilation, will be reduced to a minimum.
- i. Apiaries must be placed in areas which ensure nectar and pollen source, consisting essentially of organic crops or where applicable wild vegetation, forests or crops non organically managed that have only been treated with low environmental impact methods. They must be kept at sufficient distance from sources that may contaminate bee products or harm the health of bees.

As crops treated using low environmental impact methods, Mayacert will consider the following:

- i. Smallholdings or areas with basic grain crops such as corn and beans in association with other crops such as curcubitaceous and/or shade coffee, generally where these crops are being managed under natural circumstances or low input use.
- ii. Inputs used in these areas are generally restricted to chemical synthetic fertilizers and in low amounts.
- iii. In these cases, an appropriate distance must be kept from apiaries to areas treated with fertilizers, depending on the contamination risk they pose to avoid apiaries direct contamination.

Exceptional case, when the product's final market is the United Kingdom (DEFRA - Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs), the radius of bees foraging must be considered 6 km, (this entity's specific requirement).

- j. Hives and materials used in beekeeping must be mainly made of natural materials. k. Destruction of bees in combs is prohibited as a method associated with beehive products collection.

Document name: Standard of organic production	Code Norm_eco	Vers ion 4	Date January 2020	Ultimately responsible: Quality responsible	Where is the original: Quality responsible	Page 2 of 138
---	------------------	------------------	----------------------	---	--	------------------

5.5. REPRODUCTION

- a. Natural methods shall be used for reproduction. However, artificial insemination is allowed.
- b. Reproduction will be induced by treatment with hormones or similar substances, except as therapeutic treatment for an individual animal.
- c. No other forms of artificial reproduction must be used, such as cloning or embryo transfer.
- d. Appropriate breeds will be chosen. The breed choice will also help to prevent any suffering and avoid the need for animals' maul.

5.6. LIVESTOCK HOUSING STANDARDS

- a. The building's insulation, heating and ventilation must ensure that air circulation, dust level, temperature, relative humidity and gas concentration are kept within limits not harmful to the animals. The building must permit plentiful ventilation and natural light.
- b. Accommodation for livestock will not be mandatory in areas where climatic conditions enable animals living outdoors.
- c. Density of animals in the facility must be compatible with the animals' comfort and welfare, as well as the species specific needs, factors that will specifically depend on the animals' species, breed and age. Needs inherent in the behavior of animals, which depend mainly on size group and animals' sex, shall be taken into account. Density must ensure the animals' welfare, giving them sufficient space to stand naturally, lie down easily, turn around, groom themselves, assume any natural posture and making all natural movements as stretching and wing flapping.
- d. Minimum interior and exterior surfaces and other housing characteristics for different animal's species and categories are established in this Standard's Annex III.

5.7. HOUSING CONDITIONS AND LIVESTOCK PRACTICES FOR MAMMALS

- a. Floors must be smooth but not slippery. At least half of the inner surface established in this Standard's Annex III must be firm, which is, built with solid materials that are not slatted or grid.
- b. Housing must have a comfortable, clean and dry area to sleep or rest, sufficiently large, built with solid materials which are not slatted. The resting area should be provided

Document name: Standard of organic production	Code Norm_eco	Vers ion 4	Date January 2020	Ultimately responsible: Quality responsible	Where is the original: Quality responsible	Page 2 of 138
---	------------------	------------------	----------------------	---	--	------------------

with ample and dry bedding strewn with litter material. The litter must comprise straw or other suitable natural material and may be improved and enriched with any mineral products listed in this Standard's Annex I.

- c. Calves housing in individual boxes is prohibited after the age of one week.
- d. Adult female swine must be kept in groups, except in the last stages of pregnancy and during suckling period.
- e. Piglets must not be kept on raised platforms not in cages.
- f. Exercise areas must permit swine dunging and rooting. Different substrates may be used for rooting purposes.

5.8. SPECIFIC CONDITIONS FOR HOUSING AND POULTRY BREEDING METHODS

5.8.1. Poultry must not be kept in cages.

5.8.2. When climatic and hygienic conditions permit, aquatic birds must have Access to a stream, puddle, lake or pond in order to meet the species specific needs and the animals' welfare requirements.

5.8.3. Building for all poultry must meet the following conditions:

- a. At least one third of the floor must be sound construction, not slatted or grid, covered with straw, wood shavings, sand or turf.
- b. For laying hens, a sufficiently large part of the available land must be available for bird droppings collection.
- c. They must have perches which number and size respond to the group importance and the birds' size, as provided in this Standard's Annex III.
- d. Coops must have entry and exit hatches of a size suitable for poultry and a combined length of at least four meters per each 100 square meters of local surface that is available to the birds.
- e. Each poultry house will not contain more than:
 - i. 4800 chickens.
 - ii. 3000 laying hens.
 - iii. 5200 guinea fowl.
 - iv. 4000 female Peking ducks, 3200 male Peking ducks or other ducks.
 - v. 2500 capons, geese or turkeys.

f. The total usable area of poultry houses for meat production on any single unit shall not exceed 1600 m².

g. Poultry houses shall be constructed in a manner allowing all birds an easy

Document name: Standard of organic production	Code Norm_eco	Vers ion 4	Date January 2020	Ultimately responsible: Quality responsible	Where is the original: Quality responsible	Page 2 of 138
---	------------------	------------------	----------------------	---	--	------------------

access to open air area.

5.8.4. Natural light may be supplemented by artificial means to provide a maximum of 16 hours light per day with a continuous nocturnal rest period without artificial light for at least eight hours.

5.8.5. To prevent the use of intensive rearing methods, poultry shall either be reared until they reach a minimum age or else shall come from slow-growing poultry strains. Where slow-growing poultry strains are not used by the operator the following minimum age at slaughter shall be:

- a. 81 days for chickens.

- b. 150 days for capons.
- c. 49 days for Peking ducks.
- d. 70 days for female Muscovy ducks.
- e. 84 days for male Muscovy ducks.
- f. 92 days for hybrid ducks called Mallard.
- g. 94 days for guinea fowl.
- h. 140 days for male turkeys and roasting geese.
- i. 100 days for female turkeys.

MAYACERT define the following criteria of slow-growing strains (native or imported), where the minimum age at slaughter shall be the following:

- a. 180 days for chickens and hens.
- b. 365 days for turkeys.
- c. 270 days for ducks.

5.9. SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS AND HOUSING CONDITIONS IN BEEKEEPING

a. The siting of the apiaries shall be such that, within a radius of 3 km from the apiary site, nectar and pollen sources consist essentially of organically produced crops or wild vegetation or crops treated with low environmental impact methods, which do not affect the qualification of beekeeping production as being organic. The above mentioned requirements do not apply where flowering is not taking place, or the hives are dormant. They should be located with a sufficient distance from sources that may contaminate the bee products or damage the bee health.

As crops treated using low environmental impact methods, Mayacert will consider the following:

Document name: Standard of organic production	Code Norm_eco	Vers ion 4	Date January 2020	Ultimately responsible: Quality responsible	Where is the original: Quality responsible	Page 2 of 138
---	------------------	------------------	----------------------	---	--	------------------

- i. Smallholdings or areas with basic grain crops such as corn and beans in association with other crops such as cucurbitaceous and/or shade coffee, generally where these crops are being managed under natural circumstances or low input use.
- ii. Inputs used in these areas are generally restricted to chemical synthetic fertilizers and in low amounts.
- iii. In these cases, an appropriate distance must be kept from apiaries to areas treated with fertilizers, depending on the contamination risk they pose to avoid apiaries direct contamination.

Exceptional case, when the product's final market is the United Kingdom (DEFRA - Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs), the radius of bees foraging must be considered 6 km, (this entity's specific requirement)

- b. The hives shall be made of natural materials presenting no risk of contamination to the environment or the apiculture products.
- c. The bees wax for new frames shall come from organic production units.
- d. Only natural products such as propolis, wax and plant oil can be used in the hives.
- e. The use of chemical synthetic repellents is prohibited during honey extraction.
- f. The use of brood combs is prohibited for honey extraction.
- g. MAYACERT can identify areas or regions where organic beekeeping cannot be practiced.

5.10. ACCESS TO OPEN AIR AREAS

- a. Open air areas may be partially covered.
- b. Herbivores shall have access to pasturage for grazing whenever conditions allow.
- c. When herbivores have access to pasturage during the grazing period and where the winter-housing system gives freedom of movement to animals, the obligation to provide open air areas during the winter months may be waived.
- d. Bulls over one year old shall have access to pasturage or an open air area.
- e. Poultry shall have access to an open air area for at least one third of their life.
- f. Open air areas for poultry shall be mainly covered with vegetation and be provided with protective facilities, as well as permit animals to have easy access to adequate numbers of drinking and feeding troughs.
- g. When poultry are kept indoors due to restrictions or obligations imposed on the basis of local or national legislation, they shall permanently have access to sufficient

Document name: Standard of organic production	Code Norm_eco	Vers ion 4	Date January 2020	Ultimately responsible: Quality responsible	Where is the original: Quality responsible	Page 2 of 138
---	------------------	------------------	----------------------	---	--	------------------

quantities of roughage and suitable material in order to meet their ethological needs.

5.11. STOCKING DENSITY

- a. The total stocking density shall not exceed the limit of 170 kg of nitrogen per year and hectare of agricultural area.
- b. To determine the appropriate density of livestock, it can be based on the information in Annex IV of this Standard.

5.12. PROHIBITION OF LANDLESS LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION

Landless livestock production, by which the operator of the livestock does not manage agricultural land or has not established a written cooperation agreement with another operator that complies with the organic production requirements, is prohibited.

5.13. SIMULTANEOUS PRODUCTION OF ORGANIC AND NON-ORGANIC LIVESTOCK

- a. Non-organic livestock may be present on the holding, provided they are reared on units where the buildings and parcels are separated clearly from the organic producing units and different species are reared.
- b. Non-organic livestock may use organic pasturage for a limited period of time each year, provided that such animals come from an equivalent farming system, that is a low intensity grazing system, and which in turn is useful for animal welfare.
- c. Organic animals may be grazed on common land, providing that:
 - i. The land has not been treated with products not authorized for organic production for at least three years.
 - ii. All non-organic animals which use the common land are derived from an equivalent farming system of low intensity grazing in search of animals' welfare.
 - iii. All livestock products from organic animals, while using these common lands, shall not be regarded as organic products, unless adequate segregation of such animals from non-organic animals can be proved.
- d. During transhumance or transfer, animals may graze on non-organic land when they are being moved on foot from one grazing area to another. During this period non organic feed intake in grass form or other vegetation on which the animals graze, shall not

Document name: Standard of organic production	Code Norm_eco	Vers ion 4	Date January 2020	Ultimately responsible: Quality responsible	Where is the original: Quality responsible	Page 2 of 138
---	------------------	------------------	----------------------	---	--	------------------

exceed 10% of the total feed ration per year. This figure shall be calculated as a percentage of the dry matter of feedingstuffs from agricultural origin.

- e. Ranchers or operators shall keep documentary evidence of the application of these provisions.

5.14. MANAGEMENT OF ANIMALS

- a. Operations such as attaching elastic bands to the tails of sheep, tail-docking, cutting of teeth, trimming of peaks and dehorning shall not be carried out routinely. However, MAYACERT may authorize some of these operations, for reasons of safety or if they are intended to improve the health, welfare or hygiene of livestock on a case-by-case basis.

Suffering to the animals shall be reduced to a minimum by applying adequate anesthesia or analgesia and by carrying out the operation only by qualified personnel and at the most appropriate age.

- b. Physical castration is allowed in order to maintain the quality of products and traditional production practices, under the conditions to minimize suffering.
- c. Mutilation such as clipping the wings of queen bees is prohibited.
- d. Loading and unloading of animals shall be carried out without the use of any type of electrical stimulation to coerce the animals. The use of allopathic tranquillizers, prior to or during transport, is prohibited.

5.15. FEED

- a. Basically, livestock feed shall come from the holding where the animals are kept or from other organic holdings in the same region.
- b. The livestock shall be fed with organic feed that meet the animal’s nutritional needs at various stages of its development; a part of its ration may contain feed from holdings in the stage of conversion to organic agriculture.
- c. Livestock, except bees, shall have permanent access to pasture or fodder.
- d. Non-organic plant raw material, raw materials of animal and mineral origin, feed additives, as well as certain products used in animal nutrition or as processing aids, shall be used in feed only if they have been authorized for use in organic production.
- e. No growth factors or synthetic amino acids shall be used.
- f. The suckling mammals shall be fed with natural milk, preferable maternal.

Document name: Standard of organic production	Code Norm_eco	Vers ion 4	Date January 2020	Ultimately responsible: Quality responsible	Where is the original: Quality responsible	Page 2 of 138
---	------------------	------------------	----------------------	---	--	------------------

5.16. FEED FROM OWN HOLDING OR OTHER ORGANIC HOLDINGS

- a. In case of herbivores, except during the period each year when the animals are under transhumance, at least 60% of the feed shall come from the farm unit itself or, in case this is not feasible, be produced in cooperation with other organic productions in the same region.
- b. In case of pigs and poultry, at least 20 % of the feed shall come from the farm unit itself or, in case this is not feasible, be produced in the same region in collaboration with other organic feed production or business.
- c. In the case of bees, at the end of the production season hives shall be left with sufficient reserves of honey and pollen to survive the winter.

The artificial feeding of bee colonies shall only be permitted where the survival of the hives is endangered due to climatic conditions. Said feeding shall be made with organic honey, organic sugar syrup or organic sugar.

5.17. MEETING THE ANIMAL'S NUTRITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

- a. All young mammals shall be fed on maternal milk in preference to natural milk, for a minimum period of three months for bovines (including *bubalus* and bison species) and equidae, 45 days for sheep and goats and 40 days for pigs.
- b. In case of herbivores, the rearing systems are to be based on maximum use of grazing pasture, according to the availability of pastures in the different periods of the year. At least 60% of the dry matter in daily rations of herbivores shall consist of roughage, fresh, dried or silage. A reduction to 50% for animals in dairy production for a maximum period of three months in early lactation is allowed.
- c. Roughage, fresh, dried or silage shall be added to the daily ration for pigs and poultry.
- d. Keeping of livestock in conditions or on a diet which may encourage anemia, is prohibited.
- e. Fattening practices shall be reversible at any stage of the rearing process. Force feeding is forbidden.

5.18. IN-CONVERSION FEED

Document name: Standard of organic production	Code Norm_eco	Vers ion 4	Date January 2020	Ultimately responsible: Quality responsible	Where is the original: Quality responsible	Page 2 of 138
---	------------------	------------------	----------------------	---	--	------------------

- a. Up to 30% of the feed formula of rations on average may comprise in-conversion feedingstuffs. When the in-conversion food comes from a unit of the holding itself, this percentage may be increased to 100%.
- b. Up to 20% of the total average amount of feedingstuffs for livestock may originate from the grazing or harvesting of permanent pastures, perennial forage parcels or protein crops, sown under organic management on lands, in their first year of conversion, provided that they are part of the holding itself and have not been part of an organic production unit of that holding in the last five years. When both in conversion feedingstuffs and feedingstuffs from parcels in their first year of conversion are being used, the total combined percentage of such feedingstuffs shall not exceed the maximum percentages fixed in paragraph a.
- c. The figures referred to in paragraphs a and b shall be calculated annually, as a percentage of the dry matter of feedingstuffs of plant origin.

5.19. USE OF CERTAIN PRODUCTS AND SUBSTANCES IN FEED

Effects of vegetable raw materials of non-organic origin, raw materials from animal and mineral origin, feed additives, as well as certain products used in animal nutrition or as processing aids, only the following substances may be used in the processing of organic feed and organic livestock feed:

- a. Non-organic feed materials of plant or animal origin, or other feed materials that are listed in Section 2 of Annex V of the present standard, provided that:
 - i. They are produced or prepared without chemical solvents; and
 - ii. The restrictions set out in chapter 10.6 (USE OF NON-ORGANIC PROTEIN FEED OF PLANT AND ANIMAL ORIGIN FOR LIVESTOCK) or 10.10 (CATASTROPHIC CIRCUMSTANCES), subsection c) of the present standar, are complied with.
- b. Non-organic spices, herbs, and molasses, provided that:
 - i. Their organic form is not available;
 - ii. They are produced or prepared without chemical solvents; and
 - iii. Their use is limited to 1 % of the feed ration of a given species, calculated annually as a percentage of the dry matter of feed from agricultural origin;
- c. Organic feed materials of animal origin;
- d. Feed materials of mineral origin that are listed in Section 1 of Annex V of the present

Document name: Standard of organic production	Code Norm_eco	Vers ion 4	Date January 2020	Ultimately responsible: Quality responsible	Where is the original: Quality responsible	Page 2 of 138
---	------------------	------------------	----------------------	---	--	------------------

standard.

- e. Products from sustainable fisheries, provided that:
 - i. They are produced or prepared without chemical solvents;
 - ii. Their use is restricted to non-herbivores; and
 - iii. The use of fish protein hydrolysate is restricted solely to young animals;
- f. Salt as sea salt, coarse rock salt;
- g. Feed additives listed in Annex VI of the present standard.

5.20. GENERAL STANDARDS FOR DISEASE PREVENTION AND VETERINARY TREATMENT

- a. The disease prevention is based on the selection of breeds and strains, livestock management practices, high quality feed and exercise, livestock density and proper housing in a sanitary condition.
- b. Diseases shall be treated immediately to avoid suffering to the animal, chemically synthesized allopathic veterinary medicinal products may be used, including antibiotics, when necessary and under strict conditions, when the use of phytotherapeutic, homeopathic and other products is inappropriate, especially, restrictions concerning treatment and withdrawal period shall be established.
- c. Immunological veterinary medicinal products are allowed.
- d. Treatments related to the protection of human or animal health imposed on the basis of legislation of the countries where Mayacert operates is allowed, subjected to compliance with the requirements of this Standard.

5.20.1. PROPHYLAXIS OR DISEASE PREVENTION

- a. The use of chemically synthesized allopathic veterinary medicinal products or antibiotics for preventive treatment is prohibited.
- b. The use of substances to promote growth or production (including antibiotics, coccidiostats and other artificial aids that stimulate growth) and hormones or similar substances to control reproduction (induction or synchronization of estrus) or for other purposes, is prohibited.
- c. Where livestock is obtained from non-organic units, special measures may be applied such as: screening tests or quarantine periods, depending on local circumstances. d. Housing, facilities, equipment and utensils must be properly cleaned and disinfected to prevent cross-infection and the build-up of disease carrying organisms. Faeces,

Document name: Standard of organic production	Code Norm_eco	Vers ion 4	Date January 2020	Ultimately responsible: Quality responsible	Where is the original: Quality responsible	Page 2 of 138
---	------------------	------------------	----------------------	---	--	------------------

urine and spilled or uneaten feed shall be removed as often as necessary to minimize smell and to avoid attracting insects or rodents.

Only products allowed in organic production may be used for cleaning and disinfecting the premises, facilities and livestock utensils such as those listed in Annex VII of this Standard. Rodenticides may be used only in traps, and the products allowed in organic production listed in Annex II of this Standard for the elimination of insects and other pests in buildings and other installations where livestock is kept.

- e. Buildings shall be emptied of livestock after each batch of poultry reared to clean and disinfect them and the materials used there. In addition, when the rearing of each batch of poultry has been completed, runs shall be left empty to allow vegetation to grow back. Mayacert will fix the period in which the pens must be empty. The operator shall keep documentary evidence of the implementation of this period.

Exempted from these requirements is poultry that is not reared in batches, not kept in pens and which can run back and forth all day.

5.20.2.VETERINARY TREATMENT

- a. If, despite preventive measures applied to ensure animal health, when these become sick or injured, they shall be treated immediately, in isolation when necessary and in suitable housing.
- b. Phytotherapeutic and homeopathic products, trace elements and products listed in Section 1 of Annex V and in Section 3 of Annex VI of this standard shall be used in preference to chemically-synthesised allopathic veterinary treatment or antibiotics, provided that their therapeutic effect is effective for the species of animal, and the condition for which the treatment is intended.
- c. If the use of measures referred to in sections a and b is not effective in combating illness or injury and if treatment is essential to avoid suffering or distress of the animals, chemically-synthesized allopathic veterinary medicinal products or antibiotics may be used under the responsibility of a veterinarian.
- d. With the exception of vaccinations, treatments for parasites and compulsory eradication schemes, where an animal or group of animals receive more than three courses of treatment with chemically-synthetized allopathic veterinary medicinal products or antibiotic within 12 months (or more than one course of treatment if their productive life cycle is less than one year) the animals or the products derived from them may not be sold as organic products and the animals shall undergo the conversion periods laid down in this Standard.

Document name: Standard of organic production	Code Norm_eco	Vers ion 4	Date January 2020	Ultimately responsible: Quality responsible	Where is the original: Quality responsible	Page 2 of 138
---	------------------	------------------	----------------------	---	--	------------------

Records of supporting documents of the occurrence of such circumstances shall be kept to be submitted to MAYACERT.

- e. If the medication used does not indicate the withdrawal period for the species in question, the withdrawal period between the last administration of an allopathic medicinal product to an animal under normal conditions of use and the production or organically produced foodstuffs from such animals will double in relation to the following withdrawal periods, or in a case in which this period is not specified, it will be 48 hours:
 - 7 days: for eggs.
 - 7 days: for milk.
 - 28 days: for meat from poultry and mammals including fat and giblets.

5.21. SPECIFIC RULES ON DISEASE PREVENTION AND VETERINARY TREATMENT IN BEEKEEPING

- a. For cleaning and disinfection of frames, hives, and honeycombs, sodium hydroxide may be used. To protect them from pests particularly, only the use of rodenticides (traps only) and appropriate products listed in Annex II of this Standard will be authorized.
- b. Physical treatments for disinfection of apiaries, such as steam or direct flame are permitted.
- c. The practice of destroying the male brood is permitted only to isolate the infestation of *Varroa destructor*.
- d. If despite all preventive measures, the colonies become sick or infested, they shall be treated immediately and, if necessary, the colonies can be placed in isolation apiaries.
- e. Veterinary medicinal products may be used in organic beekeeping in so far as the corresponding use is authorized in the Member State, in accordance with the relevant community provisions or national provisions in conformity with community law.
- f. Formic acid, lactic acid, acetic acid and oxalic acid as well as menthol, thymol, eucalyptol or camphor may be used in cases of infestation with *Varroa destructor*.
- g. If the treatment is applied with chemically-synthesized allopathic products, during such a period, the colonies treated shall be placed in isolation apiaries and all the wax shall be replaced with wax coming from organic beekeeping. Subsequently, the conversion period of one year laid down in this Standard will apply to those colonies.
- h. The requirements laid down in the above paragraph shall not apply when formic acid, lactic acid, acetic acid and oxalic acid, as well as menthol, thymol, eucalyptol, or camphor are used in case of infestation with *Varroa destructor*.

Document name: Standard of organic production	Code Norm_eco	Vers ion 4	Date January 2020	Ultimately responsible: Quality responsible	Where is the original: Quality responsible	Page 2 of 138
---	------------------	------------------	----------------------	---	--	------------------

5.22. LIVESTOCK PREMISES OR FACILITIES CLEANING AND DISINFECTION

Only products for cleaning and disinfection that have been authorized for use in organic production shall be utilized.

Measures and conditions necessary for the implementation of the livestock production rules shall be adopted following the requirements of this Standard and MAYACERT will analyze special cases through a technical committee or with the support of experts in the field and the decisions will be communicated to operators.

VI. PRODUCTS AND SUBSTANCES USED IN FARMING AND CRITERIA FOR THEIR AUTHORIZATION

6.1. MAYACERT through a technical committee or with support from experts in the field, in accordance with the requirements in this Standard, may authorize for use in organic production and include then in a restricted list the products and substances, which may be used in organic farming for the following purposes:

- a. As plant protection products.
- b. As fertilizers and soil conditions.
- c. As non-organic feed materials from plant origin and feed material from animal and mineral origin and certain substances used in animal nutrition.
- d. As feed additives and processing aids.
- e. As products for cleaning and disinfection of ponds, cages, buildings and installations used for animal production.
- f. As products for cleaning and disinfection of buildings and installations used for plant production, including storage on an agricultural holding.

Products and substances contained in the restricted list may only be used in so far as the corresponding use is authorized in organic production by MAYACERT.

6.2. Authorization of the products and substances referred to in the previous subsection is subject to the organic production's objectives and principles and the following general and specific criteria, which will be evaluated as a whole:

- a. Their use is necessary for sustained production and essential for its intended use.
- b. All products and substances shall be of plant, animal, microbial or mineral origin, except where products or substances from such sources are not available in sufficient quantities or qualities or if alternatives are not available.
- c. In the case of products for pest and disease control, the following provisions shall

Document name: Standard of organic production	Code Norm_eco	Vers ion 4	Date January 2020	Ultimately responsible: Quality responsible	Where is the original: Quality responsible	Page 2 of 138
---	------------------	------------------	----------------------	---	--	------------------

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 the products are not of plant, animal, microbial or mineral origin and are not identical to their natural form, they may be authorized only if their conditions for use preclude any direct contact with the edible parts of the crop.
- d. In the case of fertilizer products and soil conditioners, their use is essential for obtaining or maintaining the fertility of the soil or to fulfill specific nutrition requirements of crops, or specific soil conditioning purposes.
- e. In the case of non-organic feed materials of plant material and feed materials of animal and mineral origin and certain substances used in animal nutrition and feed additives, the following provisions must be considered:
- i. They are necessary to maintain animal health, animal welfare and vitality and contribute to an appropriate diet fulfilling the physiological and behavioral needs of the species concerned or it would be impossible to produce or preserve such feed without having recourse to such substances.
 - ii. Feed of mineral origin, trace elements, vitamins or provitamins shall be of natural origin. In case these substances are unavailable, chemically well defined analogic substances may be authorized for use in organic production.

6.3. Other provisions:

- a. MAYACERT through a technical committee or with support of experts in the field, in accordance with this Standard, may lay down conditions and limits regarding the agricultural products to which the products and substances referred to in section 6.1 can be applied to, specifically regarding the application method, dosage, use's time limit and contact with agricultural products and, if necessary, decide on the withdrawal of these products and substances.
- b. When an operator considers that a product or substance should be added to the restricted list, or that the specifications of the use should be amended, such operator shall officially submit to MAYACERT a dossier containing the reasons for the inclusion or use modification.

MAYACERT through a technical committee or with support of experts in the field will analyze the request for inclusion of products and substances that can be used or modified for use in organic production.

MAYACERT will transmit inclusions or amendments for the operators' use.

Document name: Standard of organic production	Code Norm_eco	Vers ion 4	Date January 2020	Ultimately responsible: Quality responsible	Where is the original: Quality responsible	Page 2 of 138
---	------------------	------------------	----------------------	---	--	------------------

c. MAYACERT through a technical committee or with support of experts in the field may withdraw a product or substance from the restricted list of products and substances that may be used in organic production.

6.4. MAYACERT through a technical committee or with support of experts in the field may authorize, in the countries where it operates, use of products and substances for organic production for purposes other than those listed in section 6.1, provided that such use is subject to objectives and principles of organic production and the specific criteria of section 6.2 and to the extent to comply with Standard.

6.5. MAYACERT through a technical committee or with support of experts in the field may authorize use of products and substances not included in sections 6.1 and 6.4, as the case of handcrafted botanical products for pest control or fertilization, provided that such use is subject to the objectives and principles of organic production and the general criteria set out in this paragraph.

These cases could be more common among small producers.

VII. CONVERSION TO ORGANIC PRODUCTION

7.1. GENERAL STANDARDS FOR CONVERSION TO ORGANIC PRODUCTION

7.1.1. All holdings on which organic production is started will be subject to the following standards.

- a. The conversion period shall start when the operator notifies his activity and subjects his holding to MAYACERT’s control regime.
- b. During the conversion period all requirements established by this Regulation must be applied.
- c. Conversion periods specific to the type of crop or animal production shall be defined.
- d. When a holding or unit is intended in part to organic production and in part to in conversion stage, the operator shall keep the organically and in-conversion produced products separated, and separated animals or easily separable, and will keep proper documentary records to show such separation.
- e. In order to determine the conversion period a period immediately preceding the start date of the conversion period shall be taken into account, provided that certain conditions are met.
- f. Animals and animal products produced during the conversion period, cannot be marketed with reference to organic production methods nor can be labeled or promoted as such.

7.1.2. Measures and conditions necessary for the implementation of conversion standards,

Document name: Standard of organic production	Code Norm_eco	Vers ion 4	Date January 2020	Ultimately responsible: Quality responsible	Where is the original: Quality responsible	Page 2 of 138
---	------------------	------------------	----------------------	---	--	------------------

in particular the periods referred to in section 7.1.1, letters c) to f), shall be defined in accordance with the requirements of this Standard, and MAYACERT through a technical committee and with support of experts in the field will analyze them and the decisions will be transmitted to the operators.

7.2. CONVERSION STANDARDS FOR AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION AND AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS

- a. The organic Standard of Mayacert states that for agricultural production units and agricultural products to be considered organic, principles and objectives of organic

production and the production standards must have been efficiently applied, during the conversion period of at least two years before sowing for annual crops, or in the case of grassland or perennial forage at least two years before its use. In the case of perennial crops other than forage, these must spend at least three years before the first harvest of organic products.

- b. MAYACERT may decide to recognize retroactively as being part of the conversion period any previous period, in which:
 - i. Land parcels were subject to a sustainable production program, as long as it is guaranteed that products not authorized for organic production byMAYACERT have not been used on such parcels.
 - ii. The parcels were natural or agricultural areas which have not been treated with products not authorized for organic production by MAYACERT.

The retroactive period as part of the conversion period, can count as retroactive only when sufficient satisfactory proof has been submitted to MAYACERT demonstrating that the conditions have been met for a minimum of three years.

MAYACERT may validate a retroactive period as part of the conversion period, under the following conditions:

- i. Abandoned land, where crops have little or no management, presence of biodiversity, low yield, and inadequate crop’s plant health.
- ii. Traditional crops where there is efficient use of labor, intensification of production with limited resources, maximizing revenue with low levels of technology and production stability.
- iii. Wild crop, where crops grow uncultivated or handling is minimal.
- iv. Operators who have had interruptions in their organic certification, provided that it has not been for use of banned substances, but for reasons such as

Document name: Standard of organic production	Code Norm_eco	Vers ion 4	Date January 2020	Ultimately responsible: Quality responsible	Where is the original: Quality responsible	Page 2 of 138
---	------------------	------------------	----------------------	---	--	------------------

lack of market, natural disasters, among others.

- v. Operators that have a current organic certificate under other standards of international or national organic production.

For this purpose, the operator must submit to MAYACERT:

- i. Records of third entities related to the organic production or in connection with the activity carried out in the production unit (government units, NGOs, etc.) that support the history of the crop and/or management in the last three years.
- ii. When the operator has a current organic certificate under other rules of international or national organic production, it must submit a copy of its current organic certificate.

In addition, the inspector of MAYACERT should assess the following:

- i. The accuracy and reliability of documents and information submitted by the operator.
- ii. Check if the management of the production unit demonstrates compliance with this standard.
- iii. When the operator has a current organic certificate under other rules of international or national organic production, the inspector should review those regulations and records of producers' activities, to determine if the producer did not use methods, practices and / or substances that are allowed by those rules, but prohibited by this standard.

In any case MAYACERT establishes that:

- i. After having validated a retroactive period as part of the conversion period, any operator must comply with at least a 12 - month conversion period before the product can be considered as being from organic production.
- ii. Only in cases where the operator has a current organic certificate under other rules of international or national organic production, and if it is determined that the producer did not use methods, practices and / or substances that are prohibited by this standard, the unit production may be proposed to qualify directly to organic certification without passing by a conversion time.

- c. Mayacert may decide to extend the conversion period in cases where parcels were contaminated with unauthorized products.

- d. In the parcels already converted or in phases of conversion to organic production which

Document name: Standard of organic production	Code Norm_eco	Vers ion 4	Date January 2020	Ultimately responsible: Quality responsible	Where is the original: Quality responsible	Page 2 of 138
---	------------------	------------------	----------------------	---	--	------------------

of necessity have been treated with products not authorized for organic production, MAYACERT may reduce the period of conversion in the following cases:

- i. Parcels treated with a product not authorized by MAYACERT for organic production as part of a mandatory measure for pest or disease control imposed by a given country.
- ii. Parcels treated with a product not authorized by MAYACERT for organic production in the context of scientific tests approved by MAYACERT in a given country.

In the cases referred to in sections i and ii, the length of the conversion period shall be determined taking into account the following elements:

- i. Mayacert considers that at the end of the conversion period for any unauthorized product applied, the level of residues in the soil should be insignificant and, if it is a perennial crop, the level of residues in the plant should be insignificant.

Using as reference the levels for heavy metals established for composted or fermented household waste in Annex I in this Standard and any residue of not authorized substance.

- ii. The harvest following the treatment cannot be sold referring to the organic production methods.

7.3. CONVERSION STANDARDS APPLICABLE TO LAND ASSOCIATED WITH ORGANIC LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION

- a. The conversion standards will be applicable to the entire area of the unit where the feed is produced.
- b. The conversion period may be reduced to one year for pasturages and open air areas used by non-herbivore species. This period may be reduced to six months where the land has not received treatments with products not authorized for organic production during the last year.

7.4. LIVESTOCK AND LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS

- a. When non-organic livestock has been brought onto a holding or farm specifically for breeding purposes, when a herd is initially established, a batch of poultry is renewed or reconstituted and there are not enough birds, non-organic animals may be used, but

Document name: Standard of organic production	Code Norm_eco	Vers ion 4	Date January 2020	Ultimately responsible: Quality responsible	Where is the original: Quality responsible	Page 2 of 138
---	------------------	------------------	----------------------	---	--	------------------

the organic method must have been applied for at least:

- i. Twelve months in the case of equidae and bovine (including bubalus and bison species) intended for meat production, and in any case at least three quarters of their lifetime.
 - ii. Six months in the case of small ruminants and pigs and animals for milk production.
 - iii. Ten weeks for poultry for meat production brought in before they are three days old.
 - iv. Six weeks in the case of poultry for egg production.
- b. When there are non-organic animals on a holding or farm at the beginning of the conversion period, their products may be deemed organic if the conversion simultaneously involves the entire production unit, including animals, pasturage or any plot used for animal feed. The total combined conversion period for both existing animals and their offspring, pasturage or any land used for animal feed, may be reduced to 24 months, if the animals are mainly fed with products from the farm or production unit.
- c. Beekeeping products can be sold with references to the organic production method only when the organic production standards have been complied with for at least one year.
- d. The conversion period for apiaries will not be applied, in the event that the renewal of apiaries, 10% per year of the queen bees and swarms in an organic production unit, are replaced by non-organic queen bees and swarms, provided that the non organic queen bees and swarms are places in hives with combs or organic combs or wax sheets.
- e. During the period of conversion the wax shall be replaced with wax coming from organic beekeeping.

VIII. PRODUCTION OF PROCESSED FEED AND FOOD

8.1. GENERAL STANDARDS FOR PROCESSED FEED PRODUCTION

- a. Organic processed feed production shall be kept separate in time or space from non organic processed feed production.
- b. In the organic processed feed composition, feed materials from an organic origin or feed materials in conversion shall not enter or be simultaneously with the same feed material produced by non-organic means.

Document name: Standard of organic production	Code Norm_eco	Vers ion 4	Date January 2020	Ultimately responsible: Quality responsible	Where is the original: Quality responsible	Page 2 of 138
---	------------------	------------------	----------------------	---	--	------------------

- c. No feed material used or processed in the organic production shall have been processed with chemically synthesized solvent aid.
- d. Substances or techniques that reconstitute properties that are lost when processing and storage of organic feed, that correct the results of negligence when processing these products or that otherwise may be misleading as to the true nature of this product shall not be used.
- e. Measures and conditions necessary for the implementation of processed feed production standards shall be adopted in accordance with the requirements in this Standard and in special cases MAYACERT will analyze them through a technical committee or with support of experts in the field and the decision will be conveyed to the operators.

8.2. GENERAL STANDARDS FOR PROCESSED FOOD PRODUCTION

- a. Organic processed food production shall be kept separate in time or space from non organic processed food production.
- b. The following conditions shall apply to the composition of organic processed food:
 - i. The product shall be produced mainly from ingredients of agricultural origin. When determining whether a product is produced mainly from agricultural origin, added water and cooking salt shall not be taken into account.
 - ii. Additives, processing aids, flavorings, water, salt, preparations of microorganisms and enzymes, minerals, trace elements, vitamins, amino acids and other micronutrients in foodstuffs for particular nutritional uses may be used only if they have been authorized for their use in organic production.
 - iii. Non-organic agricultural ingredients may be used if they have been authorized by MAYACERT for use in organic production.
 - iv. There cannot be simultaneously an organic ingredient and the same ingredient non-organically produced or from a holding in conversion period.
 - v. Food produced from in-conversion crops will contain only one crop ingredient of agricultural origin.
- c. Substances and techniques that reconstitute properties that were lost when processing and storing organic food to correct the results of negligence when processing these products or that otherwise may be misleading as to the true nature of these products shall not be used.

Necessary measures for the implementation of the processed food production

Document name: Standard of organic production	Code Norm_eco	Vers ion 4	Date January 2020	Ultimately responsible: Quality responsible	Where is the original: Quality responsible	Page 2 of 138
---	------------------	------------------	----------------------	---	--	------------------

standards, and in particular those regarding processing methods and the conditions for the authorization by MAYACERT, shall be adopted in accordance with the requirements of this Standard and for special cases MAYACERT will analyze them through a technical committee or with support of experts in the field and the decisions will be conveyed to the operators.

8.3. GENERAL STANDARDS FOR ORGANIC YEAST PRODUCTION

- a. For the production of organic yeast only organically produced substrates shall be used. Other products and substances may be used as long as they have been authorized for use in organic production by MAYACERT.
- b. Organic yeast shall not be present in organic food or feed simultaneously with non organic yeast.

8.4. STANDARDS APPLICABLE TO PROCESSED FEED AND FOOD PRODUCTION

Operators that preserve or produce feed or processed food shall establish and update the relevant procedures based on a systematic identification of critical phases of transformation. The application of these procedures will guarantee at all times that the preserved or transformed products comply with the organic production standards.

- a. Operators must comply and apply procedures referred to in paragraph 1. Particularly, operators must:
- b. Adopt precautionary measures to avoid risk of pollution produced by unauthorized substances or products.
- c. They will apply appropriate cleaning measures, monitor their effectiveness and keep a record of these measures;
- d. They will guarantee that non-organic products are not marketed and carry an indication referring to the organic production method.

When non-organic products are also prepared or stored in the corresponding preparation unit, the operator must:

- i. Carry out the operations continuously by entire series, separated by place or time from similar operations performed with non-organic products.
- ii. Store organic products, before and after the operations, separated by place or time from non-organic products.
- iii. Inform Mayacert and keep available an updated record of all operations and

Document name: Standard of organic production	Code Norm_eco	Vers ion 4	Date January 2020	Ultimately responsible: Quality responsible	Where is the original: Quality responsible	Page 2 of 138
---	------------------	------------------	----------------------	---	--	------------------

- quantities processed.
- iv. Take the necessary measures to ensure identification of batches and avoid mixing or exchange with non-organic products.
 - v. Carry out operations on organic products only after proper cleaning all production equipment.

Additives, processing aids and other substances and ingredients used for the transformation of feed or food, as well as all the transformation practices used, such as smoking, must respect the principles of good manufacturing practices.

8.5. CRITERIA FOR CERTAIN PRODUCTS AND SUBSTANCES IN PROCESSING

- a. MAYACERT will be responsible for authorization of products and substances for use in organic production and their inclusion in the restricted list, and will be subjected to the objectives and principles established in this Standard, which shall be evaluated as a whole:
 - i. Authorized alternatives in accordance with this Standard are not available.
 - ii. Without resorting to it, it is impossible to produce or preserve food or comply with certain dietary requirements.

In addition, additives, processing aids, flavorings, water, salt, preparations of microorganisms and enzymes, minerals, trace elements, vitamins, amino acids and other micronutrients in food for particular nutritional uses, if they have been authorized by MAYACERT for use in organic production, are found in nature and may

have undergone mechanical, physical, biological, enzymatic or microbial processes only, except where such products and substances from such sources are not available in the market in sufficient quantities or if its quality is not adequate.

- b. MAYACERT, in accordance with the requirements in this Standard, will analyze the authorization of products and substances and their inclusion in the restricted list referred to in the previous section of this paragraph, and will set specific conditions and limits for their use and, if necessary, for the products' withdrawal.

When an operator considers that a product or substance should be added to the restricted list or that the specifications of use should be modified, such operator will officially submit to MAYACERT a dossier with the reasons for such inclusion or use modification.

Document name: Standard of organic production	Code Norm_eco	Vers ion 4	Date January 2020	Ultimately responsible: Quality responsible	Where is the original: Quality responsible	Page 2 of 138
---	------------------	------------------	----------------------	---	--	------------------

Through a technical committee or with support from an expert in the field MAYACERT will analyze the inclusion request of products and substances that can be used or their use in the organic production may be modified.

MAYACERT will convey the inclusions or use modifications to the operators.

MAYACERT through a technical committee or with support from experts in the field may withdraw a product or substance from the restricted list of products and substances that may be used in organic production.

8.6. USE OF CERTAIN PRODUCTS AND SUBSTANCES IN FOOD PROCESSING

- a. Only the following substances can be used in organic food processing, except wine:
 - i. Substances listed in Annex VIII of this Standard.
 - ii. Microorganisms and enzymes based preparations normally used in food processing may be used, provided that the enzymes used as food additives are listed in Annex VIII, section A, of this Standard.
 - iii. Flavoring substances or flavoring preparations produced through proper physical processes (distillation, solvent extraction) from raw material of plant or animal origin in natural state or processed, may be used.
 - iv. Colors for meat and eggshells stamping. The eggs will be marked with an indelible color cooking resistant. The products used must comply with the provisions in force on coloring matters that can be used in food products intended for human consumption.
 - v. Drinking water and salt (with sodium chloride or potassium chloride as basic components), generally used in food processing, may be used.
 - vi. Minerals (including trace elements), vitamins, amino acids, and micronutrients only authorized to the extent in which Mayacert Standard makes its use compulsory in food to which they are incorporated, may be used.
- b. With the purpose of calculation in the label, at least 95 %, expressed in weigh, of the ingredients of agriculture origin are organic:
 - i. Food additives listed in Annex VIII of this Standard, and marked with an asterisk in the numerical code column, will be considered as ingredients of agricultural origin.
 - ii. Preparations and substances mentioned in letters *ii* to *vi* of section *a* and

Document name: Standard of organic production	Code Norm_eco	Vers ion 4	Date January 2020	Ultimately responsible: Quality responsible	Where is the original: Quality responsible	Page 2 of 138
---	------------------	------------------	----------------------	---	--	------------------

substances not marked with an asterisk in the additive's numerical code column will not be considered ingredients of agricultural origin.

iii. Yeast and yeast products shall be considered as ingredients of agricultural origin starting December 31 2013.

c. For the traditional boiled eggs' decorative coloring produced intended for commerce in a specific period of one year, MAYACERT may authorize the use of natural coloring and natural coating substances. Until December 31 2013, that authorization may comprise synthetic forms of iron oxides and hydroxides. Authorizations shall be notified to the operators.

d. The following substances may be used in the production, mixing and formulation of yeast:

- i. Substances listed in Annex VIII, section C, of this Standard.
- ii. Products and substances such as the microorganisms and enzymes based ones, drinking water and salt (with sodium chloride or potassium chloride as basic components).

e. Minerals (including trace elements), vitamins, amino acids and micronutrients, provided that:

Its use in food for current consumption is legally required directly, that is, it appears directly in provisions of law or country regulation, with the consequence that the food cannot be introduced in any way on the market as food of current consumption if the mineral, vitamin, amino acid or micronutrient is not added.

With regard to food products marketed with the claim of having particular characteristics or effects in relation to health or nutrition, or in relation to the needs of a specific group of consumers.

8.7. AUTHORIZATION OF NON-ORGANIC FOOD INGREDIENTS OF AGRICULTURAL ORIGIN

a. When an ingredient of agricultural origin is not included in annex IX of this standard, that single ingredient may be authorized by MAYACERT, under the following conditions and always are products permitted by the European Union or the Codex Alimentarius:

i. If the operator has notified MAYACERT all necessary evidence showing that the

Document name: Standard of organic production	Code Norm_eco	Vers ion 4	Date January 2020	Ultimately responsible: Quality responsible	Where is the original: Quality responsible	Page 2 of 138
---	------------------	------------------	----------------------	---	--	------------------

ingredient in question is not produced in sufficient quantity in accordance with the organic production standards or cannot be imported from third countries.

- ii. If MAYACERT has provisionally authorized its use for a maximum period of 12 months, after having verified that the operator has undertaken the necessary contacts with suppliers to ensure the unavailability of the ingredients in question with the required quality conditions;
- iii. No decision to withdraw the granted authorization concerning the ingredient in question has been taken.

MAYACERT may prolong the authorization listed in letter ii) a maximum of three times in 12 months periods each.

- b. If the authorization in section a) is granted, MAYACERT will notify the operator immediately with the following information:
 - i. Authorization date and, in if it is an extension, first authorization date;
 - ii. The authorization recipient's names and last names, address, telephone and, when relevant, fax and e-mail address, as well as name and address of MAYACERT's liaison;
 - iii. Name and, when necessary, the accurate description and the requirements related to said ingredient quality of agricultural origin;
 - iv. Type of products for which preparation said ingredient is needed;
 - v. Necessary amounts and justification for those quantities;
 - vi. Reasons for shortage of product and the expected shortage duration;
 - vii. Date when the notification was sent by MAYACERT. MAYACERT may make this information available to the public.
- c. If MAYACERT receives information proving inputs' availability throughout the shortage period, MAYACERT will assess the possibility of withdrawing the authorization or reducing its validity period and shall notify the operator the measures that has taken or intends to take, within 15 working days following the date of reception of the information.
- d. At the request of an operator, MAYACERT will submit for analysis by a technical committee or with support of experts in the field, a decision to withdraw the authorization or modify its validity period may be taken or, when appropriate, it may

Document name: Standard of organic production	Code Norm_eco	Vers ion 4	Date January 2020	Ultimately responsible: Quality responsible	Where is the original: Quality responsible	Page 2 of 138
---	------------------	------------------	----------------------	---	--	------------------

be decided to include said ingredient in Annex IX of this Standard.

8.8. USE OF CERTAIN NON-ORGANIC INGREDIENTS OR AGRICULTURAL ORIGIN IN FOOD PROCESSING

Non organic agricultural ingredients included in Annex IX of this Standard, may be used in processing organic food.

IX. PRODUCTS COLLECTION, PACKAGING, TRANSPORT AND STORAGE

9.1. PRODUCTS COLLECTION AND TRANSPORT TO PREPARATION UNITS

Operators may carry out simultaneous collection of organic and non-organic products, only when appropriate measures are taken to prevent any possible mixing or Exchange with non-organic products and to ensure the organic products identification. The operator must keep the related information on product collection date and time, as well as product reception date and time, and make it available to MAYACERT.

9.2. PRODUCT PACKAGING AND TRANSPORT TO OTHER OPERATORS OR UNITS

- a. Operator shall ensure that organic products are transported to other units, including wholesalers and retailers, only in appropriate and closed packaging, containers or vehicles, so that substitution of its content cannot be achieved without manipulation or damage of the packaging's seal and these be provided with a label stating the following data:
 - i. Operator's name and address and, if different, the owner's or product seller's.
 - ii. Product name or a description of the compound feedingstuff accompanied by a reference to the organic production method.
 - iii. Mayacert's name or numerical code.
 - iv. When relevant, lot identification, according to a marking system either approved at national level or agreed with MAYACERT and which allows to link the lot with the producer's accounting.

The above information may be submitted on an accompanying document, as long as said a document can be undeniably linked with the packaging, container or product

Document name: Standard of organic production	Code Norm_eco	Vers ion 4	Date January 2020	Ultimately responsible: Quality responsible	Where is the original: Quality responsible	Page 2 of 138
---	------------------	------------------	----------------------	---	--	------------------

transport vehicle. This accompanying document shall include information related to the supplier or transport or both.

- b. Closing of packaging, containers or vehicles may not be required when:
 - i. Transportation is direct between an operator to another operator and both are subjected to the organic control system.
 - ii. Products are accompanied by a document with all the information on section *a*.
 - iii. Both sender and recipient operators keep documentary records of such transport operations available to MAYACERT.

9.3. SPECIFIC STANDARDS FOR FEED TRANSPORT TO OTHER PRODUCTION OR PREPARATION UNITS OR STORAGE PREMISES

In addition to the provisions in the paragraph above, when transporting feed to other production or preparation units or storage premises, the operators will ensure that the following conditions are met:

- a. During transport, organic produced feed, in conversion feed, and non-organic feed will be effectively physically separated.
- b. Vehicles or containers which have transported non-organic products may be used to transport organic product provided that:
 - i. Proper cleaning has been carried out, which effectiveness has been controlled, before transporting organic products; operators must record these operations.
 - ii. All appropriate measures to assess in a general way, that risks associated with each preparation unit are implemented, and to establish a control plan and, when relevant, operators shall guarantee that non-organic products cannot be marketed with an indication referring to the organic production method.
 - iii. The operator must keep documentary records of such transport operation available for Mayacert.
- c. Transport of finished organic feed shall be separated physically or temporarily from the transport of other finished products.
- d. During transport, the starting quantity of products and each individual quantity delivered throughout the delivery round will be recorded

9.4. PRODUCT RECEPTION FROM OTHER UNITS AND OTHER OPERATORS

Document name: Standard of organic production	Code Norm_eco	Vers ion 4	Date January 2020	Ultimately responsible: Quality responsible	Where is the original: Quality responsible	Page 2 of 138
---	------------------	------------------	----------------------	---	--	------------------

On reception of an organic product, the operator must check the packaging or recipient's closing each time that is needed and the presence of the indications mentioned in this Standard for product packaging and transport to other operators or units.

The operator shall crosscheck the information on the label with the information on the accompanying documents. The result of these verifications shall be explicitly mentioned in the documentary accounts referred to in this Standard.

9.5. SPECIFIC STANDARDS FOR PACKAGING APPLICABLE TO PRODUCTS EXPORT

Organic products shall be exported in proper packaging or containers, whose closing system prevents substitution of the content and provided with the exporter's identification and any other mark and number serving to identify the lot, and with the control certificate (Transaction Certificate) to export, when needed.

9.6. PRODUCT STORAGE

- a. Storage areas shall be managed in such a way as to ensure identification of lots and to avoid any mixing or contamination with products or substances not in compliance with the organic production standards. Organic products shall be clearly identifiable at all times.
- b. In case of organic plants and animals production units, storage of inputs in the production unit other than those authorized under this Regulation is prohibited.
- c. Storage of allopathic veterinary medicinal products and antibiotics is permitted on holdings, provided that they have been prescribed by a veterinarian in relation with treatment in accordance with the provisions in this Standard, that they are stored in a supervised area and that they are included in the livestock record mentioned in this Standard.
- d. In case the operators handle both non-organic and organic products and the latter are stored in the premises in which also other agricultural or food products are stored:
 - i. Organic products shall be kept separate from other agricultural or food products.
 - ii. Every measure shall be taken to ensure identification of consignments and to avoid mixing or exchange with non-organic products.
 - iii. Proper cleaning measures have been adopted, the effectiveness of these has been proved before the storage of organic products; the operators shall

Document name: Standard of organic production	Code Norm_eco	Vers ion 4	Date January 2020	Ultimately responsible: Quality responsible	Where is the original: Quality responsible	Page 2 of 138
---	------------------	------------------	----------------------	---	--	------------------

record these cleaning operations.

X. FLEXIBILITY OR EXCEPTIONS

10.1. PRODUCTION EXCEPTIONAL STANDARDS

- a. MAYACERT may, in accordance with these Standards' requirements and through a technical committee or with support of experts in the field, and respecting the organic production objectives and principles, provide the granting of exceptions to the organic production standards established in this Standard and the decisions will be notified to the operators.
- b. Exceptions mentioned in the above section will be limited to a minimum and, where appropriate, will have a limited validity and will be granted in the following cases only:
 - i. When necessary in order to ensure that organic production can be started or maintained on holdings confronted with climatic, geographical or structural limitations.
 - ii. When necessary in order to ensure access to feed, seeds, plant reproductive material, live animals and other agricultural production means, in case these do not exist in the market in organic form.
 - iii. When necessary in order to ensure access to ingredients of agricultural origin, in case these do not exist in the market in organic form.
 - iv. When necessary in order to resolve specific problems related to organic livestock management.
 - v. When necessary, with regard to the use of specific products and substances in processing, such as additives, processing aids, flavorings, water, salt microorganisms and enzymes preparations, minerals, trace elements, vitamins, amino acids and other micronutrients in foods for particular nutritional uses, this have been authorized for use in organic production, to ensure the already established food product production in organic.
 - vi. When temporary measures are necessary in order to allow organic production continuity or resuming after a catastrophe.
 - vii. When it is necessary to use food additives and other substances, such as additives, processing aids, flavorings, water, salt, microorganisms and enzymes preparations, minerals, trace elements, vitamins, amino acids and other micronutrients in foods for particular nutritional uses if these have been authorized for use in organic production, or feed additives and other

Document name: Standard of organic production	Code Norm_eco	Vers ion 4	Date January 2020	Ultimately responsible: Quality responsible	Where is the original: Quality responsible	Page 2 of 138
---	------------------	------------------	----------------------	---	--	------------------

substances, such as processing aids, and such substances are not on the market in other variant than the one obtained by GMOs.

- viii. When community or national legislations requires use of food additives and other substances, such as additives, processing aids, flavorings, water, salt, microorganisms and enzymes preparations, minerals, trace elements, vitamins, amino acids and other micronutrients in foods for particular nutritional uses if these have been authorized for use in organic production, or feed additives and other substances, such as processing aids.

10.2. ANIMALS TETHERING

MAYACERT may authorize animals from small farms or holdings to be tethered when they cannot be kept in groups appropriate to their behavior, providing they have access to pasture during the grazing period and go to open spaces twice a week when grazing is not possible.

10.3. PARALLEL PRODUCTION

10.3.1. Where applicable the conditions necessary to ensure that organic production can be started or maintained on holdings confronted with climatic, geographical or structural limitations, a producer may run organic and non-organic productions units in the same area:

- a. In the case of perennial crop production, which require a cultivation period of at least three years, and where varieties cannot be easily be differentiated, provided the following conditions are met:
 - i. The production in question is included in a conversion plan formally committing the producer and whereby the start of conversion to organic production in the last part of the areas included, as soon as possible, and in any case, within a maximum period of five years.
 - ii. Appropriate measures have been taken to ensure at all times the separation of the products obtained from each unit considered.
 - iii. Harvest of each of the products considered shall be notified to Mayacert at least 48 hours in advance.
 - iv. Upon the harvest completion, the producer shall notify Mayacert the exact quantities harvested on said units and measures implemented to separate products.

Document name: Standard of organic production	Code Norm_eco	Vers ion 4	Date January 2020	Ultimately responsible: Quality responsible	Where is the original: Quality responsible	Page 2 of 138
---	------------------	------------------	----------------------	---	--	------------------

- v. The conversion plan and control measures referred to in this Standard have been approved by MAYACERT; this approval shall be confirmed each year after starting said plan.
- b. In the case of areas intended for agricultural research or formal education authorized in a certain country where it operates and is known by MAYACERT, provided that the conditions established in a), ii), iii) and iv) and the relevant part to v) are met.
- c. In the case of areas intended for production of seeds, plant propagating material and transplants, and provided that the conditions established in a), ii), iii) and iv) and the relevant part to v) are met.
- d. In the case of grassland exclusively used for grazing.

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

- a. Appropriate measures, notified in advance to Mayacert, have been taken in order to guarantee at all times separation between livestock, livestock products, manure and feedingstuffs in each unit.
- b. The producer notifies Mayacert, in advance, of any livestock or livestock products delivery or sale.
- c. If the operator notifies Mayacert exact quantities produced in the units, together with all characteristics permitting the identification of the products and confirms that the measures taken to separate the products have been implemented.

10.3.3. MAYACERT further distinguishes between parallel production and mixed or split production:

10.3.3.1. Parallel production

Production units made of a single perennial crop in the same area where organic and non-organic production is found and where such varieties cannot be distinguished easily.

In this case the producer must:

- a. Submit a conversion plan for the entire area in a maximum of five years.
- b. Take all precautionary and appropriate measures to ensure at all times

Document name: Standard of organic production	Code Norm_eco	Vers ion 4	Date January 2020	Ultimately responsible: Quality responsible	Where is the original: Quality responsible	Page 2 of 138
---	------------------	------------------	----------------------	---	--	------------------

the separation of organic and non-organic products from all production units.

c. Notify MAYACERT the harvest of these products at least 48 hours in advance.

d. Submit to MAYACERT a full report to with exact amounts harvested from organic and non-organic units and measures implemented to keep separation of harvested products at all times.

e. The conversion plan and control measures must be approved annually by Mayacert. It is understood that in the case of perennial crops with varieties clearly differentiated, what has to be ensured is the clear

separation of organic and non-organic products and not necessarily a conversion plan for the entire area must be submitted.

10.3.3.2. Mix or split production

When an operator produces in the same area several crops with different production systems, both organic and non-organic, but these can be clearly differentiated with their varieties, cultivation areas, processing and keep an entire management system separated for each production form, both organic and non organic.

Mayacert bases and authorizes mixt production (several crops) under support, since one of the objectives of organic production method is to promote biodiversity in the system to maintain the ecological balance.

For this case the producer must:

a. Subject all production units to control requirements, both organic and non-organic.

b. Subject all storage premises to control requirements, both products and agricultural inputs.

c. Organic products are to be kept separate from other non-organic agricultural products and foodstuffs.

d. Care will be taken to ensure clear identification of consignments and to avoid mixes with non-organic products.

e. Take appropriate cleaning measures before storage of organic products, and these measures must be clearly documented.

Document name: Standard of organic production	Code Norm_eco	Vers ion 4	Date January 2020	Ultimately responsible: Quality responsible	Where is the original: Quality responsible	Page 2 of 138
---	------------------	------------------	----------------------	---	--	------------------

10.3.3.3. Parallel production in producer groups

a. In the case of producer groups which have organic and non-organic producers at the same time with the same crop in the same area and the crop varieties and production and processing areas cannot be clearly differentiated, the conversion plan is necessary for each of the producers in this condition.

b. By contrast, if in the same group there are organic and non-organic producers, but they can differentiate their products, their cultivation and processing areas and keep separate accounting systems to record the harvested products, it is considered a split production and does not necessarily have to submit a conversion plan. An organization cannot be forced to convert all partners to an organic production, but it can be conditioned to efficiently handle the separation between producers and

their crops.

c. In other words in a group can be found parallel production with producers and split production with the organization or group.

10.4. BEEKEEPING UNITS FOR POLLINATION PURPOSES MANAGEMENT

Where applicable, necessary conditions to ensure that organic production can be started or maintained on holdings confronted with climatic, geographical or structural limitations, for the purpose of pollination action, an operator may run organic and non-organic beekeeping units on the same holding, provided that all requirements of the organic production standards are met, except provisions for apiaries siting. In this case, the product cannot be sold as organic.

The operator must keep documentary evidence of the implementation of this provision.

10.5. NON-ORGANIC ANIMAL USE

When it is necessary to ensure access to live animals, if there are not in the market in organic form, and prior authorization by MAYACERT:

- a. When initially constituting a herd, renewed or reconstituted, and there is not a sufficient number of poultry raised organically, MAYACERT may authorize the introduction of poultry raised non-organically in an organic poultry production unit, provided that the pullets intended for egg production and poultry for meat production are less than

Document name: Standard of organic production	Code Norm_eco	Vers ion 4	Date January 2020	Ultimately responsible: Quality responsible	Where is the original: Quality responsible	Page 2 of 138
---	------------------	------------------	----------------------	---	--	------------------

three days old.

- b. Non-organically reared pullets for egg production of not more than 18 weeks may be brought into an organic livestock unit until December 31 2020, when organically reared pullets are not available and provided that the relevant provisions established about feed and veterinary treatment are complied with in the present standard.

10.6. USE OF NON-ORGANIC FEED OF PLANT AND ANIMAL ORIGIN FOR ANIMALS

Only the following substances may be used in the transformation of organic feed and the feeding of organically farmed animals: Non-organic species, herbs and weeds, provided that:

i) their ecological form do not exist

ii) they have been produced or prepared without chemical solvents, and

iii) its use is limited to 1% of the feed ration of a given species, calculated annually as a percentage of the dry matter of feed of agricultural origin; And when farmers cannot obtain protein feed exclusively from organic production, the use of a limited proportion of non-organic protein feed is allowed for portion and poultry species. The maximum percentage of organic non-protein feed authorized per 12-month period for these species will be 5% for calendar years 2018, 2019 and 2020. Figures will be calculated annually as a percentage of the dry matter of feed of agricultural origin. The operator must keep documentary evidence of the need to use this provision.

10.7. NON-ORGANIC WAX USE

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

- a. Where beeswax from organic beekeeping is not available in the market.
- b. Where it has been proven free of contamination by substances not authorized for organic production.
- c. Provided that it comes from cap.

Document name: Standard of organic production	Code Norm_eco	Vers ion 4	Date January 2020	Ultimately responsible: Quality responsible	Where is the original: Quality responsible	Page 2 of 138
---	------------------	------------------	----------------------	---	--	------------------

10.8. MANAGEMENT PROBLEMS SPECIFIC OF ORGANIC LIVESTOCK

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

10.9. NON-ORGANIC YEAST EXTRACT ADDITION

When exceptions may be necessary, in connection with the use of specific products and substances in processing referred to in this Standard, to ensure production of foodstuffs already established in organic form, MAYACERT will allow the addition of up to 5% non organic yeast or autolysate to the substrate (calculated in dry matter) for the production of organic yeast, where operators are unable to obtain the extract or autolysate from organic yeast.

MAYACERT will reexamine the availability of organic yeast extract or autolysate by December 31 2013 overlooking the withdrawal of this provision.

10.10. CATASTROPHIC CIRCUMSTANCES

MAYACERT may authorize on a temporary basis:

- a. In case of high mortality of animals caused by health or catastrophic circumstances, the renewal or reconstitution of the herd or flock with non-organic animals, when organically reared animals are not available.
- b. In case of high mortality of bees caused by health or catastrophic circumstances, the reconstitution of the apiaries with non-organic bees, when organic apiaries are not available.
- c. The use of non-organic feedingstuffs for a limited period and in relation to a specific area by particular operators, when forage production is lost or when restrictions are imposed, in particular as a result of exceptional meteorological conditions, the outbreak of infectious diseases, the contamination with toxic substances, or as consequence of fires.
- d. Feeding of bees with organic honey, organic sugar or organic sugar syrup in case of long lasting exceptional weather conditions or a catastrophe, which hamper the nectar or honeydew productions.
- e. Use of the content of sulfur dioxide up to the maximum levels ranging from 150 to 400

Document name: Standard of organic production	Code Norm_eco	Vers ion 4	Date January 2020	Ultimately responsible: Quality responsible	Where is the original: Quality responsible	Page 2 of 138
---	------------------	------------------	----------------------	---	--	------------------

milligrams per liter depending on the type of wine and denomination of origin, when exceptional climatic conditions of a given season deteriorate the sanitary status of organic grape plantations in a specific geographical area, due to severe bacterial attacks or fungal attacks, which oblige the producer to use more sulfur dioxide than in previous years to obtain a comparable final product.

Upon approval by the MAYACERT, the individual operators shall keep support documents of the use of the exceptions above mentioned.

MAYACERT may, in accordance with the requirements of this Standard and through a technical committee or with support from experts in the field, establish specific dispositions for the application of the production exceptional standards.

XI. PRODUCT LABELING

11.1. USE OF TERMS REFERRING TO ORGANIC PRODUCTION

11.1.1. For the purposes of this Standard, a product shall be regarded as bearing terms referring to the organic production method where, in labeling, advertising or commercial documents, the product, its ingredients or feed materials are described

in terms that suggest to the buyer of the product, that its ingredients or feed materials have been obtained in accordance with the regulations established in this Standard. Terminology «bio» and «eco», may be used alone or combined, for labeling and advertising of a product when it meets the requirements established in this Standard.

Labeling and advertising any live or unprocessed agricultural product, may only use terms referring to the organic production method when, in addition, all ingredients of that product have also been produced in accordance with the requirements of this Standard.

11.1.2. Terms «bio» and «eco» shall not be used in labeling, advertising and commercial documents of the product that do not meet the requirements established in this Standard, unless they are not applied to agricultural products in food or feed that clearly have no connection with organic production.

Furthermore, any terms, including terms used in trademarks, or practices used in labeling or advertising that may mislead the consumer or user by suggesting that a

Document name: Standard of organic production	Code Norm_eco	Vers ion 4	Date January 2020	Ultimately responsible: Quality responsible	Where is the original: Quality responsible	Page 2 of 138
---	------------------	------------------	----------------------	---	--	------------------

product or its ingredients meet the requirements established in this Standard, shall not be used.

11.1.3. Terms «bio» and «eco» shall not be used on a product for which it has to be indicated in the label or advertising that it contains GMOs, consists of GMOs or is produced from GMOs.

11.1.4. Regarding processed food, the terms «bio» and «eco» may be used:

- a. In sales description, provided that:
 - i. Processed food complies with the provisions in this Standard.
 - ii. At least 95 %, expressed in weight, of the ingredients of agricultural origin is organic.
- b. On the ingredients list only, provided that the food complies with the provision for processed food in this Standard.
- c. On the ingredients list and in the same visual field as the sales description, provided that:
 - i. The main ingredient is a fishing or hunting product.
 - ii. Other ingredients of agricultural origin that are organic as a whole.
 - iii. Food complies with the provisions for processed food of this Standard.

In the ingredients list it should be indicated that the ingredients are organic.

When letter b) and c) in this section, 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.

Terms and indications of percentage referred to in the previous paragraph shall appear in the same color, identical font size and type as the other indications in the list of ingredients.

11.1.5. MAYACERT shall take the necessary measures to ensure compliance with this paragraph regarding the use of terms referred to organic production.

11.1.6. In accordance with the provisions in this Standard and through a technical committee or with support from experts in the field, MAYACERT may adapt the list.

11.2. COMPULSORY INDICATIONS

11.2.1. When the terms «bio» and «eco» are used:

- a. Mayacert's code number must also appear on the label when the operator is responsible for the last production or preparation operation.
- b. European Union (EU) community logo, for packaged food, could also appear on the packaging.

Document name: Standard of organic production	Code Norm_eco	Vers ion 4	Date January 2020	Ultimately responsible: Quality responsible	Where is the original: Quality responsible	Page 2 of 138
---	------------------	------------------	----------------------	---	--	------------------

- c. When the community logo is use, 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 will adopt one of the following forms, as appropriate:
- i. «EU Agriculture»: when agricultural raw materials have been farmed in the EU.
 - ii. «No EU Agriculture», when agricultural raw material has been farmed in third countries.
 - iii. «EU/non-EU Agriculture»: when part of the agricultural raw materials has been farmed in the Community and another part of it has been farmed in a third country.

The «EU» or «non-EU» indication to which the above paragraph above refers to, may be replaced or by a country’s name or complemented with such a name in case where all agricultural raw materials of which the product is composed of, have been farmed in that country.

The abovementioned «EU» or «non-EU» may not take into account the small quantities in weight of ingredients, provided that the total quantity of the disregarded ingredients does not exceed 2 % of the total quantity in weight of raw materials of agricultural origin. The abovementioned «EU» or «non-EU» shall not appear in Font color, size and style more prominent than the sales description of the product.

Use of the Community logo and the agriculture indication «EU» or «non-EU» will be optional for products not produced in the EU. However, when the Community logo appears in the label, then the indication «EU» or «non-EU» agriculture shall also appear on the label.

11.2.2.The indications referred to in the previous section shall be in a prominent place, so that they can easily be seen, clearly legible and indelible.

11.2.3.MAYACERT will establish, in accordance with the provisions of this Standard and through a technical committee or with support from experts in the field, specific criteria concerning the presentation, composition and size of the indications referred to in the section 12.2.1 of this paragraph, letters, a) and c).

11.3. ORGANIC EU LOGO

The European Union organic production logo or organic EU logo shall be adjusted to the model in Annex XI, section A, of this Standard.

11.3.1.The Community organic production logo may be used on the label, presentation and

Document name: Standard of organic production	Code Norm_eco	Vers ion 4	Date January 2020	Ultimately responsible: Quality responsible	Where is the original: Quality responsible	Page 2 of 138
---	------------------	------------------	----------------------	---	--	------------------

advertising of products that meet the requirements established in this Standard.
The Community organic shall not be used in case of in-conversion products.

11.3.2.National and private logos may be used on the label, presentation and advertising of the products that meet the requirements established in this Standard.

11.4. CONDITIONS APPLICABLE TO THE USE OF NUMERICAL CODE AND PLACE OF ORIGIN

11.4.1.The indication of Mayacert’s numerical code, shall vary according to the country where the last product processing was carried out, since such code starts with two letters that correspond to the country code in accordance with ISO 3166, followed by the BIO term assigned by the European Union committee that creates a connection with the organic production method and ends with a number XXX that will be assigned to Mayacert by the European Union committee.

a. Therefore, for countries where currently there are operators, MAYACERT’s numerical code will be:

- Guatemala: **GT-BIO-XXX**
- El Salvador: **SV-BIO- XXX**
- Honduras: **HN-BIO- XXX**
- Nicaragua: **NI-BIO- XXX**
- Panamá: **PA-BIO- XXX**
- México: **MX-BIO- XXX**
- United States of America: **US-BIO- XXX**
- Dominican Republic: **DO-BIO- XXX**
- Colombia: **CO-BIO- XXX**

b. Mayacert’s numerical code must be used on the label and it will be placed in the same visual field as the organic EU logo, in case this logo is used on the label.

11.4.2.The indication of the place where the agricultural raw materials of which the products are composed have been farmed, shall be placed immediately below the numerical code mentioned in the previous section, if the EU logo is used.

It must have the phrase “EU Agriculture” or “non-EU Agriculture” or “EU/non-EU Agriculture” or Agriculture of the country that produced the raw material, for example if it is Guatemala, the phrase shall say “Guatemala Agriculture”. The operator that carried out the last product processing will decide which of the two phrases will be used.

Document name: Standard of organic production	Code Norm_eco	Vers ion 4	Date January 2020	Ultimately responsible: Quality responsible	Where is the original: Quality responsible	Page 2 of 138
---	------------------	------------------	----------------------	---	--	------------------

11.5. SPECIFIC LABELING REQUIREMENTS

MAYACERT shall establish, the requirements set out by the European Union and in accordance with the requirements of this standard and through a technical Committee or with the assistance of specialists in the field, specific labeling and composition requirements, applicable a:

- a. Organic feed.
- b. In conversion products of plant origin.
- c. Plant propagating material and seeds.

11.5.1. SPECIFIC FEED LABELING REQUIREMENTS

11.5.1.1. Scope, trademarks use and sale descriptions

This paragraph shall not apply to pet food nor feed for fur animals.

Trademarks and sale descriptions bearing an indication referring to organic production may be used only if all ingredients of plant or animal origin are from the organic production method and at least 95 % of the product's dry matter consists of such ingredients.

11.5.1.2. Indications on processed feed

11.5.1.2.1. Terms that refer to the organic production method and the EU organic logo may be used in animal feed processed provided that:

Document name: Standard of organic production	Code Norm_eco	Vers ion 4	Date January 2020	Ultimately responsible: Quality responsible	Where is the original: Quality responsible	Page 62 of 138
---	------------------	------------------	----------------------	---	--	-------------------

- a. Processed feed complies with the requirements regarding their non-organic raw material, raw material of animal and mineral origin, feed additives, and other products used for animal nutrition or processing aids are appropriately authorized for use in the organic production and that growth factors and synthetic amino acids are not used for livestock.
- b. Processed feed must comply with requirements of this organic Standard and particularly with the use of substances and products authorized as well as all requirements for processed feed and food production.

Document name: Standard of organic production	Code Norm_eco	Vers ion 4	Date January 2020	Ultimately responsible: Quality responsible	Where is the original: Quality responsible	Page 2 of 138
---	------------------	------------------	----------------------	---	--	------------------

- c. All ingredients of plant or animal origin contained in the processed feed are from the organic production method.
- d. At least 95 % of the product's dry matter is comprised of organic agricultural products.

11.5.1.2.2. When items *a* and *b* of the previous section are met, use of the following phrase can be used in case of product comprising variable quantities of feed materials from organic agriculture, or raw materials from products in conversion to organic agriculture or products referred in the paragraph 5.19 of the present standard (USE OF CERTAIN PRODUCTS AND SUBSTANCES IN FEED); «May be used in organic production in accordance with Mayacert's organic Standard »

11.5.1.3. Terms of use of indications on processed feed

11.5.1.3.1. Indications established in the previous paragraph 11.5.1.2 (Indications on processed feed):

- a. It shall be separated from conventional mentions required by law, regarding trademark, type of raw material, its denomination, net weight, producers data, indication that allow to trace the origin of raw material, among others.
- b. It should not be presented in color, format or font that stands out against the processed feed's description or denomination, regarding whole feed, complementary feed, mineral feed, molasses feed, complete milk feed or complete milk replacer feed, as applicable; not the denomination of feed material.
- c. It shall be accompanied, in the same field of vision , a mention, expressed by weight of dry matter, specifying:
 - i) Percentage of feed material(s) from organic agriculture.
 - ii) Percentage of raw material(s) from products in conversion to organic agriculture.
 - iii) Percentage of raw material(s) not covered in previous sections i) and ii).
 - iv) Total percentage of feed of agriculture origin.

- d. It shall be accompanied by a list of names of feed materials from organic agriculture.
- e. It shall be accompanied by a list of names of feed materials from products in conversion to organic production.

11.5.1.3.2. Indication in processed feed may also be accompanied by a reference to

Document name: Standard of organic production	Code Norm_eco	Vers ion 4	Date January 2020	Ultimately responsible: Quality responsible	Where is the original: Quality responsible	Page 2 of 138
---	------------------	------------------	----------------------	---	--	------------------

feed in conversion or plant raw material of non-organic origin, raw materials of animal and mineral origin, feed additives, as well as certain products used in animal nutrition or as processing aids, only if these have been authorized.

11.5.2. LABELING REQUIREMENTS SPECIFIC FOR IN-CONVERSION PRODUCTS OF PLANT ORIGIN

In conversion products of plant origin may bear the indication «product in conversion to organic farming », provided that:

- a. A conversion period of at least 12 months before the harvest has been complied with.
- b. The indication shall appear written in a color, size and font no more prominent than the product sales description and all letters shall be the same size.
- c. The product contains only one crop ingredient of agricultural origin.
- d. The indication is linked to Mayacert’s numerical code.

XII. CONTROLS AND RECORDS

12.1. CONTROL SYSTEM

12.1.1.MAYACERT will maintain a control system and will carry out the necessary controls on all its operators, in accordance with what has been established in this Standard.

12.1.2.Control system will also comprise, at least, the application of precautionary and control measures that have been adopted through a technical committee or with support of experts in the field.

For this effect, Mayacert has its own control procedures, containing detailed information of the control measures and the precautionary measures that Mayacert agrees to impose on operators under its control.

12.1.3.Nature and frequency of the controls shall be determined on the basis of a risk assessment of occurrence of irregularities and infringements concerning compliance with the requirements established in this Standard.

In any case, all operators, except wholesalers dealing only with packaged products and retailers selling to the final consumer or user, shall be subject to verification for

Document name: Standard of organic production	Code Norm_eco	Vers ion 4	Date January 2020	Ultimately responsible: Quality responsible	Where is the original: Quality responsible	Page 2 of 138
---	------------------	------------------	----------------------	---	--	------------------

compliance at least once a year.

12.1.4.MAYACERT will grant access to its offices and facilities to the competent authority and will provide all information and assistance that the competent authorities consider necessary and that is related to its activities of control of operators.

12.1.5.MAYACERT will guarantee that to operators under its control it will be applied at least, MAYACERT's precautionary and control measures, for this purpose MAYACERT has:

a. An accurate description of the control body's tasks that may perform and of the conditions on which can be performed.

b. Mayacert has proof that:

i) Has technical knowledge, the equipment and infrastructure required performing the tasks that may be delegated on it.

ii) Has sufficient personnel with suitable qualification and experience.

iii) Is impartial and free from any conflict of interest regarding the exercise of the functions delegated on it.

c. Mayacert has come up with measures to be applied in case irregularities or violations of this Standard are detected.

d. Mayacert is accredited concerning the European Standard EN 45011 (EN 17065) about «General requirements for bodies operating product certification» (ISO/IEC Guide 65), on the version published most recently in Official Journal of the European Union, series C, and is approved by the competent authorities.

12.1.6.MAYACERT shall guarantee that the control system established would allow, in accordance with the provisions of this Standard, that traceability of each product in each phase of production, preparation and distribution guarantees, especially to the consumers, that the organic products have been produced in compliance with the requirements established in this Standard.

12.1.7.Mayacert will make available to all stakeholders by electronic means and permanently an updated list of all its operators and products that have been certified as organic in its website, such list will be updated every two weeks.

12.2. CONTROL SYSTEM ENFORCEMENT

12.2.1.Any operator that produces, develops, stores or export to the European Union, before marketing a product as organic or in conversion, must:

a. Notify its activity to MAYACERT.

b. Subject the business to the control system established by MAYACERT. Under no

Document name: Standard of organic production	Code Norm_eco	Vers ion 4	Date January 2020	Ultimately responsible: Quality responsible	Where is the original: Quality responsible	Page 2 of 138
---	------------------	------------------	----------------------	---	--	------------------

circumstance no operator may obstruct the control activities of MAYACERT.

The operator outsourcing any activity from a third party, will continue to be subject to the requirements stated in subsections *a* and *b* of this section and the outsourced activities will be subject to the control system.

- 12.2.2.** MAYACERT will ensure that all operators comply with the requirements in this Standard, and that they pay a reasonable fee in concept of costs of control, they are entitled to be covered by the control system of MAYACERT.
- 12.2.3.** Mayacert will keep an updated list with the names and addresses of the operators subject to its control. This list will be available to interested parties on MAYACERT's website.
- 12.2.4.** MAYACERT through a technical committee or with support of experts in the area, in accordance with this Standard, shall establish implementing provisions with the purpose of facilitating details of the process of notification and submission to MAYACERT's control system, especially concerning information included in the notification of their activities to MAYACERT.

12.3. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

- 12.3.1.** MAYACERT will facilitate supporting documents or certificates to all its operators and that in the sphere of its activities meets the requirements of this Standard. The certificate shall permit to identify the certificate number, the operator's name, address, producer's number, the product, the number of producers, hectares, metric tons, status, reach, inspection month and year, country, inspector, expiration date, issuance date and signature.
- 12.3.2.** Mayacert will require from all of its operators that they verify the validity of the certificates of their suppliers.
- 12.3.3.** The form of the documentary evidence referred to in section 12.3.1 will be established by MAYACERT through a technical committee or with support from experts in the field, taking into account the advantages of electronic certification.
- 12.3.4.** Mayacert will use the supporting document model shown in Annex XII of this Standard.
Currently Mayacert is not issuing electronic certification, since all the supporting documents are issued with the respective signature.
- 12.3.5.** If an operator subject to controls of Mayacert and requests it in a period to be determined by Mayacert, such must provide the complementary supporting documents that confirm specific characteristics of the production method used as a model shown in Annex XII bis of this Standard.

Document name: Standard of organic production	Code Norm_eco	Vers ion 4	Date January 2020	Ultimately responsible: Quality responsible	Where is the original: Quality responsible	Page 2 of 138
---	------------------	------------------	----------------------	---	--	------------------

Request for additional supporting documents will include in box 2 of the model shown in Annex XII bis the corresponding entry listed in Annex XII ter of this standard.

12.4. MEASURES IN CASE OF INFRINGEMENT OR IRREGULARITIES

12.4.1.Where an irregularity is found in compliance with this Standard; Mayacert will ensure that no reference to the organic production method is made in the product's labeling and advertising on the entire lot or production run affected by this irregularity, as long as it is proportionate to the relevance of the requirement that has been violated and to the nature and particular circumstances of the irregular activities.

When a severe infringement or an infringement with prolonged effect is found, Mayacert will prohibit that the operator in question to commerce the product referring to the organic production method in the label and in the product's advertising material del product, during a period established by MAYACERT.

12.4.2.Information about irregularities and infringement cases that affect a product's organic identity of an operator subjected to control, will be immediately notified to the authorities and control organisms, and to competent authorities and affected member states and, where appropriate, be forwarded to the European Commission. The communication level will depend on the severity and extent of the irregularity found.

In the particular case of MAYACERT, when an operator commits an irregularity, immediately will notify the control authority in the country where the offending operator is located.

12.5. INFORMATION EXCHANGE

Mayacert will exchange information with competent authorities, control authorities and other control organisms, about results of its controls, either upon an appropriately justified request or by MAYACERT's own initiative, or for a need to ensure that a product has been produced in accordance with this Standard.

12.6. MINIMUM CONTROL REQUIREMENTS

Document name: Standard of organic production	Code Norm_eco	Vers ion 4	Date January 2020	Ultimately responsible: Quality responsible	Where is the original: Quality responsible	Page 2 of 138
---	------------------	------------------	----------------------	---	--	------------------

12.6.1.When an operator is subjected to control provisions of this Standard, it will develop and keep the following:

- a. A Management Plan for the unit, premises and all its activities.
- b. All specific measures have to be adopted in the unit, premises and activities to ensure compliance with this Standard.
- c. Preventive measures have to be adopted to reduce contamination risk with unauthorized products or substances and also cleaning measures have to be adopted at the storage premises and in the entire operator’s production chain.

MAYACERT considers the importance to focus on the need to implement buffer zones from two points of view according to the risk for the organic production:

- i) One, where there is obvious risk of contamination through neighboring plots with conventional handling, and
- ii) Two, where there is potential risk or danger without a limited period of time, since there are no guarantees to ensure continuity of the handling system of the neighboring plots and that do not represent risk.

Therefore, buffer zones must be implemented always, since it is the responsibility of the operator that applies for the certification, to ensure that its product has no risk of contamination.

Aspects to consider for implantation of buffer zones:

- i) When a neighboring plot is not under organic certification and the handling is natural, the operator must implement buffer zones; because there is risk of contamination, due to the neighbor starting to apply prohibited substances at any moment.
- ii) The producers must start implementing their buffer zones when they start their conversion period; so that when they are certified as organic their plot is properly protected.
- iii) As alternative or complement for buffer zones, the organic producers may reach no pesticide application agreements with their conventional neighbors. In this case, the conventional neighbor should agree to no spray or apply pesticide on an adjacent strip to the organic field, same width as buffer zones mentioned in table 1 (Minimum width for buffer zones). In this case, the organic producer is responsible for supervising and documenting compliance with this agreement.
- iv) Where flood or furrow irrigation is used, the appropriate measures must be taken into account to prevent pesticide contamination from neighboring

Document name: Standard of organic production	Code Norm_eco	Vers ion 4	Date January 2020	Ultimately responsible: Quality responsible	Where is the original: Quality responsible	Page 2 of 138
---	------------------	------------------	----------------------	---	--	------------------

fields (drainage ditches, or alternating days for irrigation, etc.).

v) On steep slopes, where contamination by pesticides, or substantial amounts of fertilizer, pose a potential risk through runoff, drainage ditches must be established and in necessary cases these must be complemented with infiltration wells to prevent erosion.

vi) Exceptional cases, where it is not mandatory to establish buffer zones:

- ✓ Slopes that prevent drift and runoff into the organic unit.
- ✓ Boundaries with rock masses, natural forests and Guama fields.
- ✓ Boundaries with gullies, ravines, dips, roads and other natural or artificial conditions that prevent external contamination.

The operator must document the production unit boundaries and buffer zones established, including exceptional cases.

d. Characteristics specific for the production method used, when the operator wants to request supporting documents.

Handling Plan and measures implemented previously may be part of the Quality System established by the operator or producer.

12.6.2.The Handling Plan and previous measures will be collected in a statement signed by the operator responsible. This statement must mention, in addition, the producer's commitment to:

- a. Carry out operations in accordance with the Organic Production Standard.
- b. Accept, in case of irregularities or infractions, forced implementation of corresponding measures and corresponding sanctions.
- c. Agree to notify in writing to the product's buyers in order to ensure that the conditions related to the organic production method are removed from this product, in case of violations.

The statement will be verified by MAYACERT, who will issue a report identifying the potential deficiencies and non-compliance with the Organic Standard. The operator must sign said report and will adopt the appropriate corrective measures.

- d. To accept, in cases where the operator and/or the subcontractors of that operator are checked by others control authorities or control bodies in accordance with the control system set up by a country, the exchange of information between those authorities or bodies and Mayacert.
- e. To accept, in cases where the operator and/or the subcontractors of that operator change their control authority or control body, the transmission of their control files to the subsequent control authority or control body.
- f. To accept, in cases where the operator withdraws from the control system, to inform without delay the relevant competent authority and Mayacert.

Document name: Standard of organic production	Code Norm_eco	Vers ion 4	Date January 2020	Ultimately responsible: Quality responsible	Where is the original: Quality responsible	Page 2 of 138
---	------------------	------------------	----------------------	---	--	------------------

- 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.
- h. To accept to inform Mayacert without delay of any irregularity or infringement affecting the organic status of their product or organic products received from other operators or subcontractors.

The Statement will be verified by MAYACERT, which will issue a report that identifies the possible deficiencies and non-compliance to this Organic Regulation. the operator will sign said report and will adopt the relevant corrective measures.

12.6.3.To comply with the Control System, all operators must notify MAYACERT, the following information:

- a. Operator’s name and address.
- b. Premises’ location and, if necessary, plots’ location (register data) where operations are carried out.
- c. Nature of operations and products.
- d. The operator’s commitment to carry out the operation in accordance with the provisions established in this Standard.
- e. In case of an agriculture holding, the date when the producer ceased to apply unauthorized products in the organic production in the plots in question.

12.7. MODIFICATION OF THE CONTROL PROVISIONS

The responsible operator will notify Mayacert of any change in the Handling Plan or in the measures mentioned in the previous paragraph and the initial control provisions well in advance.

12.8. CONTROL VISITS FOR OPERATORS

12.8.1.Mayacert must carry out a complete physical control at all operations at least once a year.

Mayacert will carry out group inspections, evaluating the efficiency of the internal control system. In addition, it will verify in the fields the producers’ plots based on risk analysis, which will be determined by: group’s size, risk factors, efficiency of the Internal Control System, among others.

a. Sampling for Producers Groups:

Mayacert establishes the following procedure to define the sample of producers subject

Document name: Standard of organic production	Code Norm_eco	Vers ion 4	Date January 2020	Ultimately responsible: Quality responsible	Where is the original: Quality responsible	Page 2 of 138
---	------------------	------------------	----------------------	---	--	------------------

to an annual external inspection.

The number of producers to be inspected is determined by the following formula:

$$TM = fr \sqrt{n}$$

Where:

TM= Producers sample size

fr= Risk factor(1, 1.2 ó 1.4)

n= Group's number of producers

In any case, the sample size, cannot be less than 10 producers.

b. Risk factors:

Risk factors will be analyzed in a scale of: 3, 2 and 1, where:

3= High Risk

2= Medium Risk

1= Low or No Risk

So, if the risk analysis is between the following ranges:

1 - 1.5, round it up to 1, therefore fr to used is 1

1.51 - 2.5, round it up to 2, therefore fr to use is 1.2

2.51 - 3, round it up to 3, therefore fr to use is 1.4

c. Factors to be used for risk analysis:

- 1 Pesticide use in the region where the operation has to be certified.
- 2 Chemical fertilizers use in the region where the operation has to be certified.
- 3 Chemical use (pesticides and fertilizer) in other crops by the producers that request a certification.
- 4 Pesticides drift risk from neighboring areas.
- 5 Soil erosion problems.
- 6 Intensity of management of soil fertility.
- 7 Risk of introducing new producers or production units whose previous management is unclear.
- 8 ICS ineffectiveness.
- 9 Organic production units size (the larger the size, more risk, therefore more control will be needed).
- 10 Heterogeneity between production systems and products (heterogeneity is focused

Document name: Standard of organic production	Code Norm_eco	Vers ion 4	Date January 2020	Ultimately responsible: Quality responsible	Where is the original: Quality responsible	Page 2 of 138
---	------------------	------------------	----------------------	---	--	------------------

on management).

- 11 Risk of mixing and/or contamination of organic product with non-organic product at any stage of the process.
- 12 Complexity of the problems found during the previous inspection.
- 13 Risk that there is no separation between technical assistance and internal inspection.

An average will be obtained from the risk analysis, which will be used to define the risk factor (fr) to be used in the formula.

12.8.2. Mayacert shall take and analyse samples for the detection of unauthorized products for organic production, for checking production techniques not in conformity with the organic production rules or for the detection of possible contamination by unauthorized products for organic production.

The number of samples to be taken and analysed by Mayacert 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.

Mayacert shall take and analyze samples in each case where the use of unauthorized products or techniques for organic production is suspected. In such cases no minimum number of samples to be taken and analyzed shall apply.

Samples may also be taken and analysed by Mayacert in any other case to detect products not authorized for organic production, for checking production techniques not in conformity with the organic production rules or to detect possible contamination by products not authorised for organic production.

12.8.3. After each auditing or inspection a control report must be written and it must also be signed by the producer of the audited unit or his legal representative.

12.8.4. In addition, Mayacert will make random control visits, primarily unannounced, based on a general assessment of risk of non-compliance with the Organic Production Standard, taking into account at least the results of previous audits or inspection, the amount of products affected and the risk of product substitution.

Document name: Standard of organic production	Code Norm_eco	Vers ion 4	Date January 2020	Ultimately responsible: Quality responsible	Where is the original: Quality responsible	Page 2 of 138
---	------------------	------------------	----------------------	---	--	------------------

Mayacert considers a 10% of additional inspections per year, which will be based on the operator’s risk analysis. All producers representing risk in non-compliance with the Standard will be evaluated through additional inspections based on irregularities e infringements.

12.9. PRODUCT REGISTRATION AND FINANCIAL RECORDS

12.9.1.A stock record and a financial record shall be kept in the unit or farm so that MAYACERT can identify and prove:

- a. The supplier and if different, the products’ seller or exporter.
- b. Nature and quantities of organic products that have been supplied to the farm or production unit and if applicable, of all materials bought, as well as the use given to them and where appropriate, the compound feed formulation.
- c. Nature and amounts of organic products stored on the farm or unit.
- d. Nature, amounts and recipients, and where different, the buyer, except the final consumer, of all products that have come out of the unit or premises, storage of the first recipient.
- e. For operators that do not store nor physically handle organic products, nature and amount of organic products that have been bought and sold, and suppliers and if different, sellers or exporters and buyers and if different, recipients.

12.9.2. Documented accounts must include the verification results at the time of the reception of organic products and any other information requested by MAYACERT, with the purpose of a proper inspection. The accounts’ data must be supported by relevant receipts. The accounts must demonstrate the balance between inputs and outputs.

12.9.3. When an operator handles several production units on the same surface, the units dedicated to non-organic product, together with inputs’ storage premises must also be object of minimum control requirements.

12.10. PRODUCTION UNITS ACCESS AND CONTROL

12.10.1. The producer or operator must allow MAYACERT:

- a. Access to the entire farm or production unit and facilities, and access to records, accounts and certificates.

Document name: Standard of organic production	Code Norm_eco	Vers ion 4	Date January 2020	Ultimately responsible: Quality responsible	Where is the original: Quality responsible	Page 2 of 138
---	------------------	------------------	----------------------	---	--	------------------

b. Review all information deemed relevant and necessary for effective control.

c. Submit upon Mayacert's request, the results of its own quality audit.

12.10.2. In addition to the preceding paragraph the exporter should submit information on export shipments, as mentioned in section 14.5 on remittances exported.

12.11. SELLER'S STATEMENT

The seller must provide a statement that the products supplied have not been produced from genetically modified organisms or through them, it can be made through the model in Annex XII in this Standard.

12.12. CONTROL REQUIREMENTS SPECIFIC FOR PLANTS AND PLANT PRODUCTS FROM AGRICULTURE PRODUCTION OR COLLECTION

12.12.1. Control provisions

12.12.1.1. The unit's Management Plan shall:

a. Develop even where the operator activity is limited to the collection of wild plants.

b. Indicate the storage and production premises, as well as land parcels and collection areas and, where applicable, premises where certain processing or packaging operations are performed.

c. Specify the date of the last application in the plots or recollection areas, that those are products whose use is incompatible with organic production standards.

12.12.1.2. In the case of collection of wild plants, the concrete measures will include guarantees that can present the operator given by third parties regarding plant production standards.

12.12.2. Communications

Prior to the date set by Mayacert, the operator must notify Mayacert his plant production plan, breakdown by plots.

12.13. PLANT PRODUCTION RECORDS

The producer must make available for MAYACERT, a registry system with production data

Document name: Standard of organic production	Code Norm_eco	Vers ion 4	Date January 2020	Ultimately responsible: Quality responsible	Where is the original: Quality responsible	Page 2 of 138
---	------------------	------------------	----------------------	---	--	------------------

- of all production premises. Such records must submit the following information:
- a. Fertilizer use record: date of application, type and amount of fertilizer and treated plots.
 - b. Record use of plant protection: date and reason for treatment, the product type and treatment method.
 - c. Purchase of farm inputs: date, type and quantity of product purchased.
 - d. Harvest data: date, type and amount of organic or in conversion product harvested.

12.13.1. SEPARATION AND DOCUMENTATION

An agricultural farm can be divided into units clearly differentiated through different varieties that allow distinguishing one unit from the other. If a producer has units that are not intended for organic production he shall maintain organic units and their products appropriately separated from the units from the organic products and must keep documentary records that show the separation.

12.13.2. SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS FOR FIRST INSPECTION

Before the first inspection the producer must:

- a. Submit an organic management plan that includes the conversion plan if it applies.
- b. History at least the last three years of all parcels that wish to become certified, preferably with proof of third party organizations related to organic production.
- c. Records of the production activities of the crops planted.
- d. Records of all inputs used including purchase invoices if they are obtained outside and record of input production process if they are produced internally.
- e. Records of the amount of harvested material per crop.
- f. Records of products' sales.

12.14. HOLDING OF SEVERAL PRODUCTION UNITS RUN BY THE SAME OPERATOR

When an operator runs several production units in the same area, the units producing non-organic crops, along with the storage of agricultural inputs shall also be subject to the general and specific monitoring requirements established in this Standard.

12.15. CONTROL REQUIREMENTS APPLICABLE TO LIVESTOCK AND ANIMAL PRODUCTS PRODUCED THROUGH LIVESTOCK PRACTICES

Document name: Standard of organic production	Code Norm_eco	Vers ion 4	Date January 2020	Ultimately responsible: Quality responsible	Where is the original: Quality responsible	Page 2 of 138
---	------------------	------------------	----------------------	---	--	------------------

12.15.1. Control measures

12.15.1.1. At the beginning of the implementation of the control system applicable specifically to animal breeding, the unit's Management Plan shall include:

- a. A Management Plan for livestock facilities, pasture, outdoor areas, etc., and where applicable, animals and animal products' storage, processing and packaged facilities for animals and animal products, raw materials and inputs.
- b. A Management Plan for manure storage facilities.

12.15.1.2. Specific measures will include:

- a. A plan for spreading manure approved by Mayacert and a full description of areas used for crop production.
- b. In relation to the spreading of manure, contractual arrangements or cooperation agreements with other ranchers or organic livestock enterprises in order to use the leftover manure.
- c. A management plan for the organic livestock unit.

12.15.2. Identification of animals

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

12.15.3. Animal registration

The animal data should be compiled in a register and kept available to Mayacert when required, within the farm or holding. These records shall contain at least the following:

- a. Entry of animals: origin and date of arrival, conversion period, identification mark and veterinary history.
- b. Exit of animal: age, number of heads, weight in case of slaughter, identification mark, destination.
- c. Possible loss of animals and its justification.
- d. Food: food type, including feed supplements, proportions of various ingredients of rations and periods of access to the pens and of transhumance, in case there are

Document name: Standard of organic production	Code Norm_eco	Vers ion 4	Date January 2020	Ultimately responsible: Quality responsible	Where is the original: Quality responsible	Page 2 of 138
---	------------------	------------------	----------------------	---	--	------------------

restrictions in this topic.

- e. Prophylaxis, and treatment and veterinary care: date of treatment, diagnosis and diagnosis information and on dosage, type of product used in the treatment, indication of active drug substances containing, method of administration and veterinary recipes with reasons and withdrawal periods imposed before marketing of animal products labeled as organic.

12.15.4. Control measures applicable to veterinary drugs

In case of using veterinary drugs, it must be declared to MAYACERT all information relating to the drug used (nature of the product, active ingredient, method of administration and recipes) before the livestock or livestock products are marketed as organic. Animals subjected to treatment are clearly identified, large animals, individually, and poultry, small animals and bees, individually or in batches.

12.15.5. Control measures specific for beekeeping

12.15.5.1. The beekeeper must provide to Mayacert:

- a. A cartographic inventory of the location of the hives.
- b. Documentation and appropriate tests, appropriate analysis, that the areas where the hives are located comply with the requirements of organic beekeeping.

12.15.5.2. The following information regarding feeding shall be recorded in the hive registry:

- a. Product Type.
- b. Date of use.
- c. Quantity of product used.
- d. Hives where the product was used.

12.15.5.3. When using veterinary drugs and before the products are marketed as organic, it should be clearly recorded and declare to MAYACERT::

- a. The type of product used (nature, active ingredients).
- b. Diagnosis, dosage, method of administration.
- c. The duration of treatment.
- d. The waiting time before the product can legally be marketed as organic.

12.15.5.4. The location and identification of the hives should be recorded. MAYACERT should be informed of the transfer of hives within a period agreed with

Document name: Standard of organic production	Code Norm_eco	Vers ion 4	Date January 2020	Ultimately responsible: Quality responsible	Where is the original: Quality responsible	Page 2 of 138
---	------------------	------------------	----------------------	---	--	------------------

MAYACERT.

12.15.5.5. Take particular care to ensure the extraction, proper processing and storage of beekeeping products and must record all actions taken to comply with this requirement.

12.15.5.6. In the registry of the apiaries, all removal of the top of the apiaries and the operations to extract honey must be registered.

12.15.6. Holding of several production units run by the same operator

Where an operator manages several production units, the units producing non-organic livestock shall also be subject to the inspection system.

12.16. CONTROL REQUIREMENTS APPLICABLE TO MANUFACTURING UNITS OF PLANT AND ANIMAL PRODUCTS, AND FOOD PRODUCTS MADE FROM THE PREVIOUS PRODUCTS

12.16.1. Control measures

A unit dedicated to preparing their own account or on behalf of a third party, including in particular units involved in packaging and / or re-packaging of such products or units involved in labeling and / or re-labeling of these products, it must also submit a

Management Plan of the unit, showing the facilities used for the reception, processing, packaging, labeling and storage of agricultural products before and after the operations that are submitted, and the procedures for the transport product.

12.17. CONTROL REQUIREMENTS APPLICABLE TO THE UNITS ENGAGED IN PRODUCTION, PREPARATION AND EXPORT OF ORGANIC PRODUCTS, WHICH HAVE SUBCONTRACTED WITH THIRD PARTIES A PART OR THE ENTIRE OPERATION AS SUCH

12.17.1. Control measures

Regarding operations contracted out to third parties, the Management Plan, include:

Document name: Standard of organic production	Code Norm_eco	Vers ion 4	Date January 2020	Ultimately responsible: Quality responsible	Where is the original: Quality responsible	Page 2 of 138
---	------------------	------------------	----------------------	---	--	------------------

- a. A list of the subcontractors with a description of their activities and the control agencies or authorities to which they are subject.
- b. Written consent of the subcontractors that their holding will be subject to the inspection system referred to in this Standard.
- c. All concrete measures, including an adequate system of documentary accounts, to be adopted in the unit to ensure that products marketed by the operator can be traced to, as appropriate, their suppliers, sellers, recipient and buyers.

12.18. CONTROL REQUIREMENTS APPLICABLE TO UNITS ENGAGED IN FEED PREPARATION

12.18.1. Scope

This part applies to any unit involved in the preparation of feed on their own or on behalf of a third party.

12.18.2. Control measures

12.18.2.1. The management plan of the unit will include:

- a. The facilities used for the reception, preparation and storage of all products intended for animal feed before and after the operations submitted to.
- b. Facilities used for the storage of other products used in the preparation of feed.
- c. The facilities used to store products for cleaning and disinfection.
- d. If necessary, a description of the compound feed the operator plans and animal species or category of animals for which this particular feed is intended..
- e. If necessary, the name of the raw materials for animal feed that the operator planned to prepare.

12.18.2.2. The measures to be adopted to ensure compliance with the organic production standard, including specific standards for the production of processed feed and food.

12.18.2.3. Mayacert will be based on these measures implemented by the operator to evaluate the risks generally associated with each preparation unit and establish a control plan, including a minimum number of random samples for analysis in terms of the potential risks.

Document name: Standard of organic production	Code Norm_eco	Vers ion 4	Date January 2020	Ultimately responsible: Quality responsible	Where is the original: Quality responsible	Page 2 of 138
---	------------------	------------------	----------------------	---	--	------------------

12.18.3. Documented accounting

In order to have appropriate control, the producer must keep documentary records, including the origin, nature and quantity of the raw materials used for animal feed, additives, product sales and finished goods products.

12.18.4. Control visits

Mayacert will make an annual inspection visit to all operators, based on a risk assessment resulting from a breach of this standard.

Main attention will be given to the critical control points to verify that internal control operations are carried out in the proper way.

All premises used by the operator for the conduct of its activities may be inspected with a frequency proportional to the risks associated with.

The operator must allow access to MAYACERT to carry out the control work in all its areas of operation and also when it is necessary to carry out additional inspections or without notice based on a risk analysis.

XIII. CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR PRODUCER GROUPS

13.1. Taking into account guidelines for import of organic products in the European Union, Mayacert defined as a group of farmers:

- a. Small and medium farmers who apply similar production systems with plots located within the same geographic region.

For the purposes of this Standard, MAYACERT defines the following classification of producers:

Type of Producer	Plot Area
Small	Up to 10 hectares.

Document name: Standard of organic production	Code Norm_eco	Vers ion 4	Date January 2020	Ultimately responsible: Quality responsible	Where is the original: Quality responsible	Page 2 of 138
---	------------------	------------------	----------------------	---	--	------------------

Medium	Greater than 10 hectares, up to 20 hectares.
Large	Greater than 20 hectares.

- b. The marketing and export of the products must be made at the group level and not at individual level.
- c. A large farmer may be part of the group if it is within the same geographic region and sells its product through the group.
- d. The group must be formally constituted on the basis of written agreements with its members. It must have a central management, established decision-making procedures and legal capability.

13.2. Every group must have an Internal Control System (ICS) functional and effective that will be a documented internal quality system that includes:

- a. A Regulation for organic production that must be in accordance with this Standard.
- b. A procedure for acceptance and withdrawal of members.
- c. A Coordinator of Internal Control System.
- d. Internal Inspectors for internal controls, who will receive appropriate training.
- e. A procedure and internal inspection program.
- f. An approval Committee to assess internal inspection ballots and make a decision on the status of each producer and about the actions to correct, who will receive appropriate training.
- g. Requirements to be organic producer.
- h. List of producers approved, in-conversion and excluded.
- i. Code of sanctions.
- j. A contractual agreement with each member.
- k. Standards designed to prevent or limit potential conflict of interest of the internal inspections.
- l. Carry out at least one annual internal inspection to each member, which will include a visit to the production units and facilities.
- m. Maintenance of the appropriate documentation, such as the description or the handling plans of the production units and related facilities, processing units and storage, products harvested or handled, the contractual agreement with each member, internal inspection ballots, internal inspection reports, approval committee reports, internal regulation of organic production, operating procedures

Document name: Standard of organic production	Code Norm_eco	Vers ion 4	Date January 2020	Ultimately responsible: Quality responsible	Where is the original: Quality responsible	Page 2 of 138
---	------------------	------------------	----------------------	---	--	------------------

of the Internal Control System, training records, among others.

14.1 EXPORT OF PRODUCTS WITH EQUIVALENT GUARANTEES

14.1.1. Products certified by another certification body authorized by the European Union according to Regulation (EC) No. 1235/2008 may be accepted by MAYACERT and may also be exported and marketed in the European Union market as organic, provided that:

- a. They have been produced in accordance with organic production standards equivalent to the European Union regulations and this Standard, specifically in terms of production standards and labeling.
- b. Operators have been subject to effectiveness control measures equivalent to the European Union regulations and to this Standard, specifically in terms of controls, and these control measures have been applied permanently and effectively.
- c. In all the stages of production, preparation and distribution carried out, the operators have submitted their activities to the control regime of a certification body authorized by the European Union according to Regulation (EC) No. 1235/2008.
- d. The product is covered by a transaction certificate issued by a certifier authorized by the European Union according to Regulation (EC) No. 1235/2008, which confirms that the product meets the requirements established in this section and of this Standard and any other standard equivalent to the regulation of the European Union.
- e. MAYACERT will issue a certificate of control (Transaction Certificate) that will accompany the products to the premises of the first recipient.

14. 2 CONTROL MEASURES

- a. The unit's Management Plan must include the exporter's premises and its export activities, indicating the exit points of the products and any other facilities that the exporter is going to use for the storage of the exported products pending their delivery to the first recipient.

In addition, the control arrangements and commitment of the operator should include a commitment from the exporter to ensure that all facilities to be used for storage of products are subject to the control regime of MAYACERT or other control organization.

- b. When the exporter and the owner of the reception and storage facilities prior to export are the same legal entity and develop their operations in a single unit, a single inspection report may be prepared.

Document name: Standard of organic production	Code Norm_eco	Vers ion 4	Date January 2020	Ultimately responsible: Quality responsible	Where is the original: Quality responsible	Page 2 of 138
---	------------------	------------------	----------------------	---	--	------------------

14.3 DOCUMENTED ACCOUNTING

The exporter shall keep a stock register and a financial register. At the request of MAYACERT, any information on the modes of transport from the exporter to the first recipient must be provided.

14.4. INFORMATION ON EXPORTED REMITTANCES

The exporter should timely report to MAYACERT about every remittance that is going to be exported to the European Union, and provide:

- a. Name and address of first recipient.
- b. Every data that MAYACERT may require, within reason.
 - i. Supporting documents that allow identification of the operator that held the last operation and the verification that the operator meets all the requirements of this Regulation issued by MAYACERT and other recognized control body.
 - ii. A copy of the control certificate issued by MAYACERT or another recognized control body

At the request of the recipient's control body or authority, MAYACERT will send information on the exporter's remittances.

- c. The importer will share the information referred to in the first and second paragraphs, using the electronic system "Trade Control and Expert System (TRACE)" established by Commission Decision 2003/24 / EC.

14.5 CONTROL VISITS

MAYACERT will verify the documented accounting and control certificate or supporting documents.

In the event that the exporter carries out the export operations using different units or premises, the exporter must submit, upon request, the respective inspection reports for each of said facilities.

14.6 CONTROL MEASURES

In relation to operations that have been subcontracted to third parties, the Management Plan will include:

Document name: Standard of organic production	Code Norm_eco	Vers ion 4	Date January 2020	Ultimately responsible: Quality responsible	Where is the original: Quality responsible	Page 2 of 138
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- a. A list of the subcontractors, with a description of their activities and the control bodies or authorities on whom they depend.
- b. The written consent of the subcontractors for their exploitation to be subject to the control regime provided for in this Standard.
- c. All specific measures, including an adequate documented accounting system, to be adopted in the unit to ensure that the products marketed by the operator can be traced to, as appropriate, their suppliers, sellers, recipients and buyers.

XV. FINAL AND TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS

15.1. COMMITTEE OF ORGANIC PRODUCTION

15.1 MAYACERT will hire a technical committee, or will count on the support of specialists in this topic to deal with special cases regarding organic production and this Regulation.

XVI. INFRACTIONS AND EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION

16.1. MEASURES IN CASE OF SUSPECT OF INFRACTION OR IRREGULARITIES

16.1.1. In the event that an operator suspects that a product that has been produced by him, prepared or received from another operator, does not comply with the Organic Production Regulation, he will separate and identify such a product, likewise he will withdraw from said product any reference related with the organic production method. It will only be sent for its transformation or packaging and marketing once the suspect or doubt is solved.

16.1.2. When MAYACERT has the suspicion that an operator intends to market a product that does not comply with the Organic Production Standard, but that carries a reference to the organic production method, MAYACERT may require that the operator cannot provisionally market the product as organic during a certain term. Before opting for a decision of this type, MAYACERT will allow the operator to present their observations and comments on the matter. This decision will be complemented with the obligation to remove from the product any reference to the organic production method if MAYACERT finds that the product does not meet the requirements of organic production.

However, if the suspicion is not confirmed within the specified period, the decision must be annulled before the end of that period. The operator must cooperate fully with MAYACERT to raise the suspicion.

16.1.3. MAYACERT will adopt the necessary measures and sanctions to prevent the fraudulent use of the indications regarding the labeling of this Regulation.

16.2. EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION AMONG CONTROL AUTHORITIES, CONTROL BODIES, AND PERTINENT AUTHORITIES

Document name: Standard of organic production	Code Norm_eco	Vers ion 4	Date January 2020	Ultimately responsible: Quality responsible	Where is the original: Quality responsible	Page 2 of 138
---	------------------	------------------	----------------------	---	--	------------------

16.2.1. In the event that the operator and / or its subcontractors are inspected by other authorities or control bodies, the authorities or control bodies will exchange with MAYACERT the pertinent information regarding the operations subject to their control, provided that the operator has a contract with MAYACERT.

16.2.2. When the operator and / or its subcontractors change their authority or control body: If MAYACERT is the previous control body, it will transmit the pertinent elements of the control file of the operator in question, as well as the reports contemplated in the section on CONTROL PROVISIONS AND COMMITMENT OF THE PRODUCER OR OPERATOR of this standard, to the new authority or control body. If MAYACERT is the new control body, it will verify that the operator has resolved or is resolving the breaches indicated in the report of the previous control authority or body and will request the relevant elements of the control file of said operator, as well as the reports contemplated in the section on CONTROL AND COMMITMENT PROVISIONS OF THE PRODUCER OR OPERATOR of this standard.

16.2.3. When the operator withdraws from the control regime, MAYACERT will withdraw the certificate and remove it from the list of certified operators on its website.

16.2.4. In case MAYACERT detects any irregularity or infringement that affects the organic character of the product, it will notify the European Commission without delay. The European Commission may also request any other information about irregularities or infringements by its own initiative.

In the event of irregularities or infractions detected in relation to products subject to the control of other control authorities or control bodies, MAYACERT will also inform those control authorities or control bodies without delay.

16.3 PUBLICATION OF INFORMATION

MAYACERT will make available to the public, in an appropriate manner, including publication on the Internet, the updated lists with updated information related to each operator. MAYACERT will duly take into account the requirements for the protection of the personal data of the operators.

16.4. When a Member State detects irregularities or infringements related to the application of this Regulation in relation to a product coming from this member State that bears the indications referred to Title IV of Regulation EC n.o 834/2007 and in Title III of this Regulation, and if such irregularities or infringements have implications for one or more Member States, it shall notify the affected Member State or States, the other Member States and the Commission without delay, through the system provided for in the Article 94 Section 1, of this Regulation.

XVII. SUPERVISION BY COMPETENT AUTHORITIES

Document name: Standard of organic production	Code Norm_eco	Vers ion 4	Date January 2020	Ultimately responsible: Quality responsible	Where is the original: Quality responsible	Page 2 of 138
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17.1. SUPERVISION ACTIVITIES RELATED TO CONTROL BODIES

17.1.1. MAYACERT will receive supervision activities from competent authorities, which will be centered in the evaluation of MAYACERT's operational performance.

These supervision activities will include an evaluation to MAYACERT's internal proceedings regarding the controls, management, and assessment to control files in light of established obligations in this Standard, as well as verification of the processing of non-compliance cases and processing of resources and claims.

17.1.2. MAYACERT will keep its risk analysis procedures documented for the competent authorities.

The risk analysis procedure will be designed so that:

a) The risk analysis outcome serves as the basis to determine the frequency of annual inspections and visits, announced or unannounced.

b) Additional control visits of a random nature may be carried out in accordance with the section CONTROL VISITS TO OPERATORS of this Standard, in relation to at least 10% of the operators with contract, in accordance with the risk category.

c. At least 10% of all inspections and visits carried out in accordance with the section CONTROL VISITS FOR OPERATORS of this Standard, would be unannounced.

d. The selection of operators that are going to be subjected to inspections and unannounced visits is based on the risk analysis, and visits are planned according to the level of risk.

17.1.3. Upon receiving supervision activities from the competent authorities, MAYACERT will verify that the personnel have sufficient knowledge, in particular those related to the risk elements that affect the organic character of products, qualification, training and experience in the field of organic production in general and of this Standard. The pertinent rules of rotation of inspectors must be followed.

17.2. CATALOG OF MEASURES APPLICABLE IN CASE OF IRREGULARITIES OR INFRACTION

17.2.1. MAYACERT will maintain a catalog that includes at least the infractions and irregularities that affect the ecological character of the products and the corresponding measures applicable in case of infractions or irregularities made by operators active in organic production and subject to Mayacert's control.

At the request of a competent authority, MAYACERT may include any other pertinent information in the catalog.

18. Annexes

Document name: Standard of organic production	Code Norm_eco	Vers ion 4	Date January 2020	Ultimately responsible: Quality responsible	Where is the original: Quality responsible	Page 2 of 138
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