

CERTIMEX

Certificadora Mexicana de Productos y Procesos Ecológicos. S.C.

STANDARDS FOR THE PRODUCTION, PROCESSING AND TRADING OF ECOLOGICAL PRODUCTS

CERTIMEX - 01 – 2017-2

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CERTIMEX
Certificadora Mexicana de Productos y Procesos Ecológicos, S. C.

Standards Commission

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Introduction

The first edition of the CERTIMEX standards was based on the Basic Standards of IFOAM but for re-elaboration and for the publishing of the following editions, including this edition, the EU – regulation 834/2007 (CE) and the regulation 889/2008, besides the Basic Standards of IFOAM, was also taken into account.

CERTIMEX went through the accreditation process of the EN 45011 (ISO/IEC 65) standards during the year 2000, and had to elaborate for that reason equivalent standards to the regulation (CE) 2092/91 that has now been repealed by the Regulation (CE) n° 834/2007. The framework now presented is the result of those modifications applied to the 2014 edition elaborated by the CERTIMEX staff but also the exhaustive comparison of each of its parties and elaborated by the evaluators of the accreditation body of Germany, DAKKS and the Committee on Organic Agriculture and Rural Development of the European Union according by the CE No. 1235/2008 Regulation. This version of the standards was revised and approved according the chapter number 9.

Modifications are made in this present edition and these are based on the (CE) N° 2016/673 and (CE) N° 889/2008 Regulation, the chapter 8 specifies the percentage of additional inspections and the percentage of sampling in relation to the number of operators inspected annually, livestock section related to feeding, food processing and organic product labelling, removing the made with organic ingredients (70%) option. Also, changes were made in the list of permitted substances for organic production in Tables 1-5.

Mexican producers, technicians, processors and traders have now a normative document at hand, for the production, the processing and the trading of ecological products which is equivalent to the Regulation (CE) N° 834/2007 and (CE) N° 889/2008, which is also adapted to the Mexican reality.

The present edition substitutes the standards published in 2014 and their fulfilment is obligatory and they must be known and applied by everybody who requests the CERTIMEX certification. It is of importance that all observations based on the study and the application of these standards are handed over to CERTIMEX so that they can be used together with the different international regulations for review and constant improvement of the content of this document.

Chapter one

1. Objectives, scope of its application, essential goals and requirements of organic agriculture

1.1. Objective and scope of its application

- To establish standards that stimulate the production, processing and marketing of ecologically grown, raised and processed foods, in order to generate a sustainable, ecologically sound and productive agriculture.
- To recognize producers who follow these standards by granting them a certificate that guarantees and assures consumers that ecologically produced foods comply with the standards of ecological agriculture in Mexico and with the actual international standards.
- To offer to national and international businesses a certificate of guarantee that is valid for one year.

1.2. Areas of application

The following standards give the bases for sustainable development of ecological production methods and guarantee the protection of the interests and the confidence of the consumers.

- These standards will be applied to all operators and suppliers who are aspire to obtain the CERTIMEX ecological certification for production, processing or trading of products that are handled under these standards.
- To establish standards that stimulate the production, processing and marketing of ecologically grown, raised and processed foods, in order to generate a sustainable, ecologically sound and productive agriculture.
- To recognize producers who follow these standards by granting them a certificate that guarantees and assures consumers that ecologically produced foods comply with the standards of ecological agriculture in Mexico and with the actual international standards.
- To offer to national and international businesses a certificate of guarantee that is valid for one year.

- The standards referring to ecological production methods will be applied to all agricultural, animal, wild recollection and yeasts (except hunting and fishing) products that want to have the CERTIMEX ecological seal.

- The standards will be applied to unprocessed products, the transformation process of products and the products processed on the basis of one or more ecological ingredients.

- The use of indications referring to organic production in labelling and advertising on the publicity label that makes references to the ecological production

- This standard will include regulations on food products and animal nutrition.

All the operators that want to be certified by CERTIMEX have the obligation to comply with the following standards according to the reach of their certification (production, processing, trading, wild recollection or a combination of these stages or one of them).

1.3. Primary goals of ecological agriculture

- a) Establish a sustainable production and management system for agricultural products that:
 - i. Respects nature's systems and cycles and sustains and enhances the health of soil, water, plants and animals and the balance between them,
 - ii. Contributes to a high level of biological diversity,
 - iii. Makes responsible use of energy and the natural resources, such as water, soil, organic matter and air;
 - iv. Respect high animal welfare standards and in particular meet animals' species-specific behavioural needs;
- b) Aim at producing products of high quality;
- c) To obtain a wide variety of food and other agricultural products that respond to consumers' demand for goods produced by the use of processes that do not harm the environment, human health, plant health or animal health and welfare.

At CERTIMEX we understand agriculture to be a relationship between man and nature based on the goal of obtaining social goods. We view nature as a set of living, dynamic ecosystems vital to human beings' survival with dignity. Organic agriculture uses nature itself as its model, it is a viable, necessary alternative for counteracting intensification, specialization and dependency on chemical products, as well as to avoid the overexploitation of environmental resources and the struggle on behalf of the survival of all living beings.

It is in the interest of individuals and the overall society, to achieve harmony between immediate human needs and natural laws that express themselves on a long-term base.

Bio-diversity is extremely important for agriculture, and therefore should be conserved and promoted.

If agriculture is practiced properly, it should not contaminate the environment. And, if harmony is maintained with nature in this way, agricultural conditions will gradually improve over the long term.

The standards in this document reflect the primary goals of ecological agriculture and establish the basis for their fulfilment. The following list shows some of these goals, all of equal importance:

To produce a sufficient quantity of food, fibres, medicine, etc. that have not been exposed to chemical products and are of high quality.

To interact constructively with nature, promoting and enhancing life in all natural systems.

To favour and strengthen biological cycles within production systems, specifically those of micro-organisms, the flora and fauna contained in the soil, and plants and animals.

To maintain soil fertility and help to increase it over the long term.

To use as far as possible renewable resources from the same region in production systems, thus avoiding external dependence as much as possible.

To promote a healthy and proper use of water, taking care of water resources and all the life contained in them.

To contribute toward conserving the soil and water.

To work as far as possible, within a closed system in terms of organic material and mineral nutrients

To use materials and substances that can be re-used or re-cycled in the production unit, in the community or elsewhere.

To provide livestock and animals in general with living conditions that allows them to fulfil the basic functions of their innate behaviour.

The maintenance of animal health by encouraging the natural immunological defence of the animal, as well as the selection of appropriate breeds and husbandry practices;

The application of animal husbandry practices, which enhance the immune system and strengthen the natural defence against diseases, in particular including regular exercise and access to open air areas and pastureland where appropriate;

The maintenance of plant health by preventative measures, such as the choice of appropriate species and varieties resistant to pests and diseases, appropriate crop rotations, mechanical and physical methods and the protection of natural enemies of pests;

The practice of site-adapted and land-related livestock production;

The restriction of the use of food additives, of non organic ingredients with mainly technological and sensory functions and of micronutrients and processing aids, so that they are used to a minimum extent and only in case of essential technological need or for particular nutritional purposes;

The exclusion of substances and processing methods that might be misleading regarding the true nature of the product;

Products obtained from ecological livestock that has been raised ecologically, in ecological locations, from their birth and through their whole life.

The race selection keeping in mind the animal's capability to adapt to local conditions, their vitality, resistance to diseases or to sanitary issues;

The feeding of cattle with ecological feed made of ingredients from ecological agriculture and non agricultural natural substances;

The exclusion of polyploidy breeding animals artificially induced;

The maintenance of the biodiversity of natural aquatic ecosystems, the health of the aquatic environment over time and the quality of the surrounding aquatic and terrestrial ecosystem in aquaculture production;

Feeding aquatic organisms with feed from sustainable production of fisheries, conservation and sustainable production of fishery resources, or with organic feed composed of ingredients from organic farming and natural non-agricultural substances.

The processing of food with care, preferably with the use of biological, mechanical and physical methods.

The production of organic feed from organic feed materials, except where a feed material is not available on the market in organic form;

The production of organic feed from organic raw materials for animal feed, except where on the market no feed materials are available on the organic variant;

The restriction of the use of feed additives and processing aids to a minimum extent and only in case of essential technological or zoo technical needs or for particular nutritional purposes;

The exclusion of substances and processing methods that might be misleading as to the true nature of the product;

To fight against all types of contamination that can be generated by production systems.

To maintain the genetic diversity in production systems and their surroundings, protecting the habitats of wild plants and animals.

To make every effort in order to see that all those involved in organic production and the processing of organic products are living in accordance with the human rights established by the United Nations, by the convention of the ILO and ratified by Mexico. That they meet their basic needs, obtain an adequate income, find satisfaction in their work, and have access to a healthy work environment.

To maintain and increase the independence of the production unit and the region in food-nutrition and economic terms.

To generate and conserve sources of employment in the rural environment.

To promote the establishment of fair relationships between producers, processors, those responsible for marketing, consumers and all other persons involved in organic agriculture.

To spread the knowledge generated in organic agriculture without distinction of creed, race, sex, culture or ideology.

1.4. *Principale requirements for organic agriculture and processing*

To achieve its primary goals, the organic agriculture movement has adopted certain techniques for respecting the natural ecological balance. This is possible by avoiding products and methods that are contrary to its essential objectives.

The basic foundations for crop production in gardens, plots and forests take into account soil fertility and structure, as well as the surrounding ecosystem and the management of a diverse range of species. This is achieved through:

- Crop association.
- Adequate crop rotation.
- Recycling of organic material.
- The appropriate design and management of biological processes based on ecological systems using natural resources which are internal to the system by methods that:
 - a) Use living organisms and mechanical production methods.
 - b) Practice land-related crop cultivation and livestock production or practice aquaculture which complies with the principle of sustainable exploitation of fisheries.
 - c) Exclude the use of GMOs and products produced from or by GMOs with the exception of veterinary medicinal products.
 - d) Are based on risk assessment, and the use of precautionary and preventive measures, when appropriate.

Use of a broad range of physical, cultural, and biological methods for controlling weeds, pests and diseases. The goal is to avoid using synthetic fertilizers, pesticides and herbicides.

Animal production is based on knowledge of the causes of diseases (aetiology) and of the organic functions of animals (physiology). This is achieved through:

1. Providing a sufficient amount of good-quality organic fodder
2. Providing management systems in accordance with behaviour needs.
3. Preventing diseases.
4. Providing adequate veterinary assistance

Animals are an important part of organic production systems because:

1. They contribute to close organic cycles.
2. They convert organic material, and therefore are the most valuable contributors to soil fertility.

3. Some animal species can use areas that, due to their specific conditions, cannot be used for other activities.
4. Fodder crops improve crop rotation as well as the diversification and balance of crop systems.
5. They are used to feed pack animals.
6. They can be use as by-products for the agricultural production.
7. They contribute toward greater, more diversified production.

The basis for natural ecological balance is the existence of a harmonious relationship between crop production and livestock, which is achieved when the production unit is self-sufficient in terms of available fodder and other food production for animals and where the maximum number of livestock has been established.

There is a loss created in the metabolic process by converting plant energy and protein into animal energy and protein. For this reason, there should be a balance between the production of crops for human consumption and for feeding the animals.

The basis for processing organic products is maintaining the products' vital qualities during every step of the process. To achieve this, it is important to:

- Select and carry out methods that are appropriate and specific to each product.
- Promote standards emphasizing careful processing methods; limited refining; energy-saving technologies; minimal use of additives and substances to aid in processing; etc.

The production and management of organic products should seek to minimize environmental deterioration. This can be achieved by developing standards for waste management, packaging systems, and by saving energy during product transformation and transportation.

The objectives of processing ecological raw materials into food products, according to these standards, are the following:

- To produce healthy food with high nutritional quality.
- To conserve all nutritional elements as far as possible.
- To preserve food from possible contamination by substances harmful to health. Methods must be applied that prevent that such substances develop in food or are added to it.
- To protect the health of the personal who work in food processing.

The restriction of the use of external inputs. Where external inputs are required or the appropriate management practices and methods referred to before do not exist, these shall be limited to:

- a) Inputs from organic production;
- b) Natural or naturally-derived substances;
- c) Low solubility mineral fertilisers;

The strict limitation of the use of chemically synthesised inputs to exceptional cases these being:

- a) where the appropriate management practices do not exist;
- b) the external inputs referred to before are not available on the market;
- c) where the use of external inputs referred to before contributes to unacceptable environmental impacts;

The adaptation, where necessary, and within the framework of the rules of organic production taking account of sanitary status, regional differences in climate and local conditions, stages of development and specific husbandry practices.

1.5. Definitions

Ecological or organic production: the use of the production method compliant with the rules established in these standards, at all stages of production, preparation and distribution;

Organic, ecological or biological: Coming from or related to organic or ecological production.

Stages of production, preparation and distribution: Any stage from and including the primary production of an organic product up to and including its storage, processing, transport, sale or supply to the final consumer, and where relevant labelling, advertising, import, export and subcontracting activities.

Plant production: Production of agricultural crop products including harvesting of wild plant products for commercial purposes.

Livestock production: The production of domestic or domesticated terrestrial animals (including insects).

Conventional agriculture: Production through the use of technological packages of improved seeds, fertilizers, artificial synthetic pesticides.

Organic agriculture: is the practice and art used in the production of food, fibres, medicines and other products that satisfy human needs, through sustainable management of natural resources. This productive process benefits from ecological cycles, and does not make use of pesticides or fertilizers obtained through artificial synthesis. The difference between this kind of agriculture and traditional or conventional agriculture can be seen through the production and quality standards used.

The terms *organic* and *biological* agriculture are synonymous with the term *ecological* agriculture. None of these three terms can be used for products that have not been produced in accordance with the basic standards of ecological production.

Phyosanitary Products: Those are products that contain or are made of active substances, protectors or synergistic and that are destined to the following uses:

- To protect vegetables or vegetable products against harmful organisms or to avoid damage from those organisms, only if those substances or preparations are not differently defined ahead;
- To influence in the vital process of vegetables in a different way than nutritional substances (growing regulators, as an example);
- To improve the conservation of vegetable products, provided that such substances or products are subjected to specific orders of the preservative Commission;
- To destroy the inconvenient vegetables.
- To destroy vegetable parts, or to control or avoid an inadequate growing.

Additive for animal feeding: Substances, microorganisms and preparations different from the raw materials for animal feeding or pre-mixes, which is added intentionally to feed or water in order to perform in particular one or more of the functions.

The animal feeding additive must:

- a) To influence in a positive way in the feeding characteristics;
- b) To influence favorably in the animal products characteristics;
- c) To influence in birds and ornamental fish colors;
- d) To satisfy the alimentary necessities of animals;
- e) To influence in a positive way in the environmental consequences of the animal production;
- f) To influence in a positive way in the production, activity or wellbeing of animals, especially acting in the gastrointestinal flora or in the digestibility of animal feedings, or
- g) Have a coccidiostatic or histomonostatic effect.

Traditional agriculture: An ancient form of production in which neither artificial, synthetic inputs nor machines are used.

Food (foodstuff): food (foodstuff) any substance or product intended to be ingested by humans or reasonably expected to be, whether they have been wholly or partially processed or not. Food includes beverages, chewing gum and any substance, including water, voluntarily incorporated into the food during its manufacture, preparation or treatment. Water shall be included after the compliance point defined in Article 6 of Directive 98/83 / EC and without prejudice to the requirements laid down in Directives 80/778 / EEC and 98/83 / EC.

Food »does not include:

- (A) Feedingstuffs;
- (B) Live animals, unless they are ready to be marketed for human consumption;
- (C) Plants before harvest;

- (D) Medicinal products
- (E) Cosmetics
- (F) Tobacco and tobacco products
- (G) Narcotic or psychotropic substances
- (H) Waste and contaminants.

Food Company: any public or private company that, whether or not for profit, carries out any activity related to any of the stages of production, processing and distribution of food.

Food business operator: the natural or legal persons responsible for ensuring compliance with the requirements of food law in the food business under its control.

Feedingstuff: any substance or product, including additives, intended for oral feeding of animals, whether it has been processed in whole or in part or not.

Feedingstuff enterprise: any public or private enterprise which carries out, whether or not for profit, any activity of production, manufacture, processing, storage, transport or distribution of feed; Includes any producer who produces, transforms or stores feedingstuff to feed the animals on his own farm.

Operator of feedingstuff business: the natural or legal persons responsible for ensuring compliance with the requirements of food law in the feedingstuff business under their control.

Conversion: The transition from non organic to organic farming within a given period of time, during which the provisions concerning the organic production have been applied.

Certification: Procedure through which it is assured that a product, system or service is in accordance with standards of production, processing and marketing as established by CERTIMEX.

Ecological Product Certificate: Official document issued by CERTIMEX and that confirms fulfilment of the standards established by this certification agency.

Biological control: Use of living natural enemies, including parasites, depredators and a wide variety of micro-organisms, as agents for controlling pests.

GMO derivative: Any substance produced from or through a genetically modified organism, although not containing such an organism.

Certifying entity: Entity approved to certify as organic, operations and management of organic production units.

Labelling: Notes, instructions, factory or trade brands, images or symbols that accompany or refer to organic products and are placed on containers, documents, notices, and labels including those encircling products or packaging.

Record: Set of all the information and documents given to the authorities and the certification body for the purpose of the organic certification, by an operator which is certified under the Certimex standars or the Organic Rules of the European Union. This record includes all relevant documents and information related to the operator and its activities. With the exception of information and documents that do not affect the operation of the organic certification scheme.

Organic fertilization: Soil application of products or inputs generated from recycled materials or natural plant or animal substances that have been composted or fermented

and used in form of organic fertilizer or foliage fertilizer; or the use of nitrogen-fixing plants.

Inspection: Process through which an inspector supervises and verifies the operations and management of production, processing, and marketing.

Inspector: Any person who is accredited by a certifying entity as an agent for supervising production and processing activities.

Synthetic agricultural inputs: Products made through unnatural, chemical processes.

Operator or supplier: Any person who produces, processes and/or commercializes products obtained in accordance with these standards.

Genetically modified organism (GMO): The organism, with the exception of humans, whose genetic material has been modified in a way that does not occur naturally in mating or in natural recombination; According to this definition: a genetic modification occurs whenever at least the techniques are used:

- 1) Nucleic acid recombination techniques, including the formation of novel combinations of genetic material by insertion of nucleic acid molecules obtained by any means outside an organism into a virus, bacterial plasmid or other vector system and incorporating them into a host organism in which they are not found naturally but can continue to reproduce.
- 2) Techniques involving the direct incorporation into an organism of hereditary material prepared outside the organism, including micro-injection, macro-injection and micro-encapsulation.
- 3) Cell fusion (including protoplast fusion) or hybridization techniques in which live cells are formed with novel combinations of hereditary genetic material by the fusion of two or more cells using non-naturally occurring methods.

They are not considered as causing a genetic modification, provided that they do not involve the use of recombinant nucleic acid molecules or of genetically modified organisms obtained by techniques or methods other than those excluded:

- 1) In vitro fertilization.
- 2) Conjugation, transduction, transformation or any other natural process
- 3) Polyploid induction.

Botanical pesticide: Natural pesticide derived from plants.

Feedingstuff: any substance or product, including additives, intended for oral feeding of animals, whether it has been processed in whole or in part or not.

Pests: Forms of animal or plant life, or pathogenic agents that are harmful or potentially harmful to plants.

Pesticide: A phytosanitation input—insecticides, fungicides, herbicides, acaricides, molluscicides, nematocides and rodenticides—that are used to prevent, repel, control and destroy biological organisms harmful to plants.

Processing: operations of conservation and/or transformation of ecologic products (including the sacrifice and cutting for animal products) as well as the packing and labeling related to the ecological production method.

Packaged food product: a unit to sell, presented without any posterior transformation process, to the final consumer and the collectivity, it is a food product in a package that has been prepared before going into the market, the product may be totally or partially covered by the package but in a way that the content cannot be modify without opening or modifying the package.

Control File: Set of all information and documents transmitted, for the purposes of the control regime of CERTIMEX by an operator in accordance with the requirements of section 8.1 of this standard including all relevant information and documents relating to this operator or its activities held by CERTIMEX with the exception of information and documents that do not affect the operation of the control system.

Parallel production: Parallel production exists when the same product is produced organically and non-organically in the same production unit.

Products from organic agriculture: Every product that is produced or processed in compliance with the ecological standards and officially certified.

Collection of wild growing products: Recollection or extraction of wild-growing products in ecosystems with minimal human intervention. The activity is limited to harvesting without altering the ecosystem.

Transgenic organism: Any organism that possesses a new combination of genetic material that comes from a species other than its own and that has been transferred through the application of modern biotechnology techniques.

Production unit: All assets to be used for a production sector such as production premises, land parcels, pasturages, open air areas, livestock buildings, the premises for the storage of crops, crop products, livestock products, raw materials and any other input relevant for this specific production sector;

In the case of Small Producers Groups (SPG), CERTIMEX recognizes the entire SPG as the organic production unit (production area, storage, processing and/or marketing) of the product or products which are handled according to what is established in these standards.

Internal Control System: This is a control system of the production processes and handling of organic products in Small Producers Groups through which the group guarantee the compliance of the organic production standards by each of the members of the group.

Non-organic: Not coming from or not related to a production in accordance to these standards.

Veterinarian medicines: Any substance or combination of substances that is presented as medicine with a curative o preventive properties for animal illnesses; or that can be used in order to reestablish, modify or correct physiological functions of the animal, exercising a pharmacological effect, immunological or metabolic action, or to establish a medical diagnose.

Importer: The natural or legal person within the community who presents a consignment for release for free circulation into the Community, either in person, or through a representative.

First consignee: The natural or legal person to whom the imported consignment is delivered and who will receive it for further preparation and/or marketing.

Holding: All the production units operated under a single management for the purpose of producing agricultural products.

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

Veterinary treatment: All courses of a curative or preventive treatment against one occurrence of a specific disease.

In-conversion feedingstuffs: Feedingstuffs produced during the conversion period to organic production, with the exclusion of those harvested in the 12 months following the beginning of the conversion as referred to in paragraph 2.2.2. of these standards.

Advertising: Any representation to the public, by any means other than a label, that is intended or is likely to influence and shape attitude, beliefs and behaviours in order to promote directly or indirectly the sale of organic products.

Competent authority: For the aspects related to food control in the European Union, it is called "Competent authority" the Commission of the European Union and the authorities of the member states in accordance with the provisions set out under the Regulation CEE 834/2007. For matters related to the regulation on agriculture in Mexico and the countries in which CERTIMEX certifies, it is called "Competent authority" the one who is in charge of the agricultural, food, health and organic production regulations in México or the countries where this certification body has certification activities.

Control authority: A public administrative organisation of a Member State of the European Union to which the competent authority has conferred, in whole or in part, its competence for the inspection and certification in the field of organic production in accordance with the provisions set out under the Regulation CE834/2007; it shall also include, where appropriate, the corresponding authority of Mexico.

Mark of conformity: The assertion of conformity to a particular set of standards or other normative documents in the form of a mark.

Produced from GMOs: Derived in whole or in part from GMOs but not containing or consisting of GMOs.

Produced by GMOs: Derived by using a GMO as the last living organism in the production process, but not containing or consisting of GMOs nor produced from GMOs.

Equivalent: In describing different systems or measures, means that they are capable of

meeting the same objectives and principles by applying rules which ensure the same level of assurance of conformity (compliance).

Processing aid: Any substance not consumed as a food ingredient by itself, intentionally used in the processing of raw materials, foods or their ingredients, to fulfil a certain technological purpose during treatment or processing and which may result in the unintentional but technically unavoidable presence of residues of the substance or its derivatives in the final product, provided that these residues do not present any health risk and do not have any technological effect on the finished product.

Ingredient: Any substance, including additives, used in the manufacture or preparation of a foodstuff and which is still present in the finished product, possibly, in a modified form.

Ionizing radiation: A energy transference of electromagnetic particles or waves with a wavelength same or inferior to 100 nanometers or a frequency same or higher that 3×10^{15} hertz, capable to produce ions directly or indirectly.

Chapter two

2. Conversion to ecological agriculture

2.1. Requirements for the conversion

2.1.1. All operators should have a well-defined plan for the conversion process. The plan should be updated when necessary and include all relevant aspects of the standards.

2.1.2. The plan should have:

History: antecedents of the production unit.

Current situation: crops, fertilization, pest management, livestock, etc.

A timeline that indicates the progress of the conversion, including aspects of the required changes during the conversion process, such as crop rotation, manure management, livestock management, fodder production plan, pest management, environmental conditions, soil conservation, and water management with specific time periods.

Before the products from a plot or plantation can be certified as ecological, the inspection must have taken place during the period of conversion.

2.2. Duration of conversion period

All exploitations that start to be engage in organic production shall be based on the following principles:

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

2.2.2. It is considered that the period of conversion to ecological agriculture begins when the operator has suspended fully the use of forbidden substances in his/her production unit and has submitted it to the control regime, in accordance with chapter 8 of these standards. Within a group of small producers, the conversion period begins when a commitment letter for complying with the internal standards of organic production is signed between the producer and the administration of the organization or the organic program.

2.2.3. The length of the conversion period may be extended or reduced depending on the land's prior use, on the application or no application of products that are contemplated in table 1 and 2 annexed to these standards, on the documentation presented and on what is established by the certification staff and the competent authority.

2.2.4. The conversion period may be shortened when new land is cleaned to be incorporated into ecological agriculture, but only when this is properly documented, when products that are not included in table 1 and 2 that are annexed to these standards are not used and depending on the determination by certification staff and the competent authority.

2.2.5. The conversion period can also be shortened according to the previous use of the plots, also when the ecological agriculture initiates after traditional or natural agriculture that guarantees the fulfilment with the standards for at least three years before the harvest. The requirements for the reduction of the conversion period are established in the Quality and Procedures Manuals of CERTIMEX.

2.2.6. CERTIMEX can shorten the conversion period in the time period as this is established in paragraph 2.2.1, for plots that are already converted or for plots that are in the conversion period to ecological agriculture and that are treated with a product that does not appear in the tables 1 and 2 annexed to these standards in the following two cases:

- a) For plots that are treated with a product that does not appear in the tables 1 and 2 annexed to these standards, because a competent Government Department has declared it obligatory to use that product in a battle against a disease or a parasite in areas where a crop certified by CERTIMEX is located.
- b) For plots certified by CERTIMEX that are treated with a product that does not appear in the tables 1 and 2 of the annex of these standards because of scientific experiments approved by an official institute dedicated to research and approved by the competent authorities.
- c) In these cases, the length of the conversion period will be determined by observing all the following elements:
 - The degradation of the treated phytosanitation product must guarantee that it leaves an insignificant level of residues in the soil at the end of the conversion period or in the plant if it is a perennial crop.
 - The harvest that follows the treatment cannot be sold with references to the ecological production method.

The products that are in the conversion stage cannot be labelled or sold with references to organic or ecological production.

2.2.7. CERTIMEX may decide, in certain cases, where the land had been contaminated with products not authorised for organic production, to extend the conversion period beyond the period referred to in paragraph 2.2.1.

2.2.8. On a holding or unit partly under organic production and partly in conversion to organic production, the operator shall keep the organically produced and in-conversion products separate and the animals separate or readily separable and keep adequate records to show the separation;

All the products that are in the phase of conversion may not be labelled or sold with organic or ecological production reference.

Chapter three

3. Plant production

3.1. *Environmental conditions*

- 3.1.1. Plants should be produced under optimal natural conditions in a sustainable agricultural system, while guaranteeing the conservation of biodiversity.
- 3.1.2. Chemical products from artificial synthesis may not be used.
- 3.1.3. Hydroponic production is prohibited.
- 3.1.4. Only inputs that are permitted by the CERTIMEX standards and which are listed in the annex of these standards may be used during the production process, processing and distribution.
- 3.1.5. All necessary measures must be taken in order to prevent or to reduce to a minimum the contamination from pesticides originating inside or outside the plot, whether carried by the wind, drainage, irrigation or by equipment or work materials.
- 3.1.6. Prevention for contamination by pathogene microorganisms should be taken in case of plant products for fresh food.
- 3.1.7. Water should be of good quality when irrigation is needed.
- 3.1.8. Agricultural work (weeding, hilling, pruning, plant renovation, irrigation, composting, etc) needs to be carried out within a proper time period and in an adequate manner in order to improve the production and to prevent or to control pests and diseases.

3.2. *Soil conservation*

- 3.2.1. The operator should have a soil conservation program, in order to guarantee effective protection and to avoid soil loss and improve soil fertility.
- 3.2.2. Action should be taken to prevent or reduce erosion, using appropriate techniques for soil conservation. For example: barriers created by vegetation, rocks or wooden structures; contour planting; cover crops; conservation farming; and no burning; as well as terraces for each row or multiple rows, this according to the environmental and specific conditions of each plot. All possible biological and physical measures for reducing and avoiding erosion should be taken according to the conditions of each plot.
- 3.2.3. The burning of trees, post-harvest stubble, and spontaneous growth in fallow fields should be used only when absolutely necessary, and techniques for avoiding it in the future should be actively sought.

3.2.4. The soil conservation program should improve fertility, maintaining optimal levels of organic material content.

3.2.5. The type of soil management used should be selected according to agro-ecological conditions and the potential use of the soil.

3.2.6. In areas originally covered with forests, diversified systems with two or more plant strata should be established, especially in the case of perennial crops.

3.2.7. The soil should preferably remain covered with a plant layer.

3.2.8. The use of biodynamic preparations is allowed

3.2.9. Only fertilisers and soil conditioners which are authorized as referred to in the annexes of these standards may be used in organic production and only to the extent necessary. Operators shall keep documentary evidence of the need to use the product.

3.2.10. Mineral nitrogen fertilizers shall not be used. E.g. chilean nitrate and sodium nitrate.

3.3. *Selection of crops and crop varieties*

3.3.1. Varieties that are best adapted to the environmental and cultural conditions of each region should be used in the first place.

3.3.2. Seeds or reproductive material selected from certified ecological production should be used.

1. Use of seeds or vegetative propagating material not obtained by the organic production method

3.3.3. The operator may use seeds and vegetative reproductive material obtained from production units that are in the conversion stage towards organic agriculture when there are no organic seeds or reproduction material in the market.

3.3.4. With the authorization of CERTIMEX, the operator it's allowed to use seeds and vegetative propagating material obtained by a different way as the organic production method, only if the users of such propagation material can demonstrate, to the full satisfaction of the CERTIMEX personal of certification, that it is not possible for them to obtain a propagating material for a given variety of the species in question. In such cases, it must be use propagative material which is not treated with products not considered in the annexes of this standard, The authorization shall be granted before the sowing of the crop. Authorization shall be granted only to specific users during a growing season and the authorized quantities of seed or potatoes to sow, will be registred by the competent authority of authorizations or CERTIMEX.

- 3.3.5.** It is not permitted to use seeds or vegetative reproductive material that is not obtained from ecological production methods for those species of which there are adequate quantities of seeds or vegetative reproductive material that is ecological produced with an important number of varieties.
- 3.3.6.** Agro - ecological techniques will be used in seedbeds and nurseries for growing coffee, cocoa and other plants.
- 3.3.7.** Genetic Modified Organisms (GMOs) or products produced from or by GMOs as food, feed, processing aids, plant protection products, fertilizers, soil conditioners, seeds, vegetative propagating material, micro-organisms and animals should not be used in organic production.
- 3.3.8.** For the purposes of the prohibition of GMOs and products obtained from GMOs for food and feed mentioned in section 3.3.7, operators may rely on the labels accompanying the product or on any other attached document, fixed or provided in accordance with Directive 2001/18 / EC, Regulation (EC) N° 1829/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 22 September 2003 on genetically modified food and feed, or Regulation (EC) N° 1830/2003 on the traceability and labeling of genetically modified organisms and the traceability of food and feed produced from them.
- 3.3.9.** For the purposes of the prohibition of GMOs and products obtained from or by GMOs for products other than food and feed mentioned in section 3.3.7, operators using non-organic products of those categories by acquiring them from third parties, shall require from the seller the confirmation that the products supplied have not been obtained from or using GMOs. For this, it can be used the format that is in the annex 9 of the present standard.
- 3.3.10.** For the purpose of the prohibition with regard to products not being food or feed, or products produced by GMOs, operators using such non-organic products purchased from third parties shall require the vendor to confirm that the products supplied have not been produced from or by GMOs.
- 3.3.11.** For the production of products other than seed and vegetative propagating material only organically produced seed and propagating material shall be used. To this end, the mother plant in the case of seeds and the parent plant in the case of vegetative propagating material shall have been produced in accordance with the rules laid down in these Standards for at least one generation, or, in the case of perennial crops, two growing seasons.

3.4. *Crop rotation*

3.4.1. Crop rotations should be as variable as possible, in order to:

- To increase and maintain the soil fertility and the biological activity.
- To reduce problems caused by weeds, pests and diseases.

3.4.2. Each producer or organization should develop a plan for crop rotation, taking into account the type of crop, the presence of weeds, local conditions and consumption needs.

3.4.3. Operators should insist in the introduction of specific crop rotations that include leguminous plants and other green composting crops, in plots without livestock.

3.5. *Fertilizer program*

3.5.1. The concept of fertilizing in ecological agriculture is to enrich the soil and the micro-organisms living in the soil, not only fertilizing the plants directly. Therefore, ecological farmers should have a plan for maintaining or increasing soil fertility, working toward continuous incorporation of material and stimulation of biological activity.

3.5.2. Natural resources should be used, such as growing leguminous plants, and organic by-products such as manure and waste material from harvesting and pruning. Preferably, organic material generated in the same production unit should be used. The guidelines established in the annex to these standards regarding fertilizers and soil conditioners should be followed when material from outside the unit are used.

3.5.3. Use of organic material from conventional intensive production units is not permitted.

3.5.4. Organic plant and animal material should not contribute to the contamination of harvest, soil or water.

3.5.5. Mineral fertilizers and soil conditioners included in the annex to these standards should be considered as supplemental, and can never take the place of the recycling of nutrients. If mineral fertilizers are used, they must be applied in their natural state without prior chemical treatment, thus assuring that these products will not generate negative effects for the environment nor contribute to environmental pollution.

3.5.6. The application of fertilizers containing human excrement used in crops for human consumption is prohibited.

3.5.7. The correction of the soil's pH with agricultural quicklime for acid soil, or sulphuric powder for alkaline soil is permitted after defining the adequate amount to be used. The origin and applications should be documented.

3.5.8. Appropriate preparations of micro-organisms may be used to improve the overall condition of the soil or the availability of nutrients in the soil or in the crops.

3.5.9. Natural forms of transforming organic material should be used.

3.5.10. For compost activation appropriate plant-based preparations or preparations of micro-organisms may be used.

3.5.11. Raw animal manure can be converted in compost when:

- a) Applied to land used for a crop not intended for human consumption
- b) Incorporated into the soil at least 120 days before harvesting an edible product that does come into contact with the soil or soil particles. (Example vegetables)
- c) Incorporated into the soil at least 90 days before harvesting an edible product that does not come into contact with the soil or soil particles. (Example fruits)

3.6. *Pests, diseases and weed control*

- 3.6.1.** To reduce attacks by pests and diseases, native species or varieties adapted to the local environment should be used, soil should be adequately managed, and correct crop rotation and crop association should be carried out.
- 3.6.2.** The agro - ecosystem should be managed in such a way to promote natural enemies of pests and to reduce the incidence of disease.
- 3.6.3.** Weed control will be carried out manually or mechanically, using adequate tools and cover crops such as leguminous and wild plants. All synthetic herbicides are prohibited.
- 3.6.4.** Varieties resistant to attack by pests and diseases should be used.
- 3.6.5.** Pests and diseases will be ecologically managed through timely cultural practices, natural control, use of traps and depredators, natural preparations of plant or animal origin, biological control, and physical and mechanical control.
- 3.6.6.** Only natural extracts appearing in the list of permitted materials will be used (see list in annex).
- 3.6.7.** In the case of an established threat to a crop, plant protection products may only be used if they have been authorised for use in organic production according to the annexes of these standards.
- 3.6.8.** Where plants cannot be adequately protected from pests and diseases by measures provided for in chapter 3, only products referred to in the annexes of these standards may be used in organic production. Operators shall keep documentary evidence of the need to use the product.
- 3.6.9.** For products used in traps and dispensers, except heromone dispensers, the traps and/or dispensers, shall prevent the substances from being released into the environment and prevent contact between the substances and the crops being cultivated. The traps shall be collected after use and disposed off safely.

3.7. Use of plastics

- 3.7.1. Plastics used to cover crops, soil covers; fibre, screens to protect plants from insects and hail, and nursery bags are permitted only if they are made of polyethylene, polypropylene or other polycarbonates. PVC is not permitted for the above-mentioned uses.
- 3.7.2. These plastics must not be left on the ground after using and cannot be burned within the production plot.

3.8. Wild products

- 3.8.1. Wild products include all recollected products that have not been cultivated and are free from contact with fertilizers or chemical contaminants. The recollection area and the recollector should be clearly identifiable.
- 3.8.2. Products recollected from ecosystems with very little or no human intervention can be certified as ecological products, only if the following requirements are met:
 - a. That it is demonstrated that the recollection, storage and processing do not alter the overall ecosystem, and requirements for registering and control are met.
 - b. That during the three years prior to recollection, such recollection areas have not been subjected to any treatments with products other than those indicated in the annex to these standards.
- 3.8.3. A buffer zone of 25 meters wide is necessary when there are nearby heavy transportation paths or roads as for example federal highways. CERTIMEX requires that the recollection area must be free from contaminating sources.
- 3.8.4. The recollecting of wild products must not cause negative consequences for the environment nor for any animal or plant species in danger of extinction.

3.9. Production of mushrooms

- 3.9.1. The principles of organic agriculture need to be considered with the production of mushrooms, as well as the standards for vegetable production which are related with production and handling of the mushrooms, as well as the following criteria:

- 1) Incubation of the mushrooms (fertile material)

The raw material for the incubation of mushrooms needs to be certified by CERTIMEX or by another certifier which is considered equivalent by CERTIMEX. The producer has the obligation to present proof and inform CERTIMEX when this material is not available as ecological.

- 2) Substratum

For production of mushrooms, substrates may be used, if they are composed only of the following components:

- (a) farmyard manure and animal excrements:

- (i) Either from holdings producing according to the organic production method;

- (ii) or referred to in number I of the annexes, only when the product referred to in point (i) is not available and when they do not exceed 25 % of the weight of total components of the substrate, excluding the covering material and any added water, before composting;
- (b) Products of agricultural origin, other than those referred to in point (a), from holdings producing according to organic production method;
- (c) Peat not chemically treated;
- (d) wood, not treated with chemical products after felling;
- (e) Mineral products referred to in box 1 of the annexes, water and soil.
- 3) The raw materials as well as the components of the substratum need to come from a company which is certified by CERTIMEX or it must have a certification which is considered equivalent by CERTIMEX. The origin of the used wood needs to be verified when the mushrooms are grown on wood. Analyses need to be shown when necessary. When a substratum certified by CERTIMEX is not available then it is possible to use in certain cases a substratum of a different organic material but only with authorization of CERTIMEX.
- 4) **Cleaning and disinfection**
The use of disinfectants and chlorine in crops, earth used for covering, substratum, irrigation water and recipients that contain substratum, as well as with the tools that are used during the production period and in the rooms with the crop, are prohibited. The use of lime, thermal disinfection, alcohol, acetic acid, yellow tramps with adhesive or similar applications are allowed.
- 5) The criteria for the handling of the mushroom production are indicated in chapter 6 of these standards and refer to the processing and distribution of processed products.

3.10. Harvest and post harvest handling

- 3.10.1.** The harvest volumes of the products to be certified need to be congruent with the handling of the crops, the cultivated surfaces, climate conditions and with the varieties.
- 3.10.2.** Only mechanical and physical processes and natural fermentations are allowed for transformation.
- 3.10.3.** Contamination of natural water sources and soil needs to be avoided during the post harvest handling.
- 3.10.4.** Water which is used during the post harvest handling needs to be clean and the used water cannot be discharged directly in natural water sources.
- 3.10.5.** It is preferable to dry the product to be certified in the sun. It is not permitted to use plastic during the drying.

3.11. Storage and transport of unprocessed organic products

- 3.11.1.** A Quality Control must be carried out for unprocessed organic products during

harvesting and when products are stored in producer's homes or community storage.

- 3.11.2.** Local storage areas or warehouses must be maintained totally clean and free from toxic substances. Platforms must be used to prevent the product from coming into direct contact with the floor or ground. Clean containers in good condition must be used, and may not be used for storing any other product.
- 3.11.3.** Records of the organic products that enter and leave the local or community storage must be maintained.
- 3.11.4.** When there is a need to store non-organic products in a local storage used for storing unprocessed organic products, strict separation of the products must be guaranteed in order to maintain the integrity of the ecological products. The best alternative for producers is, to have storage areas used exclusively for organic products.
- 3.11.5.** All unprocessed organic products that are produced in accordance with CERTIMEX standards must have an identification system to guarantee clear separation of these products, and they must be protected at all times from possible mingling with non-organic products. This is also applicable to unprocessed collected plants and plant products. The identification system must guarantee that the product flow can be tracked at any stage before processing.
- 3.11.6.** The means of transportation used in order to transport organic products must be completely clean. Canvas, sacs, layers of coffee parchment or other means should be used in order to avoid contamination of the transported goods.
- 3.11.7.** Parallel production, as an exception and with authorization of CERTIMEX is allowed and a producer may run organic and non-organic production units in the same area:
 - a) In the case of the production of perennial crops, which require a cultivation period of at least three years, where varieties cannot be easily differentiated, provided the following conditions are met:
 - (i) The production in question forms part of a conversion plan in respect of which the producer gives a firm undertaking and which provides for the beginning of the conversion of the last part of the area concerned to organic production in the shortest possible period which may not in any event exceed a maximum of 5 years;
 - (ii) Appropriate measures have been taken to ensure the permanent separation of the products obtained from each unit concerned;
 - (iii) CERTIMEX is notified of the harvest of each of the products concerned at least 48 hours in advance;
 - (iv) Upon completion of the harvest, the producer informs the control authority or control body of the exact quantities harvested on the units concerned and of the measures applied to separate the products;
 - (v) The conversion plan and the control measures have been approved

by CERTIMEX; this approval shall be confirmed each year after the start of the conversion plan

- b) In the case of areas intended for agricultural research or formal education agreed by the competent national authorities and provided the conditions set out in point (a) (ii)(iii)(iv) and the relevant part of point (v) are met;
- c) In the case of production of seed, vegetative propagating material and transplants and provided the conditions set out in point (a)(ii)(iii)(iv) and the relevant part of point (v) are met;
- c) In the case of grassland exclusively used for grazing.

3.11.8. General rules on organic yeast production

3.11.8.1. For the production of organic yeast only substrates produced ecologically.

- (A) Other products and substances may only be used to the extent that they have been authorized for use in organic production. The substances or processing aids listed in Table 4 A of the Annexes to this Standard may be used.
- (B) In organic foods or feeds, there can be no ecological yeast and no ecological yeast simultaneously.

Chapter four

4. Organic coffee

4.1. Production

- 4.1.1.** Coffee should be produced within a system of sustainable agriculture under optimal natural conditions.
- 4.1.2.** Coffee should be grown under diversified shade in order to guarantee the conservation of the biodiversity.
- 4.1.3.** Varieties and plants should be adapted to the local climate, and they should be as resistant as possible to pests and endemic diseases as well as drought.
- 4.1.4.** Seeds should come from organically managed coffee fields.
- 4.1.5.** Seedbeds and nurseries should be managed using organic techniques.
- 4.1.6.** If it is necessary to irrigate, the water used should be of good quality and there should not be contamination risk.
- 4.1.7.** The population density or number of plants per hectare should be determined according to soil and climate conditions in each specific location. High densities limiting the establishment of adequate shade and favouring the development of disease are not permitted.
- 4.1.8.** Inorganic waste material is not permitted in organic coffee fields. Nursery bags or other plastic or metallic trash must be removed from the area but it should not be burned.
- 4.1.9.** Production continuity should be guaranteed through pruning and regeneration programs.
- 4.1.10.** In accordance with varying land conditions, buffer zones (vegetation barriers or swales) should be established to guarantee the separation between land used for producing organic coffee and land where chemical products are applied.
- 4.1.11.** Using appropriate soil conservation practices, according with the environmental conditions and characteristics of each land area should prevent erosion. These may include:
 - a) Establishing and managing shade vegetation that produces a large quantity of bio-mass.
 - b) Levelling uneven terrain for planting rows.
 - c) Selecting and fostering cover crops and plants.
 - d) Discontinuing activities or practices that leave the soil bare.
 - e) Establishing barriers with vegetation, rocks or wooden structures.
 - f) Building terraces.

- 4.1.12.** Techniques for improving the content of organic material as well as nutrients and micro-organisms in the soil should be used. These techniques may include: cultivating leguminous plants and adding compost and other organic material such as leaves and twigs or branches from shade trees.
- 4.1.13.** Soil activity should be optimized by correcting pH levels.
- 4.1.14.** Nutrients extracted should be replaced in order to maintain the balance of mineral nutrients.
- 4.1.15.** Practices necessary for maintaining and improving soil fertility over the long term should be carried out. All organic material should be recycled.
- 4.1.16.** Weeds will be controlled manually or mechanically, using tools that do not cause erosion, and using cover crops or plants. All synthetic herbicides are prohibited.
- 4.1.17.** Pests and diseases will be managed ecologically through cultural practices (pruning, shade regulation, weed control, etc.), use of traps, natural preparations, and biological and manual control. All pesticides based on artificial synthesis are prohibited.
- 4.1.18.** The demand for firewood should not lead to deforestation. Rather, sufficient wood for this purpose should be provided by planting trees within the coffee field or in another area of the plot, and also by using other energy resources.
- 4.1.19.** By-products such as coffee pulp will be recycled, returning them to the fields after they have been converted into compost.

4.2. *Harvesting and wet processing*

- 4.2.1.** Only ripe coffee berries should be harvested without picking green or semi-ripe berries nor leaves or rubbish. It is also important to avoid leaving any ripe berries on the plants after the harvest in order to minimize the spreading of pests and to allow plentiful production in the next cycle.
- 4.2.2.** Only mechanical and physical processes, and natural fermentation, are permitted in coffee processing.
- 4.2.3.** The pulp of the coffee berry will be removed with a manual pulper. If this is not possible, the least amount of fuel possible should be used. The pulp will be stored to be used later in producing compost, instead of being left to pollute the environment.
- 4.2.4.** Fermentation must be natural in order to remove mucilage properly. The use of chemical products for this purpose is prohibited. Fermentation time will depend on the climate in each region and the quantity of coffee berries harvested. Leaving coffee berries in plastic sacks for fermentation is prohibited but wooden boxes or fermentation tanks must be used.
- 4.2.5.** Washing coffee in natural sources of water such as rivers, creeks, springs or wells is prohibited in order to prevent environmental contamination. Instead,

fermentation and washing tanks must be used.

- 4.2.6. Water used for washing coffee must be clean and it should not be dumped directly into natural water sources after it has been used. When possible, pits or drainage areas designed for filtering and sedimentation should be used.
- 4.2.7. Coffee should be dried in the sun, using patios, drying floors, palm mats, dryers made from resin-free wood, or other techniques that take advantage of solar energy. Dryers should be clean and in perfect condition so that the coffee does not come into contact with dirt. Plastics may not be used in the drying process. The use of energy should be minimized if sun drying is not possible. Fuels such as gasoline, diesel and oil are prohibited.
- 4.2.8. Coffee that is stored at the producer's home or in a local storage must be kept in a separate place, free from contaminants, protected from rain, and not directly on the floor.
- 4.2.9. Organic coffee producers must establish an identification system that guarantees the clear separation of this type of coffee from other coffee. The system must protect organic coffee at all times from mixing with traditional or conventional coffee.

4.3. *Dry processing*

- 4.3.1. Ecological coffee will be processed separately from traditionally or conventionally grown coffee, and an overall cleaning of equipment will take place beforehand.
- 4.3.2. Machinery and installations must be in perfect condition, and a cleaning and maintenance program must be implemented.
- 4.3.3. Processing plants must implement safety and hygiene regulations to guarantee correct functioning of machinery, safe working conditions for employees, and contaminant-free products.
- 4.3.4. Processing reports must be kept, as well as records documenting products entering the installations, and the certified and non-certified products leaving the installations.
- 4.3.5. Quality control of raw materials and finished products is required.
- 4.3.6. Storage areas and warehouses must be designated exclusively for organic coffee. They must be completely clean and free from toxic substances. Products must be stored on wooden platforms to avoid direct contact with the ground or floor. New storage sacks should be used, but if this is not possible, sacks must be clean, in good condition and must not be used for storing other products.
- 4.3.7. If organic and non-organic products are stored in the same warehouse, specific areas for each must be clearly marked.
- 4.3.8. The warehouse must be adequate for correct product storage.

4.3.9. When organic and non-organic coffee are processed or stored in the same plant, both processes must be properly documented, guaranteeing the integrity of the ecological product. With regard to labelling, the stipulations in Chapter 6 of these standards should be followed.

4.4. *Transportation*

4.4.1. Means of transportation must be completely clean and free from gasoline, diesel, oil, soap or any other contaminating substance. Canvas layers of coffee parchment or other means should be used to avoid contamination of the product to be transported.

4.5. *Processing and packaging*

4.5.1. Processing and packaging should take place in the country of origin if this is possible.

Chapter five

5. Livestock production

5.1. Livestock and livestock products from the following species: bovine, porcine, ovine, caprine, rabbits and poultry.

5.1.1. General principles

- 5.1.1.1.** Livestock production forms an integral part of many agricultural systems in the ecological agricultural sector.
- 5.1.1.2.** Livestock production must contribute to the equilibrium of agricultural production systems by providing for the nutrient requirements of crops and by improving the soil's organic matter. It can thus help to establish and maintain soil-plant, plant-animal and animal- soil interdependence. As part of this concept, landless production is not in conformity with the rules of these standards.
- 5.1.1.3.** By utilizing renewable natural resources (livestock, manure, legumes and fodder crops), the cropping-stock farming system and the pasturage systems allow soil fertility to be maintained and improved in the long term and contributes to the development of sustainable agriculture.
- 5.1.1.4.** The animal breeding in the ecological agriculture frame, it is a soil related production. Only if an exception of the norms is authorized, animals must have corrals and the number of animals per surface unit must be limited in order to ensure an integrated management of the animal and vegetal productions on the production unit, to minimize any contamination, of soil, surface waters and phreatic layers. The livestock amount must be closed related with the available surface to avoid any trouble derivate from over-grazing and erosion, and to allow the spreading of manure, to avoid any negative impact to the environment. Norms to be applied are featured in the present chapter.
- 5.1.1.5.** In organic stock farming, all livestock on one and the same production unit must be reared in accordance with these standards.
- 5.1.1.6.** 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 units producing in accordance with the organic production rules and a different species is involved.
- 5.1.1.7.** Non-organic livestock may use organic pasturage for a limited period of time each year, provided that such animals come from farming system and that organic animals are not present at the same time on that pasture.

5.1.1.8. Landless livestock production by which the operator of the livestock does not manage agricultural land and/or has not established a written cooperation agreement with another operator according to paragraph 5.1.7.3 is prohibited.

5.1.2. Conversion

5.1.2.1. Conversion of land associated with organic livestock production

5.1.2.1.1. Where a production unit is converted, the whole area of the unit used for animal feed must comply with the presented standards, using the conversion periods established in chapter 2 of these standards and that are related to vegetables and vegetable products.

5.1.2.1.2. Despite what is disposed in paragraph 5.1.2.1.1, the conversion period may be reduced to one year for pasturages, open air runs and exercise areas used by non-herbivore species. This period may be reduced to six months where the land concerned has not, in the recent past, received treatments with products other than those referred to in the tables 1 and 2 in the annexes of these standards. This derogation must be authorized by CERTIMEX.

5.1.2.1.3. Animals and animal products produced during the conversion period as referred to in paragraph 5.1.2.2, cannot be labelled or sold with the reference of organic or ecological production.

5.1.2.2. Conversion of livestock and livestock products

5.1.2.2.1. If livestock products are to be sold as organic products, the livestock must be reared according to these standards for at least:

- Twelve months in the case of bovines for meat production and in any case at least three quarters of their lifetime,
- Six months in the case of small ruminant and pigs,
- Six months in the case of animals for milk production
- Ten weeks for the poultry for meat production, brought in before they are three days old.
- Six weeks in the case of poultry for egg production.

5.1.2.3. Simultaneous conversion

5.1.2.3.1. By derogation from point 5.1.2.2.1., 5.1.4.2. and 5.1.4.4. if there is simultaneous conversion of the complete production unit, including livestock. Pasturage and/or any land used for animal feed, the total combined conversion period for both livestock, pasturage and/or any land used for animal feed, shall be reduced to 24 months subject to the following conditions:

- a) The derogation applies only to the existing animals and their offspring and at the same time also to the land used for animal feed/pasturage before starting the conversion;
- b) The animals are mainly fed with products from the production unit.

5.1.2.3.2. CERTIMEX may authorize holdings which carry out agricultural research or formal education to raise organic and no organic cattle and of the same species if the following conditions are complied with:

- a) If appropriate measurements are adopted, reported in advance to CERTIMEX, with the end to ensure at all times the separation between animals, livestock products, manure and feed from each units;
- b) If the producer reports in advance all deliveries or sales of livestock and livestock products;
- c) if the operator informs CERTIMEX about the exact quantities which are produced in the units, along with all the features that allow identification of the products and confirms that the measures to separate products have been applied.

5.1.3. Origin of the animals

5.1.3.1. In the choice of breeds or strain, account must be taken of the capacity of animals to adapt to local conditions; their vitality, and their resistance to disease. In addition, breeds or strains of animals shall be selected to avoid specific diseases or health problems associated with some breeds or strains used in intensive production (e.g. porcine stress syndrome (PSE syndrome, sudden death, spontaneous abortion, difficult births requiring caesarean operations, etc.). Preference is to be given to indigenous breeds and strains.

5.1.3.2. Livestock must come from production units which comply with the standards on the various types of livestock laid down in these standards.

5.1.3.3. Animals existing on the holding at the beginning of the conversion period and their products may be deemed organic after compliance with the conversion period.

5.1.3.4. Organic livestock shall be born and raised on organic holdings.

5.1.3.5. For breeding purposes, non-organically raised animals may be brought onto a holding under specific conditions. Such animals and their products may be deemed organic after compliance with the conversion period. This criterion applies only when an adequate number of ecological animals are not available and always under the conditions referred to in paragraph 5.1.3.6.

5.1.3.6. When there are no organic animal species in the ecological variants, with previous authorization of CERTIMEX, when a herd or flock is constituted for the first time and organically reared animals are not available in sufficient numbers, non-organically reared livestock may be brought into an organic livestock production unit, subject to the following conditions:

- a) Non-organically reared pullets for egg production of not more than 18 weeks may be brought into an organic livestock unit until 31 December 2017, when organically reared pullets are not available and provided that the relevant provisions laid down in these standards are complied with.
- b) poultry for meat production must be less than three days old;
- c) Calves for breeding purposes must be reared according the standards here presented as soon as they are weaned and in any case they must be less than six months old,
- d) Lambs and goatling for breeding purposes must be reared according to the presented standards as soon as they are weaned and in any case must be less than 60 days old.
- e) Piglets for breeding purposes must be reared according to these standards as soon as they are weaned and they must weight less than 35 kg.

5.1.3.7. As an exception, CERTIMEX can authorize temporally, the renewal or reconstitution of the herd or flock with non-organic animals, when organically reared animals are not available in case of high mortality of animals caused by health or catastrophic circumstances. And provided that the respective conversion period is applied to non-organic animals.

5.1.3.8. In the case of pigs, pullets and poultry for the meat production, this transitional derogation will be re-examined before the date of expiry to see if there are grounds for an extension to this deadline.

5.1.3.9. As an exception, subject to a maximum of 10% of adult bovine and 20% of the adult porcine, ovine and caprine livestock, livestock may be brought in, as female (nulliparous) animals, from non organic production stock farms per year, for supplementing natural growth and for the renewal of the herd or flock, when organically reared animals are not available, and only with the authorization of CERTIMEX.

5.1.3.10. The percentages laid down in the above derogation shall not apply to production units with less than ten bovine animals, or with less than five porcine, ovine or caprine animals. For these units, any renewal as mentioned above shall be limited to a maximum of one animal per year.

5.1.3.11. These percentages may be increased, up to 40% following the authorization of CERTIMEX, in the following special cases:

- a) When a major extension to the stock farm is undertaken
- b) When a breed is changed,
- c) When a new livestock specialization is developed,
- d) When breeds are in danger of being lost to farming. Animals of those breeds must not necessary be nulliparous.

5.1.3.12. As an exception, males for breeding may be brought in from non organic-production stock farms provided that the animals are subsequently reared and always fed according to the rules laid out in these standards.

5.1.3.13. Where livestock comes from units not complying with these standards, in accordance with the conditions and restrictions set out in paragraph 5.1.3.12, the periods laid down in paragraph 5.1.2.2.1. Must be observed if the products are to be sold as being from organic production and during these periods all the rules set out in these standards must be complied with.

5.1.3.14. Where livestock is obtained from units not complying with these standards, special attention must be paid to animal health measures. CERTIMEX may apply, depending on local circumstances, special measures for the most important diseases which are affecting the species in question.

5.1.3.15. The dispositions relating to the origin of non organically animals will be reviewed in 2012 with a view to its gradual elimination.

5.1.3.16. Where livestock comes from non organic units, special measures such as testing and quarantine may be applied but depending on local circumstances.

5.1.4. Feed

5.1.4.1. *Use of determinate substances and products in feedingstuff*

5.1.4.2. Only the following substances may be use for the transformation of ecological feedingstuff and, the feeding of ecological breeding animals:

- a) Non ecological raw materials from plants or animals, or other raw materials contemplated in the section 5.1.9 only if:
 - i) They were produced or prepared without chemical solvents, and
 - ii) Restrictions established on 5.1.4.11; are accomplished
- b) Non ecological spices, herbs and molasses, only if:
 - i) They do not exist in an ecological form,
 - ii) They were produced or prepared without chemical solvents, and
 - iii) The use is limited to 1 % of the feed portion for a determines specie, calculated annually as a percentage of dry matter on the feeds of agrarian origin;
- c) Organic raw materials from an animal origin;
- d) Raw material from mineral origin contemplated in the 5.1.9.3
- e) Sustainable fishery products, only if:

- i) They were produced separately without chemical solvents.
 - ii) The use is limited to the non herbivorous animals and,
 - iii) The use of fish protein hydrolyzed is limited to the young animals.
- f) Salt as sea salt, salt from mines;
- g) Additives for feed contemplated in the annex VI.
- 5.1.4.3.** Feed is intended to ensure quality production rather than maximizing production, while meeting the nutritional requirements of the livestock at various stages of their development. Fattening practices are authorized in so far as they are reversible at any stage of the rearing process. Force-feeding (day and night) of poultry and the implantation in bovines is forbidden. Growth promoters and synthetic amino-acids shall not be used.
- 5.1.4.4.** Livestock shall be fed with organic feedingstuff that meets the animal's nutritional requirements at the various stages of its development. A part of the ration may contain feed from holdings which are in conversion to organic farming. Livestock should have permanent access to grass and fodder.
- 5.1.4.5.** In the case of herbivores, except of the period of each year when the animals practice transhumance as described in the conditions of the paragraph 5.1.8.2.6 of the regulations, at least 50% of the feed must come from the farm or, if this is not possible, must be produced in cooperation with other organic farms primarily of the same area.
- 5.1.4.6.** Up to 30% of the feed formula of rations on average may compromise in-conversion feedingstuffs. When the in-conversion feedings stuffs come from a unit of the own holding, this percentage can be increased to 60%. These figures shall be expressed as a percentage of the dry matter of feedingstuffs of agricultural origin.
- 5.1.4.7.** Up to 20 % of the total average amount of feedingstuffs fed to the livestock may originate from the grazing or harvesting of permanent pastures or perennial forage parcels 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 5.1.4.4.
- 5.1.4.8.** The figures in paragraph 5.1.4.4 and 5.1.4.5 shall be calculated annually as a percentage of the dry matter of feedingstuffs of plant origin.
- 5.1.4.9.** The feeding of young mammals must be based on natural milk, preferable maternal milk. All mammals must be fed on natural milk for a minimum period,

depending on the species concerned, which shall be three months for bovines, 45 days for sheep and goats and 40 days for pigs.

- 5.1.4.10.** Where relevant, CERTIMEX or the competent authority shall designate areas or regions where movements of animals to grazing areas is practicable, without prejudice to the provisions on the feeding of livestock laid out in these standards.
- 5.1.4.11.** Rearing systems for herbivores are to be based on maximum use of pasturage according to the availability of pastures in the different periods of the year. At least 60% of the dry matter in daily rations is to consist of roughage, fresh or dried fodder, or silage. Nevertheless, CERTIMEX can permit a reduction to 50% for animals in dairy production for a maximum period of three months in early lactation.
- 5.1.4.12.** The raw materials for the not ecological animal feeding from animal and vegetal origin featured in section 5.1.9 of the present norms, may be use in the ecological production as long as the following established restrictions are meet:
- a) The use of a limited proportion of not ecological protein feed is authorized for the porcine livestock and poultry if farmers cannot obtain protein feed only for the ecological production. For a 12 months period for those species is the 5%, will expire in December 31th of 2020.
- The operator must keep justification documents about the necessity to apply this disposition.
- 5.1.4.13.** By derogation of the previous paragraph, when forages 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 a consequence of fires, CERTIMEX can authorize for a limited period and in relation to a specific area, a higher percentage of conventional feedingstuffs where such authorization is warranted.
- 5.1.4.14.** Roughage, fresh or dried fodder, or silage must be added to the daily ration for pigs and poultry.
- 5.1.4.15.** Only products listed in the paragraphs 1.3. And 3 of table 6 in the annexes of these standards can be used as additives and processing aids, respectively, in silage.
- 5.1.4.16.** Conventional feed materials of agricultural origin can be used for animal feeding only of listed in paragraph 5.1.9.1. And subject to the quantitative restrictions imposed in these standards.
- 5.1.4.17.** Feed materials from animal origin, whether conventional or organic, can only be

used if listed in paragraph 5.1.9.2. and subject to the quantitative restrictions imposed in these standards.

- 5.1.4.18.** For meeting the nutritional requirements of animals, only food products listed in paragraph 5.1.9.3 (raw materials for animal food from mineral origin) and in paragraphs 1.1 (vitamins) and 1.1 b (trace elements) from table 6 of the annexes of these standards can be used.
- 5.1.4.19.** Products and by-products from fisheries may be used in organic production only if they are listed in the annexes of these standards and the restrictions laid down therein are complied with.
- 5.1.4.20.** Only products listed in table 6 of the annexes of these standards can be used in animal feeding for the purposes indicated in respect to the above mentioned categories Antibiotics, coccidiostatics, medicinal substances, grow promoters or any other substance intended to stimulate growth or production shall not be used in animal feeding.
- 5.1.4.21.** Feedingstuffs, feed materials, compound feedingstuffs feed additives, processing aids for feedingstuffs and certain products used in animal nutrition must not have been produced with the use of genetically modified organisms or products derived there from.
- 5.1.4.22.** In the case of pigs and poultry at least 20% of the feed must come from the holding itself or, if this is not possible, it must be produced in the same area in collaboration with other organic farms or feed businesses.

5.1.5. *Prevention and control of diseases*

5.1.5.1. Disease prevention in organic livestock production shall be based on the following principles:

- a) the selection of appropriate breeds or strains of animals as detailed in paragraph 5.1.3. of these standards ;
- b) the application of animal husbandry practices appropriate to the requirements of each species, encouraging strong resistance to disease and the prevention of infections;
- c) the use of high quality feed, together, with regular exercise and access to pasturage, having the effect of encouraging the natural immunological defence of the animal;
- d) Ensuring an appropriate density of livestock, thus avoiding overstocking and any resulting animal health problems.

5.1.5.2. If, despite all the preventive measures, an animal becomes sick or injured it must be treated immediately, if necessary in isolation and in suitable housing.

5.1.5.3. The use of veterinary medical products in organic farming shall comply with the following principles:

a) Phytotherapeutic (e.g. plant extracts (excluding antibiotics), essences, etc.), homeopathic products (e.g. plant, animal or mineral substances) and trace elements and products listed in paragraph 5.1.9.3 of these standards shall be used in preference to chemically-synthesised allopathic veterinary medicinal products or antibiotics, provided that their therapeutic effect is effective for the species of animal, and the condition for which the treatment is intended.

b) If the use of the above products should not prove, or is unlikely to be, effective in combating illnesses or injury, and treatment is essential to avoid suffering or distress to the animal, chemically synthesised allopathic veterinary medical products or antibiotics may be used under the responsibility of a veterinarian;

5.1.5.4. Disease shall be treated immediately to avoid suffering to the animal; chemically synthesised allopathic veterinary medicinal products including antibiotics may be used where necessary and under strict conditions, when the use of hytotherapeutic, homeopathic and other products is inappropriate. In particular restrictions with respect to courses of treatment and withdrawal periods shall be defined.

a) It is prohibited to use chemically synthesised allopathic veterinary medicinal products or antibiotics as prevention treatment.

5.1.5.5. In addition to the above principles, the following standards shall apply:

a) The use of substances to promote growth or production, (including antibiotics, coccidiostatics and other artificial aids for growth promotion purposes) and the use of hormones or similar substances to control reproduction (e.g. induction or synchronisation of oestrus) are prohibited.

b) veterinary treatments to animals, or treatments to buildings, equipment and facilities, which are compulsory under national or Community legislation shall be authorized, including the use of immunological veterinary medicinal products when a disease has been recognized as present in a specific area in which the production unit is located.

5.1.5.6. Whenever veterinary medicinal products are to be used the type of product must be recorded clearly, (including an indication of the active pharmacological substances involved) together with details of the diagnosis; the posology; the method of administration; the duration of the treatment, and the legal withdrawal period. This information is to be declared to CERTIMEX before the livestock or livestock products are marketed as organically produced. Livestock treated must be clearly identified, individually in the case of large animals; individually or by batch, in the case of poultry and small animals.

5.1.5.7. The withdrawal period between the last administration of an allopathic veterinary medicinal product to an animal under normal conditions of use, and the production of organically produced foodstuffs from such animals, is to be twice the legal withdrawal period or, in a case in which this period is not specified, 48 hours.

5.1.5.8. With the exception of vaccinations, treatments for parasites and any compulsory eradication schemes established by the competent authorities, where an animal or group of animals receive more than two or a maximum of three courses of treatments with chemically-synthesised allopathic veterinary medicinal products or antibiotics within one year (or more than one course of treatment if their productive lifecycle is less than one year) the livestock concerned, or produce derived from them, may not be sold as being products produced in accordance with these standards and the livestock must undergo the conversion periods laid down in paragraph 5.1.2. of these standards, subject to the agreement of CERTIMEX.

5.1.6. *Animal management practices, transport and identification of animal products.*

5.1.6.1. Husbandry practices

5.1.6.1.1. Personnel keeping animals shall possess the necessary basic knowledge and skills as regards the health and the welfare needs of the animals

5.1.6.1.2. In principle, the reproduction of organically reared livestock should be based on natural methods. Nevertheless artificial insemination is permitted. Other forms of artificial or assisted reproduction (for example embryo transfers) are prohibited.

5.1.6.1.3. Reproduction shall not be induced by treatment with hormones or similar substances, unless as a form of veterinary therapeutic treatment in case of an individual animal.

5.1.6.1.4. Appropriate breeds shall be chosen. The choice of breeds shall also contribute to the prevention of any suffering and to avoiding the need for the mutilation of animals

5.1.6.1.5. Operations such as attaching elastic bands to the tails of sheep, taildocking, cutting of teeth, trimming of beaks and dehorning must not be carried out systematically in organic farming. However, CERTIMEX may authorize some of these operations, for reasons of safety (for example dehorning in young animals) or if they are intended to improve the health, welfare or hygiene of the livestock. Such operations must be carried out at the most appropriate age by qualified personnel and any suffering to the animal must be reduced to a minimum.

5.1.6.1.6. Physical castration is allowed in order to maintain the quality of products and traditional product practices (meat-type pigs, bullocks, capons, etc) but only under the conditions set out in the last sentence of the last paragraph.

5.1.6.1.7. Tethering or isolation of livestock shall be prohibited, unless for individual animals for a limited period of time, and in so far as this is justified for safety, welfare or veterinary reasons; As an exception, CERTIMEX may authorize that the animals of small holdings remain tied when it is not possible to maintain them in adequate groups because of their behaviour but only when they have access to pastures during the grazing period in accordance with paragraph 5.1.8.3.1 and that they can leave two times a week to open spaces when the

grazing is not possible.

5.1.6.1.8. Where livestock is reared in groups, the size of the group must depend upon their stage of development and the behavioural needs of the species concerned. The keeping of livestock in conditions, or on a diet, which may encourage anaemia, is prohibited.

5.1.6.1.9. 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:

81 days for chicken
150 days for capons
49 days for ducks
140 days for turkeys and roasting geese
100 days for female turkeys.

5.1.6.2. *Transport*

5.1.6.2.1. The transportation time of the animals should be reduced to a minimum.

5.1.6.2.2. Transport of livestock must be carried out so as to limit the stress suffered by the animals. Loading and unloading must be carried out with caution and without the use of any type electrical stimulation to coerce the animals. The use of allopathic tranquilizers prior to and during transport is forbidden.

5.1.6.2.3. During the entire live of the animals and during the period leading up to and the time of slaughter, livestock must be handled in such a way that stress to the animals is reduced to a minimum.

5.1.6.2.4. Identification of livestock products; 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.

5.1.6.2.5. Livestock and livestock products are to be identified at all stages of their production, preparation, transport and marketing.

5.1.6.2.6. The piglet's castration may be performed without practicing an anesthesia or analgesic during a transitory period that will be expired in December 31th, 2011.

5.1.7. Livestock manure

- 5.1.7.1.** The total amount of livestock manure applied on the holding may not exceed 170 kg of nitrogen per year/hectare of agricultural area used. This limit shall only apply to the use of farmyard manure, dried farmyard manure and dehydrated poultry manure, composted animal excrements, including poultry manure, composted farmyard manure and liquid animal excrements.
- 5.1.7.2.** To determine the appropriate density of livestock referred to above, the livestock units' equivalent to 170 kg of Nitrogen per year/hectare of agricultural area used for the various categories of animals shall be set out by CERTIMEX or the competent authority, according to table 8 in the annexes of these standards.
- 5.1.7.3.** Organic production holdings may establish cooperation exclusively with other holdings and enterprises, which comply with the provision of these standards, with the intention of spreading surplus manure from organic production. The maximum limit of 170 kg of Nitrogen from manure per year/hectare of agricultural area used will be calculated on the basis of all the organic production units involved in such cooperation.
- 5.1.7.4.** The quantity of Nitrogen can be less than 170/kg per year/hectare taking the characteristics of the area concerned into account, the application of other nitrogen fertilizers to the land (fertilizers, legumes, etc.).
- 5.1.7.5.** Storage facilities for livestock manure must be of a capacity to preclude the pollution of water by direct discharge, or by run-off and infiltration of the soil.
- 5.1.7.6.** To ensure sound fertilizer management, the capacity of such storage facilities for livestock manure must exceed the storage capacity required for the longest period of the year in which any application of fertilizer to the land is either inappropriate or when such application is prohibited, in cases where the production unit is located within a designated nitrate vulnerable zone.

5.1.8. Free-range, open- air runs and housing conditions for livestock**5.1.8.1. General principles**

- 5.1.8.1.1.** Housing conditions for livestock, husbandry practices and stocking density must meet the livestock's biological and ethological needs (e.g. behavioural needs as regards appropriate freedom and movement and comfort). The livestock must have easy access to feeding and watering. Insulation, heating and ventilation of the building must ensure that air circulation, dust level, temperature, relative air humidity and gas concentration, are kept within limits which are not harmful to the animals. The building must permit plentiful natural ventilation and light to enter.
- 5.1.8.1.2.** Free-range, open-air exercise areas, or open- air runs must, if necessary, provide sufficient protection against rain, wind, sun and extreme temperatures, depending on the local weather conditions and the breed concerned.

5.1.8.1.3. The livestock shall have permanent access to open air areas, preferably pasture, whenever weather conditions and the state of the ground allow this unless restrictions and obligations related to the protection of human and animal health are imposed on the basis of the national legislation.

5.1.8.2. *Stocking densities and the avoidance of over grazing*

5.1.8.2.1. Housing for livestock will not be mandatory in areas with appropriate climatic conditions to enable animals to live outdoors.

5.1.8.2.2. The stocking density in buildings shall provide for the comfort and well being of the animals which, shall depend on the species, the breed and the age of the animals. It shall also take account of the behavioural needs of the animals, which depend in particular on the size of the group and the animals' sex. The optimum density will seek to ensure the animals' welfare by providing them with sufficient space to stand naturally, lie down easily, turn around, groom themselves, assume all natural postures and make all natural movements such as stretching and wing flapping.

5.1.8.2.3. The number of livestock shall be limited with a view to minimizing overgrazing, poaching of soil, erosion, or pollution caused by animals or by the spreading of their manure.

5.1.8.2.4. Organic livestock shall be kept separate from other livestock. However, grazing of common land by organic animals and of organic land by non-organic animals is permitted under certain restrictive conditions;

5.1.8.2.5. Organic animals may be grazed on common land, providing that:

- a) The land has not been treated with products not authorised for organic production for at least three years;
- b) Any livestock products from organic animals, whilst using this land, shall not be regarded as being from organic production, unless adequate segregation from non-organic animals can be proved.
- c) All the non-ecological animals that use the mentioned plots are part of a live stock system equivalent to the one described in the Article 36 of the Rules (CE), no 1698/2005 or in the Article 22 of the Rules (CE) no 1257/1999.

5.1.8.2.6. During the period of transhumance animals may graze on non-organic land when they are being moved on foot from one grazing area to another. The uptake of non-organic feed, in the form of grass and other vegetation on which the animals graze, during this period shall not exceed 10 % of the total feed ration per year. This figure shall be calculated as a percentage of the dry matter of feeding stuffs from agricultural origin.

5.1.8.2.7. Operators shall keep documentary evidence of the use of provisions referred to the simultaneous production of organic and no organic livestock

5.1.8.2.8. The minimum surface areas for indoor housing and outdoor exercise areas, and other characteristics of housing for different species and categories of animals are laid down in tables 8A, 8B and 8C of these standards.

5.1.8.2.9. The outdoor stocking density of livestock kept on pasturage, other grassland, heath land, wetland, heather, and other natural or semi natural habitats, must be low enough to prevent poaching of the soil and over grazing of vegetation.

5.1.8.3. *Mammals*

5.1.8.3.1. Subject to the provisions in paragraph 5.1.5.2., all mammals must have access to pasturage or open- air exercise area or an open-air run which may be partially covered, and they must be able to use those areas whenever the physiological condition of the animal, the weather conditions and the state of the ground permit, unless there are national requirements relating to specific animal health problems that prevent this. Herbivores must have access to pasturage whenever conditions allow.

5.1.8.3.2. When herbivorous animals have access to grass during the grazing period and, when the lodging system due to adverse climate conditions, allow the animals movement, the requirement of having open exercising and open space areas may be suspended during the adverse condition time.

5.1.8.3.3. Notwithstanding the last sentence of paragraph 5.1.8.3.1., bulls over one year old must have access to pasturage or an open-air exercise area or an open-air run.

5.1.8.3.4. Livestock housing must have smooth, but not slippery floors. At least half of the total floor area must be solid, that is, not of slatted or of grid construction.

5.1.8.3.5. The housing must be provided with a comfortable, clean and dry laying/rest area of sufficient size, consisting of a solid construction which is not slatted. Ample dry bedding strewn with litter material must be provided in the rest area. The litter must comprise straw or other suitable natural material. The litter may be improved and enriched with any mineral product authorized for use as a fertilizer in organic farming in accordance with table 1 of the annexes of these standard.

5.1.8.3.6. The housing of calves in individual boxes is forbidden after the age of one week.

5.1.8.3.7. Sows must be kept in groups, except in the last stages of pregnancy and during the suckling period. Piglets may not be kept on flat decks or in piglet cages. Exercise areas must permit dunging and rooting by the animals.

5.1.8.4. Poultry.

5.1.8.4.1. Poultry can not be held in cages. Poultry must be reared in open-air conditions according to the requirements of the tables 8A, 8B and 8C of the annexes of these standards.

5.1.8.4.2. Waterfowl must have access to a stream, pond or lake whenever the weather conditions permit in order to respect animal welfare requirements and hygiene conditions.

5.1.8.4.3. Buildings for all poultry shall meet the following conditions:

- a) at least one third of the floor area shall be solid, that is, not of slatted or of grid construction, and covered with a litter material such as straw, wood shavings, sand or turf;
- b) in poultry houses for laying hens, a sufficiently large part of the floor area available to the hens shall be available for the collection of bird droppings;
- c) They shall have perches of a size and number commensurate with the size of the group and of the birds as laid down in box 8 C of the annexes of these standards.
- d) they shall have exit/entry pop-holes of a size adequate for the birds, and these pop-holes shall have a combined length of at least 4 m per 100 m² area of the house available to the birds;
- e) each poultry house shall not contain more than:
 - 4 800 chickens,
 - 3 000 laying hens,
 - 5 200 guinea fowl,
 - 2 500 capons, geese or turkeys;
- f) the total usable area of poultry houses for meat production on any single unit, shall not exceed 1 600 m²;
- g) poultry houses shall be constructed in a manner allowing all birds easy access to open air area.

5.1.8.4.4. 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 of at least eight hours.

5.1.8.4.5. Poultry must have access to an open-air run whenever the weather conditions permit and, whenever possible, must have such access for at least one third of their life. These open-air runs must be mainly covered with vegetation be provided with protective facilities, and permit animals to have easy access to adequate numbers of drinking and feeding troughs.

5.1.8.4.6. For health reasons, buildings must be emptied of livestock between each batch of poultry reared. The buildings and fittings are to be cleaned and disinfected during this time. In addition, when the rearing of each batch of poultry has been completed, runs must be left empty to allow vegetation to grow back, and for health reasons. CERTIMEX shall establish the period for which runs must be empty. The operator shall keep documentary evidence of the application of this

period. These requirements shall not apply where poultry is not reared in batches, is not kept in runs and is free to roam, throughout the day.

5.1.8.4.7. When, for restrictions or obligations imposed by the national regulation, poultry must be into the buildings, the birds will have, in any time, access to the forage enough, and other materials to satisfy their behavior requirements.

5.1.9. Raw materials for animal feed.

5.1.9.1. Non-organic raw materials from vegetable or animal origin used for animal feed

5.1.9.1.1. Cereals, grains, their products and by-products. Only the following substances are included in this category: oats as grains, flakes, middlings, hulls and bran; barley as grains, protein and middlings; rice germ expeller; millet as grains; rye as grains and middlings; sorghum as grains; wheat as grains, middlings, bran, gluten feed, gluten and germ; spelt as grains; triticale as grains; maize as grain and bran, beer residues, grain triticale, malt roots.

5.1.9.1.2. Oil seeds, oil fruits, their products and by-products. Only the following substances are included in this category; Soya, sunflower seeds, cotton as seed, linseed, sesame seed, palm kernels , pumpkin seeds, olive, olive pulp and vegetable oils (from physical extraction).

5.1.9.1.3. Legume seeds, their products and by-products. The following substances are included: chickpeas as seeds, middlings and bran; ervil as seeds, middlings and bran, chickling vetch as seeds submitted to heat treatment, middlings and brans; peas as seeds, middlings and bran; broad beans as seeds, middling and bran; horse beans as seeds, middlings and bran, vetches as seeds, middlings and bran and lupin as seeds, middlings and bran.

5.1.9.1.4. Tuber, roots, their products and by-products. Only the following substances are included in this category: Sugar beet pulp, potato, sweet potato as tuber, potato pulp (by- product of the extraction of potato starch), potato starch, potato protein and manioc.

5.1.9.1.5. Other seeds and fruits, their products and by-products. Only the following substances are included in this category: Carob, carob pods and meals thereof, pumpkins, citrus pulp; apples, quinces, pears, peaches, figs, grapes and pulps thereof; chestnuts, walnut expeller, hazelnut expeller; cocoa husks and expeller; acorns.

5.1.9.1.6. Forages and roughages. Only the following substances are included in this category: Lucerne, Lucerne meal, clover, clover meal, grass (obtained from forage plants), grass meal, hay, silage, straw of cereals and root vegetables for foraging.

5.1.9.1.7. Other plants, their products and by-products. Only the following substances are included in this category: Molasses, seaweed meal (obtained by drying and crushing seaweed and washed to reduce iodine content), powders and

extracts of plants, plant protein extracts (solely provided to young animals, spices and herbs.

5.1.9.2. *Raw materials from animal origin*

5.1.9.2.1. Milk and milk products. Only the following substances are included in the category: raw milk , milk powder, skimmed milk, skimmed milk powder, buttermilk, butter milk powder, whey , whey powder, whey powder low in sugar, whey protein powder (extracted by physical treatment) casein powder, lactose powder, curd and sour milk.

5.1.9.2.2. Fish, other marine animals, their products and by-products. Only the following substances are included in this category: Fish, fish oil and cod-liver oil not refined; fish molluscan or crustacean autolysates, hydrolysate and proteolysats obtained by an enzyme action, whether or not in soluble form, only for aquaculture animals and the cattle litter; fish flour and crustacean flour.

5.1.9.2.3. Eggs and eggs products for use as poultry feed, preferably from the same holding.

5.1.9.3. *Feed materials from mineral origin*

Only the following substances are included in this category:

Sodium: unrefined sea salt, coarse rock salt, sodium sulphate, sodium sulphate, sodium carbonate, sodium bicarbonate, sodium chloride.

Potassium: potassium chloride

Calcium: shells of aquatic animals (including cuttlefish bones), calcium carbonate, calcium lactate, calcium gluconate.

Phosphorus: defluorinated dicalcium phosphate, defluorinated monocalcium phosphate, monosodium phosphate, calcium-sodium phosphate.

Magnesium: magnesium oxide (anhydrous magnesia), magnesium sulphate, magnesium chloride, magnesium carbonate, magnesium phosphate.

Sulphur: sodium sulphate.

5.2. Bee honey production

5.2.1. *The production unit and the conversion period*

5.2.1.1. All the apiaries with its respective beehives, extraction areas and processing areas of the honey managed by an individual beekeeper or a group of beekeepers will be considered as the production unit.

5.2.1.2. Production of both organic and non-organic honey will not be permitted.

5.2.1.3. The products of beekeeping may only be sold with references to the ecological production method when the standards of ecological production have been met during at least one year.

5.2.1.4. In the case of new installations or during the conversion period, non-organic honey bees may be used only:

- (A) if wax from organic beekeeping is not available on the market;
- (B) if it has been shown to be free from contamination with non-authorized substances in organic production.
- C) if it comes from opercula.

5.2.1.5. The conversion period must be controlled internally and supervised by CERTIMEX.

5.2.1.6. The conversion period for switching from a conventional apiary to an ecological apiary will begin when the beekeeper has suspended fully the use of forbidden substances in his/her production unit and has submitted it to the control regime, in accordance with chapter 8 of these standards. Within groups of small beekeepers, the conversion will begin when a beekeeper has signed a commitment letter to comply with his/her organisation's internal standards for ecological honey production, and is registered in the organic beekeepers' group.

5.2.1.7. Products from ecological apiculture can only be marketed with references made to ecological methods after at least one year of compliance with what is established in these standards.

5.2.1.8. During the conversion period, the beeswax will be replaced by organic wax.

5.2.2. Bee origin

5.2.2.1. When choosing bee strains, consideration should be given to those best suited for adapting to the conditions in the area or region where the beehives will be established, taking into account the characteristics of adaptability and resistance to attack by pests and diseases. European strains of the *Apis mellifera* species or the local variants of these strains are suggested.

5.2.2.2. Beehives will be established based on colony divisions and/or the purchase of colonies or nuclei from apiaries that have been managed according to these standards.

5.2.2.3. The following exceptions may apply to apiaries, if CERTIMEX is notified in writing and approval is granted. All of the cases indicated below must be perfectly documented by the beekeepers.

- a). In the case of a high level of bee mortality due to disease or pests, and apiaries complying with what is stipulated in these standards are not available, CERTIMEX can authorize the reconstitution of apiaries, if they are then subjected to a conversion period.
- b). In the annual renovation of beehives, up to 10% of queen bees or colonies not complying with these standards may be incorporated into ecological apiaries each year, if the queen bees or colonies are placed in drawers with honeycombs or wax

sheets from ecological apiaries. This must be perfectly documented by the beekeepers, and in such case, the conversion period will not be applied.

5.2.3. Location of apiaries and feeding areas

Apiaries should be located at sites with the following characteristics:

- a) in areas which ensure nectar and pollen sources consisting essentially of organically produced crops or, as appropriate, of spontaneous vegetation or non-organically managed forests or crops that are only treated with low environmental impact methods. Apiaries shall be kept at sufficient distance from sources that may lead to the contamination of beekeeping products or to the poor health of the bees;
- b) There are sources of pollen or nectar primarily from crops produced according to these standards or from wild vegetation, within a radius of at least three kilometres from the apiaries,
- c) It is completely prohibited to establish ecological apiaries in areas in which the following conditions are found within a radius of three kilometres:
 - Trash dumpsites, sanitary landfills, or other sources of contamination.
 - Where there are flowering crops that have been treated with pesticides, since the bees could be using these crops for forage.
 - Cities and towns.
 - Places with a lot of traffic and pollution.
 - Markets.
 - Sewage treatment plants
- d) The apiarist will give CERTIMEX a map or sketch, on the appropriate scale, of the hives localization.
- e) In case that there were not defined forbidden areas to develop organic apiculture by the competent authority, the apiarist may present to CERTIMEX documentation and convenient proof and, if necessary, convenient tests of the areas been accessible to the bee colony and meet the current norm established requirements.

5.2.4. Feeding of bees

5.2.4.1. Feeding of ecological beehives in accordance with these standards will be based on the collection of nectar and pollen by bees in the feeding area.

5.2.4.2. Artificial feeding of beehives will be authorized only when the survival of the beehive is in danger due to extreme climatic conditions. In these cases, feeding with ecological honey, preferably from the same production unit, is permitted.

5.2.4.3. Ecological beekeepers should guarantee that at the end of each productive cycle, sufficient reserves of honey and pollen are left for getting through the next period when natural forage in the feeding area becomes scarce.

5.2.4.4. CERTIMEX may authorise the feeding of bees with organic honey, organic sugar or organic sugar syrup in case of long lasting exceptional weather conditions or

catastrophic circumstances, which hamper the nectar or honeydew production. The individual operators shall keep documentary evidence of feeding the bees.

5.2.4.5. Artificial feeding can only be done between the last recollection of the honey and 15 days before the following nectar flow.

5.2.4.6. Feeding non-organic sugar or sugar syrup is not permitted.

5.2.4.7. In the places where non-organic sugar or sugar syrup has been used, the honey cannot be marketed as organic honey.

5.2.4.8. The following information shall be entered in the register of the apiaries with regard of the use of artificial feeding:

- type of product,
- dates,
- quantities
- Hives where it is used.

5.2.5. *Control and prevention of disease*

As a basic principle in organic beekeeping, all prevention measures should be implemented before using a control method for a specific problem with pests and/or diseases. The following preventative measures are highlighted here and will contribute toward ecological beehives that are free from pests and diseases.

5.2.5.1. Selection of good locations for apiaries.

5.2.5.2. For the protection of frames, hives and honeycombs, particularly from plagues, it is authorized only the use of rat poison (only on the traps) and the pertinent products on annex II.

5.2.5.3. Systematic inspection of beehives to detect abnormal sanitary situations.

5.2.5.4. Periodic disinfection of materials and instruments, using only authorized products listed in the annex.

5.2.5.5. Maintaining beehives on platforms or other materials that avoid direct contact with the ground.

5.2.5.6. Periodic destruction of contaminated materials or sources.

5.2.5.7. Periodic renovation of the wax in beehives.

5.2.5.8. Maintaining strong beehives.

5.2.5.9. Periodic renovation of queen bees.

5.2.5.10. Control of drones in beehives.

5.2.5.11. Keep diseased hives isolated.

5.2.5.12. If despite all these preventative measures the hives become diseased, they must be treated immediately and when necessary, moved to isolated sites.

5.2.5.13. The use of medicines in ecological beekeeping is subject to the following principles:

- a) They may be used only if the corresponding use has been authorized by CERTIMEX.
- b) Phytotherapeutic or homeopathic products will be used preferentially over chemical, synthetic, allopathic products, as long as they function effectively in controlling the specific problem addressed.
- c) If the products mentioned above are not effective in fighting a specific problem and the ecological beehives are in danger, allopathic synthetic medicines may be used under the responsibility of a veterinarian, technical advisor or other person authorized by CERTIMEX. However, this must be done without compromising what is established in the above points.
- d) Any use of chemical, synthetic, allopathic medicines as preventative measures is prohibited.
- e) As long as the above points are not compromised, cases of *Varroa jabcosoni* infestation may be treated with formic acid, lactic acid, acetic acid, and oxalic acid, as well as the following substances: menthol, thymol, eucalyptol, and camphor.
- f) In addition to the principles and products explained above, veterinary treatments and treatments for beehives, honeycombs, etc. may be used in accordance with national legislation. However, beehives treated with products not authorized in these standards must be isolated from the rest of the ecological beehives and begin their conversion period; all the wax needs to be substituted with organic wax. Honey harvested during this period may not be marketed as organic honey. These criteria are not applied for number e) of this paragraph.
- g) When veterinary medicines must be used—and before products are marketed as ecological products—the following information must be clearly reported and declared to CERTIMEX: the type of product used (indicating its main active ingredient, among other information), information regarding the diagnosis, the dose applied, method of administration, duration of treatment, and legal waiting period.

5.2.5.14. Use of antibiotics is prohibited in honey production, except when the health of the colony is seriously threatened. The use of these products must be reported and justified to the CERTIMEX office. After treatment, the treated beehives must be isolated, and the honey obtained from them separated from organic honey.

5.2.5.15. Use of sulfa-based products and other chemical products is prohibited.

5.2.6. Managing beehives

5.2.6.1. Crossbreeding of bee families is recommended.

5.2.6.2. To prevent spreading of diseases, beekeepers should rear their own queens.

5.2.6.3. Increasing beehives by dividing colonies is permitted, as long as this is properly documented.

5.2.6.4. Purchasing of bees in packages bees is permitted, as long as it is demonstrated that they come from ecologically managed apiaries.

5.2.6.5. Artificial insemination is not permitted.

5.2. 6.6. Killing bee colonies is not permitted.

5.2. 6.7. The destruction of bees in the combs as a method associated with the harvesting of beekeeping products is prohibited.

5.2.6.8. Cutting the wings of queen bees is not permitted.

5.2. 6.9. Elimination of male bees is permitted only as a mean of controlling *Varroa jacobsoni*.

5.2.6.10. Using chemical bee repellents to disperse bees is prohibited.

5.2.6.11. The location and identification of beehives must be recorded.

5.2.6.12. Any changes in the locations of the beehives must be reported to CERTIMEX in a time period agreed upon between the operator and CERTIMEX.

5.2.6.13. Management of beekeeping units for the purpose of pollination, as an exception for the purpose of pollination actions, an operator may run organic and non-organic beekeeping units on the same holding, provided that all the requirements of the organic production rules are fulfilled, with the exception of the provisions for the siting of the apiaries. In that case the product cannot be sold as organic. The operator shall keep documentary evidence of the use of this provision.

5.2.7. Characteristics of beehives and materials used

5.2.7.1. Beehive boxes must be made basically from natural materials that do not present any risks of contamination for the environment and for the products from ecological beekeeping.

5.2.7.2. Only natural substances such as propolis, wax and vegetable oils may be used inside the beehives, plus the products mentioned in point e) under 5.2.5.12

in these standards.

- 5.2.7.3. Wax for new beehives must come from ecological units.
- 5.2.7.4. Collecting honey from honeycombs where breeding is taking place is prohibited.
- 5.2.7.5. Physical treatments such as applying steam or a direct flame is permitted.
- 5.2.7.6. For cleaning and disinfecting materials, installations, equipment, utensils and products used in beekeeping, only appropriate substances included in Table 7 in the Annex of these standards will be allowed.
- 5.2.7.7. The zone where the apiary is situated shall be registered together with the identification of the hives. CERTIMEX shall be informed of the moving of apiaries by a deadline agreed on with CERTIMEX.
- 5.2.7.8. Particular care shall be taken to ensure adequate extraction, processing and storage of beekeeping products. All the measures to comply with this requirement shall be recorded.
- 5.2.7.9. The removals of the supers and the honey extraction operations shall be entered in the register of the apiary

5.2.8. Honey treatment

- 5.2.8.1. If necessary, a blower or smoker may be used to remove bees from the hives.
- 5.2.8.2. Heat not more than 35°C/95°F and to keep this process as short as possible.
- 5.2.8.3. The humidity content of the honey can not be more than 18% (measured with a refractormeter)
- 5.2.8.4. The content of HMF (hidroximetilfulfural) maximum 10mg/kg (according to analysis of a laboratory). Content of invertasa no less than 10mg/kg (according to analysis of a laboratory.)
- 5.2.8.5. Mechanical uncapping of combs preferable to uncapping with heat.
- 5.2.8.6. Allow the honey residue particles to settle out by gravity.
- 5.2.8.7. All surfaces the honey comes into contact with should be of stainless steel or coated with organic beeswax.
- 5.2.8.8. All surfaces that need to be painted must be covered with a food and beverage approved paint and coated with beeswax. Honey may not come into contact with galvanised metal or oxidized metal surfaces.

- 5.2.8.9.** Honey extraction installations should be secured to prevent robbing and the spread of disease.
- 5.2.8.10.** Honey extraction installations should be kept very clean.
- 5.2.8.11** Extracting installations should be well illuminated, and have abundant amounts of fresh, clean hot water for daily cleaning.
- 5.2.8.12.** Agglomeration of bees in extraction areas must be permitted in order to separate them with the application of water pressure, the bees that are separated in this way can be placed in other beehives.
- 5.2.8.13.** The origin of honey storage barrels must be documented.
- 5.2.8.14.** The use of new barrels is preferred. But if this is not possible, barrels used previously for storing food may be used.
- 5.2.8.15.** Before storing honey, barrels must be cleaned and coated with certified beeswax.
- 5.2.8.16.** Oxidized barrels are prohibited.
- 5.2.8.17.** Chemical bee repellents are prohibited.
- 5.2.8.18.** Floors and walls must be sealed in order to avoid the entrance of insects and rodents. The presence of insect pests (such as flies) in honey extraction areas is not permitted.
- 5.2.8.19.** Use of chemical agents such as calcium cyanide as a fumigant is prohibited.

5.2.9. Honey, Frame, Wax and Hive Storage

- 5.2.9.1.** Honey may be stored a maximum of two years before sold as an organic product.
- 5.2.9.2.** Naphthalene (mothballs) is prohibited for the control of wax moths in stored honey and honey product materials.

5.2.10. Disease prevention and veterinary treatment.

- 5.2.10.1.** Disease prevention shall be based on keeping the animals in optimal conditions by appropriate siting, optimal design of the holdings, the application of good husbandry and management practices, including regular cleaning and disinfection of premises, high quality feed, appropriate stocking density, and breed and strain selection.
- 5.2.10.2.** Disease shall be treated immediately to avoid suffering to the animal; chemically synthesised allopathic veterinary medicinal products including antibiotics may be used where necessary and under strict conditions, when the use of phytotherapeutic, homeopathic and other products is inappropriate. In particular restrictions with respect to courses of treatment and withdrawal periods shall be defined. CERTIMEX needs to

be informed about this and give the authorization.

- 5.2.10.3.** The use of immunological veterinary medicines is allowed.
- 5.2.10.4.** Treatments related to the protection of human and animal health imposed on the basis of the National legislation shall be allowed.
- 5.2.10.5.** With regard to cleaning and disinfection, products for cleaning and disinfection in ponds, cages, buildings and installations, shall be used only if they have been authorized for use in organic production as indicated in the annexes of these standards (table 7).

Chapter six

6. Processing and marketing of organic products

6.1. Raw materials

6.1.1. For products certified under this standard:

The organic raw material must have a valid certification which is in accordance with the standard CERTIMEX which is equivalent to the regulations CE No. 834 / 2007 and CE not. 889 / 2008, or must be under a control system conform with article 27 of the Regulation CE 834 / 2007.

6.1.2. Characteristics of raw materials

- a) The quality of raw materials must be documented.
- b) Raw materials fumigated with products not permitted in these standards may not be used.
- c) The use of ionizing radiation for the treatment of organic food or feed, or of raw materials used in organic food or feed is prohibited.

6.1.3. Ingredients

6.1.3.1. At least 95% of product ingredients that are of agricultural origin must originate or be produced according to Chapters 3, 4 and 5 of these standards.

6.1.3.2. In the case of the use of food additive ingredients, technological adjuvants or non-organic agricultural ingredients, these must be substances or products included in Tables 3 and 4 in the annex to these standards.

6.1.4. Standards for the production of processed food

6.1.4.1. The preparation of processed organic food shall be kept separate in time or space from non-organic food.

6.1.4.2. The following conditions shall apply to the composition of organic processed food:

- a) the product shall be produced mainly from ingredients of agricultural origin; in order to determine whether a product is produced mainly from ingredients of agricultural origin added water and cooking salt shall not be taken into account;
- b) only additives, technological aid, flavoring agents, water, salt, preparations of microorganisms and enzymes, minerals, trace elements, synthetic vitamins identical to natural vitamins for mono-gastric animals and aquaculture animals, amino acids and other micronutrients in food for specific nutritional use can be used according to the tables 3 of the annexes of the present standards.

b.1. Dyes in the stamping of meat and egg shells of eggs in accordance with, respectively, article 2, paragraph 8, and article 2, paragraph 9, of the Directive 94 / 36/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council (15);

b.2. drinking water and salt (that have as basic components sodium chloride or potassium chloride), used normally in the transformation of food; minerals (including trace elements), vitamins, amino acids and micronutrients, are only authorized insofar as the regulations make compulsory use in foods in which they are incorporated.

c) The following should be considered with the calculation of % of agricultural ingredients of organic origin indicated in the paragraph 6.1.3.1 of the presents standards:

C.1.) Food additives listed in table 3, and identified with an asterisk (*) in the column with the numeric code of the additive are counted as ingredients of agricultural origin;

C.2.) preparations and substances referred to in subparagraph (b)), b1.), b.2), b.3), of this section of the CERTIMEX standard and the substances not identified with an asterisk in the column of the numerical code of the additive are not counted as ingredients of agricultural origin.

d) an organic ingredient shall not be present together with the same ingredient in non-organic form or an ingredient in conversion;

e) only non-ecological agricultural ingredients are used according to the table 5 of the annexes of the present standards.

6.1.4.3. Substances or techniques to reconstitute properties miss in the transformation or warehousing processes will not be used, when ecological food is produced. Not substances which intend to correct consequences of neglecting in the transformation processes or that can cause confusion about the true nature of the product. The necessary measurements to apply the production norms established in this article, and, particularly, the ones related to the transformation methods and to the provisional authorization of the member Estates mentioned in part 2, letter c), will be adopted in agreement with the procedure referred in article 37, part 2.

6.1.5. General standards on processed feed production

- 6.1.5.1.** Additives, processing aids and other substances and ingredients used for processing food or feed and any processing practice applied, such as smoking, shall respect the principles of good manufacturing practice.
- 6.1.5.2.** Provision should be made to require operators producing feed or food to take account of appropriate procedures based on a systematic identification of critical processing steps in order to ensure that the produced processed products comply with the organic production rules.
- 6.1.5.3.** Operators shall comply with and implement the procedures referred to in paragraph 6.1.5.2. In particular, operators shall:
- a) Take precautionary measures to avoid the risk of contamination by unauthorised substances or products;
 - b) Implement suitable cleaning measures, monitor their effectiveness and record these operations;
 - c) Guarantee that non-organic products are not placed on the market with an indication referring to the organic production method.
- 6.1.5.4.** In addition to the established provisions in sections 6.1.5.2 and 6.1.5.3, when the non-organic product is also prepared or stored in the preparation unit concerned, the operator shall:
- (A) Carry out operations on a continuous basis by complete series, physically separated or over time of similar operations carried out on non-organic products;
 - (B) Store the organic products, before and after operations, physically separated or over time from non-organic products;
 - (C) Inform the control authority or body thereof and keep an updated record of all operations and quantities processed;
 - (D) Take the necessary actions to ensure the identification of batches and to prevent mixtures or exchanges with non-organic products;
 - (E) Carry out operations on organic products only after having properly cleaned the production equipment.

6.2. *Hygiene and sanitation*

6.2.1. The processing plant must have a formally established sanitation program that includes:

- a). Outdoor installations/areas: trash containers, waste collection centres, old machinery and equipment storage, green areas, and parking areas.
- b). Indoor installations/areas: for processing, packaging, and storage.
- c). Equipment for processing and packaging. Programs for preventing unwanted bacteria, molds and yeast.
- d). The employee's hygiene, including sanitation in eating areas, break areas, and restrooms.

6.2.2. Instruments used in cleaning should be labelled to clearly indicate their use. Cleaning instruments should be considered as aids to the process, meaning they should not be allowed to have residues of non-certified products or prohibited substances. Cleaning instruments should be rinsed after their use to guarantee the elimination of residues from equipment, and from primary and secondary working areas used for preparing food products.

6.3. *Pest management and control*

6.3.1. Pest management and control should be carried out through a formally structured plan in which emphasis is placed on elimination of pests, good sanitation and restriction of pest habitats.

6.3.2. Periodic revisions of installations should be carried out to determine whether pests are present and the degree of harm they are causing.

6.3.3. In pest control, the following is permitted:

- a) The use of mechanical, electric and adhesive traps; physical barriers; and lighting and sound mechanisms as repellents.
- b) Biological control.
- c) Storage methods that give products additional protection from adulteration from harmful animals.

- 6.3.4.** If preventative methods and techniques are insufficient for controlling pests, and the materials permitted by CERTIMEX are not available, other labelled products registered for use in food processing can be used, however only in urgent circumstances when products are in imminent danger of adulteration due to the presence of pests. The product certified by CERTIMEX cannot be present in the area during application of non-permitted materials. This situation should be reported to CERTIMEX before application is made and must be properly recorded.
- 6.3.5.** Experts can only apply these materials that are not in the list of permitted materials, in order to reduce the risk of improper application.
- 6.3.6.** The application of materials not in the list of permitted materials should be reviewed by CERTIMEX certification staff as part of the certification. All applications of this type must be documented and open to inspection by the CERTIMEX inspector.
- 6.3.7.** Fumigating products with methyl bromide, aluminium phosphorus or any other fumigant not mentioned in the list of permitted materials is not allowed.
- 6.3.8.** Use of vaporizing pesticides is not permitted in installations where organic products could become contaminated.
- 6.3.9.** Operators may only use methods or products for cleaning and disinfecting surfaces that come into contact with organic foods if they meet the following requirements:
- a) Disinfectants, sanitizers, sterilants allowed for use in the food industry.
 - b) Substances that do not pose any risk to the organic product.
 - c) Ultraviolet radiation.
 - d) Heat treatment.
 - e) Ethyl alcohol as a disinfectant on surfaces in contact with organic products.
 - f) The operator must support the need to use the inputs mentioned in subsection a) of this section.
 - g) The surfaces on which disinfectants or sanitizers are applied must be washed with potable water, ensuring that the residues of these substances do not contaminate the organic product.
 - h) It is not allowed to wash or disinfect organic products with water treated with ozone, chlorine products, or hydrogen peroxide.

6.4. *Packaging*

- 6.4.1.** All materials used for packaging must be free from fungicides, fumigants, insecticides and other contaminants.
- 6.4.2.** Containers with lead bearing solder are prohibited.
- 6.4.3.** All materials used for packaging must protect the product's organic integrity.
- 6.4.4.** Printing on the outside of products and product labels should make use of only non-toxic ink and adhesives, and there should be no direct contact with the product.
- 6.4.5.** The packaging material should guarantee that any negative effects on the environment from its manufacture, use and disposal have been reduced to a minimum.

6.5. *Labelling*

- 6.5.1.** Products, agricultural origin ingredients, recollection products or raw materials for animal feeding, obtained according to the present norm; that have in their labels, publicity or commercial documentation the terms "organic" or "ecologic", must have a identification system to warranty a clear separation of this products and to avoid any mixture possibility with other products different to organic ones. This system must allow that the product flow may be done in all the stages of production, processing and commercializing of such product. In relation to the packaged food, the Community logo must appear on the label and the CERTIMEX logo may be affixed preceded by the phrase "organic certificated by CERTIMEX" or a similar statement. Previously, the application of seal use procedure must be communicated to the operator. Contact information about the certifier may be also be printed, as the e-mail address or web site.
- 6.5.2.** In the labelling and advertising of live or unprocessed agricultural products terms referring to the organic production method may be used only where, in addition, all the ingredients of that product have also been produced in accordance with the requirements laid down in these standards.
- 6.5.3.** The terms referred to in paragraph 6.5.1 shall not be used for the labelling, advertising and commercial documents of a product which does not satisfy the requirements set out in these standards

- 6.5.4.** Furthermore, any terms, including terms used in trademarks, or practices used in labelling or advertising liable to mislead the consumer or user by suggesting that a product or its ingredients satisfy the requirements set out in these standards shall not be used.
- 6.5.5.** The terms referred to in paragraph 6.5.1 shall not be used for a product for which it has to be indicated in the labelling or advertising that it contains GMOs, consists of GMOs or is produced from GMOs according to official provisions.
- 6.5.6.** As regards processed food the label or the publicity of the commercialised products with the denomination “Organic” may be used when the following aspects are complied with:
- a) The processed food complies with what is stated in paragraph 6.1.4 of these standards
 - b) at least 95 % by weight, of its ingredients of agricultural origin are organic;
 - c) only in the list of ingredients, provided that the food complies with paragraph 6.1.4.;
 - d) in the list of ingredients and in the same visual field as the sales description, provided that:
 - (i) the main ingredient is a product of hunting or fishing;
 - (ii) it contains other ingredients of agricultural origin that are all organic;
 - (iii) the food complies with paragraph 6.1.4.
 - e) The list of ingredients shall indicate which ingredients are organic.
 - f) In the case where points (c) and (d) of this paragraph apply, the references to the organic production method may only appear in relation to the organic ingredients and the list of ingredients shall include an indication of the total percentage of organic ingredients in proportion to the total quantity of ingredients of agricultural origin.
 - g) The terms and the indication of percentage referred to in the previous subparagraph shall appear in the same colour, identical size and style of lettering as the other indications in the list of ingredients.
 - h) Food additives which appear in the annexes of these standards (tables 3 and 4) and identified with a asterisk in the column of the additive numeric code will be posted as ingredients of agricultural origin;
 - i) preparations and substances as: preparations based on micro-organisms and enzymes, natural flavouring substances or preparations of natural flavouring, colour stamps on meat, and on egg shells, potable water and salt, minerals including trace elements and the substances not identified with an asterisk in the

column of the additive numeric code will not be posted as ingredients of agricultural origin.

- j) In the case of feed at least 95 % of the dry matter product consists of raw materials for feedingstuffs produced by the organic production method.
- k) In the case of using ingredients of non-agricultural origin, they must be substances or products that are listed in table 3 and 4 of the annex to this standard.
- l) Neither the ingredients or product referred to in paragraph 6.1.3.1. did not have undergone treatment with substances that are not listed in the annexes to these standards.
- m) Neither the product nor the ingredients have been subjected to treatment with ionising radiation.
- n) The product has been developed or produced by an operator who is controlled and certified in accordance with Chapter 8 of these standards.
- o) The product that on its label refers to the organic production method, ensures that it is produced without the use of GMOs, transgenic organisms or products or ingredients derived from such organisms.

6.5.7. The presentation and advertising of organic products complying with requirements 6.1.4.1 and 6.4.2 (a) (b) and (d) of these standards may only be used in the labeling. The use of these seals in the products in conversion or in the products referred to in 6.5.6 (c), (d) (i) (ii) and (iii) are not allowed.

6.5.8 The operator needs to comply with procedure 20 of the Quality Procedure Manual of CERTIMEX in order to use the seal of CERTIMEX (logo and name).

6.5.9. CERTIMEX shall adopt the measures and penalties necessary to prevent fraudulent use of the CERTIMEX seal, according to the indications referred to in paragraph 6.5.4 and 6.5.5. of these standards.

6.5.10. Indications in processed feed, without prejudice to what is stated in paragraph 6.5.1, organic production references may be used in processed feed, provided that:

- a) Processed feed comply with these standards and in particular with Chapter 6.1.5. of this standard.
- b) processed feed comply with these standards and in particular regarding feedingstuffs and processed products;
- c) At least 95 % of the dry material of the product is organic.

6.5.11. With the condition that the requirements that are laid down in (a) and (b) of paragraph 6.5.12 are complied with, it will be allowed to use the following sentence when products contain varying amounts of raw materials that come from organic agriculture or that contain raw materials coming from products in conversion to organic agriculture or no organic raw materials: " This can be used

in organic production in accordance with the CERTIMEX standard for organic farming".

6.5.12. Conditions for the use of the indications in processed feed, the criteria are referred to in paragraph 6.5.12:

- a) An acknowledgement, which expresses the weight of the dry material needs to be accompanied on the same display and which specify:
 - i) the percentage of raw material(s) coming from organic agriculture,
 - ii) the percentage of raw material(s) coming from products in conversion to organic agriculture,
 - iii) the percentage of raw material(s) which are not covered in the paragraphs i) and ii),
 - iv) the total percentage of feed from organic agriculture.
- b) It needs to be accompanied by a list with the names of the raw materials for animal feed coming from organic agriculture;
- c) It needs to be accompanied by a list with the names of the raw materials for animal feed coming from products in conversion to organic agriculture.

6.5.13. The indication referred to in paragraph 6.5.12 may be also be accompanied by a reference to the requirement to use feedingstuffs in accordance with paragraphs 5.1.4.5, 5.1.4.6, 5.1.4.4 and 5.1.4.18.

6.5.14. When the communitary logo is used, the indication of the place where raw agricultural materials where gather to elaborate the product, must be also on the same visual field tan the logo and, must adopt one of the following forms, as be appropriate:

- a) **EU Agriculture:** when raw agricultural materials came from EU.
- b) **No EU Agriculture:** when raw agricultural materials came from another countries.
- c) **EU Agriculture / No EU:** when part of the raw agricultural materials came from the community and other part came from another country.

The mention of «EU» or «no EU» referred on the first paragraph can be substitute with the name of a country or can be completed with such name in case that all the raw agricultural materials were from such country.

6.5.15. On the above indication «EU» or «no EU» may not be in consideration he small amounts of ingredients in weight, provided that the total amount of ingredients not counted, is not more that 2% of the total amount in weight, of the raw agricultutal materials.

The above indication «EU» or «no EU» will not be presented in a color, size or typographic style that stand out over the sell denomination of the product.

- 6.5.16.** The use of the communitarian logo mentioned in 6.5.4 and 6.5.5, section 6.5.9, and the indication mentioned in the first paragraph will be optional for the imported products from other countries. Although, when the communitarian logo in reference to 6.5.14, is on the label, the indication mentioned in section 6.5.8 also must be on the label.
- 6.5.17.** The information specified in paragraph 6.5.14, 6.5.15 and 6.5.16 must be in a conspicuous place so as to be easily visible, clearly legible and indelible.

6.6. *Records of product flow*

- 6.6.1.** The production unit or the processing plant needs to have the files of the entry of the raw material as detailed as possible, also the inventory of the warehouses, the quantities of the processed products processed by working hours or by lots and files of the processing output; as well as a financial record so that the operator and CERTIMEX may, respectively identify and verify:
- a) the provider and, if different, the seller or the exporter of the products;
 - b) the nature and quantities of the organic products that have been supplied to the unit and, if this happens, of all the materials acquired, as well as the use which has been occurred, and, where appropriate, the formulation of compound feedingstuffs;
 - c) the nature and quantities of organic products which are stored in the building;
 - d) the nature, quantities and consignees, as well as, if different, the buyers, exempt the final consumers of all the products that left the unit or the building or storage facilities of the first consignee;
 - e) for operators that do not stored or handle physically such organic products, the nature and quantities of organic products that have been bought and sold, and the suppliers, as well as, if different, sellers or exporters and buyers, and, if different, the consignees
- 6.6.2.** Each processing plant needs to have formats and logbooks of the movement of the raw material, the functioning of the equipment and of the materials which are used in the processing plant.
- 6.6.3.** The accountability which is documented also needs to have included the results of the verification at the moment of the reception of the organic products and any other information which is requested by the control body or authority so that an adequate verification can be carried out. The information of the accounting must be documented by relevant supporting

documents. The accounts need to demonstrate the balance between inputs and outputs.

- 6.6.4.** All records including accounting records must be maintained in an orderly fashion, making it possible to easily trace all steps of the process, from raw materials operators to the system of distributing processed products.
- 6.6.5.** The operators may simultaneously collect organic and non organic products only when appropriate measures are taken to prevent any possible mingling or exchange with non organic products and measures are taken to ensure the identification of the organic products. The operator shall keep data available for CERTIMEX about the days and hours of collection circuit and the date and time of the reception of the products.
- 6.6.6.** All records for tracing products must be available for review by CERTIMEX's supervisor.
- 6.6.7.** For the purposes of the prohibition referred to in paragraph 6.5.6 (o) concerning GMOs or products made from GMOs for human and animal food, operators must accompany their products with a registration or affidavit that the ingredient, additive or processing aid is free from GMOs. Operators may not assume that GMOs or products made from GMOs have not been used in the manufacture of foodstuffs and feedingstuff purchased when they are not labeled as such.

6.7. Safety regulations

- 6.7.1.** Industrial safety regulations for employees must be established.

6.8. Parallel processing

- 6.8.1.** Processors that process both organic and conventional products must present a reliable system for keeping the two types of products separate, and must be working towards the goal of exclusively processing organic products. The operations carried out with products obtained according to these standards can only be carried out after cleaning the production equipment. It must be controlled and assigned with effective cleaning measurements.
- 6.8.2.** The separation of organic products from conventional products must be guaranteed through all stages of the process including: raw materials delivered, storage, processing times, and storage of processed products.

- 6.8.3.** All records and documents verifying the separation of organic and conventional products must be available for review by a CERTIMEX accredited inspector.
- 6.8.4.** If parallel processing does not occur frequently, but when it does, it must be announced beforehand to CERTIMEX, with at least 48 hours anticipation.
- 6.8.5.** All necessary measures to guarantee the identification of lots and prevent commingling with non-organic products must be adopted.

6.9. Storage and transportation

- 6.9.1.** Storage and transportation of organic products must not damage their organic quality. All organic products must be clearly identified as such during both storage and transportation.
- 6.9.2.** The operators must guarantee that the products obtained according to these standards can be transported to other units, including wholesalers and retailers, only in adequate containers or closed cars in such a way that it is impossible to substitute its contents without manipulation or damage of the organic product and with a label that mentions, apart from the dispositions that are obligatory, the following data:
- a) The name and the address of the operator, and if different, the owner or the salesman of the product, including the name of the country of origin of the product.
 - b) The name of the product, its description, together with the reference to the ecological production method, its conformity according to the case mentioned in chapter 3, 4, 5, and 6.
 - c) the name of CERTIMEX and its approval code in the European Union, eg MX-BIO-104 for Mexico, CO-BIO-104 for Colombia, DO-BIO-104 for Republica Dominicana, GT- SV-BIO-104 The for El Salvador, this codes will be placed below the Community logo if it is used on the labelling.
 - d) If necessary, the label of the share identification, according to a national regulation system or a system that is convenient for CERTIMEX to relate the share with the accountability mentioned in paragraph 6.3.10.
 - e) The information that is mentioned in paragraphs a, b, c, and d of this paragraph may also be mentioned in a document that accompanies the load and in which the data of the owner of the product and the transporter are mentioned. This

document should not have information different than what is indicated on the package, label, container or vehicle of the product.

- f) The indication of the place where the agricultural raw materials of which the product is composed, as mentioned in section 6.5.14, is located immediately below the numerical code mentioned in c).
- g) The Community logo shall conform to the model indicated in Annex XI to Regulation 889/2008 and shall be used in accordance with the technical standards for reproduction laid down in that Annex.

6.9.3. However, containers do not have to be closed when:

- a) The product is transported between a producer and another operator who are both subjected to the inspection system established in Chapter 8 of these standards.
- b) The products are accompanied by a document containing the information required in point 6.9.2.
- c) CERTIMEX, as well as the operator who is the sender as well as the operator who is the receiver must be informed about the transport operations mentioned before and they must give their consent. This consent can be given for one or more transport operations.

6.9.4. Reception of products from other processing units or transformation.

The operator needs to must that the packing or container is closed at the moment that an ecological or organic product is received and it needs to comply with what is established in paragraph 6.9.2 of this standard. The operator needs to review if the information that is mentioned on the label is according to paragraph 6.9.2. and according to the documents that accompany the product. This information must be correctly registered and explain what is established in paragraph 8.1.10 of these standards and this needs to be supervised by the inspector of CERTIMEX.

6.9.5. Specific criteria for the transport of animal feedingstuffs, beside the provisions mentioned in this chapter; the operators shall ensure to comply with the following conditions when transporting feed to other production units or preparation or storage rooms:

- a) feed which is organically produced shall be physically separated during transport from feedingstuff in conversion and non organic feedingstuff;

- b) vehicles or containers which non organic products have been transported may be used for the transport of organic products if:
 - i). they are cleaned in a proper manner and the effectiveness has been controlled before the transport of organic products whose effectiveness has been controlled; the operators must register these operations,
 - ii). the appropriate measures based on the risks evaluation in accordance with paragraph 8.1.23 are applied, and, where appropriate, the operators ensure that no organic products cannot be marketed with an indication that refers to the organic production method,
 - iii). the operator maintains documentary records of such transactions of transport available to CERTIMEX;
 - c) The transport of finished organic feedingstuff will be separated physically or temporarily of the transport of other finished products;
 - d) The initial quantities of products will be registered during transport as well as each individual quantity supplied in each delivery made during the distribution.
- 6.9.6.** Storage of products; the areas for the storage of products need to be handled in such a manner that the identification of the lots are ensured and that any mingling or contamination with products or substances that do not meet the ecological production standards are prevented. Organic products must be able to be clearly identified at all times.
- 6.9.7.** It is forbidden to store inputs different than authorized by these standards in the organic vegetal and animal production units
- 6.9.8.** Storage of veterinary medicinal products and antibiotics is permitted on holdings provided that these products have been prescribed by a veterinarian and that it is in relation to the treatment in accordance with paragraph 5.1.5.4 of these standards and that it is stored in a location which is monitored and recorded in a livestock registry as mentioned in paragraph 8.1.19 of these standards.
- 6.9.9.** Where operators handled not organic products as organic products and store the organic products in facilities where also other agricultural product or foodstuff are stored:

- a) organic products will remain separated from other agricultural products or foodstuffs;
- b) all measures necessary will be taken to ensure the identification of shipments and to prevent mingling or exchanges with non-organic products;
- c) Appropriate cleaning measures, whose effectiveness must be proven, before the storage of organic products are adopted; operators must register these operations.

6.9.10. All processors of ecological products must comply with the requirements described in this chapter and must be subjected to the CERTIMEX inspection program described in section 8.2. of these standards.

6.10. *Marketing of organic products*

6.10.1. Merchants of plant products, honey, and food products composed of plants or honey that have been obtained in accordance with these standards, must be subjected to the CERTIMEX inspection program, as stated in section 8.3. of these standards.

6.10.2. The merchant must guarantee that all storage areas to be used will be open to CERTIMEX inspection. When such installations are located outside Mexico, they must be subjected to an inspection by an entity recognized by CERTIMEX.

6.10.3. Written record-keeping must be maintained in order to allow CERTIMEX to perfectly track each lot of organic products marketed or exported, in addition to other aspects mentioned in section 6.6 of Chapter 6 and point 8.3.4. of Chapter 8 of these standards.

6.10.4. CERTIMEX will carry out at least one inspection a year that will include a complete physical inspection of the installations and the merchant's documentation, and in some cases, a sample of other installations and storage areas used by the merchant. CERTIMEX will also conduct unannounced inspections.

6.10.5. Organic products should be marketed in appropriate containers and it should be guaranteed that the seals on the containers prevent substitution of the contents. The containers should indicate who the merchant is and should have some kind of number or code system to permit the identification of each lot with its transaction certificate.

6.10.6. CERTIMEX issues control transaction certificates complying with article 11 of Regulation (EC) 1235 / 2008, for which it will carry out the following activities:

- 6.10.7.** To carry out a material inspection of the consignment or receiving an explicit declaration from the exporter that the consignment has been produced or has been subjected to processing in accordance with the requirements of the present standards; The credibility of such a statement should be checked according to the risk. Also, a number must be assigned to each issued certificate and track must be kept of the certificates issued in a chronological order
- 6.10.8.** The control certificate must be drawn up in one of the official languages of the European Union and completed entirely, with the exception of spaces reserved to seals and signatures with typewriter.
- 6.10.9.** The inspection certificate shall be drawn up in one of the official languages of the Member State of destination. If they deem it necessary, the competent authorities of the Member State may request the translation of the inspection certificate to one of its official languages. Any possible amendment or unauthorized stigmatizing will invalidate the certificate.
- 6.10.10.** An original of the certificate of inspection shall be issued. The first consignee or, where appropriate, the importer may make a copy to inform authorities or agencies pursuant to the provisions of article 83 of Regulation (EC) no 889/2008. This copy must a printed form or with stamps that mention «COPY» or «DUPLICATE».
- 6.10.11.** The organic products that come from other countries, must be sell labeled as ecological or may be part of a processed product labeled as ecological only if:
- a) Meet what is establish on chapters 2,3,4,5, 6, 7 and 8 of the present Regulations or on the equivalent norms to the UE Regulations CE No. 834/2007; CE 889/2008, also, according to the UE Regulations CE No. 834/2007; CE 889/2008 and the respective modifications.
 - b)) all the operators, including sellers that were under the control of any authority or recognized control organism according to section 8.4.25 of the present regulations and the Article 37, section 2 and 3 of the CE 834/2007 Regulations.
 - c)) the operators interested may present, at any time, to importers, to CERTIMEX or to the competent authorities, documentation that justifies and back up the organic quality of the product, that allow the identification of the operator that made the last operation and the verification that the

operator meet what is in a) and b), granted by the authority or control organism referred in b).

- d) The product is back up by a control certificate granted by the competent authority, the control organism or authority of the third party country, recognized according with the Article 37 section 2 and 3 from the CE No. 834/2007 Regulations, to confirm that the product meet the established conditions in the present section.
- e) The original copy of the certificate referred on the present section, will be supporting the merchandise till the facilities of the first addressee; later, the importer will have the certificate available to the authority or control organism during, and not less than, a 2 years period.

6.11. *Products that do not satisfy with the requirements of these standards.*

6.11.1. When a CERTIMEX operator consider or suspect that a product produced, elaborate, commercialize by himself or received from other operator do not meet the present norm, he will initiate a procedure to take away from such product any reference to the ecological production method, or to separate and identify the product. Such producer can send the product to be transformed or packaged or to be re-sent to the market, only when the doubt is removed, unless the re-marketing is made without any indication referring to the ecological production method. In case of a doubt of this type, the operator must inform immediately to CERTIMEX. In this case CERTIMEX may demand that the product will not be on the market with any indication referring to the ecological production method till the obtained information from the operator, or other founts, is convincing enough for the doubt to be cleared.

6.11.2. When CERTIMEX has founded suspicions that one of his operators has the intention to put a product on the market that does not comply with these standards but has a reference to the ecological production method than CERTIMEX can demand that the operator cannot market provisionally that product with this reference during a certain time period which will be determined by CERTIMEX. CERTIMEX will allow the operator to present his observations before such decision will be made. This decision will be complemented with the obligation to withdraw whatever reference to the ecological production method from the product if CERTIMEX is convinced that the product does not comply with these standards. When the suspicion is not confirmed, the decision explained before must be cancelled before

the time period that is set is passed. The operator must cooperate completely in order to solve this suspicion.

Chapter seven

7. Social justice

7.1. *Vegetable gardens, plots, plantations and related businesses*

- 7.1.1.** The conversion plan must indicate how operators will implement social rights in their production unit.
- 7.1.2.** CERTIMEX must guarantee that organic operators meet at least the national standards and laws in the area of workers' right for field workers and processing plant workers.
- 7.1.3.** The operator needs to document the labour relations when the operator has 10 or more permanent workers in such a manner that this can be reviewed at any moment. The documentation of the labour relations need to have at least the following; description of the work, reach and limits of the work as well as the type and amount of the wages.
- 7.1.4.** Permanent and temporary workers have the right to organize and join the organizations of their choice, as well as establish their own statutes, elect their representatives and formulate their own programs (see International Labour Organization, Convention 87, Article 2 and 3).
- 7.1.5.** The organizations of permanent and temporary workers have the right to establish or join with federations or confederations and they have the right to affiliate with international organizations (see International Labour Organization, Convention 98, Article 1.1)
- 7.1.6.** All the workers have the right and liberty to join and organize themselves to defend their rights. The workers who are members of a union need to have the protection against acts of discrimination or persecution in their work (Convention Article 1.1. of the OIT).
- 7.1.7.** The operators need to allow that the labour unions can carry out their work.

- 7.1.8.** All employees, including seasonal and temporary workers, must be paid fair wages. Wages must be at least equal to typical wages paid in the region or nation for similar work. Such guaranteed wages should be based on negotiations between company owners and employees. The employees have to receive their wages in money.
- 7.1.9.** The operators need to compromise to evade any type of forced or involuntary work.
- 7.1.10.** Operators need to assure, when they have 10 or more workers, that there employers have basic health insurance in case of maternity, illness and retirement. The operator with 10 or more workers needs to make a policy for wages and social insurance and the workers need to have access to this policy.
- 7.1.11.** Inequality of treatment of the workers because of race, sex, religion, political convictions and nationality may not exist. The workers who carry out the same work and who have the same responsibilities need to receive the same remunerations, opportunities and the same rights.
- 7.1.12** In the case of plantations, permanent workers should be provided with appropriate areas for cultivating family gardens.

7.2. *Children's rights*

- 7.2.1.** Child labour (under 12 years of age) cannot be exploited. Children can work, but only if the operator guarantees their access to education, rest and other rights incorporated in the UN Declaration on the Rights of Children.

7.3. *Rights of indigenous peoples*

- 7.3.1.** Agricultural activities and the collecting of wild products must not violate the demands by indigenous peoples regarding land or any other resource of vital importance for their way of living and ancestral rights and the rights coming from the ILO Convention Number 169.

Chapter eight

8. CERTIMEX Inspection and certification

8.1. Plants, plant products, and animal products obtained from agricultural production systems. Also, recollected vegetable products and mushrooms.

- 8.1.1.** The following inspection and certification criteria are applicable to plants, plant products and honey production originating from agricultural systems that are managed according to these standards. Also included are recollected products.
- 8.1.2.** The entire agricultural production will be handled according to the applicable requirements of these standards. However, a holding may be split up into clearly separated units or aquaculture production sites which are not all managed under organic production. As regards animals, different species shall be involved. As regards aquaculture the same species may be involved, provided that there is adequate separation between the production sites. As regards plants, different varieties that can be easily differentiated shall be involved. In the case of Small producers Groups (SPG), CERTIMEX recognizes the entire SPG as the organic production unit (production, processing and/or marketing) of the product or products which are handled according to what is established in these standards.
- 8.1.3.** The processing, packing and/or marketing can be carried out in the same ecological production unit only when this production is limited to the production done by the same operator. The quantities are globalised by day when these are direct sales to the final consumer. It is prohibited to store inputs in the ecological unit that are different than those that are listed in the annexes of these standards.
- 8.1.4.** All operators producing, processing, storage and marketing products with references to ecological production methods and who require the certification of CERTIMEX before marketing the product as ecological or in conversion need to notify the activity to CERTIMEX and must be subjected to the inspection and certification program established in this chapter.
- 8.1.5.** Where an operator contracts out any of the activities to a third party, that operator shall nonetheless be subject to the requirements referred to in points 8.1.4. and the subcontracted activities shall be subject to the control system as established in this chapter.

- 8.1.6.** Where appropriate, the operator will check documentary evidence of their suppliers of the products.
- 8.1.7.** In those cases where, according to paragraph 8.1.2., not all the agricultural production units are dedicated to ecological agriculture, the farmer should maintain the earth, animals and the products that are used for the ecological production separated from the products that are used or are produced in the non ecological unit and keep adequate records to show the separation.
- 8.1.8.** When an operator operates several production units in the same area, the units that are dedicated to non ecological products, along with storage places for inputs, must also be object to the minimum control requirements.
- 8.1.9.** Where a livestock operator manages several production units, simultaneous production of ecological and not ecological livestock, then they also shall be subject to the regime of control as established in this chapter.
- 8.1.10.** Once the application of the CERTIMEX inspection system has begun, the operator, including the operators that are limited to the recollection of plants or to products of wild plants, agricultural production, animal production, apiculture, food processing, animal feeding elaboration. Will elaborate and maintain:
- :
- a) A complete description of the ecological production unit, indicating the areas of production or recollection, storage areas, and if indicated, the areas where processing and packaging take place.
 - b) Determining all the necessary measures to be adopted by the operator in his unit in order to guarantee compliance with these standards. The measures may refer to production, file systems, the internal control system, product gathering, stocking and storage, processing and/or marketing.
 - c) The precautionary measures be taken to reduce the risk of contamination by products or unauthorized substances and cleaning measures that have to be taken in the storage places and throughout the complete production chain of the operator.
 - d) To accept the Exchange of information, when the operator or subcontractors, are inspected by the different authorities or control organisms according with the control system established by the considered member State.
 - e) To accept the transmission of control records when the operator or subcontractors of this operator, change their authorities or their following or oncoming control organism;
 - f) To accept to inform ASAP about the quitting when the operator decides so, to the competent authority and to the control authority or pertinent organism;

- g) To accept that the operator's control files will be conserved for at least a 5 years period;
- h) To accept to inform ASAP about any irregularity or infraction that affects the ecological character of the ecological product or products that the operator receive from other operators or subcontractors, to the pertinent control authority or authorities or organism or organisms.

In case of the recollection of plants that grow naturally, the recollector must present guarantees regarding the compliance with the provisions of paragraph 3.8. of chapter 3 of these standards.

8.1.11. Where appropriate, the description and measures provided for in paragraph 8.1.10. may be part of a quality system as set up by the operator.

8.1.12. Specify the date of the last application on the parcels and/or collection areas concerned of products, the use of which is not compatible with the organic production rules.

8.1.13. In case of collection of wild plants, the practical measures referred to in paragraph 8.1.10, letter b) shall include any guarantees given by third parties which the operator can provide to ensure that the provisions of paragraph 3.8. of these standards are complied with.

8.1.14. Each year, before the date indicated by CERTIMEX, the operator shall notify the control authority or control body of its schedule of production of crop products, giving a breakdown by parcel.

8.1.15. The operator before of trade a product as organic or in conversion to organic, the operator shall notify CERTIMEX about the following information:

- a) the name and address of the operator;
- b) the locations of premises and, where appropriate, of plots (cadastral data) where the operations are performed;
- c) the nature of the operations and products; the commitment on the part of the operator to carry out operations in accordance with the provisions of this standard;
- d) where in the case of an agricultural holding, the date on which the producer did not apply anymore products that are not authorized in organic production in the plots in question;
- e) The name of CERTIMEX as an approved body to which the operator has entrusted the control of his holding.

8.1.16. Conversion to ecological agriculture will be planned through a conversion program to be presented to the external inspector during his visit. Receiving organic certification will depend on complying with the conversion program.

8.1.17. When the control system applying specifically to livestock production is first implemented, the full description of the unit referred to in paragraph 8.1.10, letter a) shall include:

- a) a full description of the livestock buildings, pasturage, open air areas, etc., and, where applicable, the premises for the storage, packaging and processing of livestock, livestock products, raw materials and inputs;
- b) a full description of the installations for the storage of livestock manure.

8.1.18. The corrective measures referred to in paragraph 8.1.10 number *b* shall include:

- a) a plan for spreading manure agreed with CERTIMEX, together with a full description of the areas given over to crop production;
- (b) where appropriate, as regards the spreading of manure, the written arrangements with other holdings as referred to in paragraph 5.1.7.3 complying with the provisions of the organic production rules;
- (c) a management plan for the organic-production livestock unit.

8.1.19. Livestock records shall be compiled in the form of a register and kept available to CERTIMEX at all times at the premises of the holding. Such records shall provide a full description of the herd or flock management system comprising at least the following information:

- a) as regards animals arriving at the holding: origin and date of arrival, conversion period, identification mark and veterinary record;
- b) as regards livestock leaving the holding: age, number of heads, weight in case of slaughter, identification mark and destination;
- c) details of any animals lost and reasons thereof;
- d) as regards feed: type, including feed supplements, proportions of various ingredients of rations and periods of access to free-range areas, periods of transhumance where restrictions apply;
- e) as regards disease prevention and treatment and veterinary care: date of treatment, details of the diagnosis, the posology; type of treatment product, the indication of the active pharmacological substances involved method of treatment and veterinary prescription for veterinary care with reasons and withdrawal periods applying before livestock products can be marketed labelled as organic.

- 8.1.20.** Whenever veterinary medicinal products are used the information according to the paragraph above letter e is to be declared to CERTIMEX before the livestock or livestock products are marketed as organically produced. Livestock treated shall be clearly identified, individually in the case of large animals; individually, or by batch, or by hive, in the case of poultry, small animals and bees.
- 8.1.21.** A map on an appropriate scale listing the location of hives shall be provided to CERTIMEX by the beekeeper. Where no areas are identified in accordance with Article 13(2), the beekeeper shall provide CERTIMEX with appropriate documentation and evidence, including suitable analyses if necessary, that the areas accessible to his colonies meet the conditions required in this standard.
- 8.1.22.** In the case of a unit involved in the preparation for its own account or for account of a third party, and including in particular units involved in packaging and/or re-packaging of such products or units involved in labelling and/or re-labelling of such products, the full description of the unit referred to in paragraph 8.1.10 shall show the facilities used for the reception, the processing, packaging, labelling and storage of agricultural products before and after the operations concerning them, as well as the procedures for the transport of the products.
- 8.1.23.** Control measures for feedingstuffs. The complete description of the unit mentioned in paragraph 8.1.10, includes:
- a) installations used for the reception, preparation and storage of products intended for animal feed before and after the operations to which they refer;
 - b) installations used for other products which are used in the preparation of animal feed;
 - c) storage installations used for the storage of cleaning and disinfection products;
 - d) if necessary, a description of compound feedingstuffs that the operator has planned to develop, and of the animal species or animal category for which this feed is intended; if necessary, the name of raw materials used for the feed that the operator plans to prepare
- 8.1.24.** The measures referred to in paragraph 8.1.10 that the operators will adopt to ensure compliance with the standards relating to organic production will include an indication of the measures referred to in paragraph 6.1.5.
- 8.1.25.** CERTIMEX will evaluate based on these measures in a general manner the risks which are associated with each preparation unit and will establish a control plan. This control plan will include a minimum number of random samples for analysis, based on the potential risks.

- 8.1.26.** Documentary accounts on feedingstuffs, overlooking the proper control of the operations, the documentary accounts will include information on the origin, nature and the amount of raw materials for animal feed, additives, sales and finished products.
- 8.1.27.** Feedingstuffs control visits: the control visit will include a complete material inspection of the installations. In addition, CERTIMEX will carry out specific visits based on an overall risk assessment which may result in non compliance with standards which are related to the ecological production.
- 8.1.28.** CERTIMEX shall pay special attention to critical control points which are identified by the operator in order to determine if the monitoring and verification operations are develop properly. All the installations which are used by the operator to carry out his activities may be inspected at a frequency related proportionally at the risks that exist.
- 8.1.29.** Control requirements for units which are contracted out to third parties and involved in the production and the preparation of organic products or in commercialization and which have contracted out to third parties in part or in total the actual operations, the full description of the unit referred to in paragraph 8.1.10 letter a), shall include:
- a). a list of the subcontractors with a description of their activities and an indication of the control bodies or authorities to which they are subject;
 - b). written agreement by the subcontractors that their holding will be subject to the control regime of CERTIMEX according to chapter 8;
 - c). all the practical measures, including inter alia an appropriate system of documentary accounts, to be taken at the level of the unit to ensure that the products the operator places on the market can be traced to, as appropriate, their suppliers, sellers, consignees and buyers.
- 8.1.30.** Exchange of information. Where the operator and his subcontractors are checked by different control authorities or control bodies, the inspection service contract shall include an agreement by the operator on his behalf and that of his subcontractors, that the different control bodies or control authorities can exchange information on the operations under their control and on the way this exchange of information can be implemented.
- 8.1.31.** For operators who hire labour, at the beginning of the conversion period shall make an inventory of social parameters for the workers such as accommodation, food and hygiene, as well as present a plan of improvements. These will be put in practice following an agreed timetable.

- 8.1.32.** All the individual operators who require the certification of CERTIMEX need to have the following information: handlings plan, location sketch of the land, sketch of the land with the plots, including other crops and use of the plots, work plan, report of the activities carried out in the organic program, harvest files. The inspector of CERTIMEX will verify the complete organic production unit and evaluate the production system according to these standards.
- 8.1.33.** Small Producers Groups who require certification of CERTIMEX need to establish an internal control system for 100% of the producers who require the organic certification. This system needs to be in place before CERTIMEX carries out the on-side inspection and it needs to guarantee that the group complies with these standards.
- 8.1.34.** The internal control system needs to have the following aspects:
- a) Responsible personnel of the internal control, conformed by a Responsible person or a Coordinator of the internal control, internal inspectors and an internal approval committee.
 - b) To avoid conflicts of interest of the internal control personnel,
 - c) Training of the personnel
 - d) Documents that back up the internal control system,
 - e) Execution of internal inspections consisting of on side visits to the plots, proof of ecological techniques used for the crop and processing in the field as well as the control of the harvest, product gathering and storage of the product. The internal inspection needs to take place at least once a year and each producer must be controlled during the growing season.
 - f) Systematization of the internal inspection results.
- 8.1.35.** The following documents need to be made as back up material of the internal control system in the SPG and these documents will be reviewed by the external control:
- a) Internal regulation for the organic production
 - b) Application/proof of acceptance into the organic production program
 - c) Sketch of the location of the communities that are part of the SPG
 - d) Sketch of the community with the location of all the plots from all the members
 - e) Sketch of the location of the production units from each member of the SPG
 - f) Organic handling plan. Including an activity calendar
 - g) File, questionnaire or guide which is used to carry out the internal inspection
 - h) List of the producers who are participating in the organic program, presented in the following manner:

- ◆ List of the organic producers
- ◆ List of the producers in conversion
- ◆ List of the sanctioned producers with reasons
- ◆ List of the producers who left the organization with reasons
- ◆ List of a global harvest estimation per producer and separated by quality

8.1.36. The internal inspection and the producers list with the results of the inspection are necessary for the first inspection of CERTIMEX when new producers groups are implementing the internal control system during the conversion period.

8.1.37. Plant production data must be gathered in a record and always be available for CERTIMEX in the installations of the operator. Also records of the harvest shall include at least the following information:

- a) regarding the use of fertilizers: the date of application, the type and amount of fertilizer and the affected parcels;
- b) with regard to the use of plant protection products: date and reason for treatment, product type and method of treatment;
- c) regarding the purchase of agricultural inputs: date, type, and the amount of purchased product;
- d) regarding the harvest: the date, type and quantity of the production of organic crop or crop in conversion.

8.1.38. Accounts of the organic production unit which should include inputs used in the production unit, as well as the movement of products in the transportation, storage, packaging and sale should be kept.

8.1.39. A detailed list of inputs used in the production unit should be made available for its approval by the certification body.

8.1.40. Storing raw materials other than those to be used in a way that is compatible with what is stipulated in chapters 3, 4, 5, 6 and 8 of these standards is not permitted in the production unit.

8.1.41. CERTIMEX will perform at least one annual inspection to each of the operators subjected to CERTIMEX control. Also, CERTIMEX will perform additional not announced inspections at least to the 10 % of the certified operators under the present norm; these inspections will be done according with the operator's classification based on the risk factor.

- 8.1.42.** Related to the bivalve mollusks production, CERTIMEX inspections will be performed before and during the pick of biomass production.
- 8.1.43.** External inspection of small-producer groups includes monitoring the percentage of producers to be determined according to the procedure for calculating the risk factor in the internal control system of a group of small producers which may be a high, medium or normal risk factor. The external inspection reviews the Internal Control System, the results of the internal inspection of the fields, supervises the techniques used in the management of the crop and the product, the areas of storage, processing and warehouses, as well as accounting and evaluates them according to the rules. Producers can be visited at random as determined by the external inspector and according to CERTIMEX.
- 8.1.44.** CERTIMEX will have its own procedures for the risk analysis on the certified operations. The procedure for risk analysis will be created for: a) the results to be a base to determinate the annual inspection frequency and, for the announced and not announced visits;
- 8.1.45.** When there is a reasonable suspicion that a specific input not authorized by these standards has been used, samples should be taken for analysis of contaminating residues. The costs for this analysis will be the responsibility of the producer.
- 8.1.46.** CERTIMEX may take samples for the detection of unauthorized substances in organic production or to check whether production techniques not in conformity with organic production standards have been used. Such analyzes should be carried out where there is a presumption that unauthorized products have been used. These samples will be taken to at least 5% of the operators certified under these standards and will be analyzed in accredited laboratories ISO / IEC 17025.
- 8.1.47.** An inspection report will be made after each visit and countersigned by the unit operator or his representative.
- 8.1.48.** At the end of each visit, a questionnaire on the inspection of the production unit should be completed.
- 8.1.49.** The aspects referred to in section 8.1.10 will be verified by CERTIMEX, through their control personnel, who will issue a report that identifies any shortcomings and failures of the ecological production standards staff. The operator will sign also this report and take appropriate corrective measures.

8.1.50. The internal and external inspection as well as the certification will be preferably carried out by national and regional staff who have received training and are properly accredited by CERTIMEX.

8.1.51. CERTIMEX guarantees the objectivity and impartiality of its inspection system, since inspection and certification are separate processes that exist independently of producers; CERTIMEX also has qualified personnel and the required resources to carry out its functions.

8.1.52. A written contract between the operator and CERTIMEX should be formally developed in which the commitment made by the operator should be considered:

- a) carry out operations in accordance with organic production standards;
- b) accept, in the event of infringement or irregularities, the enforced measures of ecological production standards;
- c) Promise to inform in writing the buyers of the product with the aim of ensuring that the indications concerning the organic production method are removed from that production.

8.1.53. The operator shall.

- a) Let CERTIMEX staff access to storage and production sites and production plots, as well as to record-keeping and corresponding documentation, and will make available all the necessary information for the inspection..
- b) Facilitate the body or authority of control with all the information that is reasonably necessary for the control
- c) Provide, at the request of CERTIMEX, the results of their own quality assurance programmes (when appropriate).

8.1.54. The responsible operator must notify at the right moment CERTIMEX about whatever change in the description or in the concrete measurements mentioned in paragraph 8.1.7. and in the chapters 3,4,5,6, and 7.

8.2. *Units for processing plant and animal products.*

8.2.1. When a processor has requested CERTIMEX certification and inspection, the processor and the certification body are responsible for carrying out the following:

- a) To make a complete description of the unit, mentioning the installations used for processing, packaging and storing of organic products before and after processing.

- b) To establish all the necessary measures to be adopted by the unit in order to guarantee compliance with what is stipulated in these standards. These aspects need to be contemplated in the inspection report.
- c) Both the contract and inspection report should explain the commitment on the part of the processor to carry out operations in accordance with Chapter 6 of these standards, and in the case of infractions, to respect the measures established in sections 8.4.4 to 8.4.17. of these standards.

8.2.2. The processor must maintain records that make the following information available to CERTIMEX:

- a) Origin, type and quantities of organic agricultural products that have entered the processing plant.
- b) Type, quantities and destinations of processed organic products that have been shipped out of the processing plant.
- c) Origin, type and quantities of ingredients, additives and processing aids entering the processing plant and the composition of processed products, as well as any other information that CERTIMEX considers necessary to properly conduct the inspection.

8.2.3. In the case that traditional or conventional products are also processed, packaged or stored at the plant, there must be separated and identified sites for storing each type of product before and after processing. Processing must take place by lots or in complete series, physically separated or at distinct processing times.

8.2.4. If parallel processing is not frequent, the processor must notify CERTIMEX of such operations at least 48 hours in advance.

8.2.5. All necessary measures for identifying the processed organic product should be established, in order to prevent such product from co-mingling with other products and thus jeopardizing the integrity of the ecological product.

8.2.6. CERTIMEX will carry out at least one inspection a year, to include a complete physical inspection of the processor's installations and documents, and in some cases, a sample of the other storage installations used by the processor. CERTIMEX will also conduct unannounced ad-random inspections.

8.2.7. CERTIMEX will inspect written record keeping according to point 8.2.2 of this chapter. The inspector should complete a detailed analysis of the product flow, as well as to review the organic certification of the products that have entered the plant and have been processed. When there is suspicion that products not authorized by these standards have been used, samples should be taken to be analyzed in a laboratory.

8.2.8. The processor must permit CERTIMEX access to inspect the installations, as well as inspect record keeping and all the documents necessary to verify the product flow. This includes the product being received and processed, its yields in the process, and being shipping out of the plant. As well, the processor must make available all the information necessary for the inspection.

8.2.9. Organic products may only be transported to other units, whether wholesalers or retailers, in appropriate containers, and it must be guaranteed that the containers are sealed in such a way as to prevent their contents from being substituted. Containers must have a system of labelling or identification that includes at least the following information:

- Name and address of the person responsible for the production or processing of the product. This is to guarantee that the certification body and whoever receives the product will definitively know who is responsible for production or processing.

8.2.10. At the moment any organic product is received at a processing plant, the person in charge should inspect the seals on the containers to verify that the stipulations described in the above point have been complied with. The results of this inspection should be checked against the record keeping described in section 8.2.2 of these standards.

8.2.11. If the process of checking inspection results with records that indicates that the requirements in these standards have not been satisfactorily fulfilled, and there is doubt as to whether the product comes from a operator authorized by CERTIMEX, processing and packaging must wait until any such doubt is cleared up. In the case that the situation is not adequately clarified, the production must be marketed as conventional.

8.3. *Merchants of plants, organic produced and collected plant products, and organic animal products.*

8.3.1. Merchants of plant products, animal and food products made from plants or animal products obtained in accordance with these standards must be subjected to CERTIMEX's inspection program and should take the following aspects into account:

- a) Both CERTIMEX and the merchant must make a complete description of the installations used by the latter and the export activities undertaken, and in addition, indicate as clearly as possible the destination of the exported organic products.
- b) Concrete measures to be adopted by the merchant in order to guarantee compliance with these standards should be determined.

- c) Both the description and the planned measures will be included in the CERTIMEX inspection report.

- 8.3.2.** The contract and the inspection report should include an explanation of the commitment on the part of the merchant to conduct activities in such a way that he fulfils what is stipulated in these standards, and in the case of infraction, to respect the measures indicated in points 8.4.4, 8.4.15, 8.4.16 and 8.4.17 of these standards.
- 8.3.3.** It must be guaranteed that all storage areas to be used are available for CERTIMEX inspection. When such installations are located outside of Mexico, they must be subjected to inspection by an entity recognized by CERTIMEX.
- 8.3.4.** Written record keeping must be maintained in order to permit CERTIMEX to verify the following information for every lot of organic products marketed or exported:
 - a. The origin, type and volume of the lot, and when required by CERTIMEX, any information regarding the conditions under which the product was transported from the merchant's warehouses to the importer's warehouses.
 - b. The merchant must report to CERTIMEX each shipment of organic products leaving Mexico and must provide any information needed by CERTIMEX or the competent authorities, such as a copy of the transaction certificate for exportation of organic products, a copy of the permission granted to the merchant, etc.
- 8.3.5.** In those cases where organic products are stored before being marketed in sites where non organic food or agricultural products are processed, packaged or stored, the following measures are necessary:
 - a. Organic products must be separated from other agricultural products or non organic products.
 - b. Measures must be established to guarantee the identification of each of the lots of organic products for marketing, in order to prevent co-mingling with non-organic products.
- 8.3.6.** CERTIMEX will conduct an inspection at least once a year which includes a complete physical inspection of the merchant's installations, and in some cases, a sample of other storage installations used by the merchant. CERTIMEX will also conduct unannounced ad random inspections.

- 8.3.7.** CERTIMEX will inspect the record keeping required in point 8.1.24 of this chapter. To do so, the inspector should conduct a detailed analysis of the product flow as well as to inspect the organic certificate(s) for the product. If it is suspected that products not authorized by these standards have been used, samples should be taken for laboratory analysis.
- 8.3.8.** The merchant must allow CERTIMEX access to inspect its installations, record-keeping and all documents necessary, such as the organic certification(s) for the product, transaction certificates, marketing report, clients, etc., and any other information necessary for carrying out the inspection.
- 8.3.9.** Organic products must be marketed in adequate containers and it must be guaranteed that the seals on these containers prevent their contents from being substituted. The merchant's identity must be shown on the containers, and there must be a system of numbers or codes for identifying each lot with its transaction certificate.
- 8.4. *CERTIMEX takes the following aspects into consideration in the inspection and certification of organic products.***
- 8.4.1.** CERTIMEX, as a certification and inspection body, guarantees that the precautionary and inspection measures specified in this chapter are applied to operators subjected to its control. CERTIMEX issues a general ecological certificate to the operators who comply with these standards and which has at least the following information: name of the operator, type of certified product and the valid time period.
- 8.4.2.** For the evaluation of these standards, CERTIMEX has a quality system, consisting of a quality manual (QM), procedures manual (PM) and questionnaires and formats manual (QFM).
- 8.4.3.** CERTIMEX duly respects the confidentiality of the information and data obtained in the exercise of its inspection activities, and does not disclose information to persons other than the operators involved and competent public authorities.
- 8.4.4.** CERTIMEX is impartial and has no conflict of interest regarding the roles in the inspection and certification processes.
- 8.4.5.** CERTIMEX provides adequate guarantees of objectivity and impartiality, has sufficient qualified personnel and with appropriate experience. It also has the necessary resources to perform its functions.

- 8.4.6.** CERTIMEX has personnel that have the technical expertise and it has the infrastructure necessary to perform their functions.
- 8.4.7.** CERTIMEX will, with the purpose of national or international inspection and/or accreditation, facilitate the competent authorities with access to its office and to all the information and assistance deemed necessary by those authorities, in order to comply with their obligations stipulated in these standards
- 8.4.8.** CERTIMEX will be at the service of complying with the requirements imposed by the authorities regarding the distribution of ecological products with the certification of CERTIMEX, giving the information that is required according to the procedures of the corresponding authority.
- 8.4.9.** CERTIMEX communicates the results of the inspections carried out to the competent authorities in a regularly manner and always when they ask for this. CERTIMEX inform the authorities immediately when the results of the inspection reveal suspects of non compliance. There is an effective coordination between the competent authority and CERTIMEX.
- 8.4.10.** CERTIMEX maintains a list of the names and addresses of the operators who are subject to its control updated. This list shall be made available to interested parties.
- 8.4.11.** CERTIMEX shall transmit to the competent authority, no later than the 28th of February of each year, a list of the operators that were subject to its controls and certification.
- 8.4.12.** Before the 28th of February of each year, CERTIMEX shall submit to the competent authority a concise annual report on the application and compliance with the control provisions established in these standards, this report will be made taking as a base the CERTIMEX accredited and approved EU scopes. To elaborate that report, will be used: using the following formats: 6.11, 6.11.1, 6.11.2, 6.11.3, 6.11.4 and 6.11.5 of the Manual of Questionnaires and Formats (MQF)
- 8.4.13.** CERTIMEX, the competent authorities and others control bodies exchange relevant information about the results of their controls and in case of the suspecion and infraction with other competent authorities, others control bodies and the Commission of the European Community, on request which is duly justifies the need to ensure that a product has been produced in accordance

with these standards. On its own initiative, CERTIMEX may also exchange information always taking care of confidentiality.

- 8.4.14.** When an operator has previously been certified by another certification body, CERTIMEX shall request from the previous body the file of this operator. Also, when required by another certification body, CERTIMEX will transmit the relevant elements of the operator's file.
- 8.4.15.** CERTIMEX has the faculties to impose the determined control and sanction measures in those cases where these standards are violated.
- 8.4.16.** CERTIMEX has the responsibility to supervise the removal of the term "ecological" or its synonyms from a specific product, lot, or all the production affected by an irregularity in the application of Chapters 2 and 3 of these standards.
- 8.4.17.** When an apparent infraction is discovered, CERTIMEX may prohibit the operator from marketing the product or products resulting from this infraction, and from using the term "ecological product" on its labels or publicity for a period during which the operator will be subject to the opinion issued by certification staff and corresponding authorities in importing countries.
- 8.4.18.** When irregularities or violations affecting the ecological quality of the product of any operator are confirmed, and he is not authorized to market his product in accordance with these standards, CERTIMEX is authorized to notify this situation to the importers, consumers and competent authorities of the countries of destination of the products that are involved in this situation. The level of communication will depend on the seriousness and scope of the confirmed irregularities or infringement.
- 8.4.19.** Compliance with stipulations established in this chapter makes it possible to guarantee consumers that products have been produced and processed according to these standards.
- 8.4.20.** Operators interested in the distribution of their ecological products will facilitate the importers or competent authorities at any moment with the documents that justify the certification of their products and which allows the identification of the operator who carries out the last operation and the verification that the operator complies with the standards.

- 8.4.21.** The product will be protected by a control certificate issued by CERTIMEX and which confirms that the product complies with the conditions as established in these standards.
- 8.4.22.** The original of the control certificate will accompany the products until the places of its first destination; the importer will keep the certification available for the authority or control body during a period of no less than two years.
- 8.4.23.** In case of electronic certification, in agreement with section 8.4.21 of the current norms: the box number 8 of the justification documents will not be mandatory to fill up, as long as the documentation authenticity is accredited by a secure electronic method proposed by the competent authority.
- 8.4.24.** CERTIMEX may not prohibit or restrict, on grounds relating to the method of production, labeling or presentation of such method; the placing on the market of organic products controlled by another control body, in so far as such products comply with Requirements of European Union regulations or equivalent standards.
- 8.4.25.** CERTIMEX bases its control and certification process on what is established by the Guide ISO/IEC 17065 and its equivalent for the European Economic Community EN45011 and for which CERTIMEX submits its activities to an annual supervision which is carried out by one of the accreditation organizations that is a member of the International Accreditation Forum (IAF).
- 8.4.26.** When the operator withdraws from CERTIMEX certification, the certifier shall inform the competent authority without delay.

Chapter 9.

9. Review and approval of the standards

- 9.1.** The CERTIMEX Standards are susceptible to constant changes in order to correspond to the certification activities. The partners, the standards committee and the personnel that work with CERTIMEX can propose changes to these Standards.
- 9.2.** The up dating of the CERTIMEX Standards is carried out at least twice a year.
- 9.3.** The modification proposals of the Standards can be sent to the office of CERTIMEX.
- 9.4.** The modifications of these standards are also carried out according to the updating presented in the CE834/2007 and CE889/2008 Regulations of the European Union due to its equivalent to these Regulations.
- 9.5.** CERTIMEX will review the changes that are presented in the CE834/2007 and CE889/2008 Regulations and integrate the cases to these standards that apply to CERTIMEX.
- 9.6.** The Executive Director will review the changes of the standards that are presented by the Responsible person of the Quality Control in those cases where the changes of these standards are due to its equivalent of the regulations of the European Union mentioned before, which can happen at each moment. These changes are immediately communicated to the affected parties, indicating the time periods in which they need to comply with the updated requirements.
- 9.7.** Each one of the modification proposals will be reviewed and classified in CERTIMEX before it is presented to the Executive Director and the Technical Standards Committee.
- 9.8.** The changes that are not directly related with the updating of the CE834/2007 CE889/2008 Regulations will be reviewed by the Committee and they will decide which proposals can be incorporated in the CERTIMEX Standards.
- 9.9.** The proposals that are correctly justified are incorporated in the CERTIMEX Standards as long as they do not contradict to what is established in the international regulation.

- 9.10.** The Technical Standards Committee must answer in a time period not longer than 60 days about the presented modification proposals and CERTIMEX can publish these changes when there is no answer.
- 9.11.** A modification proposal must have correct justifications as mentioned in point 9.9 of this chapter in order to be incorporated in the CERTIMEX Standards.
- 9.12.** The Responsible person of the Quality Control presents the modification proposals before the Board of Directors after that it is reviewed by the Executive Director or by the Standards Committee.
- 9.13.** The Board of Directors, with the help of the Responsible person of the Quality Control presents the modification proposals of the CERTIMEX Standards before the General Partners Assembly for its approval. The modifications presented due to its updating of the CE834/2007 and CE889/2008 Regulations are presented in the General Assembly of Partners for its knowledge

Annex - Substances Permitted in the Production and Processing of Organic Products

Taken from FAO/OMS. The Codex Alimentarius: Guidelines for the production, processing, labeling and marketing of organically produced foods. CAG/6L 32-1999 and regulation CE834/2007 and CE889/2008 of the European Union.

Precautions

1. Any substances used in an organic system like soil fertilization and conditioning, for pest and disease control, for the health of livestock and quality of the animal products, or for preparation, preservation and storage of the food product should comply with the relevant national regulations.
2. The certification body or authority may specify conditions concerning certain substances contained in the following lists, for example: volume, frequency of application, specific purpose, etc.
3. Where substances are required for primary production, they should be used with care and with the knowledge that even permitted substances may be subject to misuse and may alter the ecosystem of the soil or farm.
4. CERTIMEX will evaluate any product which is used in the production or processing of ecological products as inputs, ingredients, processing additives, etc., this evaluation will be based on the list of substances and products registered in the annexes of these CERTIMEX standards.

5. Table I. Fertilisers and soil conditioners

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

| | |
|--|---|
| | Must not be applied to the edible parts of crops. |
| Products or by-products of animal origin as below: blood meal hoof meal horn meal bone meal or degelatinized bone meal fish meal meat meal feather, hair and 'chiquette' meal wool fur hair dairy products (1) Hydrolyzed proteins (2) | (1) Maximum concentration in mg/kg of dry matter of crome (VI): not detectable (2) Must not be applied to the edible parts of crops. |
| Products and by-products of plant origin for fertilisers | Examples: oilseed cake meal, cocoa husks, malt culms |
| Skins | Maximum concentration in mg/kg of dry matter of crome (VI): 0». |
| Seaweeds and seaweed products | As far as directly obtained by: (i) physical processes including dehydration, freezing and grinding (ii) extraction with water or aqueous acid and/or alkaline solution (iii) fermentation |
| Sawdust and wood chips | Wood not chemically treated after felling |
| Composted bark | Wood not chemically treated after felling |
| Wood ash | From wood not chemically treated after felling |
| Soft ground rock phosphate | Soft ground rock phosphate |
| Aluminium-calcium phosphate | Cadmium content less than or equal to 90 mg/kg of P205 Use limited to basic soils (pH > 7,5) |
| Basic slag | Need to be recognized by the body or certification authority. |
| Crude potassium salt or kainit | Need to be recognized by the body or certification authority. |
| Potassium sulphate, possibly containing magnesium salt | Product obtained from crude potassium salt by a physical extraction process, containing possibly also magnesium salts |
| Stillage and stillage extract | Ammonium stillage excluded |
| Calcium carbonate (chalk, marl, ground limestone, Breton) | Calcium carbonate (chalk, marl, ground limestone, Breton ameliorant, (maerl), phosphate chalk) |

| | |
|---|--|
| ameliorant, (maerl), phosphate chalk) | |
| Magnesium sulphate (kieserite) | Only of natural origin |
| Leonardite (lignites) (raw organic sediment, very rich in humic acids) | Only if is obtained as a sub product of mining activities. |
| Magnesium and Calcium Carbonate | Only of natural origin For example, magnesium chalk, calcareous crushed magnesium rock |
| Calcium chloride solution | Only of natural origin |
| Calcium chloride solution | Foliar treatment of apple trees, after identification of deficit of calcium |
| Calcium sulphate (gypsum) | Only in natural form |
| | |
| Sodium chloride | Only mined salt |
| Industrial lime from vacuum salt production | By-product of the vacuum salt production from brine found in mountains |
| Industrial lime from the production of vacuum salt | By-product of the production of vacuum salt from the natural brine of the mountains |
| | |
| Trace elements Inorganic micronutrients Oligoelementos (e.g., boron, copper, iron, manganese, molybdenum, zinc) | Need to be recognized by the body or certification authority. |
| Chitin (polysaccharide obtained from some crustacean shells) | Only if is obtained from sustainable explotations, as defined in Article 3, letter e), of the (CE) No. 2371/2002 Regulations of the Council (*) or from the ecological aquaculture. |
| A sediment, very rich in organic matter, comes from fresh water bodies and is formed in the oxygen absence (sapropel as an example) | Only organic sediments as a sub product of the management of fresh water bodies or were extracted from ancient areas of fresh water. In that case, the extraction must be done with a minimum impact to the aquatic system. Only sediments that come from founts free of contamination of pest control substances, persistent organic contaminants and gasoline analogue substances. Maximum concentrations in mg/kg of dry matter: cadmium: 0,7; copper: 70; nickel: 25; lead: 45; zinc: 200; mercury: 0,4; crome (total): 70; crome (VI): not detectable |
| Elemental sulphur | Need to be recognized by the body or certification authority. |
| Stone meal and clays | ..... |

(1) DO L 304. 21.11.2003, p. 1.

(*) Council Regulation (EC) No 2371/2002 of 20 December 2002 on the conservation and sustainable exploitation of fisheries resources under the Common Fisheries Policy (OJ L 358, 31.12.2012, p. 59).

Table 2. Substances for plant pest and disease control

| Name | Description, compositional requirement, conditions for use |
|--|--|
| I. Plant and animal | |
| Pyrethrins extracted from <i>Chrysanthemum cinerariaefolium</i> | Insecticide |
| Basic substances | |
| Beeswax | Beeswax |
| Hydrolysed proteins. Except jelly | Attractant, only in authorized applications in combination with other appropriate products of this list |
| Laminaria | |
| Vegetable oils | |
| Pyrethrins extracted from <i>Chrysanthemum cinerariaefolium</i> . | |
| Rotenone extracted from <i>Derris</i> spp. and <i>Lonchocarpus</i> spp. and <i>Terphrosia</i> spp. | Insecticide |
| Quassia extracted from <i>Quassia amara</i> | Insecticide, repellent only. |
| II. Micro-organisms used for biological pest and disease control | |
| Microorganisms | Specified products in the annex of (EU) No. 540/2011 Regulation for Realization and, not from GMO s. |
| Substance other than those mentioned in section II and II | |
| Aluminum silicate (kaolin) | |
| Calcium hydroxide | When used as a fungicide, only for fruit trees (even in nurseries) for the control of <i>Nectrina galligena</i> . |
| Carbon dioxide | |
| Fatty acids | All authorized uses, except with herbicide. |
| Ferric Phosphate (iron orthophosphate (III)) | Prepared for dispersion on the surface between cultivated plants. |
| Kieselgur (diatomaceous earth) | |
| Calcium Polysulphide | |
| Paraffin Oil | |
| Potassium hydrogen carbonate (also known as potassium bicarbonate) | |
| Quartz sand | |
| Sulfur | |
| III. Substances produced by microorganisms | |
| Spinosad | |
| IV. Substances to be used only in traps and / or dispersers | |
| Pheromones | Only in traps and dispersers Products specified in the annex of (EU) No. 540/2011 Regulation for Realization (numbers 255, 258 and 259) |
| Pyrethroids (only deltamethrin or lambdacyhalothrin) | Insecticide; only in traps with specific attractants; only against <i>Bactrocera oleae</i> and <i>Ceratitits capitata</i> Wied. |

| | |
|---|---|
| Ferric phosphate (iron (III) orthophosphate) | Molluscicide |
| VI. Other substances from traditional use in organic farming | |
| Copper in the form of copper hydroxide, copper oxychloride, (tribasic) copper sulphate, cuprous oxide, copper octanoate | Up to 6 kg of copper per Hectare and year however in the previous paragraph, in the case of perennial crops CERTIMEX may provide that the limit is 6 kg of copper may be exceeded during a given year provided that the average quantity actually used during a period of 5 years covering this year plus the previous 4 years does not exceed 6 kg. Measurements for reduction of risk to protect waters and organisms such the ones in the separation zones. Products specified in the annex of (EU) No. 540/2011 Regulation for Realization (number 277) |
| Ethylene | De-greening of bananas, kiwis and kakis; de-greening of citric only when it is a strategy to prevent the fruit fly from damaging the citric; induction of flowering process in pineapples; inhibition of potato and onion shoots. Only can be authorized the previous uses as a regulator of vegetal growing. Authorizations must be limited to the professional users. |
| Fatty acid potassium salt (soft soap) | Insecticide |
| Potassium aluminium (aluminium sulphate) (Kalinite) | Prevention of ripening of bananas |
| Lime sulphur (calcium polysulphide) | Fungicide |
| Paraffin oil | Insecticide, fungicide; Specified products in the annex of (EU) No. 540/2011 Regulation for Realization (numbers 294 and 295) |
| Potassium permanganate | Fungicide, bactericide; only in fruit trees, olive trees and vines. |
| Quartz sand | Repellent |
| Sulphur | Fungicide, acaricide, repellent |
| Repellents (from odor) of animal or vegetable origin / sheep fat | Only for non-edible parts of the crop and when the crop material is not ingested by sheep or goats. Specified products in the annex of (EU) No. 540/2011 Regulation for Realization (number 249). |
| Potassium soap (soft soap). | ..... |
| Ethyl alcohol | Need to be recognized by the body or certification authority. |
| Homeopathic and ayurvedic preparations | ..... |
| Herbal and Biodynamic preparations | ..... |
| VII. Other substances | |
| Aluminum silicate (kaolin) | |
| Calcium hydroxide | Fungicide Only for fruit trees (even in nurseries), for the control of |

| | |
|------------|--|
| | Nectria galligena |
| Laminarina | Inductor of the self-defense mechanisms of the crop. Laminarinas are cultivated in an ecological way or will be recollected in a sustainable way. |
| | |

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

(2) Regulation (EC) No 178/2002 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 28th of January 2002, through which it is established the general principles and requirements of food law, the European Food Safety Authority it's created and the procedures in matters of food safety are establish (OJ L 31, 1.2.2002, p.1).

(1) Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) N° 540/2011 of 25th of May 2011, through which it is implementing the Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council referred to the list of authorized active substances (OJ L 153, of 11.6.2011, p. 1).

Table 3. products and substances for use in production of processed organic food**3.1. FOOD ADDITIVES, INCLUDING CARRIERS**

For the purpose of the calculation referred to in paragraph 6.5.2.a) of these standards, food additives marked with an asterisk in the column of the code number, shall be calculated as ingredients of agricultural origin.

| Code | Name | Preparation of foodstuffs of | | Specific conditions |
|---------------------|---|------------------------------|-------------------|--|
| | | plant origin | Animal origin | |
| E153 | Vegetable carbon | | x | Ashy goat cheese Morbier cheese |
| E160b* | Annato, bixin, norbixin | | x | |
| E 170 | Calcium carbonate | x | x | Shall not be used for colouring or calcium enrichment of products |
| E 220 | Sulphur dioxide | x | X (just for mead) | In fruit wines (*) and mead with and without added sugar: 100 mg |
| E223 | Sodium Metabisulfite | | x | Crustaceous |
| E 224 | Potassium metabisulphite | x | X (just for mead) | In fruit wines (*) and mead with and without added sugar: 100 mg |
| E 250 o E 252 | Sodium nitrite Potassium nitrate | | x x | For meat products (1): For E 250: indicative ingoing amount expressed as NaNO ₂ : 80 mg/kg For E 252: indicative ingoing amount expressed as NaNO ₃ : 80 mg/kg For E 250: maximum residual amount expressed as NaNO ₂ : 50 mg/kg For E 252: maximum residual amount expressed as NaNO ₃ : 50 mg/kg |
| E 270 | Lactic acid | x | x | |
| E 290 | Carbon dioxide | x | x | ..... |
| E 296 | Malic acid | x |  | ..... |
| E 300 | Ascorbic acid | x | x | Meat products (2) A |
| E 301 | Sodium ascorbate | | x | Meat products (2) in connection with nitrates and nitrites |
| E 306* | Tocopherol-rich extract | x | x | Anti-oxidant for fats and oils |
| E 322* | Lecithins | x | x | Lecithins |
| E 325 | Sodium lactate | | x | Milk-based and meat products |

| | | | | |
|------------|--------------------------------|---|-----------------------|--|
| E 330 | Citric acid | x | x | To regulate PH in brine bath in the cheese production (1) Oil production and starch hydrolysis (2) |
| E 331 | Sodium citrates | x | x | |
| E 333 | Calcium citrates | x | | |
| E 334 | Tartaric acid (L(+)-) | x | X (just for the mead) | |
| E 335 | Sodium tartrates | x | | |
| E 336 | Potassium tartrates | x | | |
| E 341(i) | Monocalciumphosphate | X | | Raising agent for self raising flour |
| E392 | Rosemary extracts | x | x | Only when coming from an ecological production. |
| E 400 | Alginic acid | x | x | Milk-based products (2) |
| E 401 | Sodium alginate | x | x | Milk-based products (2) |
| E 402 | Potassium alginate | x | x | Milk-based products (2) |
| E 406 | Agar. | x | x | Milk-based and meat products (2) |
| E 407 | Carrageenan | x | X | Milk-based products (2) |
| E 410* | Locust bean gum | x | x | ..... |
| E 412* | Guar gum | x | x | ..... |
| E 414* | Arabic gum | x | x | |
| E 415 | Xanthan gum | x | x | |
| E418 | Gellan Gum | x | x | Only with a high acyl index. |
| E 422 | Glicerol | x | X | For plant extracts |
| E 440 (i)* | Pectin | x | X | Milk-based products (2) |
| E 464 | Hydroxypropyl methyl cellulose | x | X | Encapsulation material for capsules |
| E 500 | Carbonatos de sodio. | x | x | Dulce de leche (3), mantequilla de nata ácida y queso de leche agría (2) |
| E 501 | Potassium carbonates | x | | |
| E 503 | Ammonium carbonates | X |  | ..... |
| E 504 | Magnesium carbonates | x |  | ..... |
| E 509 | Calcium chloride | | x | Milk coagulation |
| E 516 | Calcium sulphate | x | | Carrier |
| E 524 | Sodium hydroxide | x | | Surface treatment of 'Laugengebäck |
| E 551 | Silicon dioxide | x | | Silicon dioxide |
| E 553b | Talc | x | x | Coating agent for meat products |
| E901 | Bee wax | x | | Only as a coating agent for confectionery products. Wax from organic beekeeping |
| E903 | Carnauba wax | x | | Only as a coating agent for confectionery products. Only if it is derived from ecological raw materials. |
| E 938 | Argon | x | x | ..... |
| E939 | Helium | x | x | |
| E 941 | Nitrogen | x | x | ..... |

| | | | | |
|-------|--------|---|---|-------|
| E 948 | Oxygen | x | x | |
|-------|--------|---|---|-------|

(1) This additive can only be used, if it has been demonstrated to the satisfaction of the competent authority that no technological alternative, giving the same guarantees and/or allowing to maintain the specific features of the product, is available.

(2) The restriction concerns only animal products.

(3) 'Dulce de leche' or 'Confiture de lait' refers to a soft, luscious, brown cream, made of sweetened, thickened milk.

(*) In this context, "vino de fruta" is defined as the wine made from other fruit than grapes (including cider and perry).

(**) Maximum levels available from all sources, expressed in mg / l SO₂.

(***) Effective from the 1st of January 2019.

Table 4. Processing aids that can be used in processing/preparing products of organic agricultural origin

| Name | Preparation of foodstuffs of plant | Preparation of foodstuffs of animal origin | Specific conditions |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|--|---|
| Water | x | x | ..... |
| Calcium chloride | x | | Coagulating agent. |
| Calcium carbonate | x |  | ..... |
| Calcium hydroxide | x |  | ..... |
| Calcium sulphate | x | | Coagulating agent. |
| Magnesium chloride (or "nigari") | x | | Coagulating agent. |
| Potassium carbonate | x | | For drying grapes. |
| Sodium carbonate | x | | Sugar production |
| Lactic acid | x | x | For the regulation of the pH of the brine bath in cheese production (1) |
| Citric acid | x | x | For the regulation of the pH of the brine bath in cheese production (1) Oil production and hydrolysis of starch (2) |
| Sodium hydroxide | x | | Sugar(s) production Oil production from rape seed (<i>Brassica spp</i>) |
| Sulphuric acid | x | x | Gelatine production (1) Sugar(s) production (2) |
| Hydrochloric acid | | x | Gelatine production For the regulation of the pH of the brine bath in the processing of Gouda-, Edam and Maasdammer cheeses, Boerenkaas, Friese and Leidse Nagelkaas |
| Ammonium hydroxide | | x | Gelatine production |
| Hydrogen peroxide | | x | Gelatine production |
| | | | |
| Carbon dioxide | x | x | ..... |
| Nitrogen | x | x | ..... |
| Ethanol | x | x | Solvent. |
| Tannic acid | x | | Filtration aid |

| | | | |
|---|-----------------|--------------|--|
| Egg white albumen | x |  | ..... |
| Casein | x |  | ..... |
| Gelatin | x |  | ..... |
| Isinglass | x |  | ..... |
| Vegetable oils | x | x | Greasing, releasing or antifoaming agent |
| Silicon dioxide gel or colloidal solution | x | | |
| Activated carbon | x |  | ..... |
| Talc | x | | In compliance with the specific purity criteria for food additive E 553b |
| Bentonite | x | x | Sticking agent for mead (1) |
| Kaolin | x | x | Propolis (1) |
| Cellulose | x | x | Gelatine production (1) |
| Diatomaceous earth | x | x | Gelatine production (1) |
| Perlite | x | x | Gelatine production (1) |
| Hazelnut shells | x |  | ..... |
| Rice meal | x | | |
| Beeswax | Releasing agent | Beeswax | Releasing agent |
| Carnauba wax | Releasing agent | Carnauba wax | Releasing agent |

(1) The restriction concerns only animal products.

(2) The restriction concerns only plant products.

TABLE 4 A.- TECHNOLOGICAL COADYUVANTS FOR THE PRODUCTION OF YEAST AND YIELD PRODUCTS

| Denomination | Primary yeast | Mixture / yeast formulation | Specific conditions |
|------------------|---------------|-----------------------------|---|
| Calcium chloride | X | | |
| Carbon dioxide | X | X | |
| Citric acid | X | | To regulate the pH in the production of le Vadura |
| Lactic acid | X | | To regulate the pH in the production of le Vadura |

| | | | |
|------------------|---|---|---|
| Nitrogen | X | X | |
| Oxygen | X | X | |
| Potato starch | X | X | For filtering |
| Sodium carbonate | X | X | To regulate the pH |
| Vegetable oils | X | X | Fatting agent, mold release agent or anties Dunce |

4.1. Preparations of microorganisms and enzymes:

Any preparation based on micro-organisms and enzymes normally used as a food processing aid, except micro-organisms and enzymes obtained through a transgenic organism, based on a transgenic organism and/or derivatives from transgenic organisms.

| | |
|---|--|
| <p>Table 5. Ingredients of agricultural origin which have not been produced organically according to standard.</p> <p>UNPROCESSED VEGETABLE PRODUCTS AS WELL AS PRODUCTS DERIVED THEREFROM BY PROCESSES</p> | |
| <p>1.1. Fruits and dry eatable fruits.</p> <p>Acorn <i>Quercus spp.</i> Cola nut <i>Cola acuminata</i> Gooseberry <i>Ribes uva-crispa</i> Passion fruit <i>Pasiflora edulis</i> Raspberries (dry) <i>Rubus idaeus</i> Redcurrants <i>Ribes rubrum</i></p> | |
| <p>1.2. Eatable condiments and spices</p> <p>Pepper (Peru) (<i>Schinus molle. L</i>) Seed of the hot radish (<i>Armoracia rusticana</i>) Galanga (<i>Alpina officinarum</i>) Cardamom Flowers (<i>Carthamus tinctorius</i>) Water cress (<i>Nasturtium officinale</i>)</p> | |
| <p>1.3. Various</p> <p>Algae, including seaweed authorised for the preparation of conventional food products.</p> | |
| <p>2. Plant products</p> | |
| <p>2.1. Fats and oils, refined or not but never chemically modified and obtained from vegetables that are not:</p> <p>Cocoa (<i>Theobroma cacao</i>) Coconut (<i>Cocos nucifera</i>) Olive (<i>Olea europea</i>) Sunflower (<i>Helianthus annuus</i>) Palm (<i>Elaeis guineensis</i>) Rape (<i>Brassica napus, rapa</i>) Safflower (<i>Carthamus tinctorius</i>) Sesame (<i>Sesamum indicum</i>) Soja (<i>Glycine max</i>)</p> | |
| <p>2.2. Sugars, starch and other cereal and tubercle products:</p> <p>Sugar beet, exclusively until 1.1.4.2003 Fructose Rice paper Unleavened bread Rice starch and corn wax</p> | |
| <p>2.3. Various</p> <p>Pea protein (<i>pisum spp</i>) Rum: obtained exclusively from the juice of sugar cane</p> | |

3. Animal products:

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

- _ gelatin
- whey powder '*herasuola*'
- casings

Table 6. Feed additives and certain substances used as in animal nutrition

1.1. Nutritional Additives

a) Vitamins, provitamins and chemically well-defined substances having a similar effect.

Identification number

3a

Substance

Vitamins and provitamins

Description, conditions of use.

- Obtained from agricultural products.
 - If obtained in synthetic form, only those that are the same as the ones obtained from agricultural products, may be use for monogastric and aquaculture animals.
 - if obtained in synthetic form, only vitamins A, D and E which are the same as the ones obtained from agricultural products, may be used for ruminants;
- the use is subject to prior authorization by the Member States based on the assessment of the possibility that the ruminants fed organically, obtain the necessary quantities of the mentioned vitamins through their diet.

B) Trace elements. The following substances are included in this category:

E1 Iron:

- Ferric oxide
- Ferrous carbonate
- Ferrous sulphate, heptahydrate
- Ferrous sulphate, monohydrate

E2 Iodine:

- 3b201 Potassium iodide
- 3b202 Calcium iodate, anhydrous
- 3b203 Covered granulated calcium iodate, anhydrous

- 3b301 Cobalt acetate (II) tetrahydrate
- 3b302 Cobalt carbonate (II)
- 3b303 Cobalt hydroxide –carbonate (II)(2: 3) monohydrate
- 3b304 Cobalt carbonate (II) granulated covered
- 3b305 Cobalt sulfate (II) heptahydrate

E4 Copper:

- E4 Copper: Basic cupric carbonate, monohydrate
- Copper oxide
- Cupric sulfate, pentahydrate
- 3b409 Dicopper trihydroxychloride (TBCC)

E5 Manganese:
Manganous oxide
Manganous sulphate, monohydrate
Manganous carbonate

E6 Zinc
Zinc oxide
Zinc sulphate monohydrate
Zinc sulfate heptahydrate
3b609 Zinc hydroxichloride monohydrate (tbzc) (TBZC)

E7 Molybdenum Sodium molybdate

E8 Selenium
Sodium selenite
Sodium selenate
3b8.10, 3b8.11,
3b8.12, 3b8.13 and
3b8.17 Inactivated selenized yeast

1.2. Zootechnical additives

4a, 4b, 4c and 4d Enzymes and microorganisms of the category
"Zootechnical additives" »

1.3 Technological additives

a) preservatives

E 200 Sorbic acid
E 236 Formic acid
E237 Sodium formate
E 260 Acetic acid
E 270 Lactic acid
E 280 Propionic acid
E 330 Citric acid

(*) For silage only when climatic conditions do not allow an adequate fermentation.

b) Antioxidant substances

1b306 (i) Tocopherol extracts of oils
Vegetables
1b306 (ii) Extracts rich in tocopherol of
Vegetable oils (rich in delta-tocopherol)

c) Emulsifying, stabilizing, thickening and gelling agents.

E 322 Lecithins (Only if derived from organic raw materials.
Restricted use of feed for aquaculture)

d) Binders and anti-caking agents

E 470 Calcium stearate of natural origin
E 535 Sodium ferrocyanide. Maximum dose of 20 mg / kg NaCl calculated as ferrocyanide anion
E 551b Colloidal silica
E 551c Kieselgur (purified diatomaceous earth)
Im 558i Bentonite
E 559 Non-asbestos kaolinite clays

E 560 Natural mixtures of soapstone and chlorite
 E 561 Vermiculite
 E 566 Natrolite-phonolite
 1g568 Clinoptilolite of sedimentary origin
 E 562 Sepiolite
 E 599 Perlita

e) Silage additives (silage)

1k Enzymes and microorganisms, only for silage production when climatic conditions do not allow adequate fermentation.

(1k). Only lactic, formic, propionic and acetic acid may be used for the production of silage when climatic conditions do not allow adequate fermentation

f) Organoleptic additives

2b, flavoring compounds, only extracts of agricultural products.

2. CERTAIN SUBSTANCES USED IN ANIMAL FEEDING. The substances listed must be authorized in accordance with Council Directive 82/471 / EEC (1) on certain products used in animal nutrition.

Yeasts:

- Saccharomyces cerevisiae
- Saccharomyces carlsbergiensis

3. SUBSTANCES FOR THE PRODUCTION OF SILAGE

- Sea salt
- Crude salt of mine
- Dairy serum
- Sugar
- Sugar beet pulp
- Cereal flour
- Molasses

1.2. Nutritional Additives

a) Vitamins, provitamins and chemically well-defined substances having a similar effect.

Identification number

3a

Substance

Vitamins and provitamins

Description, conditions of use.

- Obtained from agricultural products.
- If obtained in synthetic form, only those that are the same as the ones obtained from agricultural products, may be use for monogastric and aquaculture animals.
- if obtained in synthetic form, only vitamins A, D and E which are the same as the ones obtained from agricultural products, may be used for ruminants;

the use is subject to prior authorization by the Member States based on the assessment of the possibility that the ruminants fed organically, obtain the necessary quantities of the mentioned vitamins through their diet.

B) Trace elements. The following substances are included in this category:

E1 Iron:

Ferric oxide

Ferrous carbonate

Ferrous sulphate, heptahydrate

Ferrous sulphate, monohydrate

E2 Iodine:

3b201 Potassium iodide

3b202 Calcium iodate, anhydrous

3b203 Covered granulated calcium iodate, anhydrous

3b301 Cobalt acetate (II) tetrahydrate

3b302 Cobalt carbonate (II)

3b303 Cobalt hydroxide –carbonate (II)(2: 3) monohydrate

3b304 Cobalt carbonate (II) granulated covered

3b305 Cobalt sulfate (II) heptahydrate

E4 Copper:

E4 Copper: Basic cupric carbonate, monohydrate

Copper oxide

Cupric sulfate, pentahydrate

3b409 Dicopper trihydroxychloride (TBCC)

E5 Manganese:

Manganous oxide

Manganous sulphate, monohydrate

Manganous carbonate

E6 Zinc

Zinc oxide

Zinc sulphate monohydrate

Zinc sulfate heptahydrate

3b609 Zinc hydroxychloride monohydrate (tbzc) (TBZC)

E7 Molybdenum Sodium molybdate

E8 Selenium

Sodium selenite

Sodium selenate

3b8.10, 3b8.11,

3b8.12, 3b8.13 and

3b8.17 Inactivated selenized yeast

1.2. Zootechnical additives

4a, 4b, 4c and 4d Enzymes and microorganisms of the category "Zootechnical additives" »

1.3 Technological additives**a) preservatives**

E 200 Sorbic acid
E 236 Formic acid
E237 Sodium formate
E 260 Acetic acid
E 270 Lactic acid
E 280 Propionic acid
E 330 Citric acid

(*) For silage only when climatic conditions do not allow an adequate fermentation.

b) Antioxidant substances

1b306 (i) Tocopherol extracts of oils
Vegetables
1b306 (ii) Extracts rich in tocopherol of
Vegetable oils (rich in delta-tocopherol)

c) Emulsifying, stabilizing, thickening and gelling agents.

E 322 Lecithins (Only if derived from organic raw materials.
Restricted use of feed for aquaculture)

d) Binders and anti-caking agents

E 470 Calcium stearate of natural origin
E 535 Sodium ferrocyanide. Maximum dose of 20 mg / kg NaCl calculated as ferrocyanide anion
E 551b Colloidal silica
E 551c Kieselgur (purified diatomaceous earth)
Im 558i Bentonite
E 559 Non-asbestos kaolinite clays
E 560 Natural mixtures of soapstone and chlorite
E 561 Vermiculite
E 566 Natrolite-phonolite
1g568 Clinoptilolite of sedimentary origin
E 562 Sepiolite
E 599 Perlita

e) Silage additives (silage)

1k Enzymes and microorganisms, only for silage production when climatic conditions do not allow adequate fermentation.

(1k). Only lactic, formic, propionic and acetic acid may be used for the production of silage when climatic conditions do not allow adequate fermentation

f) Organoleptic additives

2b, flavoring compounds, only extracts of agricultural products.

2. CERTAIN SUBSTANCES USED IN ANIMAL FEEDING. The substances listed must be authorized in accordance with Council Directive 82/471 / EEC (1) on certain products used in animal nutrition.

Yeasts:

- Saccharomyces cerevisiae
- Saccharomyces carlsbergiensis

3. SUBSTANCES FOR THE PRODUCTION OF SILAGE

- Sea salt
- Crude salt of mine
- Dairy serum
- Sugar
- Sugar beet pulp
- Cereal flour
- Molasses

Table 7. Products for cleaning and disinfection of buildings and installations for animal production (equipment and utensils)

Cleaning and disinfection products of buildings and facilities intended for animal production:

- Potassium and sodium soap
- Water and steam
- Milk of lime
- Lime
- Quicklime
- Sodium hypochlorite (e.g. as liquid bleach)
- Caustic soda
- Caustic potash
- Hydrogen peroxide
- Natural essences of plants
- Citric, peracetic acid, formic, lactic, oxalic and acetic acid
- Alcohol
- Nitric acid (dairy equipment)
- Phosphoric acid (dairy equipment)
- Formaldehyde
- Cleaning and disinfection products for teats and milking facilities
- Sodium carbonate

2. Cleaning and disinfection products for aquaculture animals

2.1. Products used for the cleaning and disinfection of equipment and installations in the absence of aquaculture animals may contain the following active substances:

- Ozone,
- Sodium hypochlorite,
- Calcium hypochlorite,
- Calcium hydroxide,
- Calcium oxide,

- Caustic soda,
- Ethanol,
- Copper sulphate: only until the 31st of December 2015,
- Potassium permanganate,
- Tea seed cake made from natural camellia seed (restricted us to shrimp production),
- Mixtures of potassium peroxomonosulphate and sodium chloride which produce hypochlorous acid.

2.2. The products used for the cleaning and disinfection of equipment and facilities in the presence and absence of the animals of the aquaculture, may contain the following active substances:

- Calcareous rock (calcium carbonate) for the control of pH,
 - Dolomite for pH correction (restricted use of shrimp production),
 - Sodium chloride,
 - Hydrogen peroxide,
 - Sodium percarbonate,
 - Organic acids (acetic acid, lactic acid, citric acid),
 - Humic acid,
 - Peroxyacetic acids,
 - Peracetic and peroctanoic acids,
 - Iodophores (only in the presence of eggs).
-

Table 8 A. Animal cargo per area of land and species allowed in livestock production.

| Class or species | Maximum number of animals per ha equivalent to 170 kg N/ha/year |
|---|--|
| Equines over six months old | 2 |
| Calves for fattening | 5 |
| Other bovine animals less than one year old | 5 |
| Male bovine animals from one to less than two years old | 3.3 |
| Female bovine animals from one to less than two years old | 3.3 |
| Male bovine animals two years old or over | 2 |
| Breeding heifers | 2.5 |
| Heifers for fattening | 2.5 |
| Dairy cows | 2 |
| Cull dairy cows | 2 |
| Other cows | 2.5 |
| Female breeding rabbits | 100 |
| Ewes | 13.3 |
| Goats | 13.3 |
| Piglets | 74 |
| Breeding sows | 6.5 |
| Pigs for fattening | 14 |
| Other pigs | 14 |
| Table chickens | 580 |
| Laying hens | 230 |

Table 8 B. Minimum surface areas indoors and outdoors and other characteristics of housing in the different species and types of production: Bovines, ovines, caprines and pigs.

| | Indoors area (net area available to animals) | | Area outdoors (exercise without including pasture in m2/head surface) |
|---|--|---|---|
| | Peso mínimo en vivo (kg.) | M2/cabeza | |
| Breeding and fattening bovine and equidae | Up to 100 Up to 200 Up to 350 More then 350 | 1.5 2.5 4.0 5 with a minimum of 1 m2/100 kg | 1.1 1.9 3 3,7 with a minimum of 0,75 m2/ 100 kg |
| Dairy cows | | 6 | 4.5 |
| Bulls for breeding | | 10 | 30 |
| Sheep and goats | | 1,5 sheep/goat 0,35 lamb/kid | 2.5 0.5 |
| Farrowing sows with piglets up to 40 days | | 7.5 sow | 2.5 |
| Fattening pigs | Up to 50 Up to 85 Up to 110 | 0.8 1.1 1.3 | 0.6 0.8 1 |
| Piglets | over 40 days and up to 30 kg | 0.6 | 0.4 |
| Brood pigs | | 2,5 female 6 male If pens are used for natural service: 10 m2/boar | 1.9 8.0 |

Table 8 C. Minimum surface areas indoors and outdoors and other characteristics of housing of poultry and types of production.

| | Indoors area (net area available to animals) | | | Outdoors area (m2 of area available in rotation/head) |
|--|--|------------------------------------|--|---|
| | No animals/m2 | cm perch/ animal | Nest | |
| Laying hens | 6 | 18 | 7 laying hens per nest or in case of common nest 120 cm2/bird | 4, provided that the limit of 170 kg of N/ha/year is not exceeded |
| Fattening poultry (in fixed housing) | 10 with a maximum of 21 kg liveweight/m2 | 20 (for guinea fowl only) | | 4 broilers and guinea fowl 4,5 ducks 10 turkey 15 geese In all the species mentioned above the limit of 170 kg of N/ha/year is not exceeded |
| Fattening poultry in mobile housing | 16 (1) in mobile poultry houses with a maximum of 30 kg liveweight/ m2 | | | 2,5, provided that the limit of 170 kg of N/ha/year is not exceeded |

(1) Only in the case of mobile houses not exceeding 150 m2 floor space.