Content:

INTRODUCTION

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This Standard is a regularly subject of assessment of its equivalence with the EU organic legislation. It is regularly updated based on the changes of EU organic legislation.

Current version of Standard is produced with reference to:

- The European Community's Regulations (EEC) No 834/2007, 889/2008 and 1235/2008, which enter into force starting 01 January 2009.
- The Codex Alimentarius Guidelines for the Production, Processing, Labelling and Marketing of Organically Produced Foods, and
- The IFOAM (International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movements) Basic Standards for Organic Production and Processing.

(04.11.2016) The Standard is revised according to changes in European organic legislation. Latest update dates and version appear in the footnotes of the text.

The Standard contains a desire requirement for producers to operate an Organic Management System based on the Plan, Do, Check, Review cycle used in such international standards as GAP, GMP, HACCP, ISO 9001 (Quality Management Systems model), SQF 2000 (Safe Quality Food) and ISO 14001 (Environmental Management Systems). Those complying with this Standard are encouraged to widen the scope of their activities past those absolutely required by the Standard.

Organic certification can only be applicable to the aspects of Organic production covered in this Standard. Principles of Good Agricultural Practice shall be followed in so far as they do not conflict with anything contained in this Standard.

Green Caucasus Standard is know how, trade mark and exclusive property of Certification Body/-ies certifying according to Green Caucasus Certification system (Owner/-s).

Correct interpretation and explanation of Green Caucasus Standard is provided by Owner. Latest version of this standard is published on web site of certification body/-ies (Owner/-s).

Green Caucasus Standard is published document according to ISO 17065 as proof of transparency of Green Caucasus certification system.

MARKET ACCESS ISSUES

Those wishing to gain access to organic market will need to comply with all aspects of this standard.

European Union and Switzerland Access.
Those wishing to gain access to markets within the European Union and Switzerland will need to comply with all aspects of this Standard.

Other markets access
Those operators wishing to produce organically in the markets of Armenia, Georgia, Russia Federation, Belorussia, Ukraine, Moldova, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and other countries in the circumstances of the lack of the national organic production legislation, or wish to access EU and Swiss markets will be provided with this private standard on voluntary basis. The availability of national legislation and binding procedures in country will be respected and checked with the country authorities in advance. New countries showing interest and/ or identified by the certification body under Green Caucasus trade mark will be notified to the new country authorities as well as to the EU authorities and accreditation bodies.

The aims of these standards are:

- to protect consumers against deception and fraud in the market place and unsubstantiated product claims;
- to protect producers of organic produce against misrepresentation of other agricultural produce as being organic;
- to ensure that all stages of production, preparation, storage, transport and marketing are subject to inspection and comply with these guidelines;
- to harmonize provisions for the production, certification, identification and labeling have organically grown produce under Green Caucasus trademark.

This standard is aimed to harmonize the requirements for organic products in terms of production and marketing standards, inspection arrangements and labeling requirements produced under"Green Caucasus" trade mark scheme.

This standard set out the principles of organic production at farm, preparation, storage, transport, labeling and marketing stages, and provides an indication of accepted permitted inputs for soil fertilizing and conditioning, plant pest and disease control and, food additives and processing aids. For labeling purposes, the use of terms inferring that organic production methods have been used are restricted to products derived from operators under the supervision of a certification body.
Organic agriculture is one among the broad spectrum of methodologies which are supportive of the environment. Organic production systems are based on specific and precise standards of production which aim at achieving optimal agro-ecosystems which are socially, ecologically and economically sustainable. Terms such as "biological" and "ecological"

are also used in an effort to describe the organic system more clearly. Requirements for organically produced foods differ from those for other agricultural products in that production procedures are an intrinsic part of the identification and labelling of, and claim for, such products.

"Organic" is a labelling term that denotes products that have been produced in accordance with organic production standards and certified by a duly constituted certification body. Organic agriculture is based on minimizing of the use of external inputs, avoiding the use of synthetic fertilizers and pesticides.

In the meantime, Organic agriculture practices cannot ensure that products are completely free of residues, due to general environmental pollution. However, methods are used to minimize pollution of air, soil and water.

Organic food handlers, processors and retailers adhere to standards to maintain the integrity of organic agriculture products. The primary goal of organic agriculture is to optimize the health and productivity of interdependent communities of soil life, plants, animals and people.

Organic agriculture is holistic production management systems which promotes and enhances agro-ecosystem health, including biodiversity, biological cycles, and soil biological activity. It emphasizes the use of management practices in preference to the use of off-farm inputs, taking into account that regional conditions require locally adapted systems.

This is accomplished by using, where possible, cultural, biological and mechanical methods, as opposed to using synthetic materials, to fulfil any specific function within the system. An organic production system is designed to:

a) enhance biological diversity within the whole system;
b) increase soil biological activity;
c) maintain long-term soil fertility;
d) recycle wastes of plant and animal origin in order to return nutrients to the land, thus minimizing the use of non-renewable resources;
e) rely on renewable resources in locally organized agricultural systems;
f) promote the healthy use of soil, water and air as well as minimize all forms of pollution thereto that may result from agricultural practices;
g) handle agricultural products with emphasis on careful processing methods in order to maintain the organic integrity and vital qualities of the product at all stages;
h) become established on any existing farm through a period of conversion, the appropriate length of which is determined by site-specific factors such as the history of the land, and type of crops and livestock to be produced.
i) aim at producing products of high quality.
The concept of close contact between the consumer and the producer is

a long established practice. Greater market demand, the increasing economic interests in production, and the increasing distance between producer and consumer has stimulated the introduction of external control and certification procedures.
An integral component of certification is the inspection of the organic management system. Procedures for operator certification are based primarily on a yearly description of the agricultural enterprise as prepared by the operator in cooperation with the inspection body.

Likewise, at the processing level, standards are also developed against which the processing operations and plant conditions can be inspected and verified. When the inspection process is undertaken by the certification body it must be clear separation of the inspection and certification functions. In order to maintain their integrity,
certification bodies should be independent of economic interests with regard to the certification of operators.

(04.11.2016) Feeding of aquatic organisms with feed from sustainable fisheries as defined in Article 3 of Council Reg. EC 2371/2002 on the conversion as sustainable explotation of fishery resources under Common Fisheries Policy or with organic feed composed of agricultural ingredients from organic farming and of natural non-agricultural substances

This standard will be revised on a regular basis depending on changes in the international legislation and rules.

1. SCOPE

1.1 This standard applies to the following products which carry, or are intended to carry, descriptive labeling referring to organic production methods:

a) unprocessed plants and plant products, livestock and livestock products to the extent that the principles of production and specific inspection rules for them are introduced in Annexes 1 and 3; and

b) processed agricultural crop and livestock products intended for human consumption and feed derived from (a) above.

c) In addition the aquaculture is included in organic management system, vegetative propagating material and seeds for cultivation, as well as yeasts used for feed and food.

1.2 A product will be regarded as bearing indications referring to organic production methods where, in the labeling or claims, including advertising material or commercial documents, the product, or its ingredients, is described by the terms "organic", "biodynamic", "biological", "ecological", or words of similar intent including diminutives which suggests to the purchaser that the product or its ingredients were obtained according to organic production methods.

1.3 Paragraph 1.2 does not apply where these terms clearly have no connection with the method of production.

1.4 All materials and/or the products produced from genetically engineered/modified organisms (GEO/GMO) are not compatible with the principles of organic production (either the growing, manufacturing, or processing) and therefore are not accepted under these guidelines.

Hydroponic production is prohibited.

2. DESCRIPTION AND DEFINITIONS

2.1 DESCRIPTION

Foods should only refer to organic production methods if they come from an organic farm system employing management practices which seek to nurture ecosystems which achieve sustainable productivity, and provide weed, pest and disease control through a diverse mix of mutually dependent life forms, recycling plant and animal residues, crop selection and rotation, water management, tillage and cultivation.

A system optimises soil biological activity and the physical and mineral nature of the soil as the means to provide a balanced nutrient supply for plant and animal life as well as to conserve soil resources. Production should be sustainable with the recycling of plant nutrients as an essential part of the fertilizing strategy. Pest and disease management is attained by means of the encouragement of a balanced host/predator relationship, augmentation of beneficial insect populations, biological and cultural control and mechanical removal of pests and affected plant parts.

The basis for organic livestock husbandry is the development of a harmonious relationship between land, plants and livestock, and respect for the physiological and behavioural needs of livestock. This is achieved by a combination of providing good quality organically grown feedstuffs, appropriate stocking rates, livestock husbandry systems appropriate to behavioural needs, and animal management practices that minimize stress and seek to promote animal health and welfare, prevent disease and avoid the use of chemical allopathic veterinary drugs (including antibiotics).

2.2 DEFINITIONS

For the purpose of these standards:
"organic production" is an overall system of farm management and food production that combines best environmental practices, a high level of biodiversity, the preservation of natural resources, the application of high animal welfare standards and a production method in line with the preference of certain consumers for products produced using natural substances and processes. The organic production method thus plays a dual societal role, where it on the one hand provides for a specific market responding to the consumer demand for organic products, and on the other hand delivers public goods contributing to protection of the environment and animal welfare, as well as to rural development.

"Renewable resources"
Organic farming should primarily rely on renewable resources within locally organized agricultural systems. In order to minimize the use of non-renewable resources, wastes and by-products of plant and animal origin should be recycled to return nutrients to the land.

"Soil fertility"
Organic plant production should contribute to maintaining and enhancing soil fertility as well as to preventing soil erosion. Plants should be preferably fed through the soil eco-systems and not through soluble fertilizers added to the soil. Additional fertilizers, soil conditioners and plant protection products should only be used if they are compatible with the objectives and principles of organic production.

"agricultural product/product of agricultural origin" means any product or commodity, raw or processed, that is marketed for human consumption (excluding water, salt and additives) or animal feed.

"audit" is a systematic and functionally independent examination to determine whether activities and related results comply with planned objectives.

"certification" is the procedure by which competent certification bodies provide written or equivalent assurance that foods or food control systems conform to requirements. Certification of food may be, as appropriate, based on a range of inspection activities which may include continuous on-line inspection, auditing of quality assurance systems throughout production method / production chain and examination of finished products.

"certification body" means a body which is responsible for verifying that a product sold or labeled as "organic" is produced, processed, prepared handled, and exported / imported according to these standards. "Certification body in reference to this standard means certification body using "Green Caucasus" quality and certification systems and "Green Caucasus" trade mark".

"competent authority" means the official government agency having jurisdiction.

"conversion" means the transition from non organic to organic farming within a given period of time, during which the provisions concerning the organic production have been applied;
"genetically engineered/modified organisms" and products thereof, are produced through techniques in which the genetic material has been altered in a way that does not occur naturally by mating and/or natural recombination.
Techniques of genetic engineering/modification include, but are not limited to: recombinant DNA, cell fusion, micro and macro injection, encapsulation, gene deletion and doubling. GMO organisms will not include organisms resulting from techniques such as conjugation, transduction and hybridization.

It is not possible to label the product as ORGANIC where it has to be labeled as containing GMOs, consisting of GMOs or produced from GMOs.
"produced from GMOs" means derived in whole or in part from GMOs but not containing or consisting of GMOs.
"produced by GMOs" means derived by using a GMO as the last living organism in the production process, but not containing or consisting of GMOs nor produced from GMOs.

For the purpose of the prohibition "of use of GMOs and products produced from or by GMOs such as food, feed, processing aids, plant protection

products, fertilizers, soil conditioners, seeds, vegetative propagating material, micro-organisms and animals in organic production" , 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.. Vendor declaration form is provided to operators by organic certification body.

"holding" means all the production units operated under a single management for the purpose of producing agricultural products;

"hydroponic production" means the method of growing plants with their roots in a mineral nutrient solution only or in an inert medium, such as perlite, gravel or mineral wool to which a nutrient solution is added;

"importer": means the natural or legal person who presents a consignment for release of organic products for circulation on market either in person, or through a representative;

"ingredient" means any substance, including a food additive, used in the manufacture or preparation of a food and present in the final product.

"inspection" is the examination of food or systems for control of food, raw materials, processing, and distribution including in-process and finished product testing, in order to verify that they conform to requirements. For organic food, inspection includes the examination of the production and processing system.

"in-conversion feedingstuffs" means feeding stuffs 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 Annex 1 , A. Plants ad Plant Products, of GC Standard.

(04.11.2016) "ionizing radiation" as it is referred in EU legislation, as well as in national legislations.

"labeling" means any written, printed or graphic matter that is present on the label, accompanies the food, or is displayed near the food, including that for the purpose of promoting its sale or disposal.

"livestock" means any domestic or domesticated animal including bovine (including buffalo and bison), ovine, porcine, caprine, equine, poultry and bees raised for food or in the production of food.
The products of hunting or fishing of wild animals shall not be considered part of this definition and organic production.

"marketing" means holding for sale or displaying for sale, offering for sale, selling, delivering or placing on the market in any other form.

"mark of conformity" means the assertion of conformity to a particular set of standards or other normative documents in the form of a mark;

'non-organic': means not coming from or not related to a production in accordance with this standard, equivalent to EU Regulations 834/2007 and 889/2008.

"official accreditation" is the procedure by which a government agency having jurisdiction formally recognizes the competence of an inspection and/or certification body to provide inspection and certification services. For organic production the competent authority may delegate the accreditation function to a private body.

"officially recognized inspection systems/officially recognized certification systems" are systems which have been formally approved or recognized by a government agency having jurisdiction.
"operator" means any person who produces, prepares or exports/imports, with a view to the subsequent marketing thereof, products as referred to in Section 1.1, or who markets such products.

"plant protection product" means any substance intended for preventing, destroying, attracting, repelling, or controlling any pest or disease including unwanted species of plants or animals during the production, storage, transport, distribution and processing of food, agricultural commodities, or animal feeds.

"Parallel production" production, processing, storage, transport, retailing of wholesaling of Organic and Non-Organic materials on the same property, facility or store.

Agricultural holding may be split into clearly separated units or aquaculture production sites which are not all managed under organic production.
As regard animals different species shall be involved.
As regard aquaculture the same species may be involved, provided there is adequate separation between production sites.
As regard plants, different varieties that can be easily differentiated shall be involved.
During parallel production adequate records should be maintained by the operator to show the separation.

(19.10.17)"processing" means any action that substantially alters the initial product, including heating, smoking, curing, maturing, drying, marinating, extraction, extrusion or a combination of those processes; Packaging or labelling operations shall not be considered as processing.

(19.10.17)"preserving" means any action, different from farming and harvesting, that is carried out on products, but which does not qualify as processing as defined above, and including "unprocessed products" (as defined in point (n) of Article 2(1) of Regulation (EC) No 852/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council (*). See definition of unprocessed products below. Preserving excludes packaging or labelling of the product.

(19.10.17) "unprocessed products" means foodstuffs that have not undergone processing, and includes products that have been divided, parted, severed, sliced, boned, minced, skinned, ground, cut, cleaned, trimmed, husked, milled,

chilled, frozen, deep-frozen or thawed (reference: point (n) of Article 2(1) of Regulation (EC) No 852/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council.“preparation” means the operations of slaughtering, processing, preserving and packaging of agricultural products and also alterations made to the labeling concerning the presentation of the organic production method.

“processing aid” means any substance not consumed as a food ingredient by itself, intentionally used in the processing of raw materials, foods or their ingredients, to fulfill 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;

“production” means the operations undertaken to supply agricultural products in the state in which they occur on the farm, including initial packaging and labeling of the product.

"products for cleaning and disinfection" products used for cleaning and disinfection in plant, livestock, wild collection, beekeeping and aquaculture as it is authorised in organic production method according to this Standard.

“Unit” the components of an agricultural holding, or the premises of a processing operation in which the processing, packing or storage of Organic foodstuffs takes place.

“veterinary drug” means any substance applied or administered to any food-producing animal, such as meat or milk-producing animals, poultry, fish or bees, whether used for therapeutic, prophylactic or diagnostic purposes or for modification of physiological functions or behaviour.

“veterinary treatment” means all courses of a curative or preventive treatment against one occurrence of a specific disease;

“Wild collection” The collection of plants and parts thereof, growing naturally in natural areas, forests and agricultural areas that have received no treatments with products other than those referred to in Annex 2 for a period of three years before the collection and the collection does not affect the stability of the natural habitat or the maintenance of the species in the collection area.

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

”mass catering operations” means the preparation of organic products in restaurants, hospitals, canteens and other similar food business at the point of sale or delivery to the final consumer.

“aquaculture”: the rearing or cultivation of aquatic organisms using techniques designed to increase the production of the organisms in question beyond the natural capacity of the environment; the organisms remain the property of a

natural or legal person throughout the rearing or culture stage, up to and including harvesting.

"first consignee" means the natural or legal person to whom the imported consignment is delivered and who will receive it for further preparation and/or marketing;

(04.11.2016) "production unit" means all assets to be used for a production sector such as production premises, land parcels, pasturages, open air areas, livestock buildings, fish ponds, containment systems for seaweed or aquaculture animals, shore or seabed concessions, the premises for the storage of crops, crop products, seaweed products ("seaweed" includes multi-cellular marine algae, phytoplankton and micro-algae), animal products, raw materials and any other input relevant for this specific production sector;

(04.11.2016) "closed recirculation aquaculture facility" means a facility where aquaculture takes place within an enclosed environment on land or on a vessel involving the recirculation of water, and depending on permanent external energy input to stabilize the environment for the aquaculture animals;

(04.11.2016) "energy from renewable sources" means renewable non-fossil energy sources: wind, solar, geothermal, wave, tidal, hydropower, landfill gas, sewage treatment plant gas and biogases;

(04.11.2016) "hatchery" means a place of breeding, hatching and rearing through the early life stages of aquaculture animals, finfish and shellfish in particular;

(04.11.2016) "nursery in aquaculture" means a place where an intermediate farming system, between the hatchery and grow- out stages is applied. The nursery stage is completed within the first third of the production cycle with the exception of species undergoing a smoltification process;

(04.11.2016) "pollution in aquaculture" in the framework of aquaculture and seaweed production means the direct or indirect introduction into the aquatic environment of substances or energy as defined in Directive 2008/56/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council (*) and in Directive 2000/60/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council (**), in the waters where they respectively apply.

(04.11.2016) "polyculture" in the framework of aquaculture and seaweed production, means the rearing of two or more species usually from different trophic levels in the same culture unit;

(04.06.2016) "production cycle" in the framework of aquaculture and seaweed production, means the lifespan of an aquaculture animal or seaweed from the earliest life stage to harvesting;

(04.11.2016) "locally grown species" in the framework of aqua culture and seaweed production, means those which are neither alien nor locally absent species under Council Regulation (EC) No 708/2007 (***). Those species listed in Annex IV of Regulation (EC) No 708/2007 may be considered as

locally grown species, as well as species typical for the region of operation of certification body in a third country.

(04.11.2016) "stocking density" in the framework of aquaculture, means the live weight of animals per cubic meter of water at any time during the grow-out phase and in the case of flatfish and shrimp the weight per square meter of surface.

(04.11.2016) "control file" is documentation which is submitted by the operator to certification body for control.

3. LABELLING AND CLAIMS

GENERAL PROVISIONS

3.1 Organic products should be labeled in accordance with this Green Caucasus standard.

3.2 The labeling and claims of a product specified in Section 1.1(a) may refer to organic production methods only where:

a) such indications show clearly that they relate to a method of agricultural production;
b) the product was produced in accordance with the requirements of Section 4 or imported under the requirements laid down in Section 7;
c) the product was produced or imported by an operator who is subject to the inspection measures laid down in Section 6, and
d) the labeling refers to the name and/or code number of certification body using "Green Caucasus" trademark or other officially recognized inspection or certification body to which the operator who has carried out the production or the most recent processing operation is subject.

3.3 The labeling and claims of a product specified in paragraph 1.1(b) may refer to organic production methods only where:

a) such indication show clearly that they relate to a method of agricultural production and are linked with the name of the agricultural product in question, unless such indication is clearly given in the list of ingredients;
b) all the ingredients of agricultural origin of the product are, or are derived from, products obtained in accordance with the requirements of Section 4, or imported under the arrangements laid down in Section 7;
c) the product should not contain any ingredient of non-agricultural origin not listed in Annex 2, Table 3;
d) the same ingredients shall not be derived from an organic and non-organic or in-conversion origin;
e) the product or its ingredients have not been subjected during preparation to treatments involving the use of ionizing radiation or substances not listed in Annex 2, Table 4;
f) the product was prepared or imported by an operator subject to the regular inspection system as set out in Section 6 of these guidelines; and
g) the labeling refers to the name and/or the code number of certification body using "Green Caucasus" trademark or officially recognized certification body to which the operator who has carried out the most recent preparation operation is subject.

3.4 By way of derogation from paragraph 3.3(b),
− certain ingredients of agricultural origin not satisfying the requirement in that paragraph may be used, within the limit of maximum level of 5% m/m of the total ingredients excluding salt and water in the final product, in the preparation of products as referred to in paragraph 1.1(b);
− where such ingredients of agricultural origin are not available, or in sufficient quantity, in accordance with the requirements of Section 4 of these guidelines;

- non-organic agricultural ingredients may be used only if they have been authorized for use in organic production in accordance with Annex 2, Table 5;
- the list of ingredients shall indicate which ingredients are organic.

3.5 In developing labeling provisions from products containing less than 95% of organic ingredients producers may consider the following. The terms referred to in paragraph 3.6 may be used only in the list of ingredients, provided that the food complies with following requirements:

- the preparation of processed organic food shall be kept separate in time or space from non-organic food.
-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, processing aids, flavorings, water, salt, preparations of micro-organisms and enzymes, minerals, trace elements, vitamins, as well as amino acids and other micronutrients in foodstaffs for particular nutritional uses may be used, and only in so far as they have been authorized for use in organic production in accordance with Annex 2.
c) An organic ingredient shall not be present together with the same ingredient in non-organic form or an ingredient in conversion
d) food produced from in-conversion crops shall contain only one crop ingredient of agricultural origin.

The list of ingredients shall indicate which ingredients are organic.
The references to the organic production method may only appear in relation to the organic ingredients and the list of ingredients shall include an indication of the total percentage of organic ingredients in proportion to the total quantity of ingredients of agricultural origin.

The terms and the indication of percentage referred to in the previous subparagraph shall appear in the same colour, identical size and style of lettering as the other indications in the list of ingredients.

3.6 Use of terms referring to organic production

a). Terms referring to the organic production method where, in the labelling, advertising material or commercial documents, such a product, its ingredients or feed materials are described in terms suggesting to the purchaser that the product, its ingredients or feed materials have been obtained in accordance with the rules laid down in this Standard.
In particular, the terms 'organic', "biological", "ecological", depending on language requirements, their derivatives or diminutives, such as 'bio' and 'eco', alone or combined, may be used for the labelling and advertising of products which satisfy the requirements of this Standard.
b) The terms referred to in paragraph a) shall not be used for the labelling, advertising and commercial documents of a product which does not satisfy the requirements set out under this Standard, unless they are not applied to

agricultural products in food or feed or clearly have no connection with organic production.

Furthermore, any terms, including terms used in trademarks, or practices used in labelling or advertising liable to mislead the consumer or user by suggesting that a product or its ingredients satisfy the requirements set out under this Standard shall not be used.

c) The terms referred to in paragraph a) 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.

d) As regards processed food, the terms referred to in paragraph a) may be used:

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 production rules of processes food.

The list of ingredients shall indicate which ingredients are organic.

3.7 Compulsory indications

1. Where terms as referred to organic production rules are used:
(a) the name or the code number of the certification body, to which the operator who has carried out the most recent production or preparation operation is subject, shall also appear in the labelling;

(b) in case of export to EU market the EU Community logo as regards pre-packaged food shall also appear on the packaging;

(c) where the during the export to EU the EU Community logo is used, an indication of the place where the agricultural raw materials of which the product is composed have been farmed, shall also appear in the same visual field as the logo and shall take one of the following forms, as appropriate:

— 'EU Agriculture', where the agricultural raw material has been farmed in the EU,

— 'non-EU Agriculture', where the agricultural raw material has been farmed in third countries,

— 'EU/non-EU Agriculture', where part of the agricultural raw materials has been farmed in the Community and a part of it has been farmed in a third country.

The above mentioned indication 'EU' or 'non-EU' may be replaced or supplemented by a country in the case where all agricultural raw materials of which the product is composed have been farmed in that country.
For the abovementioned 'EU' or 'non-EU' indication, small quantities by weight of ingredients may be disregarded provided that the total quantity of the disregarded ingredients does not exceed 2 % of the total quantity by weight of raw materials of agricultural origin.

The abovementioned 'EU' or 'non-EU' indication shall not appear in a colour, size and style of lettering more prominent than the sales description of the product.

2.The indications referred to in paragraph 1 shall be marked in a conspicuous place in such a way as to be easily visible, clearly legible and indelible.

3.8 Organic production logos

1. In case of export to EU markets the EU Community organic production logo may be used in the labelling, presentation and advertising of products which satisfy the requirements set out under this Standard.
This logo shall not be used in the case of in-conversion products and food.

2."Green Caucasus" or national logo/-s may be used in the labelling, presentation and advertising of products which satisfy the requirements set out under this Standard.

3. The use of the EU logo should be possible on a voluntary basis on any products imported from third countries.

4. For export to EU the EU-logo shall not be used in the labeling of in-conversion products or processed foodstuffs oh which less than 95% of its ingredients of agricultural origin are organic.

5. EU-logo allows use of national or private logos.

6. For export to EU whenever EU-logo is used the information about the place where the agricultural raw materials of which the product is composed should be mentioned for consumers.

LABELLING OF PRODUCTS IN TRANSITION/CONVERSION TO ORGANIC

3.9 Plant products of farms in transition to organic production methods may only be labeled as "transition to organic" after 12 months of production using organic methods providing that:

a) the requirements referred to in paragraphs 3.2 and 3.3 are fully satisfied;
b) the indications referring to transition/conversion do not mislead the purchaser of the product regarding its difference from products obtained from farms and/or farm units which have fully completed the conversion period;
c) such indication take the form of words, such as "product under conversion to organic farming", or similar words or phrase accepted by Green Caucasus, and must appear in a color, size and style of lettering which is not more prominent than the sales description of the product;
d) foods composed of a single ingredient may be labeled as "transition to organic" on the principal display panel;

e) the labeling refers to the name and/or the code number of the Green Caucasus or officially approved certification body to which the operator who has carried out the most recent preparation is subject.

Livestock products can not be labeled as "transition to organic". Livestock products can be labeled as organic only after completion of transition period.

3.10 Specific labelling requirements for feed

This provision does not apply to pet food and feed for fur animals (04.11.2016 deleted wording "or feed for aquaculture animals").
The trade marks and sales descriptions bearing an organic indication may be used only if at least 95 % of the product's dry matter is comprised of feed material from the organic production method.

3.11 Indications on processed feed

1. The terms referred to organic may be used on processed feed provided that:
(a) the processed feed complies with the provisions of organic production (04.11.2016) and provisions of livestock and provisions for aquaculture animals;
(b) the processed feed complies with the provisions of this Standard;
(c) at least 95 % of the product's dry matter is (04.11.2016) of organic agricultural origin.
(04.11.2016) (d) all ingredients of plant and animal origin contained in the processed feed are from the organic production method.
2. Subject to the requirements laid down in points (a) and (b) of paragraph 1, the following statement is permitted in the case of products comprising variable quantities of feed materials from the organic production method and/or feed materials from products in conversion to organic farming and/or non-organic materials:
'may be used in organic production in accordance with Green Caucasus Standard'.

3.12Use of indications on processed feed

(04.11.2016)The indication provided in previous article 3.11 shall be separate from the wording regulating feed requirements, it shall be presented in a colour, format or character font that does not draw more attention to it than to the description or name of the animal feeding stuff
1. it should be accompanied, in the same field of vision, by an indication by weight of dry matter referring:

(i) to the percentage of feed material(s) from the organic production method;

(ii) to the percentage of feed material(s) from products in conversion to organic farming;

(iii) to the percentage of feed material(s) not covered by points (i) and (ii);

(iv) to the total percentage of animal feed of agricultural origin;

2. accompanied by a list of names of feed materials from the organic production method;

3. accompanied by a list of names of feed materials from products in conversion to organic production.

4. (13.06.14) The indication provided for in article 3,11 and article 3,12 items 1. and 2. above may be also accompanied by a reference to the requirement to use feeding stuff in accordance with this standard, Annex 1. , "B. Livestock and livestock products nutrition", article " 27. In-conversion feed" and article "28. Products and substances of non organic plant and animal origin".

LABELLING OF NON-RETAIL CONTAINERS

3.13 The labeling of non-retail containers of product specified in paragraph 1.1 should meet the requirements set out in Annex 3, paragraph 11.

3.14 Specific labeling of wine

1. Operators using "Organic logo of the EU" shall keep recorded evidence, for a period of at least five years after they placed on the market that wine obtained from organic grapes, including of the corresponding quantities of wine in litres, per wine category and per year.

2. Where the evidence referred to in point (1) of this paragraph is not available, such wine may be labelled as "wine made from organic grapes", provided that it complies with the requirements of this Standard except those provided for in **Annex 1 Part E. Specific rules for making wine.**

3. Wine labelled as "wine made from organic grapes" cannot bear the "Organic logo of the EU".

4. RULES OF PRODUCTION AND PREPARATION

4.1 Organic production methods require that for the production of products referred to in paragraph 1.1(a):

a) at least the production requirements of Annex 1 should be satisfied;
b) in the case where (a) (above) is not effective, substances listed in Annex 2, Tables 1 and 2 that meet the criteria established in Section 5.1, may be used as plant protection products, fertilizers, soil conditioners, insofar as the corresponding use is not prohibited in general agriculture in the country concerned in accordance with the relevant national provisions.

4.2 Organic processing methods require that for the preparation of products referred to in paragraph 1.1(b):

a) at least the processing requirements of Annex 1 should satisfied;
b) substances listed in Annex 2, Tables 3 and 4 that meet the criteria established in Section 5.1 may be used as ingredients of non-agricultural origin or processing aids insofar as the corresponding use is not prohibited in the relevant national requirements concerning the preparation of food products and according to good manufacturing practice.

4.3 Organic products should be stored and transported according to the requirements of Annex 1.

4.4 By derogation of the provisions of paragraphs 4.1 (a) and 4.2 (a), the organic certification bodies under "Green Caucasus" trademark may, with regard to the provisions on livestock production at Annex 1, provide for more detailed rules as well as for derogations for implementation periods in order to permit gradual development of organic farming practices.

5. REQUIREMENTS FOR INCLUSION OF SUBSTANCES IN ANNEX 2

Any changes in the ANNEX 2 of this standard will be done with compliance The European Community's Regulations (EEC) No 834/2007 and 889/2008.

5.1 At least the following criteria should be used for the purposes of amending the permitted substance lists referred to in Section 4. In using this criteria to evaluate new substances for use in organic production, Certification bodies under "Green Caucasus" trademark should take into account all applicable statutory and regulatory national and international provisions.
Any new substances must meet the following general criteria:

a) they are consistent with principles of organic production (see "Market Access", para 9-10);
b) use of the substance is necessary/essential for its intended use;
c) use of the substance does not result in, or contribute to, harmful effects on the environment;
d) they have the lowest negative impact on human or animal health and quality of life; and
e) approved alternatives are not available in sufficient quantity and/or quality.

The above criteria are intended to be evaluated as a whole in order to protect the integrity of organic production. In addition, the following criteria should be applied in the evaluation process:

a) if they are used for fertilization, soil conditioning purposes -
− they are essential for obtaining or maintaining the fertility of the soil or to fulfill specific nutrition requirements of crops, or specific soil conditioning and rotation purposes which cannot be satisfied by the practices included in Annex 1, or other products included in Table 1 of Annex 2; and
− the ingredients will be of plant, animal, microbial, or mineral origin and may undergo the following processes: physical (e.g., mechanical, thermal), enzymatic, microbial; and
− their use does not have harmful impact on soil organisms and/or the physical characteristics of the soil;

b) if they are used for the purpose of plant disease or pest and weed control
− they should be essential for the control of a harmful organism or a particular disease for which other biological, physical, or plant breeding alternatives and/or effective management practices are not available, and
− substances should be plant, animal, microbial, or mineral origin and may undergo the following processes: physical (e.g. mechanical, thermal), enzymatic, microbial (e.g. composting, digestion);
− however, if they are products used, in exceptional circumstances, in traps and dispensers such as pheromones, which are chemically synthesized they will be considered for addition to lists if the products are not available in sufficient quantities in their natural form, provided that the

conditions for their use do not directly or indirectly result in the presence of residues of the product in the edible parts;

c) if they are used as additives or processing aids in the preparation or preservation of the food:
− these substances are found in nature and may have undergone mechanical/physical processes (e.g. extraction, precipitation), biological/enzymatic processes and microbial processes (e.g. fermentation),
− or, if these substances mentioned above are not available from such methods and technologies in sufficient quantities, then those substances that have been chemically synthesized may be considered for inclusion in exceptional circumstances;
− they are essential to prepare such product because there are no other available technologies;
− the consumer will not be deceived concerning the nature, substance and quality of the food.
In the evaluation process of substances for inclusion on lists certification bodies under "Green Caucasus" trademark should have the opportunity to be involved and consult.

6. INSPECTION AND CERTIFICATION SYSTEMS

6.1 Inspection and certification systems are used to verify the labelling of, and claims for, organically produced foods.

6.2 "Green Caucasus" inspection and certification systems comprise the application of the measures and other precautions set out in Annex 3.

6.3 As the inspection and certification functions are conducted by the same certification body operating under "Green Caucasus" trademark there is the clear separation of the inspection and certification activities.

6.4 In the certification bodies under "Green Caucasus" trademark are applied following mandatory criteria:

a) the standard common inspection/certification procedures are followed, including detailed description of the inspection measures and precautions which the body/-ies undertake to impose on operators subject to inspection;
b) the penalties applied where irregularities and/or infringements are found;
c) the staff is qualified, administrative and technical facilities, inspection experience and reliability exist;
d) the objectivity of the body vis-à-vis the operators subject to inspection is taken into account.
e) confidentiality principles applied.

6.5 The certification body keeps an updated list containing the names and addresses of operators under control. This list is made available to the interested parties.

6.6 Retail operators who sell products directly to final consumer are exempt from control requirements. However, in order to avoid fraud it is necessary to exclude from exemption those retail operators who produce, prepare or store products other than in connection with the point of sale, or who import organic products or who have contracted out aforesaid activities to a third party.

6.7 Minimum control requirements

Where appropriate operator should draw up and subsequently maintain the description and measures provided for organic rules as the part of a quality system as set up by the operator.
The description shall be verified by the certification body that issues a report identifying the possible deficiencies and non-compliances with the organic production rules. The operator shall countersign this report and take the necessary corrective measures.

6.8 Random control visits

Shall be carry out, primarily unannounced, based on the general evaluation of the risk of non-compliance with the organic production rules, taking

into account at least the results of previous controls, the quantity of products concerned and the risk for exchange of products.

6.9 Documentary accounts

1. Stock and financial records shall be kept in the unit or premises and shall enable the operator to identify and the certification body to verify:
(a) the supplier and, where different, the seller, or the exporter of the products;
(b) the nature and the quantities of organic products delivered to the unit and, where relevant, of all materials bought and the use of such materials, and, where relevant, the composition of the compound feedingstuffs;
(c) the nature and the quantities of organic products held in storage at the premises;
(d) the nature, the quantities and the consignees and, where different, the buyers, other than the final consumers, of any products which have left the unit or the first consignee's premises or storage facilities;
(e) in case of operators who do not store or physically handle such organic products, the nature and the quantities of organic products bought and sold, and the suppliers, and where different, the sellers or the exporters and the buyers, and where different, the consignees.

2. The documentary accounts shall also comprise the results of the verification at reception of organic products and any other information required by the certification body for the purpose of proper control. The data in the accounts shall be documented with appropriate justification documents.
The accounts shall demonstrate the balance between the input and the output.

3. Where an operator runs several production units in the same area, the units for non organic products, together with storage premises for input products must also be subject to the minimum control requirements.

6.10 Communications

Each year, before the 15th March the operator shall notify the certification body of its schedule (Annual Organic Management Plan) of production of crop and other products, giving a breakdown by parcel.

Certification body may grant some flexibility depending on the reality of production system.

7. EXPORTS / IMPORTS

Considering the fact of WTO membership, as well as the partnership programs with EU in the issues of export and import highlighted in this standard are strongly based on the existing international rules , especially WTO and EU rules involving trade, customs, agricultural, environmental, phytosanitary, quarantine, animal health, organic agriculture and production.

In this regard the "Green Caucasus"standart in trade related issues follows the recommendations and norms established in EEC 834/2007, 889/2008, 1235/2008 and Codex Alimentarius. Equivalence rules for third countries and recognized certification bodies from third countries of above mentioned EU documents will be applied.

7.1 Operators are required to market locally, export and import Products as specified in paragraph 1.1 only where the certificate is issued based on inspection stating that the lot designated in the certificate was obtained within a system of production, preparation, marketing and inspection applying at least the rules provided for in all sections and annexes of these standards.

7.2 The certificate referred to in paragraph 7.1 above should accompany the goods, in the original copy, to the premises of the first consignee; thereafter organic certification body requires the exporters / importers to keep the transactional certificates and other organic export/import related documents for not less than two years for inspection/audit/ control purposes.

7.3 If exports/ imports of organic products are not in conformity with the requirements of these standards due to treatment required by national regulations for quarantine purposes that is not in conformity with these standards they loose their organic status.

8. INFRINGEMENTS AND EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION

8.1. Where an irregularity is found as regards compliance with the requirements laid down in this Standard, the certification body takes measures to ensure that no reference to the organic production method is made in the labelling and advertising of the entire lot or production run affected by this irregularity, where this would be proportionate to the relevance of the requirement that has been violated and to the nature and particular circumstances of the irregular activities.

Where a severe infringement or an infringement with prolonged effect is found, the certification body prohibits the operator concerned from marketing products which refer to the organic production method in the labelling and advertising for a certain period.

The level of communication shall depend on the severity and the extent of the irregularity or infringement found.

8.2 Measures in case of suspicion of infringements and irregularities

1. Where an operator considers or suspects that a product which he has produced, prepared, **exported or** imported or that he has received from another operator, is not in compliance with organic production rules, he shall initiate procedures either to withdraw from this product any reference to the organic production method or to separate and identify the product. He may only put it into processing or packaging or on the market after elimination of that doubt, unless it is placed on the market without indication referring to the organic production method.
In case of such doubt, the operator shall immediately inform the certification body. The certification body may require that the product cannot be placed on the market with indications referring to the organic production method until it is satisfied, by the information received from the operator or from other sources, that the doubt has been eliminated.

2. Where a certification body has a substantiated suspicion that an operator intends to place on the market a product not in compliance with the organic production rules but bearing a reference to the organic production method, this certification body can require that the operator may provisionally not market the product with this reference for a time period to be set by that certification body.
Before taking such a decision, the certification body shall allow the operator to comment. This decision shall be supplemented by the obligation to withdraw from this product any reference to the organic production method if the certification body is sure that the product does not fulfill the requirements of organic production.

However, if the suspicion is not confirmed within the said time period, the decision referred to in the first subparagraph shall be cancelled not later than the expiry of that time period. The operator shall cooperate fully with the certification body in resolving the suspicion.

3. Measures and sanctions will be taken to prevent fraudulent use of the indications referred to organic production method.

8.3 Exchange of information

Where the operator and his subcontractors are checked by different certification body, an agreement by the operator on his behalf and that of his subcontractors shall be signed, that the different certification bodies can exchange information on the operations under their control and on the way this exchange of information can be implemented.

9. TRANSITIONAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS (expired chapter)

(04.11.2016) This chapter's transitional provisions have been expired. However, the content of this chapter remains for awareness purposes to continue to demonstrate the sequence and order of transition of legal provisions equivalent to the EU legislation. The similar approach is relevant to the other expiry dates included in this standard in other parts of it. They are kept but demonstrate the provisions of transition's, their duration and expiry dates for each.

9.1. For a transitional period expiring on 31 December 2010, cattle may be tethered in buildings already existing before 24 August 2000, provided that regular exercise is provided and rearing takes place in line with animal welfare requirements with comfortably littered areas as well as individual management and provided that the certification body has authorised this measure. This measure may continue being authorising upon request of individual operators for its application in a limited period ending before the 31 December 2013, under the additional condition that the controls visits are carried out at least twice a year.

9.2. For a transitional period expiring on 31 December 2010, the exceptions concerning housing conditions and stocking density granted to livestock producing holdings on the basis of the derogation provided for in part B, paragraph 8.5.1 of Annex I to Regulation (EEC) No 2092/91. The operators benefiting from this extension shall present a plan to the certification body, containing the description of arrangements which are intended to ensure compliance with the provisions of the organic production rules by the end of the transitional period. This measure may continue being authorised upon request of individual operators for its application in a limited period ending before the 31 December 2013, under the additional condition that the controls visits are carried out at least twice a year.

9.3. For a transition period expiring 31 December 2010 the final fattening phase of sheep and pigs for meat production as laid down under point 8.3.4 of Annex I.B of Regulation (EEC) No 2092/91 may take place indoors under the condition that the controls visits are carried out at least twice a year.

9.4. The castration of piglets may be carried out without the application of anaesthesia and/or analgesia during a transition period expiring on 31 December 2011.

10. ONGOING REVIEW OF THE STANDARD

This standard is revised at least once a year. The changes in the international organic law and standards such as EEC Regulations 834/2007, 889/2008 and 1235/2008, Codex Alimentarius, others are to be mandatory taken into account and changes reflected in this standard. If the changes impact significantly the implementation of the organic production and certification process it will be practiced to do urgent changes to this standard. This approach provides the continuity of the quality system "Green Caucasus".

Organic Certification bodies under "Green Caucasus" trade mark notify their Operators about changes to the standard. Latest version of standard is published on web site of certification body/-ies.

ANNEX 1 PRINCIPLES OF ORGANIC PRODUCTION

A. PLANTS AND PLANT PRODUCTS

1. The principles set out in this Annex should be applied on the parcels, farm or farm units during a conversion period of at least two years (10.05.17 24 months) before sowing, or in the case of perennial crops other than grassland, at least three (3) years (10.05.17 36 months) before the first harvest of products as referred to in paragraph 1.1(a) of these guidelines.

2. The following shall apply to a farm on which organic production is started:
(a) the conversion period shall start at the earliest when the operator has notified his activity to the certification body.
(b) during the conversion period all rules established by current standard shall apply.
(c) on a holding or unit partly under organic production and partly under 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.

3. The certification body may decide to recognise retro-actively as being part of the conversion period any previous period in which:
(a) the land parcels were subject of measures concerned ensure that products not authorised for organic production have not been used on those parcels, or
(b) the parcels were natural or agricultural areas which were not treated with products not authorised for organic production.
(10.05.17) (c) the parcels applied for organic certification have been under valid control and certification at the application time and all noncompliance's and deficiencies have been corrected before the application.

The period referred to in point (b) of the first subparagraph can be taken into consideration retroactively only where satisfactory proof has been furnished to the certification body allowing it to satisfy itself that the conditions were met for a period of at least three years.
In any cases the length of conversion period must equal or exceed 12 months.
(31.01.20) In case the evidences are satisfactory CB may decide on recognition of retrospective period as part of conversion on case-by-case basis in line with EU regulation 889/2008 Article 36, point 2.

4. The certification body may decide, in certain cases, where the land had been contaminated with products not authorized for organic production, to extend the conversion period beyond the period.

5. In the case of parcels which have already been converted to or were in the process of conversion to organic farming, and which are treated with a product not authorised for organic production, the conversion period may be shortened in the following two cases:
(a) parcels treated with a product not authorised for organic production as part of a compulsory disease or pest control measure imposed by the competent national authority;
(b) parcels treated with a product not authorised for organic production as part of

scientific tests approved by the competent authority.

In the cases provided for in points (a) and (b) of the first subparagraph, the length of the conversion period shall be fixed taking into account of the following factors:
(a) the process of degradation of the product concerned shall guarantee, at the end of the conversion period, an insignificant level of residues in the soil and, in the case of a perennial crop, in the plant;
(b) the harvest following the treatment may not be sold with reference to organic production methods.

6. The conversion period may be reduced to one year for pasturages and open air areas used by non-herbivore species. This period may be reduced to six months where the land concerned has not during the last year, received treatments with products not authorised for organic production.

7. During the conversion period the wax shall be replaced with wax coming from organic beekeeping.

8. The extending of conversion period will be based upon suspicion or fact of inaccuracy or impossibility (time, climate, geography, markets, management, human resource, other) in application of organic production rules and adequate record keeping. When facts are available, noncompliance's and infringements are identified, or the implementation of corrective actions is not well conditioned and timely, organic certification body may decide to extend the conversion period.

9. The reduction of conversion period must be based on evidence of the following criteria:

-**history of contamination of the land and reality of current environmental condition** of the region/area, based on statistics and evidences provided by the operator or responsible agencies, published in media, internet, requested directly from institutions and experts in charge.

- **history of land use under organic management**: land was abandoned or unused for agricultural or any other purposes for some reasons (reasons must be defined and proof from local authorities or any other relevant and responsible agency is needed);

- **in case of use of the land for agricultural or other purposes** there is evidence that no forbidden and restricted substances were used on the land, including fertilizers, soils conditioner, pest and disease control substances, any other based on the forbidden substances and positive lists, for the period of time not less than three years prior to the application for organic certification. It is expected that the operator with the application for organic certification and the organic production description will present the list of used substances in the past, as well as evidence of non use of forbidden substances (provided by responsible agencies).

- **availability of accurate records** kept by operator or his predecessor/ previous owner/ manager of the land subject for organic certification about past and on-going organic management and used substances clearly showing lack of contamination and lack of doubts on contamination.

The change of ownership of the land already certified by competent certification body as organic based on current "Green Caucasus" standard 10.05.17 or any other rules with the proof by competent accreditation body or authority of being equivalent to or compliant with EU rules laid down in Regulations 834/ 2007 and 889/ 2008 may reduce the conversion to the time of positive reporting of the first inspection following the date of such change of ownership.

10. Whatever the length of the conversion period it may only begin once a production unit has been placed under control system and once the unit has started the implementation of the production rules referred to in Section 4 of these Standards.

11. In cases where a whole farm is not converted at one time, it may be done progressively whereby these Standards are applied from the start of conversion on the relevant fields.

Conversion from conventional to organic production should be effected using permitted techniques as defined in these Standards. In cases where a whole farm is not converted at the same time, the holding must be split into units as referred to in Annex 3, part A.

12. Areas in conversion as well as areas converted to organic production must not be alternated (switched back and forth) between organic and conventional production methods.

13. Agricultural holding may be split into clearly separated units which are not all managed under organic production.
As regard plants, different varieties that can be easily differentiated shall be involved.
During parallel production adequate records should be maintained by the operator to show the separation.

14. The fertility and biological activity of the soil should be maintained or increased, where appropriate, by:

a) cultivation of legumes, green manures or deep-rooting plants in an appropriate multi-annual rotation programme;
b) incorporation in the soil of organic material, composted or not, from holdings producing in accordance with these Standards. By-products from livestock farming, such as farmyard manure, may be used if they come from livestock holdings producing in accordance with these Standards;
Substances, as specified in Annex 2, Table 1 may be applied only to the extent that adequate nutrition of the crop or soil conditioning are not possible by the methods set out in 5(a) and (b) above or, in the case of manures, they are not available from organic farming.
c) for compost activation, appropriate micro-organisms or plant-based preparations may be used;
d) biodynamic preparations from stone meal, farmyard manure or plants may also be used for the purpose covered by paragraph 5.
(e) mineral nitrogen fertilisers shall not be used;

15. Pests, diseases and weeds should be controlled by any one, or a combination, of the following measures:

− choice of appropriate species and varieties;
− appropriate rotation programs;
− mechanical cultivation;
− protection of natural enemies of pests through provision of favorable habitat, such as hedges and nesting sites, ecological buffer zones which maintain the original vegetation to house pest predators;
− diversified ecosystems. These will vary between geographical locations. For example, buffer zones to counteract erosion, agroforestry, rotating crops, etc.
− flame weeding;
− natural enemies including release of predators and parasites;
− biodynamic preparations from stone meal, farmyard manure or plants;
− mulching and mowing;
− grazing of animals;
− mechanical controls such as traps, barriers, light and sound;
− steam sterilization when proper rotation of soil renewal cannot take place.

16. Only in cases of imminent or serious threat to the crop and where the measures identified in 6. (above) are, or would not be effective, recourse may be had to products referred to in Annex 2.

17. Feed, seeds and vegetative reproductive material should be from plants grown in accordance with the provisions of Section 4.1 of these guidelines for at least one generation or, in the case of perennial crops, two growing seasons.
Where an operator can demonstrate to organic certification body that material satisfying the above requirements is not available, the certification body/-ies may support:

a) in the first instance, use of untreated seeds or vegetative reproductive material, or
b) if (a) is not available, use of seeds and vegetative reproductive material treated with substances included in Annex 2.
The organic certification body may establish criteria to limit the application of the derogation in 8 above.

18. The collection of edible plants and parts thereof, growing naturally in natural areas, forests and agricultural areas, is considered an organic production method provided that:
− the products are from a clearly defined collection area that is subject to the inspection/certification measures set out in Section 6 of these Standards;
− those areas have received no treatments with products other than those referred to in Annex 2 for a period of three years before the collection;
− the collection does not disturb the stability of the natural habitat or the maintenance of the species in the collection area. To avoid over collection and guaranty stability of ecosystem only following percentages of plants part can be harvested:

- Roots, bulbs: 20% of the population
- Leafs (bushes, trees): 30 % of the leafs
- Flowers: 70%
- Seeds/Fruits: 80-70%

− the products are from an operator managing the harvesting or gathering of the products, who is clearly identified and familiar with the collection area

- the permission for collection of wild species must be obtained from authorities and presented to certification body, the responsible entity/authority must set up detailed collection rules for all species
- organic wild collection must be performed in unpolluted areas and on clean places. Also it must be well documented and the product can be traced back to its origin.
- Red list or otherwise threatened species must not be collected
- Damage to the plants must be reduced to a minimum.
- Collection must not destroy or threaten the habitat or feed for other organisms
- Collectors must not leave behind litter; contribute to forest fire, illegal hunting, etc.
- Collection must not take place close to bigger cities, industrial centres, and nuclear facilities and close to roads.
- Collectors must be adequately trained concerning harvesting techniques, maximum harvest quantities, environmental damage and suitable collection places,this can be achieved best, when collection takes place in organised groups.
- The responsible company or person has to present an organic management plan
- A detailed map (preferably 1 : 50.000, but not smaller than 1 : 250.000) of the collection region must be presented; collection places, wholesale points, and critical areas must be marked on the map
- Records on purchased, stored, transported, and sold quantities must be kept at all levels
-Operators should strive for traceability at least until the level of local collection points
-All stored, transported, and sold products must be adequately labelled, labels including information on product, quantity, origin, packing date, organic condition, and certifier
- Contact with polluting substances must be avoided during post harvest management (transport, drying, freezing, storing, etc.)
-Possible pollutants include detergents, disinfectants, rodenticides, fumigants, wood preservants, etc.
- During harvest and at all post-harvest levels, products must be handled in adequate sanitary conditions.

19. Soil management and fertilisation, additional provisions

a) Where the nutritional needs of plants cannot be met by measures provided for in Plant Production Rules only fertilisers and soil conditioners referred to in Annex 1. Principles of organic production to this Standard may be used in organic production and only to the extent necessary. Operators shall keep documentary evidence of the need to use the product.

b) 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.

c) Organic-production holdings may establish written cooperation agreements exclusively with other holdings and enterprises which comply with the organic production rules, with the intention of spreading surplus manure from organic production. The maximum limit as referred to in paragraph 2, shall be calculated on the basis of all of the organic-production units involved in such cooperation.

d) 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.

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

20. Pest, disease and weed management, additional provisions

a) Where plants cannot be adequately protected from pests and diseases by measures provided for in Plant Production Rules, only products referred to in Annex 2. Permitted substances for the production of organic foods, Table 2. Substances for plant pest and disease control to this Standard may be used in organic production. Operators shall keep documentary evidence of the need to use the product.

b) For products used in traps and dispensers, except pheromone dispensers, the traps and/or dispensers, shall prevent the substances from being released into the environment and prevent contact between the substances and the crops being cultivated. The traps shall be collected after use and disposed off safely.

21.Specific rules on mushroom production

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 Annex I. Part A. Plants and Plant products, only when the product referred to in point (i) is not available; and when they do not exceed 25 % of the weight of total components of the substrate, excluding the covering material and any added water, before composting;
(b) products of agricultural origin, other than those referred to in point (a), from holdings producing according to organic production method;
(c) peat not chemically treated;
(d) wood, not treated with chemical products after felling;
(e) mineral products referred to in Annex I, water and soil.

22.Exceptional rules. Parallel production

1. The 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 are concerned to organic production in the shortest possible period which may not in any event exceed a maximum of five years;
(ii) appropriate measures have been taken to ensure the permanent separation of the products obtained from each unit concerned;
(iii) the certification body 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 certification body of the

exact quantities harvested on the units concerned and of the measures applied to separate the products;

(v) the conversion plan have been approved by the **certification body**; this approval shall be confirmed each year after the start of the conversion plan;

(b) 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.

2. Holdings carrying out agricultural research or formal education to rear organic and non-organic livestock of the same species, where the following conditions are met:

(a) appropriate measures, notified in advance to the certification body, have been taken in order to guarantee the permanent separation between livestock, livestock products, manure and feeding stuffs of each of the units;

(b) the producer informs the certification body in advance of any delivery or selling of the livestock or livestock products;

(c) the operator informs the certification body of the exact quantities produced in the units together with all characteristics permitting the identification of the products and confirms that the measures taken to separate the products have been applied.

23.Exceptional rules. Use of seed or vegetative propagating material not obtained by the organic production method

1. (a) seed and vegetative propagating material from a production unit in conversion to organic farming may be used,

(b) where point (a) is not applicable, the use of non-organic seed or vegetative propagating material if not available from organic production. However, for the use of non-organic seed and seed potatoes the following paragraphs (2) to (5) apply.

2. Non-organic seed and seed potatoes may be used, provided that the seed or seed potatoes are not treated with plant protection products, other than those authorised for treatment of seed in accordance with this standard, unless chemical treatment is prescribed in accordance with legislation for phytosanitary purposes for all varieties of a given species in the area where the seed or seed potatoes are to be used.

3. Authorisation to use seed or seed potatoes not obtained by the organic production method may only be granted in the following cases:

(a) where no variety of the species which the user wants to obtain is available in organic form.

(b) where no supplier, meaning an operator who markets seed or seed potatoes to other operators, is able to deliver the seed or seed potatoes before sowing or planting in situations where the user has ordered the seed or seed potatoes in reasonable time;

(c) where it is justified for use in research, test in small-scale field trials or for variety conservation purposes.

4. The authorisation shall be granted before the sowing of the crop.

5. The authorisation shall be granted only to individual users for one season at a time and the certification body responsible for the authorisations shall register the quantities of seed or seed potatoes authorised.

B. LIVESTOCK AND LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS

GENERAL PRINCIPLES

This Chapter lays down detailed production rules for the following species: bovine including *bubalus* and bison, equidae, porcine, ovine, caprine, poultry (species as mentioned in Annex III) and bees.

1. Where livestock for organic production are maintained, they should be an integral part of the organic farm unit and should be raised and held according to these Standards.

2. Livestock can make an important contribution to an organic farming system by:
a) improving and maintaining the fertility of the soil;
b) managing the flora through grazing;
c) enhancing biodiversity and facilitating complementary interactions on the farm; and
d) increasing the diversity of the farming system.

3. Livestock production is a land related activity. Herbivores must have access to pasture and all other animals must have access to open-air runs; the certification body may allow exceptions when the animals' physiological state, inclement weather conditions, and state of the land so permit, or the structure of certain `traditional` farming systems restrict access to pasture, providing the welfare of the animals can be guaranteed.

4. Stocking rates for livestock should be appropriate for the region in question taking into consideration feed production capacity, stock health, nutrient balance, and environmental impact.

Bovines, Ovine and Pigs	**Indoors Area (net area available to animals)**		**Outdoors Area (exercise area, excluding pasturage)**
	Liveweight minimum	M ^{2}/head	M^2/head
Breeding and fattening bovine and equidae	Up to 100 kg Up to 200 kg Up to 350kg Over 350 kg	1.5 2.5 4.0 5.0 (with a minimum of 1m^2 per 100kg)	1.1 1.9 3.0 3.7 (with a minimum of 0.75m^2 per 100kg)
Dairy Cows		6	4.5
Bulls for breeding		10	30
Sheep and Goats		1.5 sheep/goat 0.35 lamb/kid	2.5 sheep/goat 2.5 with 0.5 per lamb/kid
Farrowing Sows with piglets up to 40 days		7.5	2.5

Fattening pigs	Up to 50 kg Up to 85 kg Up to 110 kg (04.11.2016)Over 110kg	0.8 1.1 1.3 1.5	0.6 0.8 1 1.2
Piglets	Over 40 days & up to 30 kg	0.6	0.4
Brood Pigs		2.5 female 6.0 male	1.9 8.0

Table: Minimum Surface Areas Indoors and Outdoors for Housing Different Species

Poultry	**Indoors area (net area available to animals)**			**Outdoors area (m^2 of area available in rotation/head)**
	No animals/ m^2	**Cm perch per animal**	**Nest**	
Laying hens	6	18	8 laying hens per nest or in case of common nest 120 cm^2 per bird	4, provided that the limit of 170 kg N/ha/yr is not exceeded
Fattening Poultry (in fixed housing)	10 with a maximum of 21kg liveweight per m^2	20 (for Guinea fowl only)		4 Broilers and guinea fowl 4.5 ducks 10 turkey 15 geese or GOOSE In all the species mentioned above the limit of 170 kg N/ha/yr is not to be exceeded
Fattening Poultry in mobile housing	16 in mobile poultry houses (only in the case of mobile houses not exceeding 150 m^2 floor space which remain open at night) with a maximum of 30 kg liveweight per m^2			2.5 provided that the limit of 1 70 kg N/ha/yr is not exceeded

Table: Minimum Surface Areas Indoors and Outdoors for Housing Different Species of Poultry

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: Maximum number of animals per hectare

5. Specific housing conditions and husbandry practices for poultry

a) Poultry shall not be kept in cages.
b) Water fowl shall have access to a stream, pond, lake or a pool whenever the weather and hygienic conditions permit in order to respect their species-specific needs and animal welfare requirements.
c) Buildings for all poultry shall meet the following conditions. Each poultry house shall not contain more than:

(i) 4 800 chickens,
(ii) 3 000 laying hens,
(iii) 5 200 guinea fowl,
(iv) 4 000 female Muscovy or Peking ducks or 3 200 male Muscovy or Peking ducks or other ducks,

(v) 2 500 capons, geese or turkeys;

d) the total usable area of poultry houses for meat production on any single unit, shall not exceed 1 600 m^2;

e) poultry houses shall be constructed in a manner allowing all birds easy access to open air area.

f) 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.

g) To prevent the use of intensive rearing methods, poultry shall either be reared until they reach a minimum age or else shall come from local tradition poultry strains (13.06.14). Where local tradition poultry strainsare not used by the operator the following minimum age at slaughter shall be:

(i) 81 days for chickens,
(ii) 150 days for capons,
(iii) 49 days for Peking ducks,
(iv) 70 days for female Muscovy ducks,
(v) 84 days for male Muscovy ducks,
(vi) 92 days for Mallard ducks,
(vii)94 days for guinea fowl,
(viii) 140 days for male turkeys and roasting geese and
(ix) 100 days for female turkeys.

6. Organic livestock management should aim to utilize natural breeding methods, minimize stress, prevent disease, progressively eliminate the use of chemical allopathic veterinary drugs (including antibiotics), reduce the feeding of animals with products of animal origin (e.g. meat meal), and maintain animal health and welfare.

7.Husbandry practices and housing conditions:
(i) personnel keeping animals shall possess the necessary basic knowledge and skills as regards the health and the welfare needs of the animals;
(ii) husbandry practices, including stocking densities, and housing conditions shall ensure that the developmental, physiological and ethological needs of animals are met;
(iii) 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;
(iv) the number of livestock shall be limited with a view to minimising overgrazing, poaching of soil, erosion, or pollution caused by animals or by the spreading of their manure;
(v) 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;
(vi) tethering or isolation of livestock is 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;
(vii) duration of transport of livestock shall be minimised;
(viii) any suffering, including mutilation, shall be kept to a minimum during the entire life of the animal, including at the time of slaughter;

8. Feed:
(i) primarily obtaining feed for livestock from the holding where the animals are kept or from other organic holdings in the same region;

(ii) livestock shall be fed with organic feed 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;
(iii) with the exception of bees, livestock shall have permanent access to pasture or roughage;
(iv) non organic feed materials from plant origin, feed materials from animal and mineral origin, feed additives, certain products used in animal nutrition and processing aids shall be used only if they have been authorised for use by the certification body;
(v) growth promoters and synthetic amino-acids shall not be used;
(vi) suckling mammals shall be fed with natural, preferably maternal, milk;

9. Disease prevention and veterinary treatment:
(i) 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;

(ii) 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;
(iii)the use of immunological veterinary medicines is allowed;

(iv) treatments related to the protection of human and animal health imposed on the basis of legislation are allowed.

10.Prohibition of landless livestock production

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 is prohibited.

LIVESTOCK SOURCES/ORIGIN

11. The choice of breeds, strains and breeding methods shall be consistent with the principles of organic farming, taking into account in particular:
a) their adaptation to the local conditions;
b) their vitality and resistance to disease;
c) the absence of specific diseases or health problems associated with some breeds and strains (porcine stress syndrome, spontaneous abortion etc).

12. Livestock used for products satisfying Section 1.1 (a) of these Standards must come, from birth or hatching, from production units complying with these Standards, or have been the offspring of parents raised under the conditions set down in these guidelines. They must be raised under this system throughout their life.

- Livestock may not be transferred between organic and non-organic units.

− Livestock existing on the livestock production unit, but not complying with these Standards, may be converted.

13. When an operator can demonstrate to the certification body that livestock satisfying the requirements indicated in the previous paragraph are not available, the certification body may allow livestock not raised according these Standards under circumstances such as:
a) for considerable expansion of the farm, when a breed is changed or when new livestock specialization is developed;
b) for the renewal of a herd, e.g., high mortality of animals caused by catastrophic circumstances;
c) males for breeding.
The Green Caucasus may set the specific conditions under which livestock from non-organic sources may be allowed or not allowed, taking into account that animals be brought in as young as possible as soon as they are weaned.

14. These livestock qualified by the derogations indicated in the previous paragraph must comply with the conditions set out in paragraph 12. These conversion periods must be observed if the products are to be sold as organic according to Section 3 of these Standards.

15.Origin of non-organic animals

1. Non-organic animals may be brought onto a holding for breeding purposes, only when organic animals are not available in sufficient number.
2. Non-organic young mammals, when a herd or flock is constituted for the first time, shall be reared in accordance with the organic production rules immediately after they are weaned. Moreover, the following restrictions shall apply at the date on which the animals enter the herd:
(a) buffalo, calves and foals shall be less than six months old;
(b) lambs and kids shall be less than 60 days old;
(c)piglets shall weigh less than 35 kg.

3. Non-organic adult male and nulliparous female mammals, for the renewal of a herd or flock, shall be reared subsequently in accordance with the organic production rules. Moreover, the number of female mammals is subject to the following restrictions per year:

(a) up to a maximum of 10 % of adult equine or bovine, including *bubalus* and bison species, livestock and 20 % of the adult porcine, ovine and caprine livestock, as female animals;

(b) for units with less than 10 equine or bovine animals, or with less than five porcine, ovine or caprine animals any renewal as mentioned above shall be limited to a maximum of one animal per year.

This provision of this paragraph is valid until 2012 when it will be reviewed.

4. The percentages referred to in paragraph 3 may be increased up to 40 %, subject to prior authorisation by the certification body, in the following special cases:

(a) when a major extension to the farm is undertaken;
(b) when a breed is changed;
(c) when a new livestock specialisation is initiated;

(d) when breeds are in danger of being lost to farming.

16. Use of non-organic poultry

(a) When a flock is constituted for the first time, renewed or reconstituted and organically reared poultry are not available in sufficient numbers, non-organically reared poultry may be brought into an organic poultry production unit, provided that the pullets for the production of eggs and poultry for meat production are less than three days old;
(b) non-organically reared pullets for egg production of not more than 18 weeks may be brought into an organic livestock unit (30.01.19) 31 December 2020, when organically reared pullets are not available.

CONVERSION

17. The conversion of the land intended for feeding crops or pasture must comply with the rules set out in Part A paragraphs 1, 2, and 3 of this Annex.

18. The certification body may reduce the conversion periods or conditions established for the land and/or for livestock and livestock products in the following cases:

a) pasture, open-air runs and exercise areas used by non-herbivore species;
b) for bovine, equine, ovine and caprine coming from extensive husbandry during an implementation period established by the Green Caucasus or dairy herds converted for the first time;
c) if there is simultaneous conversion of livestock and land used only for feeding within the same unit, the conversion period for both livestock, pasture and/or land used for animal feed, may be reduced to two years only in the case where the existing livestock and their offspring are fed mainly with products from the unit.

19. Once the land has reached organic status and livestock from a nonorganic source is introduced, and if the products are to be sold as organic, such livestock must be reared according to these Standards for at least the following compliance periods:
Bovine and equine
Meat products: 12 months and at least ¾ of their life span in the organic management system;
Calves for meat production: 6 months when brought in as soon as they are weaned and less than 6 months old;
Milk products: 90 days during the implementation period established by the competent authority, after that, six months.
Ovine and caprine Meat products: six months; Milk products: 90 days during the implementation period, after that, six months.
Porcine:
Meat products: Six months.
Poultry/laying hens
Meat products: whole of life span;
Eggs: six weeks.

20.Simultaneous production of organic and non-organic livestock

1. 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.

2. Non-organic livestock may use organic pasturage for a limited period of time each year, provided that organic animals are not present at the same time on that pasture.

3. Organic animals may be grazed on common land, providing that:
(a) the land has not been treated with products not authorized 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.
(04.11.2016) (c) any non-organic animals which use the land concerned are derived from a farming system equivalent to those as described in Article 36 of Regulation (EC) No 1698/2005 or in Article 22 of Regulation 1257/1999. Although the listed two regulations are not directly applicable in countries outside EU, the following criteria will be guiding for certification body, as described in the relevant articles of EU regulations mentioned above under:
- measures targeting sustainable use of agricultural land;
- animal welfare;
- measures targeting the sustainable use of forestry land;
- establishment of agroforestry systems on agricultural land;
- ways of using agricultural land which are compatible with the protection and improvement of the environment, the landscape and its features, natural resources, the soil and genetic diversity,
- an environmentally-favourable extensification of farming and management of low-intensity pasture systems,
- the conservation of high nature-value farmed environments which are under threat,
- the upkeep of the landscape and historical features on agricultural land,
- the use of environmental planning in farming practice.

4. 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. Operators shall keep documentary evidence of the use of provisions referred to in this Article.

21. Feed from own holding or from other sources
1.In the case of herbivores, except during the period each year when the animals are under transhumance, at least (04.11.2016) 60 % of the feed shall come from the farm unit itself or in case this is not feasible, be produced in cooperation with other organic farms primarily in the same region.

2. (04.11.2016) In case of pigs and poultry, at least 20 % of the feed shall come from the farm unit itself or in case this is not feasible, be produced in the same region in cooperation with other organic farms or feed business operators.

3. (04.11.2016) In the case of bees, at the end of the production season hives shall be left with sufficient reserves of honey and pollen to survive the winter. The feeding of bee colonies shall only be permitted where the survival of the hives is endangered due to climatic conditions. Feeding shall be with organic honey, organic sugar syrups, or organic sugar.

NUTRITION

22. All livestock systems should provide the optimum level of 100% of the diet from feedstuffs (including 'in conversion' feedstuffs) produced to the requirements of these Standards.

23. The use of a limited proportion of non-organic feed of plant and animal origin is allowed where farmers are unable to obtain feed exclusively from organic production. For an implementation period to be set by the Green Caucasus, livestock products will maintain their organic status providing feed, consisting of at least 95% for herbivores and for other species:

- 90% during the period from 1 January 2009 to 31 December 2009
- 95% during the period from 1 January 2010 to 31 December 2011

The figures shall be calculated annually as a percentage of the dry matter of feed from agricultural origin. The maximum percentage authorised of non-organic feed in the daily ration shall be 25 % calculated as a percentage of the dry matter.
The operator shall keep documentary evidence of the need for the use of this provision.

24. Not withstanding the above, where an operator can demonstrate to the satisfaction of the certification body that feedstuffs satisfying the requirement outlined in paragraph 22 above are not available, as a result of, for example, unforeseen severe natural or manmade events or extreme climatic weather conditions, the inspection/certification body may allow a restricted percentage of feedstuffs not produced according to these Standards to be fed for a limited time, providing it does not contain genetically engineered/modified organisms or products thereof.
The certification body shall set both the maximum percentage of non-organic feed allowed and any conditions relating to this derogation.

24.1 (04.11.2016) Use of non-organic protein feed of plant and animal origin for livestock

Where farmers are unable to obtain protein feed exclusively from organic production, the use of a limited proportion of non- organic protein feed is allowed for porcine and poultry species.

The maximum percentage of non-organic protein feed authorised per period of 12 months for those species shall be 5 % for calendar year 2018, (30.01.19) 2019 and 2020.

The figures shall be calculated annually as a percentage of the dry matter of feed from agricultural origin. The operator shall keep documentary evidence of the need for the use of this provision.

25. Specific livestock rations
1. Rations should take into account:

− the need of young mammals for natural, preferably maternal, milk;
− that a substantial proportion of dry matter in the daily rations of herbivores needs to consist of roughage, fresh or dried fodder, or silage;
− that polygastric animals should be not fed silage exclusively;
− the need for cereals in the fattening phase of poultry;
− the need for roughage, fresh or dried fodder or silage in the daily ration for pigs and poultry.

2. All young mammals shall be fed on maternal milk in preference to natural milk, for a minimum period of three months for bovines including *bubalus* and bison species and equidae, 45 days for sheep and goats and 40 days for pigs.

3. Rearing systems for herbivores are to be based on maximum use of grazing pasturage according to the availability of pastures in the different periods of the year. At least 60 % of the dry matter in daily rations of herbivores shall consist of roughage, fresh or dried fodder, or silage. A reduction to 50 % for animals in dairy production for a maximum period of three months in early lactation is allowed.

4. Roughage, fresh or dried fodder, or silage shall be added to the daily ration for pigs and poultry.

5. The keeping of livestock in conditions, or on a diet, which may encourage anaemia, is prohibited.

6. Fattening practices shall be reversible at any stage of the rearing process. Force-feeding is forbidden.

26. All livestock must have ample access to fresh water to maintain the full health and vigour of the livestock.

27. In-conversion feed

1. Up to 30 % of the feed formula of rations on average may comprise in-conversion feeding stuffs. When the in-conversion feeding stuffs come from a unit of the holding itself, this percentage may be increased to 60%.

2. Up to 20 % of the total average amount of feeding stuffs 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 feeding stuffs and feeding stuffs from parcels in their first year of conversion are being used, the total combined percentage of such feeding stuffs shall not exceed the maximum percentages fixed in paragraph 1.

3. The figures in paragraph 1 and 2 shall be calculated annually as a percentage of the dry matter of feeding stuffs of plant origin.

28. Products and substances of non organic plant and animal origin

1. Non-organic feed materials of plant and animal origin may be used in organic production only if they are listed in this standard.

2. Organic feed materials of animal origin, and feed materials of mineral origin may be used in organic production and only if they are listed in this standard.

3. Products and by-products from fisheries may be used in organic production only if they are listed in this standard.

4. Feed additives, certain products used in animal nutrition and processing aids may be used in organic production only if they are listed in this standard and the restrictions laid down therein are complied with.

29. If substances are used as feedstuffs, nutritional elements, feed additives or processing aids in the preparation of feedstuffs, the Green Caucasus establishes a positive list/s of substances in compliance with the following criteria:

General Criteria:

a) substances are permitted according to national legislation on animal feeding;
b) substances are necessary/essential to maintain animal health, animal welfare and vitality; and
c) such substances:
− contribute to an appropriate diet fulfilling the physiological and behavioural needs of the species concerned; and
− do not contain genetically engineered/modified organisms and products thereof; and
− are primarily of plant, mineral or animal origin.

Specific Criteria for Feedstuffs and Nutritional Elements:

a.Feed materials from plant origin

a.1feedstuffs of plant origin from non-organic sources can only be used, under the conditions of paragraphs 23 and 24, if they are produced or prepared without the use of chemical solvents or chemical treatment;

1. NON-ORGANIC FEED MATERIALS OF PLANT ORIGIN

1.1. **Cereals, grains, their products and by-products:**

- 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 grains, bran, middlings, germ expeller and gluten

— Malt culms

— Brewers' grains

1.2. **Oil seeds, oil fruits, their products and by-products:**

— Rape seed, expeller and hulls

— Soya bean as bean, toasted, expeller and hulls

— Sunflower seed as seed and expeller

— Cotton as seed and seed expeller

— Linseed as seed and expeller

— Sesame seed as expeller

— Palm kernels as expeller

— Pumpkin seed as expeller

— Olives, olive pulp

— Vegetable oils (from physical extraction).

1.3. **Legume seeds, their product and by-products:**

— Chickpeas as seeds, middlings and bran

— Ervil as seeds, middlings and bran

— Chickling vetch as seeds submitted to heat treatment, middlings and bran

— Peas as seeds, middlings, and bran

— Broad beans as seeds, middlings and bran

— Horse beans as seeds middlings and bran

— Vetches as seeds, middlings and bran

— Lupin as seeds, middlings and bran

1.4. **Tuber, roots, their products and by-products:**

— Sugar beet pulp

— Potato

— Sweet potato as tuber

— Potato pulp (by-product of the extraction of potato starch)

— Potato starch

— Potato protein

— Manioc.

1.5. **Other seeds and fruits, their products and by-products:**

— 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.

1.6. **Forages and roughages:**

— Lucerne

— Lucerne meal

— Clover

— Clover meal

— Grass (obtained from forage plants)

— Grass meal

— Hay

— Silage

— Straw of cereals

— Root vegetables for foraging

1.7. **Other plants, their products and by-products:**

— 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

— Herbs

b. Feed materials from animal origin

b.1 feedstuffs of animal origin, with the exception of milk and milk products, fish, other marine animals and products derived therefrom should generally not be used or, as provided by national legislation. In any case, the feeding of mammalian material to ruminants is not permitted with the exception of milk and milk products;

2. FEED MATERIALS OF ANIMAL ORIGIN

2.1. **Milk and milk products:**

— Raw milk

— Milk powder

— Skimmed milk, skimmed-milk powder,

— Buttermilk, buttermilk powder

— Whey, whey powder, whey powder low in sugar, whey protein powder (extracted by physical treatment)

— Casein powder

— Lactose powder

— Curd and sour milk

2.2. **Fish, other marine animals, their products and by-products:**

Under the following restrictions: Products origin only from sustainable fisheries and to be used only for species other than herbivores

— Fish

— Fish oil and cod-liver oil not refined

— Fish molluscan or crustacean autolysates

— Hydrolysate and proteolysates obtained by an enzyme action, whether or not in soluble form, solely provided to (04.11.2016) aquaculture animals and young livestock.

— Fish meal

— (04.11.2016) Crustacean meal.

2.3. **Egg and egg products**

— Eggs and egg products for use as poultry feed, primarily from the same holding.

c. Feed materials from mineral origin

c.1feedstuffs of mineral origin, trace elements, vitamins, or provitamins can only be used if they are of natural origin. In case of shortage of these substances, or

in exceptional circumstances, chemically well-defined analogic substances may be used;

d. Synthetic nitrogen or non-protein nitrogen compounds shall not be used.

(04.11.2016) Use of certain products and substances in feed

For the purposes of this Standard only the following substances may be used in the processing of organic feed and feeding organic animals:

(a) non-organic feed materials of plant or animal origin, or other feed materials provided they are produced or prepared without chemical solvents and they are listed in table below:

FEED MATERIAL OF MINERAL ORIGIN		
Authorization	Substance	Conditions for use
	Calcium	
A	Calcareous marine shells	
A	Maerl	
A	Lithotamn	
A	Calcium gluconate	
A	Calcium carbonate	
	Magnesium	
A	Magnesium oxide (anhydrous magnesia)	
A	Magnesium sulphate	
A	Magnesium chloride	
A	Magnesium carbonate	
A	Magnesium phosphate	
	Phosphorous	
A	Deflourinated monocalcium phosphate	
A	Deflourinated dicalcium phosphate	
	Monosodium phosphate	
A	Calcium magnesium phosphate	
A	Calcium sodium phosphate	
A	(18.03.2022-12) Monoammonium phosphate (ammonium dihydrogen orthophosphate)	Only for aquaculture'
	Sodium	
A	Sodium chloride	
A	Sodium bicarbonate	
A	Sodium carbonate	
A	Sodium sulphate	
A	Potassium chloride	
OTHER FEED MATERIALS		
Fermentation (by-)products from microorganisms the cells of which have been inactivated or killed:		
A	Saccharomyces cerevisiae	
A	Saccharomyces carlsbergiensis	

(b) non-organic spices, herbs, and molasses, provided that:
(i) their organic form is not available;
(ii) they are produced or prepared without chemical solvents; and

(iii) their use is limited to 1 % of the feed ration of a given species, calculated annually as a percentage of the dry matter of feed from agricultural origin;

(c) organic feed materials of animal origin;

(d) feed materials of mineral origin that are listed in Table above under Section "Feed material of mineral origin";

(e) products from sustainable fisheries, provided that:

(i) they are produced or prepared without chemical solvents;

(ii) their use is restricted to non-herbivores; and

(iii) the use of fish protein hydrolysate is restricted solely to young animals;

(f) salt as sea salt, coarse rock salt;

(g) feed additives listed in table below:

1. TECHNOLOGICAL ADDITIVES				
(a) Preservatives				
Authorisation	ID numbers		Substance	Description, conditions for use
A	1a	E 200	Sorbic acid	For silage: only when weather conditions do not allow for adequate fermentation. The use of lactic, formic, propionic and acetic acid in the production of silage shall be only permitted when weather conditions do not allow for adequate fermentation.
A	1a	E 236	Formic acid	
B	1a	E 237	Sodium formate	
A	1a	E 260	Acetic acid	
A	1a	E 270	Lactic acid	
A	1a	E 280	Propionic acid	
A	1a	E 330	Citric acid	

(b) Antioxydants				
A	1b	E 306(i)	- Tocopherol extracts from vegetable oils	Natural antioxidant substances (use restricted to feed for aquaculture)
A	1b	E 306(ii)	Tocopherol-rich extracts from vegetable oils (delta rich)	
(c) Emulsifying and stabilising agents, thickeners and gelling agents				
A	1	E 322	Lecithin	Only when derived from organic raw material. Use restricted to aquaculture animal feed.
(d) *Binders, anti-caking agents and coagulants*				
B (31.01.20)	1	E 412	Guar gum	
B (31.01.20)	1	E 535	Sodium ferrocyanide	Maximum dose rate of 20 mg/kg NaCl calculated as ferrocyanide anion
A	1	E 551b	Colloidal silica	
A	1	E 551c	Kieselgur (diatomaceous earth, purified)	
A	1m	558(i)	Bentonite	
A	1	E 559	Kaolinitic clays, free of asbestos	
A	1	E 560	Natural mixtures of stearites and chlorite	
A	1	E 561	Vermiculite	
A	1	E 562	Sepiolite	
B	1	E 566	Natrolite-Phonolite	
B	1	1g 568	Clinoptilolite of sedimentary origin	
A	1	E 599	Perlite	
(e) *Silage additives*				
A	1k	1k236	Enzymes and micro-organisms	Use restricted to production of silage when weather conditions do not allow for adequate fermentation
2. SENSORY ADDITIVES				
A	2b		Flavouring compounds	Only extracts from agricultural products
(31.01.20)			*Castanea sativa* Mill.: Chestnut extract	
3. NUTRITIONAL ADDITIVES				
(a) *Vitamins, pro-vitamins and chemically well-defined substances having similar effect*				
A	3a		Vitamins and provitamins	-Derived from agricultural products -If derived synthetically, only those identical to

				vitamins derived from agricultural products may be used for monogastric animals and aqua culture animals. -If derived synthetically, only vitamins A, D and E identical to vitamins derived from agricultural products may be used for ruminants, the use is subject to prior authorisation of the Member States based on the assessment of the possibility for organic ruminants to obtain the necessary quantities of the said vitamins through their feed rations.
(31.01.20)	3a	920	Betaine anhydrous	Only for monogastric animals Only from natural origin and when available from organic origin
(b) Compounds of Trace elements				
A	3b	E 1 Iron	Ferric oxide Ferrous carbonate Ferrous sulphate, heptahydrate Ferrous sulphate, monohydrate	
(31.01.20)	3b101		Iron(II) carbonate (siderite)	
(31.01.20)	3b103		Iron(II) sulphate monohydrate	
(31.01.20)	3b104		Iron(II) sulphate heptahydrate	
A	3b 201	Iodine	Potassium iodite —	
	3b202	Iodine	Calcium iodate, anhydrous	
	3b203	Iodine	Coated granulated calcium iodate anhydrous	
A	3b301	Cobalt	Cobalt(II) acetate tetrahydrate	
	3b302	Cobalt	Cobalt(II) carbonate	
	3b303	Cobalt	Cobalt(II) carbonate hydroxide (2:3) monohydrate	
	3b304	Cobalt	Coated granulated cobalt(II) carbonate	
	3b305	Cobalt	Cobalt(II) sulphate heptahydrate	

A	3b	E 4 Copper 3b409	Basic cupric carbonate, monohydrate Cupric oxide Cupric sulphate, pentahydrate Dicopper chloride trihydroxide (TBCC)	
A	3b	E 5Manganese	Manganous oxide Manganous sulfate, monohydrate	
A	3b	E 6 Zinc 3b609	Zinc oxide, Zinc sulphate monohydrate, Zinc sulphate heptahydrate Zinc chloride hydroxide monohydrate (TBZC)	
A	3b	E 7 Molybdenum	Sodium molybdate (31.01.20)dihydrate	
A	3b	E 8 Selenium 3b8.10, 3b8.11, 3b8.12, 3b813 and 3b817	Sodium selenite Selenised yeast inactivated	
4. ZOOTECHNICAL ADDITIVES				
A		4a, 4b, 4c and 4d	Enzymes and microorganisms in the category of "Zootechnical additives"'	

Phototherapeutic and homeopathic products, trace elements and products listed in tables under Sections (a) and (g) shall be used in preference to chemically-synthesized allopathic veterinary treatment or antibiotics, provided that their therapeutic effect is effective for the species of animal, and the condition for which the treatment is intended.

Feed materials of mineral origin may be used in organic aquaculture only if listed in Section (a).

3. SUBSTANCES FOR SILAGE PRODUCTION
   - — sea salt
   - — coarse rock salt
   - — whey

— sugar
— sugar beet pulp
— cereal flour
— molasses

1. For the production of organic yeast only organically produced substrates shall be used.
2. Organic yeast shall not be present in organic food or feed together with non-organic yeast.

Products authorized for cleaning and disinfection of livestock buildings and installations (e.g.equipment and utensils)

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)

Phosporic acid (dairy equipment)

Formaldehyde

Cleaning and disinfection products for teats and milking facilities

Sodium carbonate

30. Specific principles applicable to processing of organic feed.

In addition to the overall principles set out in Standard (Market Access), the production of processed organic feed shall be based on the following specific principles:
(a)the production of organic feed from organic feed materials, except where a feed material is not available on the market in organic form;
(b)the restriction of the use of feed additives and processing aids to a minimum extent and only in case of essential technological or zootechnical needs or for particular;
(c)the exclusion of substances and processing methods that might be misleading as to the true nature of the product;
(d)the processing of feed with care, preferably with the use of biological, mechanical and physical methods.

31. General rules on the production of processed feed

1. Production of processed organic feed shall be kept separate in time or space from production of processed non organic feed.
2. Organic feed materials, or feed materials from production in conversion, shall not enter simultaneously with the same feed materials produced by non organic means into the composition of the organic feed product.
3. Any feed materials used or processed in organic production shall not have been processed with the aid of chemically synthesised solvents.
4. Substances and techniques that reconstitute properties that are lost in the processing and storage of organic feed, that correct the results of negligence in the processing or that otherwise may be misleading as to the true nature of these products shall not be used.

HEALTH CARE

32. Disease prevention

1. Disease prevention in organic livestock production shall be based on the following principles:
a) the choice of appropriate breeds or strains of animals as detailed in this Standard;
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 good quality organic feed, together with regular exercise and access to pasture and/or open-air runs, 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.

2. The use of chemically synthesised allopathic veterinary medicinal products or antibiotics for preventive treatment is prohibited. If the use of measures referred to in paragraph 1 and 2 is not effective in combating illness or injury, and if treatment is essential to avoid suffering or distress of the animal, chemically-synthesised allopathic veterinary medicinal products or antibiotics may be used under the responsibility of a veterinarian.

3. 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 or for other purposes (e.g. induction or synchronisation of oestrus), is prohibited.

4. Where livestock is obtained from non-organic units, special measures such as screening tests or quarantine periods may apply, depending on local circumstances.

5. Housing, pens, equipment and utensils shall be properly cleaned and disinfected to prevent cross-infection and the build-up of disease carrying organisms. Faeces, urine and uneaten or spilt feed shall be removed as often as necessary to minimize smell and to avoid attracting insects or rodents.

6. Only products listed in Annex 1. Principles of organic production, Part B. Livestock and Livestock products, Products authorized for cleaning and disinfection of livestock buildings and installations (e.g. equipment and utensils) may be used for cleaning and disinfection of livestock buildings installations and utensils.

7. Rodenticides (to be used only in traps), and the products listed in Annex 1. Principles of organic production, Part A Plants and plant production, can be used for the elimination of insects and other pests in buildings and other installations where livestock is kept.

8. Buildings shall be emptied of livestock between each batch of poultry reared. The buildings and fittings shall be cleaned and disinfected during this time. In addition, when the rearing of each batch of poultry has been completed, runs shall be left empty to allow vegetation to grow back. 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.

33. Veterinary treatment

1. Where animals become sick or injured they shall be treated immediately, if necessary in isolation and in suitable housing.

2. Phytotherapeutic, homoepathic products, trace elements and products listed in Annex 1. Principles of organic production, Part B. Livestock and livestock products, Health Care Beekeeping and Bee products, shall be used in preference to chemically-synthesized allopathic veterinary treatment or antibiotics, provided that their therapeutic effect is effective for the species of animal, and the condition for which the treatment is intended.

3. If the use of measures referred to in paragraph 1 and 2 is not effective in combating illness or injury, and if treatment is essential to avoid suffering or distress of the animal, chemically-synthesised allopathic veterinary medicinal products or antibiotics

may be used under the responsibility of a veterinarian.

4. With the exception of vaccinations, treatments for parasites and compulsory eradication schemes where an animal or group of animals receive more than three courses of treatments with chemically-synthesised allopathic veterinary medicinal products or antibiotics within 12 months, 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 organic products, and the livestock shall undergo the conversion periods according to this standard.

Records of documented evidence of the occurrence of such circumstances shall be kept for the certification body.

5. 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.

34. If, despite the above preventative measures, an animal becomes sick or injured it must be treated immediately, if necessary in isolation and in suitable housing. Producers should not withhold medication where it will result in unnecessary suffering of the livestock, even if the use of such medication will cause the animal to lose its organic status.

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

a) where specific disease or health problems occur, or may occur, and no alternative permitted treatment or management practice exists, or, in cases required by law, vaccination of livestock, the use of parasiticides, or therapeutic use of veterinary drugs are permitted;
b) phytotherapeutic (excluding antibiotics), homeopathic or ayurvedic products and trace elements shall be used in preference to chemical allopathic veterinary drugs or antibiotics, provided that their therapeutic effect is effective for the species of animal and the condition for which the treatment is intended;
c) if the use of the above products is unlikely to be effective in combating illness or injury, chemical allopathic veterinary drugs or antibiotics may be used under the responsibility of a veterinarian; withholding periods should be the double of that required by legislation with, in any case, a minimum of 48 hours;
d) the use of chemical allopathic veterinary drugs or antibiotics for preventative treatments is prohibited.

36. Hormonal treatment may only be used for therapeutic reasons and under veterinary supervision.

37. Growth stimulants or substances used for the purpose of stimulating growth or production are not permitted.

LIVESTOCK HUSBANDRY, TRANSPORT AND SLAUGHTER

38. Maintenance of livestock should be guided by an attitude of care, responsibility and respect for living creatures.

39. Breeding methods should be in compliance with the principles of organic farming taking into account:

a) the breeds and strains suitable for raising under local conditions and under an organic system;
b) the preference for reproduction through natural methods, although artificial insemination may be used;
c) that embryo transfer techniques and the use of hormonal reproductive treatment shall not be used;
d) that breeding techniques employing genetic engineering must not be used.

40. Operations such as attaching elastic bands to the tails of sheep, taildocking, cutting of teeth, trimming of beaks and dehorning are generally not allowed in the organic management system. Some of these operations may, however, be authorized in exceptional circumstances by the Green Caucasus, for reasons of safety (e.g. dehorning in young animals) or if they are intended to improve the health and welfare of the livestock. Such operations must be carried out at the most appropriate age and any suffering to the animals must be reduced to a minimum. Anaesthetic should be used where appropriate.
Physical castration is allowed in order to maintain the quality of products and traditional production practices (meat-type pigs, bullocks, capons, etc) but only under these conditions.

41. The living conditions and the management of the environment should take into account the specific behavioral needs of the livestock and provide for:

− sufficient free movement and opportunity to express normal patterns of behaviour;
− company of other animals, particularly of like kind;
− the prevention of abnormal behaviour, injury and disease;
− arrangements to cover emergencies such as the outbreaks of fire, the breakdown of essential mechanical services and the disruption of supplies.

42. The transport of living stock should be managed in a calm and gentle way and in a manner which avoids stress, injury and suffering: the competent authority should establish specific conditions in order to meet these objectives and may establish maximum transport periods. In transporting livestock, the use of electric stimulation or allopathic tranquilizers is not permitted.

43. The slaughter of livestock should be undertaken in a manner which minimizes stress and suffering, and in accordance with national rules.

HOUSING AND FREE-RANGE CONDITIONS

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

45. Housing conditions should meet the biological and behavioural needs of the livestock by providing:

− easy access to feeding and watering;
− insulation, heating, cooling and ventilation of the building to ensure that air circulation, dust level, temperature, relative air humidity and gas concentration are kept within limits which are not harmful to the livestock;
− plentiful natural ventilation and light to enter;

46. Livestock may be temporarily confined during periods of inclement weather, when their health, safety or well being could be jeopardized, or to protect plant, soil and water quality.

47. The stocking density in buildings should:
− provide for the comfort and well being of the livestock having regard for the species, the breed and the age of the livestock;
− take into account the behavioral needs of the livestock with respect to the size of the group and the sex of the livestock;
− provide them with sufficient space to stand naturally, lie down easily, turn round, groom themselves, and assume all natural postures and movements such as stretching and wing flapping.

48. Housing, pens, equipment and utensils should be properly cleaned and disinfected to prevent cross infection and the build-up of disease carrying organisms.

49. Free-range, open-air exercise areas, or open-air runs should, if necessary, provide sufficient protection against rain, wind, sun and extreme temperatures, depending on the weather conditions and the breed concerned.

50. The outdoor stocking density of livestock kept on pasture, grassland, or other natural or semi-natural habitats, must be low enough to prevent degradation of the soil and over-grazing of vegetation.

MAMMALS

51. All mammals must have access to pasture or an open-air exercise area or 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.

52. The Green Caucasus may grant exceptions for:

− the access of bulls to pasture or, in case of cows to an open-air exercise area or run during the winter period;
− the final fattening phase.

53. Livestock housing must have smooth, but not slippery floors. The floor must not be entirely of slatted or grid construction.

54. The housing must be provided with a comfortable, clean and dry laying/rest area of sufficient size, consisting of a solid construction. Ample dry bedding strewn with litter material must be provided in the rest area.
The litter shall comprise straw or other suitable natural material. The litter may be improved and enriched with any mineral product listed in Annex I.

55. The housing of calves in individual boxes and the tethering of livestock are not permitted without the approval of the Green Caucasus.

56. 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.

57. The keeping of rabbits in cages is not permitted.

POULTRY

58. Poultry must be reared in open-range conditions and have free access to open-air run whenever the weather conditions permit. The keeping of poultry in cages is not permitted.

59. Water fowl must have access to a stream, pond or lake whenever the weather conditions permit.

60. Housing for all poultry should provide an area of solid construction covered with litter material such as straw, wood shavings, sand or turf. A sufficiently large part of the floor area must be available to laying hens for the collection of droppings, Perches/higher sleeping areas of a size and number commensurate with the species and size of the group and of the birds and exit/entry holes of an adequate size must be provided.
These pop-holes shall have a combined length of at least 4 m per 100 m2 area of the house available to the birds.
61. In the case of laying hens, when natural day length is prolonged by artificial light, the competent authority shall prescribe maximum hours respective to species, geographical considerations and general health of the animals.

62. For health reasons, between each batch of poultry reared buildings should be emptied, and runs left empty to allow the vegetation to grow back.

MANURE MANAGEMENT

63. Manure management practices used to maintain any area in which livestock are housed, penned or pastured should be implemented in a manner that:

a) minimizes soil and water degradation;
b) does not significantly contribute to contamination of water by nitrates and pathogenic bacteria;
c) optimizes recycling of nutrients; and
d) does not include burning or any practice inconsistent with organic practices.

64. All manure storage and handling facilities, including composting facilities should be designed, constructed and operated to prevent contamination of ground and/or surface water.

65. Manure application rates should be at levels that do not contribute to ground and/or surface water contamination. The Green Caucasus establish maximum application rates for manure or stocking densities. The timing of application and application methods should not increase the potential for run-off into ponds, rivers and streams.

66. Exceptional rules. Tethering of animals

Certification body may authorize cattle in small holdings to be tethered if it is not possible to keep the cattle in groups appropriate to their behaviour requirements, provided they have access to pastures during the grazing period, and at least twice a week access to open air areas when grazing is not possible.

67. Exceptional rules. Specific management problems in organic livestock

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

RECORD KEEPING AND IDENTIFICATION

68. The operator should maintain detailed and up-to-date records as set out in Annex 3.

BEEKEEPING AND BEE PRODUCTS

General Principles

69. Bee keeping is an important activity that contributes to the enhancement of the environment, agriculture and forestry production through the pollination action of bees.

70. The treatment and management of hives should respect the principles of organic farming

71. Collection areas must be large enough to provide adequate and sufficient nutrition and access to water.

72. The sources of natural nectar, honeydew and pollen shall consist essentially of organically produced plants and/or spontaneous (wild) vegetation.

73. The health of bees should be based on prevention such as adequate selection of breeds, favorable environment, balanced diet and appropriate husbandry practices.

74. The hives and materials used in beekeepingshall consist basically of natural materials presenting no risk of contamination to the environment or the bee products.

75. When bees are placed in wild areas, consideration should be given to the indigenous insect population.

Siting of hives

76. Apiaries shall be placed 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. Hives for beekeeping shall be placed in areas where cultivated and/or spontaneous vegetation comply with the rules of production as set out in this Standard.

77. The Green Caucasus certification body shall approve the areas which ensure appropriate sources of honeydew, nectar and pollen based on information provided by the operators and/or through the process of inspection.

78. The Green Caucasus certification body designate a specific radius of 3 km from the hive within which the bees have access to adequate and sufficient nutrition.

79. The certification body/-ies must identify zones where hives, that meet these requirements, should not be placed due to potential sources of contamination with prohibited substances, genetically modified organisms or environmental contaminants.

Feed

80. At the end of the production season hives must be left with reserves of honey and pollen sufficiently abundant for the colony to survive the dormancy period.

81. The feeding of colonies can be undertaken to overcome temporary feed shortages due to climatic or other exceptional circumstances. In such cases, organically produced honey or sugars should be used if available. However the certification body Green Caucasus may permit the use of non-organically produced honey or sugars. Time-limits should be set for such derogations. Feeding should be carried out only between the last honey harvest and 15 days before the start of the next nectar or honeydew flow period.

Conversion Period

82. Bee products can be sold as organically produced when these Standards have been complied with for at least one year. During the conversion period the wax must be

replaced by organically produced wax. In cases where all the wax cannot be replaced during a one-year period, the certification body may extend the conversion period. By way of derogation when organically produced beeswax is not available, wax from sources not complying with these Standards may be authorized by the certification body/-ies Green Caucasus, provided it comes from the cap or from areas where no prohibited materials have been used.

83. Where no prohibited products have been previously used in the hive, replacement of wax is not necessary.

Origin of bees

84. Bee colonies can be converted to organic production. Introduced bees should come from organic production units when available.

85. In the choice of breeds, account must be taken of the capacity of bees to adapt to local conditions, their vitality and their resistance to disease. For bees, preference shall be given to the use of *Apis mellifera* and their local ecotypes.

86. For the renovation of apiaries, 10% per year of the queen bees and swarms may be replaced by non-organic queen bees and swarms in the organic production unit provided that the queen bees and swarms are placed in hives with combs or comb foundations coming from organic production units.

Health of the bees

87. The health of bee colonies should be maintained by good agricultural practice, with emphasis on disease prevention through breed selection and hive management. This includes:
a) the use of hardy breeds that adapt well to the local conditions;
b) renewal of queen bees if necessary;
c) regular cleaning and disinfecting of equipment;
d) regular renewal of beeswax;
e) availability in hives of sufficient pollen and honey;
f) systematic inspection of hives to detect any anomalies;
g) systematic control of male broods in the hive;
h) moving diseased hives to isolated areas, if necessary; or
i) destruction of contaminated hives and materials.

88. For pest and disease control, especially in cases of infestation with *Varroa destructor* , the following are allowed:
− lactic, oxalic, acetic acid
− formic acid
− sulphur
− natural etheric oils (e.g. menthol, eucalyptol, thymol, camphor)
− *Bacillus thuringiensis*
− steam and direct flame.

89. Where preventative measures fail, veterinary medicinal products may be used provided that:

a) preference is given to phytotherapeutic and homeopathic treatment, and
b) if allopathic chemically synthesised medicinal products are used, the bee products must not be sold as organic. Treated hives must be placed in isolation and undergo a conversion period of one year. All the wax must be replaced with wax which is in accordance with these Standards, and
c) every veterinary treatment must be clearly documented.

90. If a treatment is applied with chemically synthesized allopathic products, during such a period, the colonies treated shall be placed in isolation apiaries and all the wax shall be replaced with wax coming from organic beekeeping. Subsequently, the conversion period of one year will apply to those colonies.

91. If despite all preventive measures, the colonies become sick or infested, they shall be treated immediately and, if necessary, the colonies can be placed in isolation apiaries.

92. (30.01.19) For the purpose of cleaning and disinfection of frames, hives and combs, sodium hydroxide may be used. For the purposes of protecting frames, hives and combs, in particular from pests, only rodenticides (to be used only in traps), and appropriate products listed in Annex 1. Principles of organic production, Part A Plants and plant production are permitted.

93. The practice of destroying the male brood is permitted only to contain infestation with Varroa jacobsoni.

Management

94. The foundation comb shall be made from organically produced wax.

95. The destruction of bees in the combs as a method of harvesting of bee products is prohibited.

96. Mutilations, such as clipping of the wings of queen bees, are prohibited.

97. The use of chemical synthetic repellents is prohibited during honey extraction operations.

98. Smoking should be kept to a minimum. Acceptable smoking materials should be natural or from materials that meet the requirements of these Standards.

99. It is recommended that temperatures are maintained as low as possible during the extraction and processing of products derived from beekeeping.

100. The use of brood combs is prohibited for honey extraction.

101. 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.

Record Keeping

102. The operator should maintain detailed and up-to-date records as set out in Annex 3, paragraph 7. Maps should be maintained depicting the location of all hives.

103. Exceptional rules. Use of non-organic beeswax

In the case of new installations or during the conversion period, non-organic beeswax may be used only
(a) where beeswax from organic beekeeping is not available on the market;
(b) where it is proven free of contamination by substances not authorised for organic production; and
(c) provided that it comes from the cap.

104. Exceptional rules. Catastrophic circumstances

The certification body may authorise on a temporary basis:

(a) in the case of high mortality of animals caused by health or catastrophic circumstances, the renewal or reconstitution of the herd or flock with non-organic animals, when organically reared animals are not available (04.11.2016) and provided that the respective conversion period are applied to the non-organic animals;

(b) in case of high mortality of bees caused by health or catastrophic circumstances, the reconstitution of the apiaries with non-organic bees, when organic apiaries are not available;

(c) the use of non-organic feeding stuffs for a limited period and in relation to a specific area by individual operators, when forage production is lost or when restrictions are imposed, in particular as a result of exceptional meteorological conditions, the outbreak of infectious diseases, the contamination with toxic substances, or as a consequence of fires;

(d) 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.
Upon approval the individual operators shall keep documentary evidence of the use of the above exceptions.
(04.11.2016)
(e) in the case of high mortality of aquaculture animals caused by circumstances (listed in Article 57(1)(a) to (d) of Regulation (EU) No 508/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council), the renewal or reconstitution of the aquaculture stock with non-organic aquaculture animals, when organically reared animals are not available and provided that at least the latter two thirds of the duration of the production cycle are managed under organic management.

C. HANDLING, STORAGE, TRANSPORTATION, PROCESSING, (19.10.17) PRESERVING AND PACKAGING

Rules for (19.10.17) preserving products and for the production of processed feed and food

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.

2. Operators (19.10.17) preserving products or producing processed feed or food shall establish and update appropriate procedures based on a systematic identification of critical processing steps. For harmonization purposes the organic certification body will provide all operators dealing with processed feed and food with the form for description of their critical points.

3. The application of the procedures referred to in paragraph 2 shall guarantee at all times that the produced processed products comply with the organic production rules.

4. Operators shall comply with and implement the procedures referred to in paragraph 2. In particular, operators shall:

(a) take precautionary measures to avoid the risk of contamination by unauthorised substances or products (19.10.17) (ref. 19.10.2016 L 282/28 Official Journal of the European Union EN);

(b) implement suitable cleaning measures, monitor their effectiveness and record those measures;

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

5. Further to the provisions laid down in paragraphs 2 and 4, where non-organic products are also prepared or stored in the preparation unit concerned, the operator shall:

(a) carry out the operations continuously until the complete run has been dealt with, separated by place or time from similar operations performed on non-organic products;

(b) store organic products, before and after the operations, separate by place or time from non-organic products;

(c) inform the certification body thereof and keep available an updated register of all operations and quantities processed;

(d) take the necessary measures to ensure identification of lots and to avoid mixtures or exchanges with non-organic products;

(e) carry out operations on organic products only after suitable cleaning of the production equipment.

6. The integrity of the organic product must be maintained throughout the processing phase. This is achieved by the use of techniques appropriate to the specifics of the ingredients with careful processing methods limiting refining and the use of additives

and processing aids. Ionizing radiation should not be used on organic products for the purpose of pest control, food preservation, and elimination of pathogens or sanitation.

7. Collection of products and transport to preparation units

Operators may carry out simultaneous collection of organic and non-organic products, only where appropriate measures are taken to prevent any possible mixture or exchange with non-organic products and to ensure the identification of the organic products. The operator shall keep the information relating to collection days, hours, circuit and date and time of reception of the products available to the certification body.

PEST MANAGEMENT

8. For pest management and control the following measures, in order of preference, should be used:

a) Preventative methods, such as disruption and elimination of habitat and access to facilities by pest organisms, should be the primary methodology of pest management;
b) If preventative methods are inadequate, the first choice for pest control should be mechanical/physical and biological methods;
c) If mechanical/physical and biological methods are inadequate for pest control, pesticidal substances appearing in Annex 2 table 2 (or other substances allowed for use by a Green Caucasus in accordance with these Standards) may be used provided that they are accepted for use in handling, storage, transportation or processing facilities so that contact with organic products is prevented.

9. Pests should be avoided by good manufacturing practice. Pest control measures within storage areas or transport containers may include physical barriers or other treatments such as sound, ultra-sound, light, ultra-violet light, traps (pheromone traps and static bait traps) controlled temperature, controlled atmosphere (carbon dioxide, oxygen, nitrogen), and diatomaceous earth.

10. Use of pesticides not listed in Annex 2 for post harvest or quarantine purposes should not be permitted on products prepared in accordance with these Standards and would cause organically produced foods to lose their organic status.

PROCESSING, (19.10.17) PRSERVING AND MANUFACTURING

11. In addition to the overall principles, the production of processed organic food shall be based on the following specific principles:
(a)the production of organic food from organic agricultural ingredients, except where an ingredient is not available on the market in organic form;
(b)the restriction of the use of food additives, of non organic ingredients with mainly technological and sensory functions and of micronutrients and processing aids, so that they are used to a minimum extent and only in case of essential technological need or for particular nutritional purposes;

(c)the exclusion of substances and processing methods that might be misleading regarding the true nature of the product;
(d)the processing of food with care, preferably with the use of biological, mechanical and physical methods.
12.Processing methods should be mechanical, physical or biological (such as fermentation and smoking) and minimize the use of non-agricultural ingredients and additives as listed in Annex 2, Tables 3 and 4.

Substances and techniques that reconstitute properties that are lost in the processing and storage of organic food, that correct the results of negligence in the processing of these products or that otherwise may be misleading as to the true nature of these products shall not be used.

PACKAGING

13. Operators shall ensure that organic products are transported to other units, including wholesalers and retailers, only in appropriate packaging, containers or vehicles closed in such a manner that substitution of the content cannot be achieved without manipulation or damage of the seal and provided with a label stating:
(a) the name and address of the operator and, where different, of the owner or seller of the product;
(b) the name of the product or a description of the compound feeding stuff accompanied by a reference to the organic production method;
(c) the name and/or the code number of the certification body to which the operator is subject; and
(d) where relevant, the lot identification mark according to a marking system either approved at national level or agreed with the certification body.
The information referred to in points (a) to (d) of the first subparagraph may also be presented on an accompanying document, if such a document can be undeniably linked with the packaging, container or vehicular transport of the product. This accompanying document shall include information on the supplier and/or the transporter.

14. The closing of packaging, containers or vehicles shall not be required where:

(a) transportation is direct between an operator and another operator who are both subject to the organic control system, and
(b) the products are accompanied by a document giving the information required under paragraph 13, and
(c) both the expediting and the receiving operators shall keep documentary records of such transport operations available for the certification body of such transport operations.

15.Reception of products from other units and other operators
On receipt of an organic product, the operator shall check the closing of the packaging or container where it is required and the presence of the indications provided to in paragraph 13, 14.

The operator shall crosscheck the information on the label referred to in 13 and 14 with the information on the accompanying documents. The result of these

verifications shall be explicitly mentioned in the documentary accounts of operator.

16. Packaging materials should preferably be chosen from bio-degradable, recycled or recyclable sources.

STORAGE AND TRANSPORT

17. Product integrity should be maintained during any storage and transportation and handling by use of the following precautions:

a) Organic products must be protected at all times from co-mingling with non-organic products; and
b) Organic products must be protected at all times from contact with materials and substances not permitted for use in organic farming and handling.

18. Where only part of the unit is certified, other product not covered by these Standards should be stored and handled separately and both types of products should be clearly identified.

19. Bulk stores for organic product should be separate from conventional product stores and clearly labelled to that effect.

20. Storage areas and transport containers for organic product should be cleaned using methods and materials permitted in organic production. Measures should be taken to prevent possible contamination from any pesticide or other treatment not listed in Annex 2 before using a storage area or container that is not dedicated solely to organic products.

Storage of products: agricultural production, processing and handling

21. For the storage of products, areas shall be managed in such a way as to ensure identification of lots and to avoid any mixing with or contamination by products and/or substances not in compliance with the organic production rules. Organic products shall be clearly identifiable at all times.

22. In case of organic plant, seaweed, livestock and aquaculture animal production units, storage of input products other than those authorised under this Standard is prohibited in the production unit.

23. The storage of allopathic veterinary medicinal products and antibiotics is permitted on holdings provided that they have been prescribed by a veterinarian in connection with treatment as referred to in this Standard, that they are stored in a supervised location and that they are entered in the livestock record.

24. In case where operators handle both non-organic products and organic products and the latter are stored in storage facilities in which also other agricultural products or foodstuffs are stored:
(a) the organic products shall be kept separate from the other agricultural products and/or foodstuffs;

(b) every measure shall be taken to ensure identification of consignments and to avoid mixtures or exchanges with non-organic products;
(c) suitable cleaning measures, the effectiveness of which has been checked, have been carried out before the storage of organic products; operators shall record these operations.

Special rules for the reception of products in EU from a third country

25. Organic products shall be exported in appropriate packaging or containers, closed in a manner preventing substitution of the content and provided with identification of the exporter and with any other marks and numbers serving to identify the lot and with the certificate of control for import to EU as appropriate.

Exceptional production rules with regard to the use of specific products .Addition of non-organic yeast extract

26. The addition of up to 5 % non-organic yeast extract or autolysate to the substrate (calculated in dry matter) is allowed for the production of organic yeast, where operators are unable to obtain yeast extract or autolysate from organic production. The availability of organic yeast extract or autolysate is possible until 31 December 2013 subject of revision and withdrawing this provision.

Special rules for transporting feed to other production/preparation units or storage premises

27. When transporting feed to other production or preparation units or storage premises, operators shall ensure that the following conditions are met:
(a) during transport, organically-produced feed, in-conversion feed, and non-organic feed shall be effectively physically separated;
(b) the vehicles and/or containers which have transported non-organic products are used to transport organic products provided that:
(i) suitable cleaning measures, the effectiveness of which has been checked, have been carried out before
commencing the transport of organic products; operators shall record these operations,
(ii) all appropriate measures are implemented, depending on the risks evaluated in accordance with Article 88(3) and, where necessary, operators shall guarantee that non-organic products cannot be placed on the market with an indication referring to organic production,
(iii) the operator shall keep documentary records of such transport operations available for the certification body;
(c) the transport of finished organic feed shall be separated physically or in time from the transport of other finished products;
(d) during transport, the quantity of products at the start and each individual quantity delivered in the course of a delivery round shall be recorded.

D. PRODUCTION RULES AQUACULTURE: SEAWEED AND AQUACULTURE ANIMALS

Production rules for seaweed

1. The collection of seaweed and parts thereof, growing naturally in the sea , is considered as an organic production method provided that:
(a) growing areas are of high ecological quality defined by national and international legislation, of quality of equivalent to designated waters and there are not unsuitable from a health point of view.
(b) The collection does not affect long term stability of the natural habitat or the maintenance of the species in the collection area.

2. The farming of seaweed hall take place in coastal area with environmental and health characteristics at least equivalent to above characteristics in order to be considered as organic.
(a) sustainable practices shall be used in all stages of production, from collection of juvenile seaweed to harvesting;
(b) to ensure that a wide gene-pool is maintained, the collection of juvenile seaweed is the wild should take place on regular basis to supplement indoor culture stock.
(c) fertilisers shall not be used except in indoor facilities and only if they have been authorised for use in organic production for this purpose under this standard.

Production rules for aquaculture animals

3. Origin of the aquatic animals:
(i) organic aquaculture shall be based on rearing of young stock originating from organic broodstock and organic holdings;

(ii) when young stock from organic broodstock and organic holdings are not available, non organically produced animals may be brought onto holding under specific conditions.

4. Husbandry practices:
(i) personnel keeping animals shall possess the necessary basic knowledge and skills as regards the health and the welfare needs of the animals;

(ii) husbandry practices, including feeding, design of installations, stocking densities and water quality shall ensure that the developmental, physiological and behavioural needs of animals are met;

(iii) husbandry practices shall minimise negative environmental impact from the holding, including the escape of farmed stock;

(iv) organic animals shall be kept separate from other aquaculture animals;

(v) transport shall ensure that the welfare of animals is maintained;

(vi) any suffering of the animals including the time of slaughtering shall be kept to a minimum;

5. Breeding

(i) artificial induction of polyploidy, artificial hybridization, cloning and production of monosex strains, except by hand sorting, shall not be used.

(ii) the appropriate strains shall be chosen;

(iii) species-specific conditions for broodstock management, breeding and juvenile production shall be established;

6. Feed for fish and crustaceans:

(i) animals shall be fed with feed that meets the animal's nutritional requirements at the various stages of its development;

(ii) the plant fraction of feed shall originate from organic production and the feed fraction derived from aquatic animals shall originate from sustainable exploitation of fisheries;

(iii) in the case of non-organic feed materials from plant origin, feed materials from animal and mineral origin, feed additives, certain products used in animal. nutrition and processing aids shall be used only if they have been authorised for use in organic production.

(iv) growth promoters and synthetic amino-acids shall not be used;

7. Bivalve molluscs and other species which are not fed by man but feed on natural plankton:

(i) such filter-feeding animals shall receive all their nutritional requirements from nature except in the case of juveniles reared in hatcheries and nurseries;

(ii) they shall be grown in waters which meet the criteria for Class A or Class B areas as defined in Annex II of Regulation (EC) No 854/2004. **Certification body under Green Caucasus trademark** will undertake appropriate measures to compare corresponding national and EU legislation and to identify equivalent criteria to be used for organic aquaculture.

(iii) the growing areas shall be of high ecological quality. **Certification body under Green Caucasus trademark** will undertake appropriate measures to compare corresponding national and EU legislation and to identify equivalent criteria to be used for organic aquaculture.

8.Disease prevention and veterinary treatment:

(i) 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;

(ii) 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;
(iii)the use of immunological veterinary medicines is allowed;
(iv) treatments related to the protection of human and animal health imposed on the basis of national legislation shall be allowed.

9. 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.

10. (04.11.2016) Below are introduced amendments to this Standard based on the Regulation (EC) 710/2009.

10a Seaweed production

This Chapter lays down detailed production rules for the collection and farming of seaweed. It applies *mutatis mutandis* to the production of all multi-cellular marine algae or phytoplankton and micro-algae for further use as feed for aquaculture animals.

10b Suitability of aquatic medium and sustainable management plan

10b.1 Operations shall be situated in locations that are not subject to contamination by products or substances not authorised for organic production, or pollutants that would compromise the organic nature of the products.

10b.2 Organic and non-organic production units shall be separated adequately. Such separation measures shall be based on the natural situation, separate water distribution systems, distances, the tidal flow, the upstream and the downstream location of the organic production unit. State authorities or certification bodies may designate locations or areas which they consider to be unsuitable for organic aqua culture or seaweed harvesting and may also set up minimum separation distances between organic and non- organic production units. Where minimum separation distances are set State authorities or certifiers shall provide this information to operators, EC and accreditation bodies.

10b.3. An environmental assessment proportionate to the production unit shall be required for all new operations applying for organic production and producing more than 20 tonnes of aquaculture products per year to ascertain the conditions of the production unit and its immediate environment and likely effects of its operation. The operator shall provide the environmental assessment to the control body or control authority. The content of the environmental assessment shall be based on Annex IV to Council Directive 85/337/EEC (*) and/or requirements of national legislation. If the unit has already been subject to an equivalent assessment, then its use shall be permitted for this purpose.

10b.4. The operator shall provide a sustainable management plan proportionate to the production unit for aquaculture and seaweed harvesting. The plan shall be updated annually and shall detail the environmental effects of the operation, the environmental monitoring to be undertaken, and list measures to be taken to minimise negative impacts on the surrounding aquatic and terrestrial environments, including, where

applicable, nutrient discharge into the environment per production cycle or per annum. The plan shall record the surveillance and repair of technical equipment.

10b.5. Aquaculture and seaweed business operators shall by preference use renewable energy sources and re-cycle materials and shall draw up as part of the sustainable management plan a waste reduction schedule to be put in place at the commencement of operations. Where possible, the use of residual heat shall be limited to energy from renewable sources.

10b.6. For seaweed harvesting a once-off biomass estimate shall be undertaken at the outset.

10c Sustainable harvesting of wild seaweed

10c.1 Documentary accounts shall be maintained in the unit or premises and shall enable the operator to identify and the certification body to verify that the harvesters have supplied only wild seaweed produced in accordance with this standard.

10c.2 Harvesting shall be carried out in such a way that the amounts harvested do not cause a significant impact on the state of the aquatic environment. Measures shall be taken to ensure that seaweed can regenerate, such as harvest technique, minimum sizes, ages, reproductive cycles or size of remaining seaweed.

10c.3. If seaweed is harvested from a shared or common harvest area, documentary evidence shall be available that the total harvest complies with this standard.

10c.4. Operation shall maintain records, which must provide evidence of sustainable management and of no long-term impact on the harvesting areas.

10d Seaweed Cultivation

10d.1. Seaweed culture at sea shall only utilize nutrients naturally occurring in the environment, or from organic aquaculture animal production, preferably located nearby as part of a polyculture system.

10d.2. In facilities on land where external nutrient sources are used the nutrient levels in the effluent water shall be verifiably the same, or lower, than the inflowing water. Only nutrients of plant or mineral origin and as listed in Annex II, Table 1 may be used.

10d.3. Culture density or operational intensity shall be recorded and shall maintain the integrity of the aquatic environment by ensuring that the maximum quantity of seaweed which can be supported without negative effects on the environment is not exceeded.

10d.4. Ropes and other equipment used for growing seaweed shall be re-used or recycled where possible.

10e Antifouling measures and cleaning of production equipment and facilities

10e.1. Bio-fouling organisms shall be removed only by physical means or by hand and where appropriate returned to the sea at a distance from the farm.

10e.2. Cleaning of equipment and facilities shall be carried out by physical or mechanical measures. Where this is not satisfactory only substances of the list **"10e.3 Products for cleaning and disinfection"** and **"10e.4 Substances for cleaning and disinfection of equipment and facilities, in the absence of aquaculture animals"** and "**10e.5 Limited list of substances for use in the presence of aquaculture animals**" below may be used.

10e.3 Products for cleaning and disinfection

- *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)
  Phosporic acid (dairy equipment)
  Formaldehyde
  Cleaning and disinfection products for teats and milking facilities
- *Sodium carbonate*

10e.4 Substances for cleaning and disinfection of equipment and facilities, in the absence of aquaculture animals

- *Ozone*
- *Sodium hypochlorite*
  Calcium hypochlorite
- *Calcium hydroxide*
- *Calcium oxide*
- *Caustic soda*
- *Alcohol*
- *Copper sulphate: only until 31 December 2015*
- *Potassium permanganate*
- *Tea seed cake made of natural camelia seed (use restricted to shrimp production)*
- *Mixtures of potassium peroxomonosulphate and sodium chloride producing hypochlorous acid.*

10e.5 Limited list of substances for use in the presence of aquaculture animals

Products used for cleaning and disinfection of equipment and facilities in the presence as well as in the absence of aquaculture animals may contain the following active substances:

- *Limestone (calcium carbonate) for pH control*
- *Dolomite for pH correction (use restricted to 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) .*

11. (04.11.2016) Below are introduced amendments to this Standard based on the Regulation (EC) 710/2009.

11a. Aquaculture animal production

This part lays down detailed production rules for species of fish, crustaceans, echinoderms and molluscs. It applies to zooplankton, micro-crustaceans, rotifers, worms and other aquatic feed animals.

11b. Simultaneous production of organic and non-organic aquaculture animals

11b.1. The certification body may permit hatcheries and nurseries to rear both organic and non-organic juveniles in the same holding provided there is clear physical separation between the units and a separate water distribution system exists.

11b.2. In case of grow-out production, the certification body may permit organic and non-organic aquaculture animal production units on the same holding provided previous item 10b.2 of this standard is complied with and where different production phases and different handling periods of the aquaculture animals are involved. Operators shall keep documentary evidence of the use of provisions referred to in this item 11b.2.

11c. Suitability of aquatic medium and sustainable management plan

This plan must be in accordance with requirements of items under 10b above. In addition defensive and preventive measures taken against predators under European Council Directive 92/43/EEC(*) and national rules shall be recorded in the sustainable management plan. Verifiable coordination shall take place with the neighbouring operators in drawing up their management plans where applicable.

11d. For aquaculture animal production in fish ponds, tanks or raceways, farms shall be equipped with either natural- filter beds, settlement ponds, biological filters or mechanical filters to collect waste nutrients or use seaweeds and/or animals (bivalves and algae) which contribute to improving the quality of the effluent. Effluent monitoring shall be carried out at regular intervals where appropriate.

11e. Origin of organic aquaculture animals

Locally grown species shall be used and breeding shall aim to give strains which are more adapted to farming conditions, good health and good utilization of feed resources. Documentary evidence of their origin and treatment shall be provided for the control body.

Species shall be chosen which can be farmed without causing significant damage to wild stocks.

11d. Origin and management of non-organic aquaculture animals

11d.1 For breeding purposes or for improving genetic stock and when organic aquaculture animals are not available, wild caught or non-organic aquaculture animals may be brought into a holding. Such animals shall be kept under organic management for at least three months before they may be used for breeding.

11d.2. For on-growing purposes and when organic aqua culture juvenile animals are not available non-organic aquaculture juveniles may be brought into a holding. At least the latter two thirds of the duration of the production cycle shall be managed under organic management.

11d.3. In case the organic juvenilles are available the percentage of non-organic aquaculture juveniles introduced to the farm shall equal to 0% by 31 December 2016. Certification body in case-by-case basis may establish deadlines b which it is allowed to introduce non-organic juveniles to organic operation: 80% - 50 % and less up to 0%.

11d.4. For on-growing purposes the collection of wild aquaculture juveniles is specifically restricted to the following cases:

(a) natural influx of fish or crustacean larvae and juveniles when filling ponds, containment systems and enclosures;

(b) European glass eel, provided that an approved eel management plan is in place for the location and artificial reproduction of eel remains unsolved.

(c) the collection of wild fry of species other than European eel for on-growing in traditional extensive aquaculture farming inside wetlands, such as brackish water ponds, tidal areas and costal lagoons, closed by levees and banks, provided that:

(i) the restocking is in line with management measures approved by the relevant authorities in charge of the management of the fish stocks in question to ensure the sustainable exploitation of the species concerned, and

(ii) the fish are fed exclusively with feed naturally available in the environment.

11e General aquaculture husbandry rules

11e.1 The husbandry environment of the aquaculture animals shall be designed in such a way that, in accordance with their species specific needs, the aquaculture animals shall:

(a) have sufficient space for their wellbeing;
(b) be kept in water of good quality with sufficient oxygen levels, and
(c) be kept in temperature and light conditions in accordance with the requirements of the species and having regard to the geographic location;
(d) in the case of freshwater fish the bottom type shall be as close as possible to natural conditions;
(e) in the case of carp the bottom shall be natural earth.

11e.2. Stocking density and husbandry practices are set out below in 11e.3 by species or group of species. In considering the effects of stocking density on the welfare of farmed fish, the condition of the fish (such as fin damage, other injuries, growth rate, behaviour expressed and overall health) and the water quality shall be monitored.

The design and construction of aquatic containment systems shall provide flow rates and physiochemical parameters that safeguard the animals' health and welfare and provide for their behavioural needs. Containment systems shall be designed, located and operated to minimize the risk of escape incidents. If fish or crustaceans escape, appropriate action must be taken to reduce the impact on the local ecosystem, including recapture, where appropriate. Documentary evidence shall be maintained.

11e.3 Density of organic species

11e.3.1 Organic production of salmonids in fresh water: Brown trout *(Salmo trutta)* — Rainbow trout *(Oncorhynchus mykiss)* — American brook trout *(Salvelinus fontinalis)* — Salmon *(Salmo salar)* — Charr *(Salvelinus alpinus)* — Grayling *(Thymallus thymallus)* — American lake trout (or grey trout) *(Salvelinus namaycush)* — Huchen *(Hucho hucho)*

Production system	On-growing farm systems must be fed from open systems. The flow rate must ensure a minimum of 60 % oxygen saturation for stock and must ensure their comfort and the elimination of farming effluent.
Maximum stocking density	Salmonid species not listed below 15kg/m^3
	Salmon 20 kg/m^3
	Brown trout and rainbow trout 25kg/m^3
	Arctic charr 25 kg/m^3

11e.3.2 Organic production of salmonids in sea water: Salmon *(Salmo salar)*, Brown trout *(Salmo trutta)* — Rainbow trout *(Oncorhynchus mykiss)*

Maximum stocking density	10kg/m^3 in net pens

11e.3.3 Organic production of cod *(Gadus morhua)* and other Gadidae, sea bass *(Dicentrarchus labrax)*, sea bream *(Sparus aurata)*, meagre *(Argyrosomus regius)*, turbot *(Psetta maxima [= Scopthalmus maximux])*, red porgy *(Pagrus pagrus [= Sparus pagrus])*, red drum *(Sciaenops ocellatus)* and other Sparidae, and spinefeet (*Siganus* spp.)

Production system	In open water containment systems (net pens/cages) with minimum sea current speed to provide optimum fish welfare or in open system on land.
Maximum stocking density	For fish other than turbot 15kg/m^3
	For turbot 25kg/m^3

11e.3.4 Organic production of sea bass, sea bream, meagre, mullets *(Liza, Mugil)* and eel (*Anguilla spp.*) in earth ponds of tidal areas and costal lagoons

Containment system	Traditional salt pans transformed into aquaculture production units and similar earth ponds in tidal areas.
Production system	There shall be adequate renewal of water to ensure welfare of species. At least 50% of the dikes must have plant cover. Wetland based depuration ponds required.
Maximum stocking density	4kg/m^3

11e.3.5 Organic production of Sturgeon in fresh water: Species concerned *Acipenser* family.

Production system	Water flow in each rearing unit shall be sufficient to ensure animal welfare . Effluent water to be of equivalent quality to incoming water.
Maximum stocking density	30kg/m^3

Organic production of fish in inland waters:

11e.3.6 Species concerned Carp family *(Cyprinidae)* and other associated species in the context of polyculture, including perch, pike, catfish, coregonids, sturgeon.

Production system	In fishponds which shall periodically be fully drained and in lakes. Lakes must be devoted exclusively to organic production, including the growing of crops on dry areas.
	The fishery capture area must be equipped with a clean water inlet and of a size to provide optimal comfort for the fish. The fish must be stored in clean water after harvest.
	Organic and mineral fertilisation of the ponds and lakes shall be carried out in compliance with this annexes of Standard with a maximum application of 20 kg Nitrogen/ha.
	Treatments involving synthetic chemicals for the control of hydrophytes and plant coverage present in production waters are prohibited.
	Areas of natural vegetation shall be maintained around inland water units as a buffer zone for external land areas not involved

	in the farming operation in accordance with the rules of organic aquaculture.
	For grow-out "polyculture" shall be used on condition that the criteria laid down in the present specifications for the other species of lakes fish are duly adhered to.
Maximum stocking density	The total production of species is limited to 1 500 kg of fish per hectare per year.

11e.3.7 Organic production of penaeid shrimps and freshwater prawns (*Macrobrachium* spp.):

Establishment of production unit/s	Location to be in sterile clay areas to minimise environmental impact of pond construction. Ponds to be built with the natural pre-existing clay. Mangrove destruction is not permitted.
Conversion time	Six months per pond, corresponding to the normal lifespan of a farmed shrimp.
Broodstock origin	A minimum of half the broodstock shall be domesticated after three years operating The remainder is to be pathogen free wild broodstock originating from sustainable fisheries. A compulsory screening to be implemented on the first and second generation prior to introducing to the farm.
Eyestalk ablation	Is prohibited.
Maximum on farm stocking densities and production limits	Seeding : maximum 22 post larvae/m^2. Maximum instantaneous biomass: 240 g/m^2.

11e.3.7(a) Organic production of crayfish. species concerned: *Astacus astacus, Pacifastacus leniusculus.*

Maximum stocking density:	For small-sized crayfish (< 20 mm): 100 individuals per m^2. For crayfish of intermediate size (20-50 mm): 30 individuals per m^2. For adult crayfish(>50mm):10 individuals per m^2, provided that adequate hiding places are available.

11e.3.8 Molluscs and echinoderms:

Production systems	Long-lines, rafts, bottom culture, net bags, cages, trays, lantern nets, bouchot poles and other containment systems. For mussel cultivation on rafts the

	number of drop-ropes shall not exceed one per square meter of surface area. The maximum drop-rope length shall not exceed 20 metres. Thinning-out of drop-ropes shall not take place during the production cycle, however sub-division of drop ropes shall be permitted without increasing stocking density at the outset.

11e.3.9 Tropical fresh water fish: milkfish *(Chanos chanos)*, tilapia (*Oreochromis* spp.), siamese catfish (*Pangasius* spp.):

Production system	Ponds and net cages.
Maximum stocking density	Pangasius: 10kg/m^3
	Oreochromis: 20kg/m^3

Other aquaculture animal species: "None".

11e.4 Specific rules for aquatic containment systems

(1) Closed recirculation aquaculture animal production facilities are prohibited, with the exception of hatcheries and nurseries or for the production of species used for organic feed organisms.

Rearing units on land shall meet the following conditions:

(a) for flow-through systems it shall be possible to monitor and control the flow rate and water quality of both in- flowing and out-flowing water;
(b) at least five percent of the perimeter ("land-water inter face") area shall have natural vegetation.

(2) Containment systems at sea shall:

(a) be located where water flow, depth and water-body exchange rates are adequate to minimize the impact on the seabed and the surrounding water body;
(b) shall have suitable cage design, construction and main tenance with regard to their exposure to the operating environment.

(3) Artificial heating or cooling of water shall only be permitted in hatcheries and nurseries. Natural borehole water may be used to heat or cool water at all stages of production.

11e.5 Management of aquaculture animals

(1) Handling of aquaculture animals shall be minimised, undertaken with the greatest care and proper equipment and protocols used to avoid stress and physical damage associated with handling procedures. Broodstock shall be handled in a manner to minimize physical damage and stress and under anaesthesia where appropriate. Grading operations shall be kept to a minimum and as required to ensure fish welfare.

(2) The following restrictions shall apply to the use of artificial light:

(a) for prolonging natural day-length it shall not exceed a maximum that respects the ethological needs, geographical conditions and general health of farmed animals, this maximum shall not exceed 16 hours per day, except for reproductive purposes;

(b) Abrupt changes in light intensity shall be avoided at the changeover time by the use of dimmable lights or back ground lighting.

(3) Aeration is permitted to ensure animal welfare and health, under the condition that mechanical aerators are preferably powered by renewable energy sources.

All such use is to be recorded in the aquaculture production record.

(4) The use of oxygen is only permitted for uses linked to animal health requirements and critical periods of production or transport, in the following cases:

(a) exceptional cases of temperature rise or drop in atmos pheric pressure or accidental pollution,
(b) occasional stock management procedures such as sampling and sorting,
(c) in order to assure the survival of the farm stock.

Documentary evidence shall be maintained.

(5) Slaughter techniques shall render fish immediately unconscious and insensible to pain. Differences in harvesting sizes, species, and production sites must be taken into account when considering optimal slaughtering methods.

11e.6 Breeding and Feed for fish, crustaceans and echinodermes

(1) The use of hormones and hormone derivates is prohibited.
(2) As a general rules on feeds the Feeding regimes shall be designed with the following priorities:
(a) animal health;
(b) high product quality, including the nutritional composition which shall ensure high quality of the final edible product;
(c) low environmental impact.

(3) Specific rules on feeds for carnivorous aquaculture animals

(3).1 Feed for carnivorous aquaculture animals shall be sourced with the following priorities:

(a) organic feed products of aquaculture origin;
(b) fish meal and fish oil from organic aquaculture trim mings;
(c) fish meal and fish oil and ingredients of fish origin derived from trimmings of fish already caught for human consumption in sustainable fisheries;
(d) organic feed materials of plant origin and of animal origin as listed in this Standard and the restriction laid down therein are complied with. For aquaculture animals following requirement is valid as a feed materials:

Hydrolysate and proteolysates obtained by an enzyme action, whether or not in soluble form, solely provided to aquaculture animals and young livestock.

Crustacean meal.

(e) feed products derived from whole fish caught in fisheries certified as sustainable under a scheme recognised by the competent authority in line with the principles laid down in Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council.

(3).2 The feed ration may comprise a maximum of 60% organic plant products.

(3).3 ***Astaxanthin*** derived primarily from organic sources, such as organic crustacean shells may be used in the feed ration for salmon and trout within the limit of their physiological needs. If organic sources are not available natural sources of ***Astaxanthin*** (such as Phaffia yeast) may be used.

(3). 4 Histidine produced through fermentation may be used in the feed ration for salmonid fish when the feed sources listed in paragraph 1 do not provide a sufficient amount of histidine to meet the dietary needs of the fish and prevent the formation of cataracts.

(4) Specific rules on feeds for certain aquaculture animals

1. (19.10.17) In the grow-out stages, aquaculture animals as referred to in 11e.3.6, 11e.3.7 and 11e.3.9 shall be fed with feed naturally available in ponds and lakes.

2. Where natural feed resources are not available in sufficient quantities as referred to in paragraph 1 above, organic feed of plant origin, preferably grown on the farm itself or seaweed may be used. Operators shall keep documentary evidence of the need to use additional feed.

3. Where natural feed is supplemented according to paragraph 2:

(a) the feed ration of siamese catfish (*Pangasius* spp.) as mentioned in 11e.3.7 may comprise a maximum of 10 % fishmeal or fish oil derived from sustainable fisheries.

(b) (30.01.19) the feed ration of shrimps and freshwater prawns as referred to in 11e.3.7 may comprise a maximum of 25 % fishmeal and 10 % fish oil derived from sustainable fisheries. In order to secure the quantitative dietary needs of shrimps and prawns, organic cholesterol may be used to supplement their diets. where organic cholesterol is not available, non- organic cholesterol derived from wool, shellfish or other sources may be used. The option to supplement their diet with cholesterol applies both in the grow-out stage and in earlier life stages in nurseries and hatcheries.

(4)(a) Specific rules on feeds for organic juveniles

In the larval rearing of organic juveniles, conventional phytoplankton and zooplankton may be used as feed.

(5) Feed materials of animal and mineral origin maybe used in organic aquaculture, only if listed in this Standard. Feed additives, certain products used in animal nutrition and processing aids may be used if listed in this Standard and the restrictions laid down therein are complied with.

Synthetic vitamins identical to natural vitamins for monogastric and aquaculture animals

For aquaculture animals following is also valid:

Antioxidant substances
E306 —Tocopherol-rich extracts of natural origin used as an antioxidant

Natural antioxidant substances (use restricted to feed for aquaculture)

Emulsifying and stabilising agents
Lecithin of organic sources (use restricted to feed for aquaculture).

11e.7 Specific rules for molluscs

(1) Growing area

1. Bivalve mollusk farming may be carried out in the same area of water as organic finfish and seaweed farming in a polyculture system to be documented in the sustainable management plan. Bivalve molluscs may also be grown together with gastropod molluscs, such as peri winkles, in polyculture.

2. Organic bivalve mollusk production shall take place within areas delimited by posts, floats or other clear markers and shall, as appropriate, be restrained by net bags, cages or other man made means.

3. Organic shell fish farms shall minimize risks to species of conservation interest. If predator nets are used their design shall not permit diving birds to be harmed.

(2) **Sourcing of seed**

1. Provided that there is no significant damage to the environment and if permitted by local legislation, wild seed from outside the boundaries of the production unit can be used in the case of bivalve shellfish provided it comes from:

(a) settlement beds which are unlikely to survive winter weather or are surplus to requirements, or

(b) natural settlement of shellfish seed on collectors.

Records shall be kept of how, where and when wild seed was collected to allow traceability back to the collection area.

However, seed from non-organic bivalve shellfish hatcheries may be introduced to the organic production units with the following maximum percentages: 80 % by 31 December 2011, 50% by 31 December 2014 and 0% by 31 December 2016.

2. For the cupped oyster, *Crassostrea gigas*, preference shall be given to stock which is selectively bred to reduce spawning in the wild.

(3) **Management**

1. Production shall use a stocking density not in excess of that used for non-organic shellfish in the locality. Sorting, thinning and stocking density adjustments shall be made according to the biomass and to ensure animal welfare and high product quality.

2. Biofouling organisms shall be removed by physical means or by hand and where appropriate returned to the sea away from shellfish farms. Shellfish may be treated once during the production cycle with a lime solution to control competing fouling organisms.

(4) **Cultivation rules**

1. Cultivation on mussel ropes and other methods listed in 11e.3.8 may be eligible for organic production.

2. Bottom cultivation of molluscs is only permitted where no significant environmental impact is caused at the collection and growing sites. The evidence of minimal environmental impact shall be supported by a survey and report on the exploited area to be provided by the operator to the control body or control authority. The report shall be added as a separate chapter to the sustainable management plan.

(5) **Specific cultivation rules for oysters**

Cultivation in bags on trestles is permitted. These or other structures in which the oysters are contained shall be set out so as to avoid the formation of a total barrier along the shoreline. Stock shall be positioned carefully on the beds in relation to tidal flow to optimise production. Production shall meet the criteria listed in the 11e.3.8.

11e.8 Disease prevention and veterinary control

(1) General rules

1. The animal health management plan in conformity with EC regulations *"Article 9 of Directive 2006/88/EC*" shall detail bio security and disease prevention practices including a written agreement for health counselling, proportionate to the production unit, with qualified aquaculture animal health services who shall visit the farm at a frequency of not less than once per year and not less than once every two years in the case of bivalve shellfish.

2. Holding systems, equipment and utensils shall be properly cleaned and disinfected. Only products listed in this Standard may be used.

3. With regard to fallowing:

(a) The competent authority shall determine whether fallowing is necessary and the appropriate duration which shall be applied and documented after each production cycle in open water containment systems at sea. Fallowing is also recommended for other production methods using tanks, fishponds, and cages;
(b) it shall not be mandatory for bivalve mollusc cultivation;
(c) during fallowing the cage or other structure used for aquaculture animal production is emptied, disinfected and left empty before being used again.

4. Where appropriate, uneaten fish-feed, faeces and dead animals shall be removed promptly to avoid any risk of significant environmental damage as regards water status quality, minimize disease risks, and to avoid attracting insects or rodents.

5.Ultraviolet light and ozone may be used only in hatcheries and nurseries.

6.For biological control of ectoparasites preference shall be given to the use of cleaner fish and to the use of freshwater, marine water and sodium chloride solutions.

(2) Veterinary treatments

1. When despite preventive measures to ensure animal health a health problem arises, veterinary treatments may be used in the following order of preference:

(a) substances from plants, animals or minerals in a homoeopathic dilution;
(b) plants and their extracts not having anaesthetic effects, and
(c) substances such as: trace elements, metals, natural immunostimulants or authorised probiotics.

2. The use of allopathic treatments is limited to two courses of treatment per year, with the exception of vaccinations and compulsory eradication schemes. However, in the cases of a production cycle of less than a year a limit of one allopathic treatment applies. If the mentioned limits for allopathic treatments are exceeded the concerned aqua culture animals can not be sold as organic products.

3. The use of parasite treatments, not including compulsory control schemes operated by the State, shall be limited to twice per year or once per year where the production cycle is less than 18 months.

4. The withdrawal period for allopathic veterinary treatments and parasite treatments according to paragraph 3 including treatments under compulsory control and eradication schemes shall be twice the legal withdrawal period as referred to in legislation of EU (Article 11 of Directive 2001/82/EC) or in a case in which this period in not specified 48 hours.

5. Whenever veterinary medicinal products are used, such use is to be declared to the certification body before the animals are marketed as organic. Treated stock shall be clearly identifiable.

11e.9 Specific provisions for conversion period and other rules of seaweed

1. If the final product is fresh seaweed, flushing of freshly harvested seaweed shall use seawater.

If the final product is dehydrated seaweed, potable water may also be used for flushing. Salt may be used for removal of moisture.

2. The use of direct flames which come in direct contact with the seaweed shall be prohibited for drying. If ropes or other equipment are used in the drying process they shall be free of anti-fouling treatments and cleaning or disinfection substances except where a product is listed in this Standard for this use.

3. The conversion period for a seaweed harvesting site shall be six months.

4. The conversion period for a seaweed cultivation unit shall be the longer of six months or one full production cycle.

11e.10 Transport of live fish

1. Live fish shall be transported in suitable tanks with clean water, which meets their physiological needs in terms of temperature and dissolved oxygen.

2. Before transport of organic fish and fish products, tanks shall be thoroughly cleaned, disinfected and rinsed.

3. Precautions shall be taken to reduce stress. During transport, the density shall not reach a level which is detrimental to the species.

4. Documentary evidence shall be maintained for paragraphs 1 to 3 of 11e.10.

5. In case of organic plant, seaweed, livestock and aquaculture animal production units, storage of input products other than those authorised under this Standard is prohibited in the production unit.

6. The storage of allopathic veterinary medicinal products and antibiotics is permitted on holdings provided that they have been prescribed by a veterinarian in connection with treatment as referred to in this standard, that they are stored in a supervised location and that they are entered in the livestock record as referred to in this Standard, or as appropriate, in the aquaculture production records as referred to in this Standard.

11e.11 Aquaculture animal production

1. The following conversion periods for aquaculture production units shall apply for the following types of aquaculture facilities including the existing aquaculture animals:

(a) for facilities that cannot be drained, cleaned and disinfected, a conversion period of 24 months;
(b) for facilities that have been drained, or fallowed, a conversion period of 12 months;
(c) for facilities that have been drained, cleaned and disinfected a conversion period of six months;

(d) for open water facilities including those farming bivalve molluscs, a three month conversion period.

2. The certification body may decide to recognize retroactively as being part of the conversion period any previously documented period in which the facilities were not treated or exposed to products not authorized for organic production.

3. The processed feed for aquaculture animals complies with the provisions of this Standard (Regulation (EC) No 834/2007, Article 14(1)(d)(iv) and (v) for livestock or with Article 15(1)(d) for aquaculture animals and Article 18 thereof).

11f. Specific control requirements for seaweed

11f.1 Control arrangements for seaweed

When the control system applying specifically to seaweed is first implemented, the full description of the site shall include:

(a) a full description of the installations on land and at sea;
(b) the environmental assessment as outlined where applicable;
(c) the sustainable management plan where applicable;
(e) for wild seaweed a full description and a map of shore and sea collection areas and land areas where post collection activities take place shall be drawn up.

11f.2 Seaweed Production Records

1. Seaweed production records shall be compiled in the form of a register by the operator and kept available for the control authorities or control bodies at all times at the premises of the holding. It shall provide at least the following information:

(a) list of species, date and quantity harvested;
(b) date of application, type and amount of fertiliser used.

2. For collection of wild seaweeds the register shall also contain:

(a) history of harvesting activity for each species in named beds;
(c) harvest estimate (volumes) per season;
(d) sources of possible pollution for harvest beds;
(e) sustainable annual yield for each bed.

11g. Specific control requirements for aquaculture animal production

11g.1 Control arrangements for aquaculture animal production

When the control system applying specifically to aqua culture animal production is first implemented, the full description of the unit shall include:

(a) a full description of the installations on land and at sea;
(b) the environmental assessment where applicable;

(c) the sustainable management plan where applicable;
(d) in the case of molluscs a summary of the special chapter of the sustainable management plan.

11g.2 Aquaculture animal production records

The following information shall be provided by the operator in the form of a register which shall be kept up to date and made available for the control authorities or control bodies at all times at the premises of the holding:

(a) the origin, date of arrival and conversion period of animals arriving at the holding:
(b) the number of lots, the age, weight and destination of animals leaving the holding;
(c) records of escapes of fish;
(d) for fish the type and quantity of feed and in the case of carp and related species a documentary record of the use additional feed;
(e) veterinary treatments giving details of the purpose, date of application, method of application, type of product and withdrawal period;
(f) disease prevention measures giving details of fallowing, cleaning and water treatment.

11h. Specific control visits for bivalve molluscs

For bivalve mollusc production inspection visits shall take place before and during maximum biomass production.

11i. Several production units run by the same operator

When an operator manages several production units, the units which produce non-organic aquaculture animals shall also be subject to the control system.

E. SPECIFIC RULES FOR MAKING OF WINE

Scope
This Chapter lays down specific rules for the organic production of the products of the wine sector

Use of certain products and substances
1. Products used for wine production shall be produced from organic raw material.
2. Only products and substances listed in Annex II, TABLE 6 of GC standard can be used for the making of products of the wine sector, including during the processes and oenological practices.
3. Products and substances listed in Annex II, TABLE 6 of GC standard and marked with an asterisk, derived from organic raw material, shall be used if available.

(04.11.2016) Exceptional rules related to bad climatic conditions

1. In exceptional cases certification body or authorities may approve the use of Sulphur Dioxide by operators up to the maximum content to be fixed in accordance with the EU Regulation (Annex I B to Regulation (EC) No 606/2009) if the exceptional

climatic conditions of a given harvest year deteriorate the sanitary status of organic grapes in a specific geographical area because of severe bacterial attacks or fungal attacks, which oblige the winemaker to use more sulphur dioxide than in previous years to obtain a comparable final product.

Oenological practices and restrictions

The use of the following oenological practices, processes and treatments is prohibited:
a) partial concentration through cooling
b) elimination of sulphur dioxide by physical process
c) electrodialysis treatment to ensure the tartaric stabilization of the wine
d) partial dealcoholisation of wine
e) treatment with cation exchangers to ensure the tartaric stabilization of the wine

The use of the following oenological practices, processes and treatments is permitted under the following conditions:
a) heat treatments. The temperature shall not exceed 70 °C;
b) for centrifuging and filtration with or without an inert filtering agent. The size of the pores shall be not smaller than 0,2 micrometer.

The use of the following oenological practices, processes and treatments shall be re-examined before (04.11.2016 replaced "1 August 2015" by "1 August 2018") 1 August 2018 with a view to phase out or to further restrict those practices:
a) heat treatments
b) use of ion exchange resins
c) reverse osmosis.

F. On organic yeast, use of in-conversion feedingstuffs, decorative colouring of egg shells, use of enzymes (Regulation (EC) No 1254/2008)

This section F is based on the rules of Regulation (EC) No 1254/2008 and applies from 1 January 2009.

1. Since provisions for the production of organic yeast should be introduced, they should also encompass yeasts used as food and feed.
2. Since yeast is not considered as an agricultural product (within the meaning of Article 32(3) of the Treaty) and in order to allow the labelling of organic yeast as organic, it is necessary to amend the provision on the calculation of ingredients. Yeasts shall be calculated as agricultural products.
3. The decorative colouring of boiled eggs is traditional in many regions (including of the European Union) at a certain period of the year, and as organic eggs may also be coloured and placed on the market, certain Member States lodged a request to allow colours for this purpose, a panel of independent experts was examining certain colours and different other substances for could be authorised, as well as synthetic forms of iron oxides and iron hydroxides on a temporary basis. Given the local and seasonal character of the production it is however appropriate to give to competent authorities and certification bodies the capacity to authorize
4. For the production of organic yeast, yeast confections and formulations only organically produced substrates are to be used. Organic yeast should not be present in organic food or feed together with non-organic yeast. However, temporarily it is allowed 5 % non-organic yeast extract, until organic yeast extract is available, as additional substrate for the production of organic yeast as a source of nitrogen, phosphor, vitamins and minerals. In accordance to the flexibility rules under Article 22(2)(e) of that Regulation 5 % non-organic yeast extract should be authorised for the production of organic yeast.
5. Processing aids for production of yeasts and yeast are introduced in Annex II, Table 7 of this standard "Certain products and substances for use in production of processed organic food, yeast and yeast products . PROCESSING AIDS FOR THE PRODUCTION OF YEAST AND YEAST PRODUCTS "

G. TABLE 7: Certain products and substances for use in production of processed organic food, yeast and yeast products . PROCESSING AIDS FOR THE PRODUCTION OF YEAST AND YEAST PRODUCTS

ANNEX 2
PERMITTED SUBSTANCES FOR THE PRODUCTION OF ORGANIC FOODS
Products and substances used in farming and criteria for their authorisation.

1. List of authorized substances for use in organic agriculture, as well as restricted list of products and substances which may be used in organic production is established and will be revised based on follow up revisions, it will be based on revisions of EU legislation.

Products and substances contained in the restricted list may only be used in so far as the corresponding use is authorised in general agriculture. The use of those substances and products will be checked on a matter of conformity with appropriate national legislation rules.

2.
a)All products and substances shall be of plant, animal, microbial or mineral origin except where products or substances from such sources are not available in sufficient quantities or qualities or if alternatives are not available;
b) For Plant Protection Products following shall apply:
(i)their use is essential for the control of a harmful organism or a particular disease for which other biological, physical or breeding alternatives or cultivation practices or other effective management practices are not available;

(ii)if products are not of plant, animal, microbial or mineral origin and are not identical to their natural form, they may be authorised only if their conditions for use preclude any direct contact with the edible parts of the crop;

c) For Fertilisers and Soil conditioners, their use is essential for obtaining or maintaining the fertility of the soil or to fullfil specific nutrition requirements of crops, or specific soil-conditioning purposes;

d) For non-organic feed materials from plant origin, feed material from animal and mineral origin and certain substances used in animal nutrition, as well as feed additives and processing aids, the following shall apply:
(i)they are necessary to maintain animal health, animal welfare and vitality and contribute to an appropriate diet fulfilling the physiological and behavioural needs of the species concerned or it would be impossible to produce or preserve such feed without having recourse to such substances;

(ii)feed of mineral origin, trace elements, vitamins or provitamins shall be of natural origin. In case these substances are unavailable, chemically well-defined analogic substances may be authorised for use in organic production.

3. The use of products and substances not covered under plant protection (non-organic feed material from plant origin, feed material from animal and mineral origin and certain substances used in animal nutrition; feed additives and processing aids; Products for cleaning and disinfection in animal and plant production) , and subject to the objectives and principles for organic production and the general criteria of their use, shall be allowed in organic farming.

PRECAUTIONS

4. Any substances used in an organic system for soil fertilization and conditioning, 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.

5. Conditions for use of certain substances contained in the following lists may be specified by the certification body, e.g. volume, frequency of application, specific purpose, etc.

6. 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.

TABLE 1: SUBSTANCES FOR USE IN SOIL FERTILIZING AND CONDITIONING
Note: A: authorised

Authorisation	Name	Description, compositional requirements, conditions for use
A	Farmyard manure	Product comprising a mixture of animal excrements and vegetable matter (animal bedding). Factory farming origin forbidden
A	Dried farmyard manure and dehydrated poultry manure	Factory farming origin forbidden
A	Composted animal excrements, including poultry manure and composted farmyard manure included	Factory farming origin forbidden
A	Liquid animal excrement	Use after controlled fermentation and/or appropriate dilution Factory farming origin forbidden
B	Composted or fermented mixture of household waste	Product obtained from source separated household waste, which has been submitted to composting or to anaerobic fermentation for biogas production. Only vegetable and animal household waste. Only when produced in a closed and monitored collection system, accepted by the Member State Maximum concentrations in mg/kg of dry matter: cadmium:0,7; copper: 70; nickel: 25; lead: 45; zinc: 200; mercury: 0,4; chromium (total): 70; chromium (VI): not detectable.

B		
A	Peat	Use limited to horticulture (market gardening, floriculture, arboriculture, nursery)
A	Mushroom culture wastes	The initial composition of the substrate shall be limited to products of this Annex
A	Dejecta of worms (vermicompost) and insects	
A	Guano	
A	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
30.01.19 B	Biogas digestate containing animal by-products co-digested with material of plant or animal origin as listed in this Annex	Animal by-products (including by-products of wild animals) of category 3 and digestive tract content of category 2 (categories 2 and 3 as defined in Regulation (EC) No 1069/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council(1) must not be from factory farming origin. The Processes have to be in accordance with Commission Regulation (EU) No 142/2011(2). Not to be applied to edible parts of the crop
'B	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 (1) hair dairy products Hydrolysed protein (2)	(1) Maximum concentration in mg/kg of dry matter of chromium (VI): not detectable. (2) Not to be applied edible parts of the crop.
'B	Leonardite (Raw organic sediment rich in humic acids)	Only if obtained as by-product of mining activities
B	Humic and fulvic acids	Only if obtained by inorganic salts/solutions

(31.01.20)		excluding ammonium salts; or obtained from drinking water purification
30.01.19 B	Xylite	Only if obtained as a by-product of mining activities (e.g. by-product of brown coal mining)
B	Chitin (Polysaccharid obtained from the shell of crustaceans)	Only if obtained from sustainable fisheries, as defined in Article 3(e) of Council Regulation (EU) No 2371/2002 or organic aquaculture
B	Organic rich sediment from fresh water bodies formed under exclusion of oxygen (e.g. sapropel)	Only organic sediments that are by-products of fresh water body management or extracted from former fresh water areas. When applicable, extraction should be done in a way to cause minimal impact of aquatic system. Only sediments derived from sources free from contamination of pesticides, persistent organic pollutants and petrol like substance. Maximum concentrations in mg/kg of dry matter: cadmium: 0,7; copper: 70; nickel: 25; lead: 45; zinc: 200; mercury:0,4; chromium (total): 70; chromium (VI): not detectable.
B (31.01.20)	Biochar — pyrolysis product made from a wide variety of organic materials of plant origin and applied as a soil conditioner	Only from plant materials, untreated or treated with products included in Annex II. Maximum value of 4 mg polycyclic aromatic hydro-carbons (PAHs) per kg dry matter (DM). This value shall be reviewed every second year, taking into account the risk of accumulation due to multiple applications'
A	Products and by-products of plant origin for fertilisers	Examples: oilseed cake meal, cocoa husks, malt culms
(30.01.19) B	Hydrolysed proteins of plant origin	
A	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
A	Sawdust and wood chips	Wood not chemically treated after felling
A	Composted bark	Wood not chemically treated after felling
A	Wood ash	From wood not chemically treated after felling
A	Soft ground rock phosphate	Product as specified in point 7 of Annex IA.2. to Regulation(EC) No 2003/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council ([1]) relating to fertilisers , 7 Cadmium content less than or equal to 90 mg/kg of P205
A	Aluminium-calcium phosphate	Product as specified in point 6 of Annex IA.2. of Regulation2003/2003, Cadmium content less than or equal to 90 mg/kg of P_20_5 Use limited to basic soils (pH > 7,5)
A	Basic slag	Products as specified in point 1 of Annex IA.2. of Regulation 2003/2003

A	Crude potassium salt or kainit	Products as specified in point 1 of Annex IA.3. ofRegulation 2003/2003
A	Potassium sulphate, possibly containing magnesium salt	Product obtained from crude potassium salt by a physical extraction process, containing possibly also magnesium salts
A	Stillage and stillage extract	Ammonium stillage excluded
A	Calcium carbonate (chalk, marl, ground limestone, Breton ameliorant, (maerl), phosphate chalk)	Only of natural origin
B (31.01.20)	Mollusc waste	Only from sustainable fisheries, as defined in Article 4 (1) (7) of Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013 or organic aquaculture
B (31.01.20)	Egg shells	Factory farming origin forbidden.
A	Magnesium and calcium carbonate	Only of natural origin e.g. magnesian chalk, ground magnesium, limestone
A	Magnesium sulphate (kieserite)	Only of natural origin
A	Calcium chloride solution	Foliar treatment of apple trees, after identification of deficit of calcium
A	Calcium sulphate (gypsum)	Products as specified in point 1 of Annex ID. of Regulation2003/2003 Only of natural origin
A,B	Industrial lime from sugar production	By-product of sugar production from sugar beet
A	Industrial lime from vacuum salt production	By-product of the vacuum salt production from brine found in mountains
A	Elemental sulphur	Products as specified in Annex ID.3 of Regulation 2003/2003
A	Trace elements	Inorganic micronutrients listed in part E of Annex I to Regulation 2003/2003
A	Sodium chloride	Only mined salt
A	Stone meal and clays	

Products for plant protection

General conditions applicable for all the products composed or containing the following active substances:

- use in accordance with Annex I of a current standard.
- only in accordance with the specific provisions of the plant protection product legislation applicable within country/state where the product is used/ where relevant.

TABLE 2: SUBSTANCES FOR PLANT PEST AND DISEASE CONTROL
Note: A: authorised

1. Substances of crop or animal origin

Authorisation	Name	Description, compositional requirements, conditions for use
30.01.19	Allium sativum (Garlic extract)	

A	Azadirachtin extracted from *Azadirachta indica* (Neem tree)	
(04.11.2016)	Basic substances (31.01.20) based on food 30.01.19 (including:. Lecithins, sucrose, fructose, vinegar, whey, chitosan hydrochloride(1), and Equisetum arvense etc.)	Only those basic substances within the meaning of Article 23(1) of Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council (1) that are covered by the definition of "foodstuff" in Article 2 of Regulation (EC) No 178/2002 of the European Parliament and of the Council (2) and have plant or animal origin. Substances not to be used as herbicides, but only for the control of pests and diseases
A	Beeswax	(04.11.2016) Only as Pruning agent/wound protectant.
30.01.19	COS-OGA	
B	Hydrolysed proteins excluding gelatine	
B	Plant oils	All uses authorised, except herbicide.
A	Pyrethrins	(31.01.20) Only from plant origin
A	Quassia extracted from *Quassia amara*	Only as Insecticide, repellent

2. Micro-organisms used for biological pest and disease control

Authorisation	Name	Description, compositional requirements, conditions for use
A	Micro-organisms	Not from GMO origin

3. Substances produced by micro-organisms

Authorisation	Name	Description, compositional requirements, conditions for use
A	Spinosad	
(31.01.20)	Cerevisane	

4. Substances to be used in traps and/or dispensers

Authorisation	Name	Description, compositional requirements, conditions for use
A	Pheromones	only in traps and dispensers.
A	Pyrethroids (only deltamethrin or lambdacyhalothrin)	Insecticide; only in traps with specific attractants; only against *Bactrocera oleae* and *Ceratitis capitata* Wied

5. Preparations to be surface-spread between cultivated plants

Authorisation	Name	Description, compositional requirements, conditions for use
A	Ferric phosphate (iron (III) orthophosphate)	(04.11.2016) Preparations to be surface-spread between cultivated plants. Molluscicide

(31.01.20)	Hydrogen peroxide	

6. Other substances from traditional use in organic farming

Authorisation	Name	Description, compositional requirements, conditions for use
B	Copper compounds in the form of copper hydro-xide, copper oxychloride, copper oxide, Bordeaux mixture and tribasic copper sulphate	Up to 6 kg copper per ha per year For perennial crops, by derogation from the previous paragraph, provide thatthe 6 kg copper limit can be exceeded in a given year provided that the average quantity actually used over a 5-year period consisting of that year and of the four (4) preceding years does not exceed 6 kg.
30.01.19	Diammonium phosphate	Only as attractant in traps
A	Ethylene	Only indoor uses as plant growth regulator may be authorised. Authorisation shall be limited to professional users.
A	Fatty acid potassium salt (soft soap)	All uses authorised . Except herbicide.
A	Lime sulphur (calcium polysulphide)	
A	Paraffin oil	
30.01.19	Potassium and sodium hydrogen carbonate (aka potassium/sodium bicarbonate)	
A	Quartz sand	
(31.01.20)	Sodium chloride	All uses authorised, except herbicide
A	Sulphur	
B	Repellents by smell of animal or plant origin/sheep fat	Only on non-edible parts of the crop and where crop material is not ingested by sheep or goats.
30.01.19	*Salix spp*. Cortex (aka willow bark extract)	
(31.01.20)	Terpenes (eugenol, geraniol and thymol)	

7. Other substances

Authorisation	Name	Description, compositional requirements, conditions for use
B	Aluminium silicate (Kaolin)	
A	Calcium hydroxide	Fungicide only in fruit trees, including nurseries, to control *Nectria galligena*
	Carbon dioxide	
B	Laminarin	Kelp shall be either grown organically in or harvested in sustainable way.
(31.01.20)	Maltodextrin	
B	Potassium hydrogen	Fungicide and insecticide

	carbonate (aka potassium bicarbonate)	
	Kieselgur (diatomaceous earth)	

7.Use of certain products and substances in processing of food

Only the following substances can be used in the processing of organic food:
(a) substances listed in Annex 2. Table 3, Table 4, Table 5.of this standard;
(b) preparations of micro-organisms and enzymes normally used in food processing;
(c) substances, and products as defined and labelled as natural flavouring substances or natural flavouring preparations.
(d) colours for stamping meat and eggshells in accordance with national legislation;
(e) drinking water and salt (with sodium chloride or potassium chloride as basic components) generally used in food processing;
(f)
(30.01.19) minerals (trace elements included), vitamins, amino acids and micronutrients, provided that:
(i) their use in food for normal consumption is 'directly legally required', in the meaning of being directly required by provisions of Union law or provisions of national law compatible with Union law, with the consequence that the food cannot be placed at all on the market as food for normal consumption if those minerals, vitamins, amino acids or micronutrients are not added; or
(ii) as regards food placed on the market as having particular characteristics or effects in relation to health or nutrition or in relation to needs of specific groups of consumers:
— in products referred to in points (a) and (b) of Article 1(1) of Regulation (EU) No 609/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council (*), their use is authorised by that Regulation and acts adopted on the basis of Article 11(1) of that Regulation for the products concerned,
— in products regulated by Commission Directive 2006/125/EC (**), their use is authorised by that Directive, or
— in products regulated by Commission Directive 2006/141/EC (***), their use is authorised by that Directive.

8. For the purpose of the calculation,
(a) food additives listed in Annex 2. Permitted substances for the production of organic foods, Table 4. Processing aids which may be used for the preparation of products of agricultural origin reffered to in section 3 of these standards and marked with an asterisk in the column of the additive code number, shall be calculated as ingredients of agricultural origin;
(b) preparations and substances referred to in paragraph 7. (b), (c),(d),(e) and (f) of this Article and substances not marked with an asterisk in the column of the additive code number shall not be calculated as ingredients of agricultural origin.
(c) yeast and yeast products shall be calculated as ingredients of agricultural origin as of 31 December 2013.

9. The use of the following substances listed in Annex 2. Permitted substances for the

production of organic foods, Table 4. Processing aids which may be used for the preparation of products of agricultural origin reffered to in section 3 of these standards shall be re-examined before 31 December 2010:

(a) Sodium nitrite and potassium nitrate in Annex 2.Permitted substances for the production of organic foods, Table 3. Ingredients of non agricultural origin reffered to in section 3 of these guidelines with a view to withdrawing these additives;

(b) Sulphur dioxide and potassium metabisulphite in Annex 2. Permitted substances for the production of organic foods, Table 3. Ingredients of non agricultural origin reffered to in section 3 of these guidelines;

(c) Hydrochloric acid in Annex 2. Table 4. Processing aids which may be used for the preparation of products of agricultural origin reffered to in section 3 of these standards for the processing of Gouda, Edam and Maasdammer cheeses, Boerenkaas, Friese, and Leidse Nagelkaas.

TABLE 3: INGREDIENTS OF NON AGRICULTURAL ORIGIN REFERRED TO IN SECTION 3 OF THESE GUIDELINES

Note: A: authorised

3.1 FOOD ADDITIVES, INCLUDING CARRIERS

Authorisation	Code	Name	Preparation of foodstuffs of		Specific conditions
			plant origin	animal origin	
A	E 153	Vegetable carbon		X	Ashy goat cheese Morbier cheese
A	E 160b*	Annatto, Bixin, Norbixin		X	Red Leicester cheese Double Gloucester cheese Cheddar Mimolette cheese
A	E 170	Calcium carbonate	X	X	Shall not be used for colouring or calcium enrichment of products
A	E 220	Sulphur dioxide	X	X (only in mead)	(31.01.20) In fruit wines (wine made from fruits other than grapes, including cider and perry) and mead with and without added sugar: 100 mg/l (Maximum levels available from all sources, expressed as SO_2 in mg/l)
04.11.2016 B	E 223	Sodium metabisulphite		X	Crustaceans ([2])
	E 224	Potassium metabisulphite	X	X (only for mead)	(31.01.20) In fruit wines (wine made from fruits other than grapes, including cider and

					perry) and mead with and without added sugar: 100 mg/l (Maximum levels available from all sources, expressed as SO_2 in mg/l)
A	E 250 or E 252	Sodium nitrite Potassium nitrate		X X	(31.01.20) For meat products. May only be used, if it has been demonstrated to the satisfaction of the competent authority that no technological alternative, giving the same guarantees and/or allowing to maintain the specific features of the product, is available. Not in combination with E250. Indicative ingoing amount expressed as $NaNO_3$: 80 mg/kg, maximum residual amount expressed as $NaNO_3$: 50 mg/kg
A	E 270	Lactic acid	X	X	
A	E 290	Carbon dioxide	X	X	
A	E 296	Malic acid	X		
A	E 300	Ascorbic acid	X	X	Meat products ([2])
A	E 301	Sodium ascorbate		X	Meat products ([2]) in connection with nitrates and nitrites
A	E 306*	Tocopherol-rich extract	X	X	Anti-oxidant
A	E 322*	Lecithins	X	X	(31.01.20) With regard to foodstuffs of animal origin: Milk products. Only when derived from organic production. Applicable as of 1 January 2022. Until that date, only when derived from organic raw material.
A	E 325	Sodium lactate		X	Milk-based and meat products
A	E 330	Citric acid	X	X	
A	E 331	Sodium citrates	X	X	
A	E 333	Calcium citrates	X		
A	E 334	Tartaric acid(L(+)–)	X	X (Only for mead)	(31.01.20) With regard to foodstuffs of animal origin: Mead.
A	E 335	Sodium tartrates	X		
A	E 336	Potassium tartrates	X		
A	E 341 (i)	Monocalcium phosphate	X		Raising agent for self raising flour

04.11.2016 B	E392*	Extracts of rosemary	X	X	Only when derived from organic production.
A	E 400	Alginic acid	X	X	Milk-based products ([2])
A	E 401	Sodium alginate	X	X	Milk-based products ([2]) (18.03.2022-12) and sausages based on meat
A	E 402	Potassium alginate	X	X	Milk-based and meat products ([2])
A	E 406	Agar	X	X	Milk-based products ([2])
A	E 407	Carrageenan	X	X	(31.01.20) Milk-based products ([2])
A	E 410*	Locust bean gum	X	X	(31.01.20) Only when derived from organic production. Applicable as of 1 January 2022.
A	E 412*	Guar gum	X	X	(31.01.20) Only when derived from organic production. Applicable as of 1 January 2022.
A	E 414*	Arabic gum	X	X	(31.01.20) Only when derived from organic production. Applicable as of 1 January 2022.
A	E 415	Xanthan gum	X	X	
(31.01.20)	E 417	Tara gum powder	X	X	Thickener Only when derived from organic production. Applicable as of 1 January 2022.
	E 418	Gellan gum	X	X	High-acyl form only (31.01.20)Only when derived from organic production. Applicable as of 1 January 2022.
A	E 422	Glycerol	X		From plant origin. (31.01.20) Only when derived from organic production. Applicable as of 1 January 2022. For plant extracts and flavourings, (31.01.20) humectant in gel capsules and as a surface coating of tablets
A	E 440 (i)*	Pectin	X	X	Milk-based products ([2])
A	E 464	Hydroxypropyl methyl cellulose	X	X	Encapsulation material for

					capsules
A	E 500	Sodium carbonate	X	X	
A	E 501	Potassium carbonates	X		
A	E 503	Ammonium carbonayes	X		
A	E 504	Magnesium carbonates	X		
A	E 509	Calcium chloride		X	Milk coagulation
A	E 516	Calcium sulphate	X		Carrier
A	E 524	Sodium hydroxide	X		Surface treatment of 'Laugengebäck' and regulation of acidity in organic flavourings
A	E 551	Silicon dioxide gel or colloidal solution	X	X	For herbs and spices in dried powdered form. Anti-caking agent for herbs and spices Flavourings and propolis
A	E 553b	Talc	X	X	(31.01.20) With regard to foodstuffs of animal origin: surface treatment of sausages
	E 901	Beewax	X		As a glazing agent for confectionary only. Beeswax from organic beekeeping
	E 903	Carnauba wax	X		(31.01.20) As a glazing agent for confectionary As a mitigating method for mandatory extreme cold treatment of fruit as a quarantine measure against harmful organisms (Commission Implementing Directive (EU) 2017/1279) (1) Only when derived from organic production. Applicable as of 1 January 2022. Until that date, only when derived from organic raw material.
A	E 938	Argon	X	X	
A	E 939	Helium	X	X	

A	E 941	Nitrogen	X	X	
A	E 948	Oxygen	X	X	
A	E 968	Erythripol	X	X	Only when derived from organic pro duction without using ion exchange technology

([1]) This additive can only be used, if it has been demonstrated 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.

3.2 Flavourings
Substances and products labelled as natural flavouring substances or natural flavoring preparations as defined in Codex Alimentarius General Requirements for Natural Flavorings (CAC/GL 29-1987).

3.3 Water and salts
Drinking water.
Salts (with sodium chloride or potassium chloride as basic components generally used in food processing).

3.4 Preparations of Microorganisms and Enzymes
Any preparations of microorganisms and enzymes normally used in food processing, with the exception of microorganisms genetically engineered/ modified or enzymes derived from genetic engineering. (04.11.2016) However, enzymes to be used as food additives have to be listed in annex of this standard.
3.5 Minerals (including trace elements), vitamins, essential fatty and amino acids, and other nitrogen compounds
Only approved in so far as their used is legally required in the food products in which they are incorporated.

3.6 Preparations of microorganisms and enzymes.
Any preparations of microorganisms and enzymes normally used as processing aids in food processing, with the exception of microorganisms genetically engineered/modified organisms and with the exception of enzymes derived from genetically engineered/modified organisms.

3.7 For the traditional decorative colouring of the shell of boiled eggs produced with the intention to place them on the market at a given period of the year, the certification body may authorise for the period referred to above, the use of natural colours and natural coating substances.

TABLE 4: PROCESSING AIDS WHICH MAY BE USED FOR THE PREPARATION OF PRODUCTS OF AGRICULTURAL ORIGIN REFERRED TO IN SECTION 3 OF THESE STANDARDS

*Note:*A: authorised

Authorisation	Name	Preparation of foodstuffs of plant origin	Preparation of foodstuffs of animal origin	Specific conditions
A	Water	X	X	Drinking water
A	Calcium chloride	X	X (18.03.2022-12)	Coagulation agent (18.03.2022-12) With regard to foodstuffs of animal origin: sausages based on meat
A	Calcium carbonate	X		
	Calcium hydroxide	X		
A	Calcium sulphate	X		Coagulation agent
A	Magnesium chloride (or nigari)	X		Coagulation agent
A	Potassium carbonate	X		Drying of grapes
A	Sodium carbonate	X	X	
A	Lactic acid		X	For the regulation of the pH of the brine bath in cheese production ([1])
A	L(+)lactic acid from fermentation	X		With regard to foodstuffs of plant origin: for the preparation of plant protein extracts
A	Citric acid	X	X	
A	Sodium hydroxide	X		For sugar(s) production. For oil production excluding olive oil production; (31.01.20) for the preparation of plant protein extracts

A	Sulphuric acid	X	X	Gelatine production ([1]) Sugar(s) production ([2])
A (31.01.20)	Hop esxtract	X		With regard to foodstuffs of plant origin: only for antimicrobial purposes in production of sugar. When available from organic production
A (31.01.20)	Pine rosin extract	X		With regard to foodstuffs of plant origin: only for antimicrobial purposes in production of sugar. When available from organic production
A	Hydrochloric acid		X	Gelatine production For the regulation of the pH of the brine bath in the processing of Gouda-, Edam and Maas-dammer cheeses, Boerenkaas, Friese and Leidse Nagelkaas
A	Ammonium hydroxide		X	Gelatine production
A	Hydrogen peroxide		X	Gelatine production
A	Carbon dioxide	X	X	
A	Nitrogen	X	X	
A	Ethanol	X	X	Solvent
A	Tannic acid	X		Filtration aid
A	Egg white albumen	X		
A	Casein	X		
A	Gelatin	X		
A	Isinglass	X		
A	Vegetable oils	X	X	Greasing, releasing or antifoaming Agent Only when derived

				from organic production
A	Silicon dioxide gel or colloidal solution	X		
A	Activated carbon	X	X (18.03.2022-12)	
A	Talc	X		In compliance with the specific purity criteria for food additive E 553b
A	Bentonite	X	X	Sticking agent for mead ([1])
A	Celluose	X	X	Gelatine production (1)
A	Diatomaceous earth	X	X	Gelatine production (1)
A	Perlite	X	X	Gelatine production (1)
A	Hazelnut shells	X		
A	Rice meal	X		
A	Beeswax	X		Releasing agent Beeswax from organic beekeeping
A	Carnauba wax	X		Releasing agent. Only when derived from organic raw material .
	Acetic acid /vinegar		X	Only when derived from organic production. For fish processing, only from biotechnological source, except if produced by or from GMO
	Thiamin hydrochloride	X	X	Only for use in processing of fruit wines, including cider and perry and mead
	Diammonium phosphate	X	X	Only for use in processing of fruit wines, including cider and perry and mead,
	Wood fibre	X	X	The source of timber should be restricted to certified, sustainably

				harvested wood. Wood used must not contain toxic components (post-harvest treatment, naturally occurring toxins or toxins from micro-or ganisms)

([1]) The restriction concerns only animal products.
([2]) The restriction concerns only plant products.

10. Authorisation of non-organic food ingredients of agricultural origin

Where an ingredient of agricultural origin is not included in Annex 2. Permitted substances for the production of organic foods, Table 5. Allowed ingredients of agricultural origin, that ingredient may only be used for period 12 month after authorization by certification body under the following conditions:
the operator has notified to the certification body all the requisite evidence showing that the ingredient concerned is not produced in sufficient quantity/or is lacking on market in accordance with the organic production rules or cannot be imported from third countries. Operator agrees with its importer or buyer that this ingredient will not cause problems in international/national trade.

TABLE 5: ALLOWED INGREDIENTS OF AGRICULTURAL ORIGIN WHICH HAVE NOT BEEN PRODUCED ORGANICALLY

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

1.1. **Edible fruits, nuts and seeds:**

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

1.2. **Edible spices and herbs:**

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

1.3. **Miscellaneous:**

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

2. VEGETABLE PRODUCTS

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

—	cocoa	*Theobroma cacao*
—	coconut	*Cocos nucifera*
—	olive	*Olea europaea*
—	sunflower	*Helianthus annuus*
—	palm	*Elaeis guineensis*
—	rape	*Brassica napus, rapa*
—	safflower	*Carthamus tinctorius*
—	sesame	*Sesamum indicum*
—	soya	*Glycine max*

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

— fructose

— rice paper

— unleavened bread paper

— starch from rice and waxy maize, not chemically modified

2.3. **Miscellaneous:**

— pea protein *Pisum* spp.

— rum, only obtained from cane sugar juice

— kirsch prepared on the basis of fruits and flavourings as referred to in Article 27(1)(c).

3. ANIMAL PRODUCTS

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

— gelatin

— whey powder '*herasuola*'

— casings

11. Products for cleaning and disinfection of buildings and installations 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)
- Phosporic acid (dairy equipment)
- Formaldehyde
- Cleaning and disinfection products for teats and milking facilities
- Sodium carbonate

TABLE 6: PRODUCTS AND SUBSTANCES AUTORIZED FOR USE OR ADDITION IN ORGANIC PRODUCTS OF WINE SECTOR

Type of treatment	**Name of products or substances**	**Specific conditions, restrictions within the limits and conditions**
Use for aeration or oxygenation	Air Gaseous oxygen	
Centrifuging and filtration	Perlite Cellulose Diatomeceous earth	Use only as an inert filtering agent
Use in order to create an inert atmosphere and to handle the product shielded from the air	Nitrogen Carbon dioxide Argon	
Use	Yeasts (✸)	
Use	Di-ammonium phosphate Thiamine hydrochloride Yeast autolysates	
Use	Sulphur dioxide Potassium bisulphite or potassium metabi-sulphite	(a) The maximum sulphur dioxide content shall not exceed 100 milligrams per liter for red wines and with a residual sugar level lower than 2 grams per liter; (b) The maximum sulphur dioxide content shall not exceed 150 milligrams per liter for white and rosé wines and with a residual sugar level lower than 2 grams per liter; (c) For all other wines, the maximum sulphur dioxide content applied in accordance with Annex I B to Regulation (EC) No 606/2009on 1 August2010,shall be reduced by 30 milligrams per liter.
Use	Charcoal for oenological use	
Clarification	- Edible gelatine (✸✸) - Plant proteins from wheat or peas (✸✸) - Isinglass (✸✸) - Egg white albumin (✸✸) - Tannins (✸✸) - 30.01.19 Potato proteins (✸✸) - 30.01.19 Yeast protein extracts (✸✸) - Casein - 30.01.19 Chitosan derived from *Aspergillus niger* - Potassium caseinate - Silicon dioxide - Bentonite - Pectolytic enzymes	
Use for acidification purposes	- Lactic acid - L(+)Tartaric acid	
Use for acidification purposes	- L(+)Tartaric acid - Calcium carbonate - Neutral potassium tartrate - Potassium bicarbonate	
Addition	Aleppo pine resin	
Use	Lactic bacteria	
Addition	L-Ascorbic acid	
Use for bubbling	Nitrogen	
Addition	Carbon dioxide	
Addition for wine	Citric acid	

stabilisation purposes		
Addition	Tannins (⁎⁎)	
Addition	Meta-tartaric acid	
Use	Acacia gum (⁎⁎) (= gum arabic)	
Use	Potassium bitartrate	
Use	Cupric citrate	
Use	30.01.19 Yeast mannoproteins	
Use	Oak chips	
Use	Potassium alginate	
Use	30.01.19 Chitosan derived from *Aspergillus niger*	
Use	30.01.19 Inactivated yeast	
Type of treatment in accordance with Annex III, point A(2)(b) to Regulation (EC) No 606/2009	Calcium sulphate	Only for "vino generoso" or "vino generoso de licor"

(⁎) For the individual yeast strains: if available, derived from organic raw material.

(⁎⁎) Derived from organic raw material if available.'

TABLE 7: Certain products and substances for use in production of processed organic food, yeast and yeast products. Processing aids for the production of yeast and yeast products.

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

ANNEX 3
MINIMUM INSPECTION REQUIREMENTS AND PRECAUTIONARY MEASURES UNDER THE INSPECTION OR CERTIFICATION SYSTEM of GREEN CAUCASUS

1. Inspection measures are implemeted across the whole of the food chain to verify product labelled according to Section 3 of these Standards conforms to internationally agreed practices. The Green Caucasus system established common policies and procedures in accordance with these Standards.

2. Access by the certification and inspection body to all written and/or documentary records and to the establishment under the inspection schemes is essential.
The operator under an inspection should also give access to the competent or designated authority and provide any necessary information for third party audit purposes.

A. PRODUCTION UNITS

3. Production according to these Standards should take place in a unit where the land parcels, production areas, farm buildings and storage facilities for crop and livestock are clearly separate from those of any other unit which does not produce according to these Standards; preparation and/or packaging workshops may form part of the unit, where its activity is limited to preparation and packaging of its own agricultural produce.

4. When the inspection arrangements are first implemented, the operator certification body under Green Caucasus trade mark draw up and sign a contract which includes:

a) a full description of the unit and/or collection areas, showing the storage and production premises and land parcels and, where applicable, premises where certain preparation and/or packaging operations take place;
b) and, in the case of collection of wild plants, the guarantees given by third parties, if appropriate, which the producer can provide to ensure that the provisions of Annex 1, para 18 are satisfied;
c) all the practical measures to be taken at the level of the unit to ensure compliance with these Standards;
d) the date of the last application on the land parcels and/or collection areas concerned of products the use of which is not compatible with Section 4 of these Standards;
e) an undertaking by the operator to carry out operations in accordance with Sections 3 and 4 and to accept, in event of infringements, implementation of the measures as referred of these Standards.

5. Each year, before the date indicated by the certification body under Green Caucasus trade mark, the operator should notify the certification body of its schedule of production of crop products and livestock, giving a breakdown by land parcel/herd, flock or hive.

6. Written and/or documentary accounts should be kept which enable the Green Caucasus certification body to trace the origin, nature and quantities of all raw materials bought, and the use of such materials; in addition, written and/or documentary accounts should be kept of the nature, quantities and consignees of all agricultural products sold. Quantities sold directly to the final consumer should preferably be accounted for on a daily basis. When the unit itself processes agricultural products, its accounts must contain the information required in B2, third dash point of this Annex.

7. All livestock should be identified individually or, in the case of small mammals or poultry, by herd or flock or in the case of bees by hive. Written and/or documentary accounts should be kept to enable tracking of livestock and bee colonies within the system at all times and to provide adequate traceback for audit purpose. The operator should maintain detailed and up-to-date records of:

a) breeding and/or origins of livestock;
b) registration of any purchases;
c) the health plan to be used in the prevention and management of disease, injury and reproductive problems;
d) all treatments and medicines administered for any purpose, including quarantine periods and identification of treated animals or hives;
e) feed provided and the source of the feedstuffs;
f) stock movements within the unit and hive movements within designated forage areas as identified on maps;
g) transportation, slaughter and/or sales.
h) extraction, processing and storing of all bee products.

8. Storage, on the unit, of input substances, other than those whose use is with paragraph 4.1(b) of these Standards is prohibited.

9. The certification body under Green Caucasus trade mark ensure that a full physical inspection is undertaken, at least once a year, of the unit.

(04.11.2016) The certification body may take samples for testing of products not authorised for organic production or for checking production techniques not in conformity with the organic production rules. Samples may also be taken and analysed for detecting possible contamination by products not authorised for organic production. However, such analysis shall be carried out where the use of products not authorised for organic production is suspected.

An inspection report should be drawn up after each visit.
Additional occasional unannounced visits should also be undertaken according to need or at random.
The operator should give the certification body under Green Caucasus trade mark for inspection purposes, access to the storage and production premises and to the parcels of land, as well as to the accounts and relevant supporting documents.

10. The operator should also provide the inspection body with any information deemed necessary for the purposes of the inspection.

11. Products referred to in Section 1 of these Standards which are not in their packaging for the end consumer should be transported in a manner which should prevent contamination or substitution of the content with substances or product not compatible with these Standards and the following information, without prejudice to any other indications required by law:

− the name and address of the person responsible for the production or preparation of the product;
− the name of the product; and
− that the product is of organic status.

12. Where an operator runs several production units in the same area (parallel cropping), units in the area producing crop, crop products not covered by Section 1 should also be subject to the inspection arrangements as regards the dash points of paragraph 4 and paragraphs 6 and 8 above. Plants of indistinguishable varieties as those produced at the unit referred to in paragraph 3 above should not be produced at these units. [10.05.17. However, according to EC organic regulations and Green Caucasus standard, Annex 1, A. Plans and Plant products, 22.Exceptional rules. Parallel production, there are some derogations for perennial crops, which can be taken into account in some specific cases].

If derogations are allowed by the Green Caucasus certification bodies specify circumstances for which derogations are granted and the supplementary inspection requirements, such as unannounced site visits; extra inspections during harvest; additional documentary requirements; assessment of an operation's ability to prevent co-mingling, etc., which are to be implemented.
Pending further review of these Standards parallel cropping of the same variety can be accepted, even if it is not distinguishable, only as a subject to adequate inspection measures being applied.

13. In organic livestock production, all livestock on one and the same production unit must be reared in accordance with the rules laid down in these Standards. However, livestock not reared in accordance with these Standards may be present on the organic holding provided that they are separated clearly from livestock produced in accordance with these Standards. The Green Caucasus prescribes more restrictive measures, such as different species.

14. The Green Caucasus may accept that animals reared in accordance with the provisions of these Standards may be grazed on common land, provided that:

a) this land has not been treated with products other than those allowed in accordance with Section 4.1 (a) and (b) of these Standards for at least three years;
b) a clear segregation between the animals reared in accordance with the provisions of these Standards, and the other animals can be organized.

15. For livestock production, the Green Caucasus certification body/-ies should ensure, without prejudice to the other provisions in this Annex, that the inspections related to all stages of production and preparation up to the sale to the consumer ensure, as far as technically possible, the traceability of livestock and livestock products from the livestock production unit through processing and any other preparation until final packaging and/or labelling.

Control requirements for plant products

1. Plant production records

Plant production records shall be compiled in the form of a register and kept available to the certification bodies at all times at the premises of the holding. In addition such records shall provide at least the following information:
(a) as regards the use of fertiliser: date of application, type and amount of fertiliser, parcels concerned;
(b) as regards the use of plant protection products: reason and date of treatment, type of product, method of treatment;
(c) as regards purchase of farm inputs: date, type and amount of purchased product;
(d) as regards harvest: date, type and amount of organic or in conversion crop production.

Control requirements for livestock and livestock products produced by animal husbandry

2. When the control system applying specifically to livestock production is first implemented, the full description of the unit:
(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.

3. The practical measures shall include:
(a) a plan for spreading manure agreed with the certification body, 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 complying with the provisions of the organic production rules;
(c) a management plan for the organic-production livestock unit.

4 Livestock records

Livestock records shall be compiled in the form of a register and kept available to the certification bodies 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; 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.

5. Control measures on veterinary medicinal products for livestock
Whenever veterinary medicinal products are used the information is to be declared to the certification body 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.

Specific control measures on beekeeping

6. The following information shall be entered in the register of the apiary with regard to the use of feeding: type of product, dates, quantities and hives where it is used.

7. Whenever veterinary medicinal products are to be used, the type of product, including the indication of the active pharmacological substance, together with details of the diagnosis, the posology, the method of administration, the duration of the treatment and the legal withdrawal period shall be recorded clearly and declared to the certification body before the products are marketed as organically produced.

8. The zone where the apiary is situated shall be registered together with the identification of the hives. The certification body shall be informed of the moving of apiaries by at least 48 hours before move.

9. The removals of the supers and the honey extraction operations shall be entered in the register of the apiary.

B. PREPARATION AND PACKAGING UNITS

1. The producer and/or operator and should provide:
− a full description of the unit, showing the facilities used for the, preparation, packaging and storage of agricultural products before and after the operations concerning them;
− all the practical measures to be taken at the level of the unit to ensure compliance these Standards.
This description and the measures concerned should be signed by the responsible person of the unit and the certification body.
The report should include an undertaking by the operator to perform the operations in such a way as to comply with Section 4 of these Standards and to accept, in the event of infringements, the implementation of measures as referred to in paragraph 6.4 of these Standards and be countersigned by both parties.

2. Written accounts should be kept enabling the certification body to trace:
− the origin, nature and quantities of agricultural products as referred to in Section 1 of these Standards which have been delivered to the unit;

− the nature, quantities and consignees of products as referred to in Section 1 of these Standards which have left the unit;
− any other information such as the origin, nature and quantities of ingredients, additives and manufacturing aids delivered to the unit and the composition of processed products, that is required by the certification body/-ies for the purposes of proper inspection of the operations.

3. Where products not referred to in Section 1 of these Standards are also processed, packaged or stored in the unit concerned:
− the unit should have separate areas within the premises for the storage of products as referred to in Section 1 of these Standards, before and after the operations;
− operations should be carried out continuously until the complete run has been dealt with, separated by place or time from similar operations performed on products not covered by Section 1 of these Standards;
− if such operations are not carried out frequently, they should be announced in advance, with a deadline agreed on with the certification body;
− every measure should be taken to ensure identification of lots and to avoid mixtures with products not obtained in accordance with the requirements of these Standards.

4. The certification body should ensure that a full physical inspection, at least once a year, of the unit.
(04.11.2016) The certification body may take samples for testing of products not authorised for organic production or for checking production techniques not in conformity with the organic production rules. Samples may also be taken and analysed for detecting possible contamination by products not authorised for organic production. However, such analysis shall be carried out where the use of products not authorised for organic production is suspected.
An inspection report must be drawn up after each visit countersigned by the person responsible for the unit inspected. Additional occasional unannounced visits should also be undertaken according to need or at random.

5. The operator should give the certification body for inspection purposes access to the unit and to written accounts and relevant supporting documents. The operator should also provide the inspection body with any information necessary for the purposes of inspection.

6. The requirements in respect to the transport as laid down in paragraph of this standard are applicable.

7. On receipt of a product referred to in Section 1 of these Standards, the operator shall check:

− the closing of the packaging or contained where it is required;
− the presence of the indications referred to in this standard. The result of this verification shall be explicitly mentioned in the accounts referred to in point B.2. When there is any doubt that the product cannot be verified according to the production system provided for in Section 6 of this Standards, it must be placed on the market without indication referring to the organic production method.

Control requirements for units for preparation of plant and livestock products and foodstuffs composed of plant and livestock products

8.Control arrangements

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 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.

Control requirements for units involved in the production, preparation or export / import of organic products and which have contracted out to third parties in part or in total the actual operations concerned

9. Control arrangements

In the case of the importer, the full description of the unit shall include the importer's premises and of his import activities, indicating the points of entry of the products into the country and any other facilities the importer intends to use for the storage of the imported products pending their delivery to the first consignee.
In addition, the declaration shall include an undertaking by the importer to ensure that any facilities that the importer will use for storage of products are submitted to control, to be carried out either by the certification body or, when these storage facilities are situated in another state or region, by a certification bodyof other country or region.

Control arrangements of operations delegated to third parties

10. With regard to the operations, which are contracted out to third parties, the full description of the unit referred shall include:
(a) a list of the subcontractors with a description of their activities and an indication of the certification bodies to which they are subject;

(b) written agreement by the subcontractors that their holding will be subject to the control regime;
(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

Control requirements for units preparing feed

11. The full description of the unit shall indicate:
(a) the facilities used for the reception, preparation and storage of the products intended for animal feed before and after the operations concerning them;

(b) the facilities used for the storage of other products used to prepare feedingstuffs;
(c) the facilities used to store products for cleaning and disinfection;
(d) where necessary, the description of the compound feedingstuff that the operator intends to produce and the livestock species or class for which the compound feedingstuff is intended;
(e) where necessary, the name of the feed materials that the operator intends to prepare.
12. The measures to be taken by operators to guarantee compliance with the organic production rules

13. The certification body shall use these measures to carry out a general evaluation of the risks attendant on each preparation unit and to draw up a control plan. This control plan shall provide for a minimum number of random samples depending on the potential risks. Risk procedure is established in Green Caucasus system.

14. For the purposes of proper control of the operations, the documentary accounts shall include information on the origin, nature and quantities of feed materials, additives, sales and finished products.
15. The control visit shall comprise a full physical inspection of all premises. Moreover, the certification body shall make targeted visits based on a general evaluation of the potential risks of non-compliance with the organic production rules.

The certification body must pay particular attention to the critical control points pointed out for the operator, with a view to establishing whether the surveillance and checking operations are carried out correctly. All the premises used by the operator for the conduct of his activities must be checked as frequently as the attendant risks warrant. Based on risk procedure in Green Caucasus system.

C. IMPORTS

Certification body will follow inspection requirements of the importers of products certified organic under Green Caucasus system.

D. REQUIREMENTS FOR GROUP CERTIFICATION

(04.11.2016)
Objectives of a group certification system
To overcome the economic difficulties in relation to the control of small operators.

General Principles of group certification
1. A substantial part of the inspection work is carried out by internal inspectors in the framework of the internal control system (ICS) set up by the group.
2. The external certification body verifies and evaluates the effectiveness of the internal control system (ICS) and certifies the group as a whole.

Scope and criteria for eligibility of group certification

1. In principle only small farmers can be members of the group covered by group certification.

2. Depending on the country, region, area, community the definition of "small producer" needs to be relevant and well defined. Thus, the certification body will require from applicants for group certification evidence that group members are small producers.

3. [10.05.17] Farmers with less than 3 ha land are considered as small and they can be sampled. Farmers with more than 3 ha land can also belong to the group but have to be inspected annually by the external certification body.

4. Processors and exporters can be part of the structure of the group, but have to be inspected annually by the external certification body.

5. The farmers of the group must apply similar production systems. Group of producers united by the similar production system, e.g. same crop for growing and marketing (e.g. fruits, berries, lavender, coffee, tea, etc.), or group of crops from the same production system, such as small producers united with the common crop rotation (e.g. cereals, legumes, other), or participants of the same / similar value chains (e.g. wild crops such as wild berries or wild herbs).

6. The farms should be in geographical proximity, which depending on the country can come down to the region or community level with the similar socio-economic, climatic and natural conditions. The definition of geographic proximity and the scope may differ, and it is up to certification body to assess the relevance of this criteria with the eligibility for group certification. It is however obvious that geographic proximity should provide for the efficient group internal management and internal control system (ICS).

7. Group may be organized on itself, i.e. as a co-operative, or as a structured group of producers affiliated to a processor or an exporter. Operators that want to engage in certification as a group, they need to obtain a legal status for their group (get registered as an association, union, etc.). 8. The group must be established formally, based on written agreements with its members. It shall have central management, established decision procedures and legal capacity. The agreement on provision of

certification services must be signed between the certification body and the legal entity established by the operators.

9. When intended for export, the marketing of the products must be carried out as a group.

10. The eligibility criteria can be extended or slightly modified in case-by-case basis or adapted additionally. The certification body during its assessment of application may require additional information and evidences to qualify the certification for the group of producers.

11. Group must clearly identify Green Caucasus current standard as organic standard/-s they follow.

The internal control system

1. The internal control system of the group is a documented internal quality system that includes a contractual arrangement with each individual member of the group.
2. Internal inspectors are designated by the group and carry out internal controls. They must receive suitable training. The internal quality system sets out rules to avoid or limit potential conflicts of interest of the internal inspectors.
3. The internal inspectors carry out at least one annual inspection visit to each individual operator including visits to fields and facilities (one time or more, subject of necessity based on the risk of the member's organic performance for the whole group organic certification).
4. The internal control system keeps appropriate documentation including at least a description of the farms and the facilities, the production plans, the products harvested, the contractual arrangement with each individual member and internal inspection reports.
5. The internal control system shall include the application of sanctions to individual members who do not comply with the production standards. It shall inform the external inspection body of the irregularities and non-compliances found, as well as of the corrective actions imposed with agreed time for completion.
6. The internal quality and organic rule implementation system of the group of operators must include the following procedures and documents which need to be endorsed by Green Caucasus certification body for application by the group:

Staff

- each group should appoint qualified staff/person/-s (internal inspector and/or quality manager) responsible for efficient maintenance of the internal quality and organic system and communication with and reporting to the certification body.
- The responsibility and liability of this staff must include establishment of Internal control system, organic operation procedures and documentation, regular organic training program for group members, documentation, record keeping, as well as continuous control over all group members and assurance of proper operation of organic management system by the group members. This staff is in charge to introduce group during the inspection and certification process by the Certification body.

Procedures

- Procedures for inspection and inspection report preparation. The procedure shall include requirement of at least one annual comprehensive inspection of each group member, followed by additional inspections for checking how non compliances with the organic rules are corrected, as well as other inspections based on the risks as they are identified in internal system. This procedure has to be documented by the inspection report and risk assessment form
- Procedure of checking implementation of corrective actions identified by internal inspector. This procedure to be accompanied by Non-compliance and corrective action implementation form,
- Sanctions procedure to be implemented against those group members who violate requirements of the organic standard, the internal quality system procedures, and the agreement provisions. This procedure should cover cases when the production rules, labeling requirements, commingling of organic product, as well as contamination of organic production unit and organic product/raw material are violated. As a guidance for Sanctions procedure of the group the Green Caucasus certification body Sanctions catalogue can be used and adapted to the group needs.
- Procedures of reporting to the certification agency;
- Procedures on documentation to be maintained in the group and in internal control system.

Training

- Training procedure and annual program for all group members to be implemented by the group of operators to improve skills and update knowledge of group members and internal inspectors. Trainings can be provided by the responsible staff or contracted trainers;

Documentation is composed of the following:

- The agreement between the legal organization in charge for the group and seeking for organic certification and group member, which will comply with the requirements of the organic and quality systems;
- The catalogue of sanctions to be implemented in response to violation of the organic standard and the agreement;
- Inspection report form for each production activity (e.g. crop production, livestock production, beekeeping, etc.) which includes production unit evaluation and risk assessment for unannounced inspection;
- Extraction of the organic management plan/system (OMP/OSP) forms from the group OMP/OSP approved by the certification body of the group for each group member developed for different production activities (e.g. crop production, livestock production, beekeeping, etc.) to describe the organic production system of the farm.

(04.11.2016) The external certification body

1. The certification body evaluates the effectiveness of the internal control system, with the final aim to assess compliance with the production standards by all individual operators.
2. It has a contractual agreement with the group.
3. It carries out at least one annual inspection of the group. The inspection includes an inspection visit of a number of individual farms with the aim to inspect for compliance with the standards and to evaluate the effectiveness of the internal control system.
4. Each year the external certification body defines and justifies a risk-orientated sample of farms subject to their annual inspections. The number of farms subject to annual external inspection shall in any case not be lower than 10. For a normal risk situation, it shall not be lower than the square root of the number of farms in the group. For medium or high-risk situations, the external inspection bodies shall define a risk factor of at least 1.2 to 1.4 respectively.
5. The farms visited by the external inspection must be predominantly different from one year to the other.
6. Certification body will be guided by the following table regarding risk related inspections:

Minimum number of farms to be inspected by the external inspection body			
Number of group members = n	Normal risk factor 1	Medium risk factor 1.2	High risk factor 1.4
Minimum	10	12	14
n	Square root of n	1.2 square root of n	1.4 square root of n

Factors to define the risk include:
a) factors related to the magnitude of the farms:

- size of the holdings
- value of the products
- difference in value between the organic and the conventional products

b) factors related to the characteristics of the holdings

- degree of similarity of the production systems and the crops within the group
- risks for intermingling and/or contamination

c) experience gained

- number of years the group has functioned
- number of new members registered yearly
- nature of the problems encountered during controls in previous years and results of previous evaluations of the effectiveness of the internal control system
- management of potential conflicts of interest of the internal inspectors
- staff turnover.

7. Larger farms, processors and exporters will be inspected annually by the external certification body.
8. In case the external certification body finds the internal control system to seriously lack reliability and effectiveness, it will increase the number of farms subject to their annual inspection to at least three times the square root of the number of farms in the group.
9. The external certification body has a documented sanctions policy vis-à-vis groups. Sanctions of external certification body would be applied to the group as a whole in case of non-conformities of Internal Control System (ICS) and, when a non-conformity is found, the number of single farmers being inspected annually is increased by at least three times the square root of the total number of farmers in that group.
10. In cases it finds the internal control system to lack reliability and effectiveness, the external certification body will apply sanctions to the group as a whole, including, in case of serious deficiencies, the withdrawal of the certification of the group.
11. In report to the relevant supervising authorities such as accreditation body and EC and others, the external certification body will refer to all the elements of provisions of this Standard and Guidance document ("Guidelines on imports of organic products into the European Union. 8. Guidelines for the evaluation of the equivalence of organic producer group certification schemes applied in developing countries ").
12. Additional requirements for inspection of the group of operators by Certification Body. The following percentage of group members has to be inspected by Certification Body:
    - 50% in case when group members have different type of production (plant production, livestock, beekeeping);
    - (04.11.2016 deleted text) The certification body may based on low risks allow other minimum percentage of inspections if the internal control system ensures proper compliance with Green Caucasus standard by group members.
    - The certification body based on high risks may decide otherwise to increase minimum percentage of inspections if the internal control system is not sufficiently ensuring compliance with Green Caucasus standard by all group members.
    - At least the square root of the number of group members will be inspected in case of small groups such as those including 100 and less producers.
    - The inspection of the group members' production units are carried out according to the requirements of current chapter and Green Caucasus procedures (04.11.2016) and «Guidelines on imports of organic products into the European Union . 8. Guidelines for the evaluation of the equivalence of organic producer group certification schemes applied in developing countries». (04.11.2016 deleted)
    - In addition, if the inspections identified severe problems it is up to the certification body to increase number of inspections up to the inspection of the all group members. If group fails to run efficient organic and internal control systems the individual inspections of each producer will be conducted.
    - If the certification process is completed successfully, the certificate is released to the legal entity established by the group of operators.

Evaluation of Internal Control System of a Group

Evaluation of Internal Control System includes the following activities:

- witness audit of internal inspectors,
- audit of internal quality control management and recording system
- audit of training of internal inspectors and group members by internal control system managers.
- Certification body has to conduct an on-site check of farmer groups to verify the structure and evaluate their system according to the above mentioned criteria.