11.1 Converting cattle

11.1.1

To sell milk as organic you must have organic land and:

- have fed your dairy cows to full organic standards for at least six months
- have kept your dairy cows to the full health and welfare standards for at least nine months
- have agreed your feed plan with us as part of your livestock management plan, and
- had organic milk added to your trading schedule.

Note – for general conversion requirements please refer to sections 10.4, ‘Managing your herd or flock through conversion’, 10.5, ‘Simultaneous conversion’ and 10.6, ‘Bringing in livestock’.

11.1.2

For your calves to be eligible for organic status you must have kept their dams to full organic standards for at least 12 weeks before calving.

12.1 Converting sheep and goats

12.1.1

If you want to sell any products from your sheep or goats as organic you must have your feed plan agreed with us as part of your livestock management plan.

12.1.2

For the offspring of your ewes and goats to be eligible for organic status:

- the ewes or goats must be mated on organic land, or
- ewes and goats can be mated on non-organic land but only with our permission (we will only give permission for individual animals), and
- the ewes or goats must be managed to full organic standards from mating, and
- you must manage the offspring to full organic standards throughout their lives.

12.1.3

You must keep replacement ewes to full organic standards from the time you bring them onto your organic holding.

12.1.4

You must not sell any of your converted breeding stock or non-organic replacements as organic.
12.1.5

You may sell the fleece of your sheep and goats as organic after you have organic land and you have:

• kept the sheep and goats to full organic standards for at least 12 months before shearing
• allowed a period of three months (or three times the legal withdrawal period, whichever is greatest) since the last treatment of the animals with an external veterinary treatment, and
• had organic wool added to your trading schedule.

12.1.6

For dairy sheep and goats, you can sell their milk as organic after you have organic land and you have:

• kept the sheep and goats to full organic standards for at least six months, and
• had organic milk added to your trading schedule.

Note – for general conversion requirements please refer to sections 10.4, ‘Managing your herd or flock through conversion’, 10.5, ‘Simultaneous conversion’ and 10.6, ‘Bringing in livestock’.

13.1 Converting pigs

13.1.3

For your piglets to have organic status:

• the sows must be mated on an organic holding

Note – we may give permission for individual animals to be mated on non-organic land.

• you must manage the sows to full organic standards from mating, and
• you must manage the piglets to full organic standards for all of their lives.

Note – For general conversion requirements please refer to sections 10.4, ‘Managing your herd or flock through conversion’, 10.5, ‘Simultaneous conversion’ and 10.6, ‘Bringing in livestock’.

14.2 Converting deer

14.2.1

For the offspring of your deer to be eligible for organic status:

• your deer must be mated on organic land, or
• you must obtain permission for them to be mated on non-organic land (though we will only give permission for individual animals), and
• you must manage the deer to full organic standards from mating, and
• you must manage the offspring to full organic standards throughout their lives.
14.2.2
You must keep replacement deer to full organic standards from the time you bring them onto your organic holding.

Note – For general conversion requirements please refer to sections 10.4, ‘Managing your herd or flock through conversion’, 10.5, ‘Simultaneous conversion’ and 10.6, ‘Bringing in livestock’.

14.2.3
You must not sell any of your non-organic replacements as organic.

20.3 Table poultry

20.3.1
For your poultry to have organic status you must use organic chicks (from organically managed parents) when they are available.

20.3.2
With our permission and when organic chicks are not available, you may bring in non-organic chicks under three days old. However you must manage them organically from then for at least 10 weeks before you can sell them as organic. You must also send us a plan which details:

• the number of birds you need each year
• the number of organic and non-organic birds you plan to bring in
• the name of your suppliers
• whether your current suppliers will be able to supply you with organic birds in future, and
• what you are doing to make sure you get organic birds in future.

20.4 Laying poultry

20.4.2
If you want to bring in a flock to produce organic eggs you must, in order of preference:

• use organic pullets from organically managed parents if they are available
• use pullets that have been kept to organic standards from three days of age if they are available.

20.4.3
With our permission, you may bring in non-organic pullets before they are 18 weeks old. However, you must manage them organically from the time they arrive on your farm and for at least six weeks before they can produce organic eggs. You must also provide us with a plan that details:

• the number of birds you need each year
• the number of organic and non-organic birds you plan to bring in
• the name of your suppliers
• whether your current suppliers will be able to supply you with organic birds in future, and
• what you are doing to make sure you get organic birds in future.
Note – after 31 December 2005 any non-organic pullets you bring in must have been reared to the veterinary and feed standards detailed in sections 10.8–10.10 and 10.13. Please contact us for more information.

20.4.4

You must not bring in:

• poultry from caged systems
• poultry whose beaks have been clipped or tipped.