LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION STANDARD
IOS – Italian Organic Standards

Foreword

Livestock production is a staple activity in holdings complying with the rules of this Standard.

The rearing system governed by this Standard is based on the interdependence of land, plants and animals.
Livestock production contributes to the equilibrium of agricultural production systems through the use of renewable natural resources (livestock manure, legume crops, forage crops), thus protecting and improving the soil's fertility in the long term and helping the development of sustainable farming.
Organic production is characterized by high-quality feeding and the respect of the physiological and ethological needs of the animals.

This standard is not enforced for wild animals or for animals recognized wild from national provision.

Contamination of organic product by GMOs that results from circumstances beyond the control of the operator alters the organic status of the operation and/or product.

Operator is obliged to respect what written below:

- here below a we list minimum principle that an organic operator should consider within his/her relationship with any member of the firm team;
- all workers must have equal opportunities in terms of working hours, wages, union chances and any other condition;
- working conditions should not damage physically or psychically operators and workers;
- there should be no constrictions of any kind towards workers;
- children should have access to educational opportunities;
- wages must be agreed with workers and should not be discriminatory;
- each firm/farm should develop a social policy that integrates national or international laws concerning social issues;
- to any producer should be recognised a fair price;
- production based on violations of human rights may not be certified as organic;
- organic products may not be produced using forced or involuntary labour.

1 Stockfarm Management

1.1 General principles

1.1.1 Stockfarming complying with this Standard is a land-related activity, so the animals must have a pasturage area at their disposal, if requested by their requirements.

1.1.2 The number of animals shall be closely related to the area available, so as to ensure integrated management of animal and crop productions, reduce to a minimum any form of pollution, particularly of the soil and of surface and ground water, avoid overgrazing and erosion and allow for the adequate spreading of livestock manure.

1.1.3 Pastures shall provide adequate protection against rain, wind, sun and extreme temperatures, depending on the local weather conditions and the breeds concerned. However, livestock housing will not be mandatory in areas with appropriate climatic conditions enabling animals to live outdoors.

1.2 Agricultural area and stocking density

1.2.1 Land-less livestock production is prohibited.

1.2.2 The stockfarms that have no functional connection with the land in the framework of a farm-based or region-based production program, are excluded.

1.2.3 Such functional connection is based on :

a) the density of animals (LU/ha of UAA available) in the area pertaining to the holding whether owned, on lease, concession, commodatum, common land, etc., not exceeding 170 kg of Nitrogen per year per hectare of agricultural area used. The Table of Annex I must be used to determine the stocking density. Manure shall preferably be spread in the holding itself, but it may also be spread in other organic holdings in the framework of a cooperation for the spreading of surplus manure adequately documented

and approved by the Inspection Body. The maximum limit of 170 kg of Nitrogen from manure per year/hectare of agricultural area used will be calculated on the basis of all the organic production units involved in such a cooperation.

b) the agricultural crop production of the holding, ensuring that at least 50% of the dry matter of the annual ration for polygastric animals and at least 35% of the dry matter of the annual ration for monogastric animals comes from the holding itself or from the cooperating holdings in the territorial entity.

By territorial entity, we mean the relationship between farms, which are in keeping with this standard and/or with EU Reg 2092/91 and/or other equivalent national provisions, which have established a contractual cooperation for the spreading of livestock manure.

1.2.4 In the event of adverse weather conditions or calamitous circumstances, adequately documented, the Inspection Body may authorize a percentage of self-production lower than 35% for a limited period of time, on condition that all the agricultural areas of the holding are cultivated in accordance with the rules of this Standard.

1.3 Parallel livestock production and common pastures

1.3.1 All animals on one and the same production unit shall be reared in accordance with the rules of this Standard.

1.3.2 The presence of conventional animals on the holding is allowed, provided they belong to a species which is different from the one reared in compliance with this Standard and they are reared in a separate production unit with housings and pasturages clearly separated from organic production ones.

1.3.3 The pasturage of conventional animals on pastures complying with this Standard is allowed, subject to Inspection Body's authorization. This authorization may be granted every year for a limited period of time, only on condition that the conventional animals come from extensive production and the total number of animals per hectare never exceeds the equivalent of 170 Kg of Nitrogen per hectare per year, as laid down in Annex I to this Standard.

1.3.4 The animals reared in accordance with the rules of this Standard may be grazed on common pastures not complying with the rules of this Standard, subject to Inspection Body's authorization. This authorization may be granted on condition that:

a) such pastures have not been treated with substances not included in IFOAM-accredited Standard for Agricultural Crop Production for at least three years;
b) any animal not reared in accordance with the rules of this Standard and grazed on such common pastures comes from extensive production,
c) the total number of animals per hectare does not exceed the equivalent of 170 kg of Nitrogen per hectare per year, as laid down in Annex I to this Standard.

1.3.5 The products from animals reared in accordance with the provisions of this Standard in the period when they were grazed on common pastures together with conventional animals, may obtain IFOAM-accredited certification only if the Operator can prove, to the satisfaction of the Inspection Body, that organic animals have been kept clearly separated from conventional animals.

1.3.6 In the case the common pasture is utilized by species not mentioned in this Standard, the number of animals per hectare shall not exceed the equivalent of 170 kg of Nitrogen per hectare per year, as laid down in Annex I to this Standard.

1.4 Livestock housing, pasturage areas and livestock buildings

1.4.1 Keeping livestock tethered is forbidden.

1.4.2 If the animals are reared in groups, the size of these groups shall be commensurate with the development stage and the behavioural requirements of the species concerned. Animals are not kept in isolation except in extraordinary circumstances.

1.4.3 The livestock shall have access to pasturage or open-air exercise areas, which may be partially covered and provided with protective facilities against predators for the species subject to predation (in all cases, in housing conditions or outside, animals must be protected from predation by wild and feral animals), whenever the physiological condition of the animals, the weather conditions and the state of the ground permit.

1.4.4 On Operator's motivated request, the Inspection Body may authorize a single animal to be tethered for a limited period of time if this is necessary for the welfare and safety of the animal (e.g. male, sick animal or female in the last stages of pregnancy).

1.4.5 The animals may be temporarily confined in case of adverse weather conditions or when there is no possibility for them to graze owing to transitory or seasonal conditions and the maximum hours of artificial light used to prolong natural day length must not exceed a maximum that respects the natural behaviour, geographical conditions and general health of the animals. These animals shall have access to open-air exercise areas.

1.4.6 The animals may be fed on fresh fodder only when this represents a more sustainable way to use land resources than grazing. Animal welfare shall not be compromised.

1.4.7 By way of derogation and until 31 December 2010, the Inspection Body may authorize tethering in stockfarms with existing buildings, constructed before 24 August 2000 and meeting national regulations, if a Livestock Facilities Renovation Plan complying with the requirements laid down in Annex II, lasting six years at the most (and in any case expiring on 31 December 2010 for holdings entering the inspection system after 2005) is duly signed by the Operator and submitted to the Inspection Body for approval and surveillance, and if the animals have access to exercise runs and comfortably littered areas and their welfare is ensured. The above mentioned Plan shall schedule the renovation of outdoor and indoor areas within three and six years, respectively. The available area may be reduced to 20% (max.) of the area laid down in Annex II, with the exception of holdings located in the mountains where such area may be reduced to 50% (max.).

In cases where the animals have indoor and outdoor areas at their disposal, pasturage is not mandatory during the facilities' renovation period. Instead, tethered animals shall mandatory have access to pasturage, if weather conditions permit.

1.4.8 It's forbidden to keep animals tethered; it's allowed only in case of animals for private use (self consumption).

In little farms that however respect requirements of animal's health, the CB can authorize to keep animals tethered and the use of chain when it's no possible to breed animals in groups adequate to behaviours' requirements, as long as at least 2 times/week they can enter in pastures or in free spaces outdoors.

With little farm we mean one farm that breed less than 18 UBA (adult cow unit); this number can be increased to 30 UBA in Regions where there are particular social-economics-environmental conditions.

1.4.9 Housing conditions for livestock shall meet the livestock's biological and ethological needs (e.g. behavioural needs as regards appropriate freedom of movement and comfort).

1.4.10 The animals shall have easy access to feeding and watering.

1.4.11 Insulation, heating and ventilation of the buildings shall ensure that air circulation, dust level, temperature, relative air humidity and gas concentration are kept within limits which are not harmful to animals. The buildings must permit plentiful natural ventilation and light to enter, and construction materials and equipment must not harm human or animal health.

1.4.12 The stocking density in buildings shall provide for the comfort and well being of animals which, in particular, shall depend on the species, the breed, the sex, the age and the size of the group. It shall provide the animals with sufficient space to stand naturally, lie down, turn round, groom themselves, assume all natural postures and make all natural movements such as stretching and wing flapping.

The minimum surface areas for indoor housing and outdoor exercise areas, and other characteristics of housings for different species and categories of animals, are laid down in Annex II.

1.4.13 Housings, pens, equipment and utensils shall be cleaned and disinfected to prevent cross-infection and the build-up of pathogens. Only the products listed in Part E of Annex II can be used for cleaning and disinfection of livestock buildings and installations. Faeces, urine and uneaten or spilt food shall be removed as often as necessary to minimize smell and to avoid attracting insects or rodents.

1.4.14 Only the products listed in Part D of Annex III can be used for the elimination of insects and other pests in buildings and other installations where livestock is kept.

1.4.15 Livestock housings shall have smooth, but not slippery floors. At least half of the total floor area shall be solid, that is, not of slatted or of grid construction. The 50% of the floor area of slatted or of grid construction shall be calculated on the basis of the minimum area laid down in Annex II.

1.4.16 The rest area shall be provided with ample dry bedding. The litter shall comprise straw or other suitable natural material and may be improved and enriched with the mineral products authorized for use as fertilizers, listed in Part E of Annex III.

1.4.17 For rabbits it is forbidden rearing in cages. Rabbits must have houses with outside run and is considered that rabbits is a social animal and it must be reared in group with a concentration of not more then 8 heads per square meters.

1.4.18 For pigeons it is allowed rearing in cages.

1.4.19 It is however prohibited the use of floor with nets and cages with a dimensions inferior to 0.5 square meters the minimum characteristics for pigeons aviary is that they are constituted of two parts: one closed and another opened. The access to open areas must always be provided. The concentration of heads in the closed part must not be more then 2 heads in square meter. The same for the opened part. The floor of the covered part must be totally filled (Sand, chip..) whereas the opened part must be natural. Each couple must have under his disposition: 2 nests with relative adjacent area for break, 40 cm for bird rest, half internal and half external . Each aviary can have maximum 20 couples.

1.4.20 Pens for ostrich have to be moved maximum every 2 (two) years and pens in elastic and resistant rope have to be preferred.
Minimum width is 15 m and minimum length is 60 m.
Ground must be with grass, to have stones and a sand zone.
Out of lay eggs period , a single pen must be organize for all adults for common life.

1.5 Particular provisions

1.5.1 Bovines

1.5.1.1 Bulls over one year old shall have access to pasturage or an open-air exercise area or an open-air run.

1.5.1.2 The final fattening phase of bovines, pigs and sheep 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.

1.5.1.3 The housing of calves in individual boxes is prohibited after the age of one week.

1.5.2 Pigs

1.5.2.1 Sows shall be kept in groups, except in the last stages of pregnancy and during the suckling period.

1.5.2.2 Piglets may not be kept on flat decks or in piglet cages.

1.5.3 Poultry

1.5.3.1 Poultry shall be reared in open-range conditions and may not be kept in cages.

1.5.3.2 Water fowl shall have access to a stream, pond or lake whenever the weather conditions permit in order to respect animal welfare requirements or hygienic conditions.
For pigeons baths in water and sand must be guarantee.

1.5.3.3 Buildings for poultry shall satisfy the following minimum conditions:

a) at least one third shall be solid, that is, not of slatted or of grid construction, and covered with a litter material such as straw, wood shavings, sand or turf;

b) in poultry houses for laying hens, a sufficiently large part of the floor area available to the hens shall be available for the collection of bird droppings;

c) they shall have perches of a size and number commensurate with the size of the group and of the birds, as laid down in Annex VIII;

d) they shall have exit/entry pop-holes of a size adequate for the birds, and these pop-holes shall have a combined length of at least 4 m per 100 m² of the area available to the birds;

e) each poultry house shall not contain more than:

- 4,800 chickens,
- 3,000 laying hens,
- 5,200 guinea fowl,
- 4,000 female Muscovy or Peking ducks, 3,200 male Muscovy or Peking ducks or other ducks,
- 2,500 capons, geese or turkeys.

f) the total usable area of poultry houses for meat production on any single production unit shall not exceed 1,600 m².

1.5.3.4 In the case of laying hens, natural light may be supplemented by artificial means to provide a maximum of 16 hours' light per day, with a continual nocturnal rest period without artificial light of at least 8 hours.

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

1.5.3.6 For health reasons, 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, the runs shall be left empty to allow vegetation to grow back, and for health reasons.

1.5.3.7 Between each batch of poultry reared, the oudoor run shall be left empty for a period of at least 40 days, unless techniques requiring a different time are implemented. This requirement shall not apply to small numbers of poultry which are free to roam in an undetermined area.

1.6 Livestock manure management

1.6.1 Storage facilities for livestock manure shall be of a capacity to preclude the pollution of water by direct discharge, or by run-off and infiltration of the soil.

1.6.2 To ensure sound fertilizer management, the capacity of such storage facilities for livestock manure shall exceed the storage capacity required for the longest period of the year in which any application of fertilizer to the land is either inappropriate in accordance with the codes of good agricultural practice, or when such application is prohibited, in cases where the production unit is located within a designated nitrate vulnerable zone.

2 Conversion

2.1 General principles

2.1.1 Livestock products may be "IFOAM Accredited" certified only where an adequate conversion period for soil and animals has been complied with. The purpose of this period is to encourage the immunological defence and the metabolic functions of animals and to favour the development of their natural behaviours.

2.1.2 All animals on one and the same production unit should be converted to organic production within a determined period of time.

2.2 Conversion criteria

2.2.1 Non-organic livestock which is present on the production unit may be converted.

2.2.2 The whole area of the unit used for animal feed shall be converted to organic farming, in accordance with the rules set out in IFOAM Accredited Standard for Agricultural Crop Productions.

2.2.3 The beginning of the conversion period shall coincide with the date when the livestock production unit Notification is sent to the Inspection Body.

2.2.4 It is prohibited to switch from organic to conventional and then back to organic.

2.2.5 For rabbits, only introduction of heads for reproductions is allowed.

2.3 *Conversion of land associated with organic livestock production*

2.3.1 The areas or units used for animal feed shall comply with the rules of this Standard, observing the conversion periods established in IFOAM Accredited Standard for Agricultural Crop Productions.

2.3.2 The conversion period may be reduced to one year for pasturages, open air runs and exercise areas used by non-herbivore species. The Inspection Body may reduce this period to six months where the Operator can demonstrate, through appropriate documentation, that the land concerned has not, in the last three (3) years, received treatments with products other than those referred to in IFOAM Accredited Standard for Agricultural Crop Productions.

2.4 Conversion of livestock and livestock products

2.4.1 In cases where the conversion of livestock starts after the complete conversion of agricultural crop production areas ,

2.4.2 the livestock products may be sold as being from organic production only where the animals have been reared in accordance with the rules of this Standard for at least:

a) 12 months for animals for meat production, and in any case at least three quarters of their lifetime;
b) 6 months for animals for milk production

c) 6 weeks for animal for eggs production.

2.5 Simultaneous conversion

2.5.1 If there is simultaneous conversion of the complete production unit, including livestock, pasturage and/or any land used for animal feed, the total combined conversion period for all of them shall be 24 months, subject to the following conditions:

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

3 Origin of animals and brought-in animals

3.1 General principles

3.1.1. In the choice of breeds and strains, account shall be taken of the capacity of animals to adapt to local conditions, their vitality and their resistance to disease, and the deliberate use or negligent introduction of genetically engineered animals is prohibited.

3.1.2 Breeds and strains shall be selected to avoid specific diseases or health problems associated with some breeds or strains used in intensive production (e.g. porcine stress syndrome, PSE syndrome, sudden death, spontaneous abortion, difficult births requiring caesarean operations, etc.). Preference shall be given to indigenous breeds and strains.

3.1.3 The livestock shall come from production units which comply with the rules of this Standard. This system of production shall be applied throughout the animals' life.

3.2 Criteria for bringing in animals

3.2.1 By way of derogation and until 31 December 2004, subject to Inspection Body's approval, when a herd or flock is constituted for the first time and organically reared animals are not available in sufficient numbers, non-organically reared animals may be brought into an organic livestock production unit, provided that:

a) hens for eggs production, no more than 18 weeks old,
b) poultry for meat production, less than 2 days old,
c) dairy calves up to 4 weeks old that have received colostrum and are fed a diet consisting mainly of full milk.

3.2.3 In the case of high mortality of animals caused by health or catastrophic circumstances, attested by the veterinarian responsible for Health Management, and where organically reared animals are not available in sufficient numbers, the Inspection Body may authorize the operator to bring in some conventional animals in order to renew or reconstitute his herd or flock.

3.2.4 Subject to a maximum of 10% of adult livestock of the same species existing on the holding, livestock (e.g. female nulliparous animals) may be brought in from non-organic production stockfarms for supplementing natural growth and for the renewal of the herd or flock where organically reared animals are not available and only when authorized by the Inspection Body. This percentage may be increased up to 40% following the opinion and agreement of the Inspection Body, in the following cases:

a) when a major extension to the stockfarm is undertaken (if the increase of arable area is higher than 40%, 40% conventional animals may be brought in; if the increase ranges from 10 to 39% the livestock brought in shall be commensurate with the increase);
b) when a breed is changed;
c) when a new livestock specialization is developed (a change in species reared or in production specialization)
d) when breeds are threatened with abandonment. The animals belonging to such breeds do not necessarily have to be nulliparous.

The above percentages are not applied to production units having less than ten equines or bovines, or less than five pigs, sheep or goats. Such production units may only bring in no more than one animal per year.

3.2.5 Males for breeding may be brought in from non-organic production stockfarms provided that the animals are subsequently reared and fed in accordance with the rules laid down in this Standard.

3.2.6 When bringing conventional animals into production units complying with this Standard, particular attention shall be paid to animal health regulations. Depending on local circumstances, the Inspection Body may apply special measures such as screening tests and quarantine periods.

3.2.7 The products obtained from animals coming from production units not complying with this Standard, in accordance with the conditions and the restrictions laid down in the foregoing paragraphs, may obtain IFOAM-Accredited certification only if all the rules set out in this Standard have been observed and the prescribed conversion periods have been complied with.

4 Breeds and Breeding

4.1 General principles

4.1.1 The breeds shall have the capacity to adapt to local conditions and reproduction shall be natural, without the intervention of man.

4.1.2 Breeding shall favour and maintain the well being of animals, based on their natural behaviour.
As well as local variety, rabbit breeds allowed are:
Fulvio di Borgogna, Bianca di Vienna, Blu di Vienna, Argentata di Champagne, Rossa della Nuova Zelanda, Rex and other breeds if in purity or their first generation crosses.
Reproductive rabbits with red eyes are forbidden.
As well as local variety, pigeons' breeds preferable are:
Romano, Piacentino,Romagnolo,Sottobanca,Viaggiatore and Mondano.

4.2 Reproduction criteria

4.2.1 Reproduction shall be preferably based on natural methods.

4.2.2 Nevertheless, artificial insemination is permitted.

4.2.3 Other forms of artificial or assisted reproduction (e.g. embryo transfers and cloning) are prohibited.

4.2.4 The use of hormones for induction of ovulation and birth is prohibited. Hormones may be administered to single animals, under veterinarian's responsibility, in the course of veterinary therapeutic treatments.

4.2.5 Maximum number of labour/year for rabbit is six (6).

5 Mutilations

5.1 General principles

5.1.1 All the rearing systems and techniques shall respect the distinctive and morphologic characteristics of animals.

5.1.2 Operators shall preferably select breeds and strains which do not require mutilations.

5.1.3 Surgical operations shall cause minimum suffering to the animals and shall only be intended to improvetheir health, well being and safety.

5.2 Criteria for interventions on animals

5.2.1 Operations carried out systematically on animals, such as attaching elastic bands to the tails of sheep, attaching rings to the noses of pigs, tail docking, cutting of teeth, trimming of beaks, dehorning and any other non-therapeutic mutilation, are prohibited. However, some of these operations may be authorized by the Inspection Body for safety reasons or if they are intended to improve the health, welfare or hygiene of the animals. In this case, operations shall be carried out under the responsibility of the veterinarian of the production unit and any suffering to the animals shall be reduced to a minimum.
The following practices (with the authorization of the Control Body), intended for the safety, health, well being or hygiene of the animals, are allowed, on condition that suffering to animals is minimized, also through the use of anaesthetics:

a) castration, before the animals reach sexual maturity (in order to maintain the quality of products and traditional production practices in the case of pigs, bullocks, capons, etc.),
b) tail docking of lambs,
c) dehorning of young animals (for safety reasons),
d) ringing,
e) tethering, where required by the species.

5.2.2 Poultry goggles are prohibited.

5.2.3 Castration of rabbits is prohibited.

6 Feed

6.1 General principles

6.1.1 Feeding is intended to ensure quality production rather than maximizing production, while meeting the nutritional requirements of the livestock at various stages of their development. Fattening practices are authorized in so far as they are reversible at any stage of the rearing process. Force-feeding is prohibited.

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

6.1.3 Transhumance and the movements of animals to grazing areas in the mountains shall be documented by the Operator when submitting the Feed Plan and shall obtain the Inspection Body's authorization.

6.1.4 It is compulsory to grant animals maximum use of pasturage over the year, according to the availability of pastures in the different periods of the year, and if weather conditions permit, even if just limited to just one production stage.

6.2 Feeding criteria

6.2.1 Livestock shall be fed on organically produced feedingstuffs, preferably using feed from the unit or cooperating units in the territorial entity, for at least 50% of the dry matter of the annual ration (calculated as a percentage of the dry matter of feedingstuffs from agricultural origin). If that is not possible, subject to the Inspection Body's authorization and for a limited period of time, recourse may be had to feed from other holdings complying with the rules of this Standard, with which a cooperation is established.

6.2.2 The use of feed in the conversion stage is authorized up to 30% of the feed formula on average (calculated as a percentage of the dry matter of feedingstuffs from agricultural origin). This percentage can be increased to 60% when the feedingstuffs come from a unit of the own holding.

6.2.3 The feed produced on the holding during the first year of application of this Standard may be considered conforming as far as animal feeding is concerned, but the products obtained may not be "IFOAM Accredited" certified.

6.2.4 At least 60% of the dry matter in daily rations shall consist of fresh and dried fodder or silage. Subject to Inspection Body's authorization, such percentage may be reduced to 50% only for animals in dairy production and just for the first three months of lactation.

6.2.5 The use of conventional feedingstuffs is authorized for a period expiring on 24 August 2005, where Operators may prove to the Inspection Body that they are unable to obtain feed exclusively from organic production.

6.2.6 Feedingstuffs, feed materials, compound feedingstuffs, feed additives, processing aids for feedingstuffs and other products used in animal nutrition shall not have been produced with the use of genetically modified organisms or products derived therefrom.

6.2.7 The maximum annual percentage authorized of conventional feed is 10% for herbivores and 15% for the other species, calculated annually as a percentage of the dry matter of feedingstuffs from agricultural origin.

6.2.8 The maximum percentage authorized of conventional feedingstuffs in the daily ration, except during the transhumance period, is 25%, calculated as a percentage of the dry matter.

6.2.9 When forage production is lost, in particular as a result of exceptional weather conditions, infectious diseases, fire or contamination by toxic substances, the Inspection Body, after ascertaining such exceptional circumstances and verifying the grounds for the request, may authorize a higher percentage of conventional feedingstuffs for a limited period of time in a well determined area.

6.2.10 As regards non-organic components, it is compulsory to submit to the Inspection Body, for each lot:

- a test report proving that the products or the mixtures are GMO-free, for products imported from Third Countries;
-the Supplier's declaration that the products are GMO-free, for products of national origin.

6.2.11 The daily ration formula for pigs and poultry shall mandatorily comprise fresh and dried fodder, or silage. In particular, the ration used for poultry in the fattening stage shall comprise at least 65% of cereals.

6.2.12 The products authorized for animal feeding, subject to the quantitative restrictions laid down in this Standard, and only if obtained without the use of chemical solvents, are listed in Annex III.

6.2.13 n the ration formula for ostrich the relation between fibre and concentrate must be 75% and 25% of dried matter.
The use of alfa alfa (fresh and minced for summer, dried for winter) is recommended.
The increase of barley % is allowed with the increase of light hours (January), up to a maximum of 10% for 2 (two) months.
The increase of mais % is allowed during finishing up to a maximum difference of 20% in dried matter.

6.2.14 The following substance are prohibited in the diet:

- ✓ Amino-acid isolates
- ✓ Artificial coloring agents

6.3 Feeding of young mammals

6.3.1 The feeding of young mammals shall be based on natural milk, preferably maternal milk. All mammals shall be fed on natural milk for a minimum period, depending on the species concerned: 3 months for bovines (including bubalus and bison species) and equines, 45 days for sheep and goats and 40 days for pigs, and 5 weeks for rabbits.

6.3.2 Young mammals may be fed on non-organic milk only where organic milk is not available. Milk replacements may be used only in case of emergency, provided that they do not contain antibiotics, synthetic additives or slaughtering by-products.

7 Veterinary Treatments

7.1 General principles

7.1.1 Husbandry practices shall ensure and maintain the health and well being of animals through a balanced diet consisting of organic products, unstressful conditions of life and selection of breeds resisting disease, parasites and infections.

7.1.2 In order to avoid unnecessary suffering, sick animals shall be subjected to pharmacological treatments, also if the use of a certain active substance would entail the loss of the organic status for the animals.

7.2 Treatment criteria

7.2.1 Operators shall implement all the measures ensuring the health and welfare of animals and shall prevent diseases through:

-the selection of appropriate breeds and strains;
-the application of animal husbandry practices appropriate to the requirements of each species, such as regular exercise and access to pasturage and/or outdoor areas, having the effect of encouraging the natural immunological defence of animals, the prevention of infections and strong resistance to disease;
-the use of high quality organic feed;
-the appropriate stocking density, thus avoiding overstocking and any resulting animal health problems;
-the management and rotation of pastures.

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

7.2.3 Only products authorized under current legislation shall be used for disease prevention and veterinary treatments. They shall be used in compliance with the rules concerning the use and distribution of veterinary medicinal products.

7.2.4 Phytotherapeutic products (e.g. plant extracts – excluding antibiotics – essences, etc.), homeopathic products (e.g. plant, animal or mineral substances), trace elements and the products listed in Part A, Section 3 of Annex III, shall be preferably used for animal treatments. Such products shall be used in preference to chemically-synthesized allopathic veterinary medicinal products or antibiotics, provided that their therapeutic effect is effective for the species of animal and the condition for which the treatment is intended. The deliberate use or negligent introduction of genetically engineered organism or their derivates to vaccines is prohibited.

7.2.5 If the use of the above products should not prove, or is unlikely to be, effective in combating the illness or injury, and treatment is essential to avoid suffering or distress to the animal, chemically synthesized allopathic medicinal products or antibiotics may be used under the responsibility of a veterinarian.

7.2.6 Whenever veterinary medicinal products are to be used, the veterinarian shall record:

7.2.7

-the type of product (including an indication of the active pharmacological substances involved) together with details of the diagnosis;
-the posology;
-the method of administration;
-the duration of the treatment and the legal withdrawal period.

7.2.8 The animals treated shall be clearly identified, individually in the case of large animals, individually or by batch in the case of poultry and small animals. This information shall be notified to the Inspection Body before the animals or animal products are “IFOAM Accredited” certified.

7.2.9 Ther withdrawal period between the last administration of an allopathic veterinary medicinal product to an animal and the production of organically produced foodstuffs from such animal, shall be twice the legal withdrawal period or, in the case this period is not specified or it is zero, at least 48 hours.

7.2.10 The use of chemically synthesized allopathic veterinary medicinal products or antibiotics for preventive treatments is prohibited.

7.2.11 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 other substances to control reproduction (e.g. induction or synchronization of oestrus), or to suppress of natural growth, or for other purposes, is prohibited. However, hormones may be administered to an individual animal, as a therapeutic veterinary treatment.

7.2.12 Veterinary treatments to animals (or treatments to buildings, equipment and facilities), which are legally compulsory, are authorized, including the use of immunological veterinary medicinal products. In particular, vaccinations are authorized, on condition that:

-an endemic disease has been recognized as present in the region, likely to be a problem for the stockfarm, or impossible to control by other techniques;
-the vaccination is compulsory, or recommended, under eradication schemes;
-the vaccine used has not been genetically modified.

7.2.13 With the exception of vaccinations, treatments for parasites and compulsory eradication schemes, where an animal, or group of animals, receive more than three (3) courses of treatments with chemically-synthesized allopathic veterinary medicinal products or antibiotics within a year (or more than one course of treatment if their productive lifecycle is less than one year), the animals concerned, or the products derived from them, may not be "IFOAM Accredited" certified. They shall undergo conversion periods, as appropriate, subject to the agreement of the Inspection Body. For pigeons for reproduction 4 weeks.

7.2.14 Treatments for endo- and ecto-parasites with natural products permitted under current legislation, are not subject to restrictions.

7.2.15 No more than two treatments for parasites a year are permitted. The medicinal products used shall metabolize quickly and have low environmental impact, low toxic effects and withdrawal times not exceeding ten days.

8 Transport and Slaughtering

8.1 General principles

8.1.1 The transport of livestock shall be carried out in such a way that the stress suffered by the animals is reduced to a minimum, in accordance with the relevant legislation in force, also over distances not exceeding 50 km.

8.1.2 During handling, loading and unloading, transport and slaughtering, animal welfare shall be respected. The use of electrical stimulation, or other tools or techniques causing unnecessary suffering or injury to animals, is prohibited.

8.2 Transport criteria

8.2.1 During transport, all the measures needed to reduce the stress suffered by the animals shall be adopted, such as:
-appropriate halts;
-maintaining the existing groups and the hierarchic and social relations.
Organic animals be provided with conditions during transportation and slaughter that reduce and minimize the adverse effect of stress for animals and that guarantee the transport quality, such as:
-to avoid mix of animals of different groups and sex
-to do frequent stop with availability of feed and water
-maintenance of existing groups and social and hierarchically relationship
-good conditions of temperature and humidity
-respect of specific requirements for species and single animals.

8.2.2 The use of allopathic tranquillizers prior to and during transport is prohibited.

8.3 Slaughtering criteria

8.3.1 Slaughtering shall always be carried out after stunning as prescribed by the national legislation in force. However, some particular usages and cultural practices are permitted.

8.3.2 During slaughtering, the live animals shall not be in contact (by sight, sound or smell) with dead animals or animals in the slaughtering process.

8.3.3 Identification and traceability shall be ensured at all stages. Each animal, or group of animals, shall be identifiable at any stage of transport or slaughtering.

8.3.4 In general, the minimum age at slaughter shall be:

-81 days for chickens,
-150 days for capons,
-49 days for Peking ducks,
-70 days for female Muscovy ducks,
-84 days for male Muscovy ducks,
-92 days for Mallard ducks,
-94 days for guineafowl,
-140 days for turkeys and geese,
-4 weeks for pigeons
-after 14 weeks for rabbits.

9 Bee Keeping

9.1 General Principle

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

9.2 Recommendations

9.2.1 The hives must consist of natural materials presenting no risk of contamination to the environment or the bee products.

9.2.2 The feeding of colonies may be undertaken, with organic feed, to overcome temporary feed shortages due to climatic or other exceptional circumstances.

9.2.3 When bees are placed in wild areas, consideration must be given to the safety and integrity of the indigenous insect population and pollination requirements of native plants.

9.2.4 The treatment and management of hives must respect all the principles of organic animal husbandry contained elsewhere in these Standards.

9.2.5 The capacity of bees to adapt to local conditions, their vitality and their resistance to disease must be taken into account.

9.2.6 Honey temperatures should be maintained as low as possible during the extraction and processing of products derived from bee keeping.

9.2.7 The collection areas should be large enough and as varied as possible to provide adequate and sufficient nutrition and access to water.

9.2.8 The health of bees must be based on prevention of disease, using techniques such as adequate selection of breeds, favorable environment, balanced diet and appropriate husbandry practices.

9.2.9 The sources of natural nectar, honeydew and pollen must consist mainly of organically produced plants and/or naturally occurring (wild) vegetation.

9.3 General requirements

9.3.1 Hives must be situated in organically managed fields and/or wild natural areas. Hives may be placed in an area that ensures access to sources of honeydew, nectar and pollen that meets organic crop production requirements sufficient to supply all of the bees' nutritional needs.

9.3.2 The operator must not place hives within foraging distance of fields or other areas with a high contamination risk.

9.3.3 At the end of the production season, hives must be left with reserves of honey and pollen sufficient for the colony to survive the dormancy period.
Any supplementary feeding shall be carried out only between the last honey harvest and the start of the next nectar or honeydew flow period. In such cases, organic honey or sugar must be used.
Exceptions may be made, for a limited time, if organic sugar is not available.

9.3.4 Bee colonies must be converted to organic production. Introduced bees shall come from organic production units when available.
Bee products must be sold as organically produced when the requirements of these Standards have been complied with for at least one year.
During the conversion period the wax shall be replaced by organically produced wax.

Where no prohibited products have been previously used in the hive and there is no risk of contamination of wax, replacement of wax is not necessary.
In cases where all the wax cannot be replaced during a one-year period.

9.3.5 Each beehive must primarily consist of natural materials. Use of construction materials with potentially toxic effects is prohibited.

9.3.6 For pest and disease control the following are permitted:

- ✓ lactic, formic acid
- ✓ oxalic, acetic acid
- ✓ natural essential oils (e.g. menthol, eucalyptol, camphor)
- ✓ Bacillus thuringiensis
- ✓ steam, direct flame and caustic soda for hive disinfection

9.3.7 Where preventative measures fail, veterinary medicinal products may be used provided that preference is given to phyto-therapeutic and homeopathic treatment; if allopathic chemically synthesized medicinal products are used, the bee products must not be sold as organic treated hives shall be placed in isolation and undergo a conversion period of one year.
The practice of destroying the male brood is permitted only to contain infestation with Varroa jacobsoni (mites).

9.3.8 The health and welfare of the hive must be primarily achieved by hygiene and hive management.

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

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

9.3.11 Artificial insemination of queen bees is permitted.

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

9.3.13 The use of smoke should be kept to a minimum. Acceptable smoking materials should be natural or from materials that meet the requirements of these standards.

ANNEX I - Maximum number of animals per ha

CLASS OR SPECIES	MAXIMUM NUMBER OF ANIMALS PER HA
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
SHEEP	13.3
GOATS	13.3
PIGLETS	74
BREEDING SOWS	6.5
PIGS FOR FATTENING	14
OTHER PIGS	14
TABLE CHICKENS	580
LAYING HENS	230

ANNEX II - Minimum surface areas of housings

A - Bovine, Ovine and Pigs

	INDOOR AREAS (net area available to animals)		OUTDOOR AREAS (exercise areas, pasturage excluded)
	Minimum liveweight (kg)	m²/head	m²/head
BREEDING AND FATTENING BOVINE AND EQUIDAE	up to 100	1.5	1.1
	up to 200	2.5	1.9
	up to 350	4.0	3
	over 350	5 with a minimum of 1 m^2/100 kg	3.7 with a minimum of 0.75 m^2/100 kg
DAIRY COWS		6	4.5
BULLS		10	30
SHEEP AND GOATS		1.5 per sheep/goat	2.5
		0.35 per lamb/kid	0.5 per lamb/kid

LACTATING SOWS WITH PIGLETS UP TO 40 DAYS		7.5 per sow	2.5
FATTENING PIGS	up to 50	0.8	0.6
	up to 85	1.1	0.8
	up to 110	1.3	1
	over 110	**1.6**	**2**
PIGLETS	Over 40 days and up to 30 kg	0.6	0.4
BROOD PIGS		2.5 per female	1.9
		6.0 per male	8.0

B - POULTRY

	INDOOR AREAS			OUTDOOR AREAS
	No. of animals per m^2	cm of perch per animal	per nest	m^2 of area available in rotation/head
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 of N/ha/year is not exceeded
FATTENING POULTRY (IN FIXED HOUSING)	10 with a maximum of 21 kg liveweight per m^2	20 for guinea fowl only		4 broilers and guinea fowl 4.5 ducks 10 turkeys 15 geese provided that in all the species mentioned above the limit of 170 kg of N/ha/year is not exceeded
FATTENING POULTRY	16 in mobile			2.5 provided that the limit

(IN MOBILE HOUSING)	housing with a maximum of 30 kg liveweight per m^2			of 170 kg of N/ha/year is not exceeded
RABBITS ON GROUND	5			20
PIGEONS	2 couples	20	2 nests	1 mq + 20 cm of bird resting

ANNEX III

Part A. Raw feed materials

1. Feed materials from plant origin

1.1 Cereals, grains, their products and by-products. These substances only are included in this category:
Oats as grains, flakes, hulls and bran; barley as grains, protein and middlings; rice as 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, middlings, bran, germ expeller and gluten; malt culms; brewers' grains.

1.2 Oil seeds, oil fruits, their products and by-products. These substances only are included in this category:
Rape seed as seed, expeller and hulls; soya bean as bean, toasted, expeller and hulls; sunflower seed as seed and expeller; cotton as seed and expeller; linseed as seed and expeller; sesame seed as expeller; palm kernels as expeller; pumpkin seed as expeller; olives, olive pulp; vegetable oils (obtained by physical extraction).

1.3 Legume seeds, their products and by-products. These substances only are included in this category:
Chick peas as seeds, middlings and bran; ervil as seeds, middlings and bran; chickling vetch as seeds submitted to an appropriate heat treatment, middlings and bran; peas as seeds, middlings and bran; broad beans as seeds, middlings and bran; horse bean 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. These substances only are included in this category:
Sugar beet pulp; potato; sweet potato as tuber; potato pulp (by-product of the extraction of potato starch), potato starch, potato protein and manioc.

1.5 Other seeds and fruits, their products and by-products. These substances only are included in this category:
Carob pods; carob meal and seeds, pumpkins, citrus pulp; apples, quinces, pears, peaches, figs, grapes and relevant pomace and pulp; chestnuts, common walnut cakes, hazelnut cakes; cocoa shells and cakes; acorns.

1.6 Forages and roughages. These substances only are included in this category:
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. These substances only are included in this category:
Molasses; seaweed meal (obtained by drying and crushing seaweed and washed to reduce iodine content); powders and extracts of plants, plant protein extracts (solely provided to young animals); spices and herbs.

2. Feed materials from animal origin

2.1. Milk and milk products. These substances only are included in this category:

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. These substances only are included in this category:

Fish, fish oil and cod-liver oil not refined; fish molluscan or crustacean autolysates, hydrolysates and proteolysates obtained by an enzyme action, whether or not in soluble form, solely provided to young animals; fish meal.

2.3. Eggs and egg products intended for poultry feeding, preferably coming from the own holding.

3. Feed materials from mineral origin

These substances only are included in this category:

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

Potassium
- potassium chloride

Calcium:
- lithotamnion and maërl
- shells of aquatic animals (including cuttlefish bones)
- calcium carbonate
- calcium lactate
- calcium gluconate

Phosphorus:
- defluorinated dicalcium phosphate
- defluorinated monocalcium phosphate
- monosodium phosphate
- calcium and magnesium phosphate
- calcium and sodium phosphate

Magnesium:
- magnesium oxide (anhydrous)
- magnesium sulphate
- magnesium chloride
- magnesium carbonate
- magnesium phosphate

Sulphur:
- sodium sulphate.

Part B. Feed additives and processing aids used in feedingstuffs

1. Feed additives

1.1. Trace elements. These substances only are included in this category:
E1 Iron:
- ferrous (II) carbonate
- ferrous (II) sulphate monohydrate and/or heptahydrate
- ferric (III) oxide

E2 Iodine:
- calcium iodate, anhydrous
- calcium iodate, hexahydrate
- sodium iodide

E3 Cobalt:
- cobaltous (II) sulphate monohydrate and/or heptahydrate
- basic cobaltous (II) carbonate monohydrate

E4 Copper:
- copper (II) oxide
- basic copper (II) carbonate monohydrate
- copper (II) sulphate pentahydrate

E5 Manganese:
- manganous (II) carbonate
- manganous oxide and manganic oxide
- manganous (II) sulphate mono and/or tetrahydrate

E6 Zinc:
- zinc carbonate
- zinc oxide
- zinc sulphate mono and/or heptahydrate

E7 Molybdenum:
- ammonium molybdate,
- natrium molybdate

E8 Selenium:
- sodium selenate
- sodium selenite

1.2 Vitamins, provitamins
1.2.1. By way of derogation and until 31 December 2005, in order to ensure the health and welfare of animals, the Inspection Body may authorize, on Operator's request, the use of synthetic vitamins and chemically well defined substances having a similar effect, on condition that synthetic vitamins are identical to natural vitamins.

1.3. Enzymes. These substances only are included in this category:
Enzymes authorized under current legislation.

1.4. Micro-organisms. These micro-organisms only are included in this category:
Micro-organisms authorized under current legislation.

1.5. Preservatives. These substances only are included in this category:
- E 200 Sorbic acid
- E 236 Formic acid
- E 260 Acetic acid
- E 270 Lactic acid
- E 280 Propionic acid
- E 330 Citric acid

The use of lactic, formic, propionic and acetic acid for silage is authorized only when the weather conditions do not allow for adequate fermentation.

1.6. Binders, anti-caking agents and coagulants. These substances only are included in this category:
- E 470 Calcium stearate of natural origin
- E 551b Colloidal silica
- E 551c Kieselgur
- E 558 Bentonite
- E 559 Kaolinitic clays
- E 560 Natural mixtures of steatites and chlorite
- E 561 Vermiculite
- E 562 Sepiolite
- E 599 Perlite

1.7. Anti-oxidants. These substances only are included in this category:
- E 306 Tocopherol-rich extracts of natural origin.

1.8. Additives for silage
- Enzymes, yeasts and bacteria authorized under current legislation concerning feed additives, provided they are not genetically modified.

2. Some products used in livestock feeding
These substances only are included in this category:
- Brewers' yeasts

3. Processing aids used in feedingstuffs
3.1. Processing aids for silage. These substances only are included in this category:
- Sea salt, coarse rock salt, whey, sugar, sugar beet pulp, cereal flour and molasses.

Part C. Products for cleaning and disinfection of livestock buildings and installations

- 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, formic, lactic, oxalic and acetic acid
- Alcohol
- Nitric acid (dairy equipment)
- Phosphoric acid (dairy equipment)
- Sodium carbonate

Part D. Products for the elimination of pests from livestock buildings

- Vegetable oils;
- Pyrethrum
- Rotenone and relevant commercial formulations (restricted use is recommended)
- Soft soaps;
- Diatomaceous earth (lithotamnion);
- Carbon dioxide, Nitrogen, Oxygen;
- Parasites or predators against pests (e.g.: Trichogramma, Encarsia, etc.);
- Preparations based on bacteria, viruses, fungi and nematodes;

- Pheromones for: a) insect mating disruption; b) monitoring; c) mass capture;
- Chromatic traps;
- Light traps;
- Bait traps;
- Sulphur and relevant commercial formulations;
- Bordeaux mixture (restricted use is recommended);
- Sodium silicate;
- Beeswax and propolis;
- Bentonite;
- Herbal preparations (decoctions, macerations, infusions, etc.);
- Homeopathic, isopathic and biodynamic preparations;
- Rock powders;
- Wetting agents (natural soaps, wood ash, etc.);
- Tobacco extract. The use of nicotine and products derived therefrom is prohibited.
- Mineral oils.

Part E. Products for improving and enriching the litter

- wood ash;
- natural phosphorite;
- calcined aluminium phosphate;
- limestone;
- calcareous magnesium;
- calcium sulphide;
- sulphur;
- ground rocks not treated chemically;
- clays;
- borax;
- potassium sulphate;
- basic slag;
- magnesium sulphate;
- iron sulphate.