1. The organic production method implies that for the production of products referred to in Article 1(1)(a) other than seeds and vegetative propagating material:

(a) at least the requirements of Annex I and, where appropriate, the detailed rules relating thereto, must be satisfied;

(b) only products composed of substances mentioned in Annex I or listed in Annex II may be used as plant protection products, fertilisers, soil conditioners, feedingstuffs, feed materials, compound feedingstuffs, feed additives, substances used in animal nutrition under Directive 82/471/EEC, cleaning and disinfecting products for livestock buildings and installations, products for pest and disease control of livestock buildings and installations or for another purpose where such purpose is specified in Annex II in regard to certain products. They may be used only under the specific conditions laid down in Annexes I and II in so far as the corresponding use is authorised in general agriculture in the Member States concerned in accordance with the relevant Community provisions or national provisions in conformity with Community law;

(c) only seed or vegetative propagating material produced by the organic production method referred to in paragraph 2 is used;

(d) genetically modified organisms and/or any product derived from such organisms must not be used, with the exception of veterinary medicinal products.

2. The organic production method implies that for seeds and vegetative reproductive material, the mother plant in the case of seeds and the parent plant(s) in the case of vegetative propagating material have been produced:

(a) without the use of genetically modified organisms and/or any products derived from such organisms, and

(b) in accordance with subparagraphs (a) and (b) of paragraph 1 for at least one generation or, in the case of perennial crops, two growing seasons.
3. By way of derogation from paragraph 1 (c), seeds and vegetative propagating material not obtained by the organic production method may, during a transitional period expiring on 31 December 2003 and with the approval of the competent authority of the Member State, be used in so far as users of such propagating material can show to the satisfaction of the inspection body or authority of the Member State that they were unable to obtain on the market propagating material for an appropriate variety of the species in question and satisfying the requirements of paragraph 2. In that case, propagating material which is not treated with products not listed in Annex II, Section B must be used, if available on the Community market. Member States shall inform the other Member States and the Commission of any authorization granted under this paragraph.

(b) The procedure laid down in Article 14 may be applied to decide on:

- the introduction, before 31 December 2003, of restrictions concerning the transitional measure referred to in subparagraph (a) with regard to certain species and/or types of propagating material and/or the absence of chemical treatment,
- the maintenance, after 31 December 2003, of the derogation provided for in subparagraph (a) with regard to certain species and/or types of propagating material and with regard to the whole Community or certain parts thereof,
- the introduction of procedural rules and criteria concerning the derogation referred to in subparagraph (a) and the information thereon communicated to the professional organizations concerned, to other Member States and the Commission.

4. Before 31 December 2002, the Commission shall review the provisions of this Article, in particular paragraph 1 (c) and paragraph 2 and submit any appropriate proposals with a view to their revision.

Article 6a

1. For the purposes of this Article, «seedlings» shall mean whole seedlings intended for planting for plant production.

2. The organic production method implies that when producers use seedlings, they have been produced in accordance with Article 6.

3. By way of derogation from paragraph 2, seedlings not obtained by organic production methods may be used during a transitional period expiring on 31 December 1997 in so far as the following conditions are met:

(a) the competent authority of the Member State has authorized the use after the user or users of such material have demonstrated to the satisfaction of the inspection body or authority of the Member State that they were not able to
obtain an appropriate variety of the species in question on the Community market;

(b) the seedlings have not been treated, since sowing, with any products other than those listed in Annex II, Sections A and B;

(c) the seedlings come from a producer who has accepted an inspection system equivalent to the arrangements laid down in Article 9 and has agreed to apply the restriction in subparagraph (b); this provision shall enter into force on 1 January 1996;

(d) after planting, the seedlings must have been cultivated in accordance with the provisions of Article 6 (1) (a) and (b) for a period of at least six weeks before harvesting;

(e) the labelling of any product containing ingredients derived from such seedlings may not include the indication referred to in Article 10;

(f) without prejudice to any restriction resulting from the procedure referred to in paragraph 4, any authorization granted under this paragraph shall be withdrawn as soon as the shortage comes to an end, and shall expire on 31 December 1997 at the latest.

(a) 4. Where an authorization as referred to in paragraph 3 has been granted, the Member State shall immediately notify to the other Member State and to the Commission the following information:

– the date of the authorization,
– the name of the variety and species concerned,
– the quantities that are required and the justification for those quantities,
– the expected period of the storage,
– any other information requested by the Commission or the Member States.

(b) If the information submitted by any Member State of the Commission and to the Member State which granted the authorization shows that an appropriate variety is available during the period of the storage, the Member State shall consider withdrawing the authorization or reducing its period of validity, and shall inform the Commission and the other Member States of the measures it has taken, within 10 days of the date of receipt of the information.

(c) At the request of a Member State or at the Commission's initiative, the matter shall be submitted for examination to the Committee referred to in Article 14. It may be decided, in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 14, that the authorization shall be withdrawn or its period of validity amended.