EC Regulation 2005

Origin livestock

ANNEX I

B. LIVESTOCK AND LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS FROM THE FOLLOWING SPECIES: BOVINE (INCLUDING BUBALUS AND BISON SPECIES), PORCINE, OVINE, CAPRINE, EQUIDAE, POULTRY.

3. Origin of the animals

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

3.2. Livestock must come from production units which comply with the rules on the various types of livestock production laid down in Article 6 and in this Annex. Throughout their life, this system of production must be applied.

3.3. By way of a first derogation, subject to the prior approval by the inspection authority or body, livestock existing on the livestock production unit, not complying with the rules of this Regulation can be converted.

3.4. By way of a second derogation, when a herd or flock is constituted for the first time and organically reared animals are not available in sufficient numbers, non-organically reared livestock may be brought into an organic livestock production unit, subject to the following conditions:

- pullets for the production of eggs must not be more than 18 weeks old,
- poultry for meat production must be less than three days old,
- young buffalo for breeding purposes must be less than six months old,
- calves and foals for breeding purposes must be reared according to the rules of this Regulation as soon as they are weaned and in any case they must be less than six months old,
- lambs and kids for breeding purposes must be reared according to the rules of this Regulation as soon as they are weaned and in any case must be less than 60 days old,
- piglets for breeding purposes must be reared according to the rules of this Regulation as soon as they are weaned and they must weigh less than 35 kg.

3.5. This derogation, which must be authorised beforehand by the inspection authority or body, applies for a transitional period expiring on 31 December 2004.

3.6. By way of a third derogation, the renewal or reconstitution of the herd or flock shall be authorised by the control authority or body when organically reared animals are not available, and in the following cases:
(a) high mortality of animals caused by health or catastrophic circumstances;
(b) pullets for egg production no more than 18 weeks old;
(c) poultry for meat production less than three days old;
(d) piglets for breeding purposes, as soon as they are weaned, of a weight less than 35 kg.

Cases (b), (c) and (d) are authorised for a transitional period expiring on 31 December 2004.

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

3.8. By way of a fourth derogation, subject 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, livestock may be brought in, as female (nulliparous) animals, from non-organic-production stockfarms per year, for supplementing natural growth and for the renewal of the herd or flock, when organically reared animals are not available, and only when authorised by the control authority or body.

3.9. The percentages laid down in the above derogation shall not apply to production units with less than 10 equine or bovine animals, or with less than five porcine, ovine or caprine animals. For these units, any renewal as mentioned above shall be limited to a maximum of one animal per year.

3.10. These percentages may be increased, up to 40% following the opinion and agreement of the inspection authority or body, in the following special cases:

- when a major extension to the stockfarm is undertaken,
- when a breed is changed,
- when a new livestock specialisation is developed,
- when breeds are in danger of being lost to farming. Animals of those breeds must not necessarily be nulliparous.

3.11. By way of a fifth derogation, males for breeding may be brought in from non-organic-production stockfarms provided that the animals are subsequently reared and always fed in accordance with the rules laid down in this Regulation.

3.12. Where livestock comes from units not complying with the present Regulation, in accordance with the conditions and restrictions set out in paragraphs 3.3 to 3.11 above, the periods laid down in paragraph 2.2.1 must be observed if the products are to be sold as being from organic production and during these periods all the rules set out in this Regulation must be complied with.

3.13. Where livestock is obtained from units not complying with this Regulation, special attention must be paid to animal health measures. The inspection authority or body may apply, depending on local circumstances, special measures, such as screening tests, and quarantine periods.

3.14. The Commission will present a report by 31 December 2003 concerning the availability of originally reared livestock with a view to presenting a proposal, if appropriate, to the Standing Committee aimed at ensuring that all organic meat...
production should come from animals that were born and raised on organic-production holdings.