2.1. Ecosystem Management

General Principle

Organic farming benefits the quality of ecosystems.

Recommendations

Operators should maintain a significant portion of their farms to facilitate biodiversity and nature conservation.

A farm should place appropriate areas under its management in wildlife refuge habitat. These include:

a. extensive grassland such as moorlands, reed land or dry land;

b. in general all areas which are not under rotation and are not heavily manured:
   extensive pastures, meadows, extensive grassland, extensive orchards, hedges, hedgerows, edges between agriculture and forest land, groups of trees and/or bushes, and forest and woodland;

c. ecologically rich fallow land or arable land;

d. ecologically diversified (extensive) field margins;

e. waterways, pools, springs, ditches, floodplains, wetlands, swamps and other water rich areas which are not used for intensive agriculture or aquaculture production;

f. areas with ruderal flora;

g. wildlife corridors that provide linkages and connectivity to native habitat.

Standards shall require that:

2.1.1 Operators shall take measures to maintain and improve landscape and enhance biodiversity quality.

2.1.2 Clearing of primary ecosystems is prohibited.