BIO AUSTRIA
Regulations for Organic Farming in Austria

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Indication notes

Signs and symbols of the abbreviations are printed in black and indicated as follows:

EU: Regulation (EU) No. 834/2007 of the Council dated June 28, 2007 on the organic production and the labelling of organic products and regarding the abrogation of the regulation (EEC) No. 2092/91.

Regulation (EC) No. 889/2008 of the Commission dated September 5, 2008 containing provisions for implementation with regard to the regulation 834/2007 of the Council on the organic production and the labelling of organic products regarding the organic production, the labelling and the supervision in its amended version.

CO: Chapter A8 of the Austrian Codex Alimentarius (Codex Alimentarius Austriacus) on farming products deriving from organic farming and its resulting products

CC: Legal specifications (e.g. the specifications of the nitrogen efficiency programme) within the Cross-Compliance-measures in line with the GAP – reform (liable with 1st January 2005).

TS: The Austrian Law on animal protection Austrian Federal Law Gazette I 118/2004 and its provisions Austrian Federal Law Gazette II 485/2004.

LG: The Austrian Food Law including any relevant provisions

BA: The green marked parts are BIO AUSTRIA regulations which go beyond statutory provisions.

These regulations have been enacted at the delegation meeting on November 30, 2010.

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Regulations – a true farmer's self-identity

Regulations on organic farming began to exist since organic farmers started to get organised in associations. The present BIO AUSTRIA regulations are the result of a continuing development of organic farming; they also represent the knowledge organic farmers have gathered in the course of several decades. They are a testimonial of the understanding Austrian farmers have when it comes to quality.

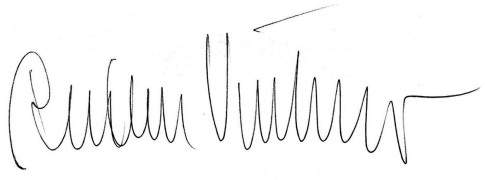
It was not always easy to reach an agreement in every sector. Different interests often lead to heavy discussions. Nevertheless we have always managed to come to consents thus creating the fundamental base of our power as an association of organic farmers. We can be proud of the knowledge we have gathered as organic farmers, which is now laid down in writing in our BIO AUSTRIA regulations.

It was us organic farmers who, from the very beginning, have formed the organic farming and continued to develop it. However, in the last years our identity has been put at a risk by the influence of external factors. The development of organic farming must, however, continue to be formed by ourselves. We consider ourselves as partners of all participants in the market; we do not consider us achievers of regulations that are imposed externally. By developing the BIO AUSTRIA standards we have countered this pressure.

Following this path has not always been easy and indisputable. However, the decision to do so has already shown some results; it shows that the way we have chosen was the right one. Only if we as organic farmers act cohesively and only if we decide on our own regulations committing ourselves to our principles we can stand up to the market participants as a strong negotiation partner and continue to follow our path.

Our regulations reflect the development of organic farming which we have initiated, and our self identity as organic farmers. Our regulations express the essence of our being BIO AUSTRIA farmers: WE LOOK AT AT IT AS A WHOLE.

Your Chairman



Rudi Vierbauch

Gender neutral language regarding persons: all male names also refer to women. We have omitted the female form only for the sake of clearness.

1. General Regulations

1.1. Commitment

The following regulations are to be applied to the entire holding. Each member holding is obligated to adhere both to the respective general legal provisions and to the following regulations. The legal regulations applicable to organic agriculture in Austria are as follows:

- EU Regulations 834/2007 and 889/2008 including amendments
- Chapter A8 of the Codex Alimentarius of the Austrian Food Administration in the currently valid version (expert opinion).
- In this regulation book the above mentioned legal requirements are completed with additional agricultural relevant legal material (Austrian Animal Protections Law, Water Protection Law and others) and is indicated as such (as of February 2010).

1.2. Certification as BIO AUSTRIA – farm

1.2.1 Prerequisites

Conversion of the entire holding is a prerequisite for the official certification as BIO AUSTRIA organic farm. The entire holding is converted, if

- a farm manager manages several farms (main or secondary farms) as economical units or
- farms form partnerships (relatives or cooperative enterprises) that are managed together and form one economical unit (that means the common use of workforce, machines etc.) even though they are legally separate.

In these cases all farms have to be farmed organically. There are temporarily exceptions for farms with permanent or special crops. These exceptions must be applied for at the BIO AUSTRIA; According to the kind of crop and its local alignment, the certifier, together with BIO AUSTRIA, creates a package of measures, in order to ensure effective management of the higher risks, (such as spray drift, the mixing up of breeds, distances from similar cultures, storage conditions, steady flow of goods, etc.) Long term plans for conversion (for permanent crops) need also the accordance of BIO AUSTRIA. Stepwise conversion of the whole culture must be made within a maximum of 5 years according to the conversion plan.

An exception is made for bee-keeping and fish farming which may still be practised conventionally.

Regulations for organic fish farming can be found in chapter 5.1 of this manual, and for organic bee-keeping in chapter 5.2.

1.2.2 Inspection bodies

The membership of BIO AUSTRIA is gained with the signature of the declaration of accession.
There is an inspection contract with a certification body that has a valid cooperation contract with BIO AUSTRIA.
BIO AUSTRIA has a list of certification bodies - see point 1.4 of these regulations.

1.2.3 Conversion course

Either the person responsible for the farm's operation or someone involved permanently and significantly in the proceedings, must be in possession of the necessary capabilities, (school, vocational education, or practical experience). The minimum requirement, besides the previously required agricultural education and experience, is the successful completion of a conversion course into organic agriculture before the 31st of May of the first commitment year (min. 15 hours of which a max. 5 hours is in the form of excursions).

1.2.4 Work group

The farm manager is obligated to participate regularly one of the association's work groups.

1.2.5 Conversion to organic farming

The normal conversion period for land is a minimum of two years. For perennial crops, (except grassland and perennial forage crops), it is 36 months from the signing of the inspection contract. All products harvested after the first 12 months of conversion, are conversion products. It is possible to label plant products consisting of only one ingredient (mono-products) with the conversion notice "a product from the conversion to organic agriculture". The first crop growing (field) or the first utilisation 24 months (grassland) or for perennial crops 36 months after the beginning of conversion is considered as organic product. The conversion period for grassland and open air areas for animals other than herbivores amounts to 12 months. In certain justified cases, the conversion period may be extended or, after application, reduced.

1.2.5.1 Farms with livestock with simultaneous conversion of the entire farm

Animal products are considered as organic 24 months after signing the inspection contract, provided that all necessary renovations for the livestock breeding have been completed. In case animals are additionally bought during this conversion period, an individual conversion period starts for these animals as from the date of the purchase. The specific conversion periods can be found in point 3.1.3.8 of this manual. No conversion notice may be applied to animal products.

1.2.5.2 Reduction of the conversion period

According to the circular reduction of the conversion period in case of the farmland is possible under certain conditions. The alternatives are as follows:

A participation in the ÖPUL – measures "Abstaining from the use of yield-increasing inputs" for a minimum of two years:

- The affected grass land and farmland are included in the ÖPUL – measure "Abstaining from the use of yield-increasing inputs on arable land or grassland and farmland" for at least 24 months prior to the conversion date (date of the inspection contract). Furthermore it needs to be certified that in this period no plant control measure which is forbidden in organic farming (e.g. sorrel point control) was used.
- Seeds have not been treated with means that are forbidden in organic farming and
- No phosphate fertilizers that are forbidden in organic farming have been used on grass land.

  Under these circumstances the conversion period can be reduced to 12 months.

A participation in the ÖPUL – measures "Abstaining from the use of yield-increasing inputs" for a minimum of three years.

The affected grass land and farmland are included in the ÖPUL – measures "Abstaining from the use of yield-increasing inputs on arable land or grassland and farmland" for at least 36 months prior to the conversion date (date of the inspection treaty). Furthermore, the above mentioned written certifications regarding the exclusion of chemistry and fertilizers must be presented. Under these conditions the conversion period lasts 12 months. The products that have been harvested in the last 12 months **prior** to the signing of the inspection treaty/ the addition of new land are considered as conversion products for the feeding in one's own farm. If brought to the market, these harvests are considered conventional products. In both cases the first crop growing (field) or the first utilisation 24 months (grassland) are deemed to be conversion products **after** the signing of the inspection treaty/the addition of new land. The utilisation (grassland) and the crop growing (arable land) as from 12 months after signing of the inspection treaty/the addition of new land are deemed to be organic products.

A participation in the ÖPUL – measures for a minimum of three years regarding agri-environmental programmes such as "Mountain hay harvest" ("*Bewirtschaftung von Bergmähdern*"), "Alpine pastures/Shepherding" ("*Alpung und Behirtung*") or "Set-aside of arable surfaces particularly at risk of erosion" ("*Bewirtschaftung von besonders auswaschungsgefährdeten Ackerflächen*") and nature conservation area where no fertilizers and plant control measures, which are forbidden in organic farming, are allowed to be used. This land can be labelled immediately after the conclusion of the inspection

treaty/the addition of new land. The products that have been harvested in the last 12 months **prior** to the signing of the inspection treaty/the addition of new land are deemed to be conversion products for the feeding in one's own farm. If these products are brought to the market, they are deemed to be conventional products. The first utilisation on grassland and the first crop growing on arable land **after** the signing of the inspection treaty/the addition of new land is labelled as organic products.

A participation in ÖPUL measures for at least one year that guarantee that no fertilisers and plant control measures, which are forbidden in organic farming, have been used (these measures are mentioned above). The conversion period of land that is used as grassland and open air areas for animals other than herbivores (e.g. chicken) can be reduced to six months provided that all conditions mentioned above have been fulfilled.

The labelling of animals and animal products
The conversion periods for animals in farms which apply for a reduction of the conversion period start to run as from the conclusion of the inspection treaty at the earliest when both the feeding and all other measures (e.g. regulations on animal husbandry) are fully fulfilled. After the conversion periods for the animals and the respective certification animal organic products can be marketed. The exact deadlines can be found under point 3.1.3.8. of this manual.

1.2.6 Lease and purchase

The lease or purchase of additional agricultural land must be reported to the inspection body within 14 days. On newly leased or purchased parcels that are either in, or before, conversion, no plants of the same kind as those on previously accredited organic cultivated areas may be planted. A reduction of the conversion period is possible under certain preconditions see point 1.2.5.2 of these regulations.
The following regulations apply to the purchase, or lease of land, cultivated with perennial crops if the same type of planting is already present on the organic holding:

- The production is to be implemented within a conversion plan through professional advisers, to which the producer is contractually committed. The realisation is controlled by the inspection of the inspection body.
- Appropriate measures are to be taken to ensure that the products from the conversion areas are always kept separate from those products that are already organic.
- The inspection board is to be informed of the harvest of the products in question at least 48 hours in advance.
- The producer must inform the inspection board of the exact amount of harvest and of measures taken to identify the products immediately after harvest.
- The conversion plan and separative measures must be approved by the inspection board.

1.2.7 Suspension of the admission

Any exemptions from the BIO AUSTRIA production regulations, particularly during the conversion period and/or in exceptional situations (e.g. natural catastrophe, etc.) must be approved by BIO AUSTRIA This will also decide for how long the holding's products are not to be labelled for sale as described in these production regulations.

1.3. Supervision and inspection

The marketing and sale of products from organic agriculture falls under the jurisdiction of the EU Council Regulations 834/2007 and 889/2008, including amendments, as well as within the bounds of the Austrian Codex Alimentarius (Codex Alimentarius Austriacus) Chapter 8.

These regulations make the Food Administration, and from them approved inspection bodies, legally responsible for the supervision and inspection of farms and agricultural products. The adherence to

the BIO AUSTRIA regulations is supervised by the association itself or by inspection bodies which are engaged by BIO AUSTRIA in addition to the state-authorized inspections.

1.3.1 Records

Good records are the key to the smooth inspection and expression of an ordered management. Besides a one-off description of the farm unit (plan of site and buildings, land/fields), records have to be kept of all incoming and outgoing of agricultural supplies (seeds, fertilisers, plant protection, animal feed), the crop rotation, fertilisation, plant protection, changes in livestock, feeding, animal treatment, marketing and storage as well as the purchase of goods for resale. The record books provided by your inspection authority can be helpful for this. Other registers such as an animal register will usually be accepted. When goods are purchased it has to be checked at the point of delivery that the reference to organic produce is on the produce and the bill or the delivery receipt and that the delivered goods coincide with the announcement on the papers; it has to be checked that the seal of the packaging (if available) has not been manipulated and that a current supplier's certificate is available.. Bills and delivery receipts have to have the following elements: Name and address of the buyer and seller, Code-Number. of the inspection authority for goods from organic farms, LFBIS number (LFBIS number is the holding identification code for Austrian facilities), BIO AUSTRIA membership number, complete description of the goods and state of the goods (approved organic or conversion product) and quantity.

The purchase of animals is to be checked for the following on the animal movement document "Viehverkehrsschein": Information about the selling farm (status of the farm + inspection body number), and information about the animal (organic, in conversion since; conventional) according to the use (breeding, fattening, slaughtering) of the purchased animal. (for approved

1.3.2 Inspection interval

Inspections are conducted at least once a year, and are usually unannounced. The supervisory reports concerning conducted inspections and all investigation and inspection results, any suggestions and requirements set by the inspection bodies in writing (correction measures and sanctions) regarding the conducted inspections must be kept on file for at least 7 years.

1.3.3 Inspection bodies

For supervisory purposes, the association reserves the following rights, either through its own agents or through persons or organizations employed by the association:

- To inspect the holding at any time, and to demand all the above mentioned documentation
- (e.g. concerning the purchase and use of fertilizers, pesticides and feedstuffs);
- To have soil and residue testing conducted;
- To take any other product quality control measures as seen fit by the association.

1.3.4 Agricultural supplies and operating material

Inadmissible operating material, e.g. chemical/synthetic fertilizers or pesticides and forbidden foodstuffs, may neither be stored nor be used on the holding.

The use of agricultural supplies not specifically named in the production regulations are only allowed when they are included in the catalogue of permissible agricultural supplies of the association or if prior to the use evidence can be submitted for their conformity with the regulations (EU Council Regulation 834/2007 and BIO AUSTRIA regulations).

1.3.5 Genetic engineering

The use of substances of any kind that were manufactured with the help of genetic engineering is forbidden. In the organic production especially no genetically modified organisms and products deriving from or produced by means of genetically modified organisms may be used as additives in food, feedstuff, plant protection products, fertilisers and processing aids, soil conditioners, seeds, vegetative propagating material, microorganisms or animal. In compound feedingstuffs certified by BIO AUSTRIA contaminations by genetically modified organisms are tolerated up to a maximum permissible value of 0.1%.

1.4. Approved inspection bodies for the inspection of agricultural holdings

Austria Bio Garantie) ABG AT–BIO-301 Standort Enzersfeld Ober-, Niederösterreich, Wien) Königsbrunnerstraße 8 2202 Enzersfeld T: +43(0)2262/672 212 F: +43(0)2262/674 143 W: www.abg.at	BIOS -Biokontrollservice Österreich AT-BIO-401 Feyregg 39 4552 Wartberg T +43(0)7587/71 78 W: www.bios-kontrolle.at
Austria Bio Garantie GmbH (ABG) Standort Lebring (Burgenland, Steiermark, Kärnten, Salzburg, Tirol, Vorarlberg) Parkring 2 8403 Lebring T: +43(0)3182/401 01-0 F: +43(0)3182/401 01-4 W: www.abg.at	Kontrollservice BIKO Tirol AT--BIO-701 Wilhelm-Greil-Straße 9 6020 Innsbruck T: +43(0)5/92 92-31 00 F: +43(0)5/92 92-31 99 W: www.biko.at
Lacon GmbH AT-BIO-402 Linzerstraße 2 4150 Rohrbach, T: +43(0)7289/40 9 77 F: +43(0)7289/40 9 77-4 W: www.lacon-institut.at	SGS Austria Controll-Co GesmbH AT-BIO-902 Diefenbachgasse 35 1150 Wien T: +43(0)1/512 25 67-154 F: +43(0)1/512 25 67-9 W: www.at.sgs.com
SLK Salzburger Landwirtschaftliche Kontrolle GesmbH AT-BIO-501 Maria-Cebotari-Straße 3 5020 Salzburg T: +43(0)662/649 483 F: +43(0)662/649 483-19 W: www.slk.at	

2. Plant production

The essential first principles in organic farming are holistic thinking and the awareness that healthy soil is the carrier of life on Earth. Holistic thinking can be understood as the recognition of farming in connection with the interactions between the Earth and the cosmos and their connections. Living healthy soil as a precondition for healthy plants, healthy animals and therefore for healthy food is the central point of all regulations. These first principles were defined by the founders of organic farming methods, Rudolf Steiner and Hans Peter Rusch.

Principles of humus economy and fertilisation:
Organic farming is aimed at a focused humus economy. The supply of organic matter must therefore, in the long run at least, compensate for the loss through reduction. It is the objective of fertilisation to increase the activity of soil organisms. Nitrogen fertilisation is exclusively done by organic fertilisers.A mineral additional fertilisation must be applied in a form that does not make the nutrients directly
available for the plant, thus they need to be tied to organics and are not to be water-soluble.

Preparation of manure
Organic fertiliser from one's own holding, or purchased, are to be prepared in a way, that they farm and encourage the life in the soil. The process of putrefying is to be avoided and a process of decomposition/rot is encouraged. This way the humus content can be preserved and increased. Note that an unprepared dung pile, un-fermented urine and un-aired slurry bring putrefy into the soil and work against the formerly stated objectives. Putrefying must be avoided under all circumstances and rot must be encouraged by all possible means. Stone meals play a central role in organic farming (diabase, basalt etc.). Stone meals encourage the building up of stable soil structures through the connection of clay crystals with living matter, the disintegration of trace elements and the regulation of the pH value. Through their high quartz fraction stone flours support the central role of silicon in the process of soil building. Stone meals are soil builders.

During the handling and use of manure the loss of nutrients by being washed out or released as gaseous flue should be avoided, that means manure should be brought to a rotting or fermenting process as quickly as possible. Every day of storage reduces the quality (Dr. Rusch).

Manure additives can be used from the current supply catalogue of permissible fertilisers for organic farming.

Cultivation and Soil Cover
Cultivation is to be done in a gentle and retaining manner. The tolerance of the life in the soil and the soil structure is to be considered with every measure. It is to be done with respect to the soil layers, to the working zones of the soil bacteria, soil animals and to the natural soil processes. Therefore deep ploughing, the cultivation of the soil in wet conditions or a too intense cultivation must not be undertaken.

All these measures damage the build-up of humus and lead to the loss of nutrients as well as a causing a long exposure of open soil. Therefore soil should be covered by the use of in between seeds, green manure or mulch seed layers. Organic matter is to be brought into the soil only at the surface in order to avoid poisonous metabolites forming from putrefy.

2.1. Humus economy and fertilisation

The use of chemical/synthetic nitrogen fertilizers and highly soluble phosphates and fertilisers with the active ingredients in Chloride form (i.e. Potassium Chloride) and the application of sewage sludge or sewage sludge compost is forbidden.

Manure (urine, slurry, and fresh manure) as fertilizers may not be applied as top fertilization to berry plants (i.e. strawberries), and to vegetables with the exception of berry plantings after harvest.

2.1.1 Compost in agriculture

- Compost from organic matter that arises from one's own agricultural or forestry (dung and compostable organic matter), which afterwards will be again used via acceptable application in the agriculture or forestry in the form of compost, does not have to follow the compost ordinance (KVO) BGBl. II 292/2001 and its quality demands, (waste management law, AWG 2002). The guidelines of the EU council regulation 889/2008, concerning the limits of heavy metal content for mixtures of household waste are to be considered (see point 2.1.5, compostable and fermented household waste).
- Composts that were produced from other waste, (due to the positive list of fertiliser and soil improvement measures point 2.1.5 of this regulation) and of agricultural and forestry derivation, are to be produced under the compost regulations and its quality classes.
- Composts from household waste to be spread on organic land must conform with quality class A+ and all its requirements (compliance of limits of heavy metal, pestilence hygienic harmlessness, quality monitoring,...)
- Excepted from these regulations of the KVO are compost producers, which do not produce more than 150m^3 of compost per year including all sieving rests, (not including the material that comes from one's own farm), of which nearly all is produced for own needs and not more than 50m^3 are put in circulation. A documentation of the transferred amounts of compostable material and of the purchased amount of compost is to be kept as evidence.
- The recommended applied amount for fertilisation measures is not to be higher than 8t dry matter per ha and year (matches approx. 13 t fresh matter in a five-year period. In any case there are not to be more than 170 kg N per ha per year – including fertilisers from one's own farm.
- Quality measures according to KVO BGBl. II 292/2001

Once a year the operator of the facility has to submit the following information:

- A list of all components that have been composted in the farm;
- In case of animal basic material it is necessary to indicate the animal species, the kind of livestock husbandry system (tethering, slatted floors etc.) and the animal stock density of the original farm.
- In order to secure GMO-free production it is necessary to confirm the Austrian origin of maize, soya, potato and sugar beet including their secondary products.
- In case of household waste an updated documentation report must be presented:
  Minimum, frequency of control:
  Yearly amount of compost up to 50 m^3: once (5 m^3 minimum amount for assessment)
  50 m^3 to 300 m^3: once every three years (20 m^3 minimum amount for assessment)
  300 m^3 to 1000 m^3: once every two years (50 m^3 minimum amount for assessment)
  1000 m^3 to 2000 m^3: once a year (100 m^3 minimum amount for assessment)
  2000 m^3 to 4000 m^3: twice a year (150 m^3 minimum amount for assessment).

2.1.2 Fertilisation constraints

2.1.2.1 Application prohibition

There is a general prohibition for Nitrogen fertiliser application for water saturated, flooded, snow covered or frozen soils.

2.1.2.2 Prohibition periods for the spreading of Nitrogen fertilisers:

Time when it is forbidden	*Kind of N-fertiliser*	*Affected farmland/crops*
15th October until 15th February	Slurry, urine and fertilisers for organic horticulture having the same properties as urine and slurry	The whole agricultural area without green cover
15th November until 15th February	Slurry, urine and fertilisers for organic horticulture having the same properties as urine and slurry	The whole agricultural area with green cover
ATTENTION: max. 60 kg N from the 1st of October up to the time when it is forbidden by means of		

slurry, urine and fertilisers for organic horticulture (having the same properties as urine and slurry)		
30th November until 15th February	Manure and compost	The whole agricultural area
Until 1st February	Any N-fertilisation	Early cultivated crops (i.e. Durum wheat, summer barley) or green cover with early N need (rape, winter barley and vegetables under fleece or foil)

A fertilisation for the rotting of straw is possible until 14th November at the latest up to a max. 30 kg total Nitrogen. If the straw remains on the field and a green cover is added, a total of up to 60 kg total Nitrogen can be fertilised.

2.1.2.3 General constraints

- Liquid manures are not to be applied to farmland close to water bodies that have a slope of more than 10% and that are prone to washing away. For maize or sugar beets the following precautions need to be taken:

  - Till during the winter or
  - Cultivate transverse to the slope or
  - Mulch seed or
  - Ensure separation of the field or
  - Creation of a well tilled strip between the water and the field
- Slurry and urine are only to be applied to covered soil or immediately before cultivation or up to a max. 30 kg N for the rotting of straw on soils that are not overgrown.
- Nitrogen application rates that have a rapid effect and are readily soluble, of more than 100 kg per hectare and year must be separated (excepted: root crops and vegetables on soils with more than 15 % clay content).
- Liquid manure that is applied on uncovered soils should ideally be worked in within 4 hours, and must at the latest, occur on the following day.

2.1.2.4 Nitrogen fertilisation along water bodies:

During the fertilisation on agricultural areas along surface water bodies it must be avoided that

- Nutrients are directly introduced into the surface water bodies by maintaining the distance between the margin of the spread land and the top edge of the bordering surface water body mentioned below (= riparian zones).
- It must be made sure that no surface wash of surface water bodies takes place.
- In case there is no clear natural top edge, the minimum distance between the margin of the spread land and the limit line of the water surface in mean-flow conditions plus three more meters, as indicated below, must be maintained.
  The following minimum distances have to be maintained:

		Minimum distance			
		Standing Water Body		**Running Water Body**	
	Slope	Normal Case	Exact Spreading	Normal Case	Exact Spreading
Grassland	≤ 10 %	20 m	10 m	5 m (3 m*)	2,5 m (1,5 m*)
	> 10 %	20 m	10 m	5 m (3 m*)	5 m (3 m*)
Field	≤ 10 %	20 m	10 m	5 m (3 m*)	2,5 m (1,5m*)
	> 10 %	20 m	10 m	10 m	5 m
* if the field is sized max. 1 ha and has a max. 50 m width or in case of drainage ditches					

2.1.3 The application of fertilisers

The soil's fertility and its organic activity have to be maintained and increased by:

- Cultivating legumes, deep-rooted plants, undersown crops, catch crops, mixed crops etc. by means of a suitable multiannual crop rotation system.
- The application of manure deriving from the organic livestock husbandry (a max. of 170 kg N/ha and year). The preparation of manure is particularly recommended for increasing the soil fertility.
- The application of organic material (if possible after composting) from organic farms such as straw, mulch etc.

Other organic or mineral fertilisers may be applied additionally according to point 2.1.5 only in **exceptional cases,**

- if the need for nutrients of the plants within the crop rotation and the build up of the soil and the humus cannot be satisfied only by means of the methods mentioned before;
- in case fertilisers are used in accordance with the limitations laid down in point 2.1.2,
- if an approval by BIO AUSTRIA is given, before any organic fertilisers are purchased.

2.1.3.1 Purchase of organic fertilizer and of soil conditioners of organic origin

The purchase of organic fertilizer of organic origin must be so calculated, that the total amount of total nitrogen does not exceed 170 kg N/ha and year agricultural land, including the holding's own fertilizers.

In case of special crops (field vegetable cultivation, protected crops, pumpkins, wine, fruit, hops, garden crops, healing and spice plants– except spices that are harvested by threshing) this limitation may be exceeded.

In any case no more than 170 kg N/ha and year from animal fertilisers may be used. This limit is valid only for manure, dried manure and dried poultry manure, compost from animal excrements, including poultry manure, composted manure and liquid animal excrements. Water protection laws must be observed in all cases. This regulation applies also to biogas slurry from organic biogas farms.

2.1.3.2 The purchase of organic fertilisers and soil conditioners of conventional origin

The purchase of organic fertilizer of conventional origin must be so calculated, that the total amount of total nitrogen does not exceed 170 kg N/ha agricultural land, including the holding's own fertilizers.

The amount that can be admitted is calculated according to the crop per ha area which is worth to be fertilised and per year. The basis for the calculation is the Nitrogen per year/(N_{jw}) according to ÖPUL 2007. The maximum allowed amounts for the individual crops and the additional rules for field and grassland:

- Fruit production (stone and pomaceous fruits including berry plants): max. of 60 kg N_j
  Elder max. of 80 kg N_{jw}
- Wine production: max. of 35 kg N_{jw}
  Herbs:
  Botanicals: max. of 80 kg N_{jw}
  Blossom products: max. of 50 kg N_{jw}
- Hop: max. of 40 kg N_{jw} and not exceeding 90 kg N_{jw} within three years
- Vegetables: field vegetable cultivation: max. of 80 kg N_{jw}, in protected crops not more than 170 kg N_{jw}. This regulation is limited until the end of 2013
- Farmland including spices which are harvested by threshing: the main crop rotation contains a minimum share of 20 % legumes, calculated from the agricultural crop land in the year of application. All fields count as agricultural crop land, which are indicated with the letters "A" or "AN" on the multiple application form "Mehrfachantrag" of "Agrar Markt Austria" and the whole agricultural crop land in the application form "Nachfolgeantrag" of the "Agrar Markt Austria", except field vegetables, pumpkins, and

healing or spice plant areas. If 20 % of legumes in the main crop rotation are reached only as an average of the last three years, an authorisation can also be granted. The admitted amount of organic purchase fertiliser per ha and year amounts to 25 kg N_{jw}.

- Grassland:
  The admitted amount of organic purchase fertiliser per ha and year amounts to 25 kg N_{jw}.The following fertilisers are permitted:
  - Conventional farmyard manure; according to the valid restrictions only cattle, horse, sheep and goat manure
  - Composted and fermented household waste
  - Composted and fermented plant materials mixture.

2.1.4 Regulations for biogas slurry from mixed farms

In mixed farms raw materials from organic and conventional agriculture are fermented. Generally speaking the spreading of biogas slurry from these farms is permitted only if the delivery of substrata is made demonstrable by the applicant. For arable land a minimum legumes share of 20 % in the main crop rotation of the relevant year or of the last three year must be obtained. The applied materials correspond to the list of BIO AUSTRIA fertilisers (point 2.1.5). The amount that can be admitted is calculated from the amount of Nitrogen that was delivered in the form of substrata plus 25 kg N_{jw} per ha farmland that fits for being fertilised and year. The calculation basis is the Nitrogen per year (N_{jw}) according to ÖPUL 2007.

2.1.4.1 Biogas slurry from plants which had the required license to build the plant before December 31,2004:

a) BIO AUSTRIA-members can purchase biogas slurry from these plants until the end of 2013, if:
   - the organic share of the basic material is higher than 70 %.
   - no conventional urine and slurry and no conventional pig and poultry farmyard manure are fermented.

b) BIO AUSTRIA members who are themselves shareholders (minimum share 3 %) and/ or operators (already before January 1, 2009) of biogas plants, can spread biogas slurry from mixed plants on their farms until the end of 2019, if no conventional urine and slurry and no conventional pig and poultry farmyard manure are fermented. As from 2020 the organic share of the basic material must be higher than 70 %.

2.1.4.2 Biogas slurry from plants which had the required license to build the plant after December 31, 2004:

The spreading of biogas slurry from these plants can be approved, if the input-material is basically of organic origin, except for:

- Growth of conventional grassland areas
- Growth of areas which are cultivated according to ÖPUL- measures “Abstaining from the use of yield-increasing inputs on agricultural areas” and ”Abstaining from the use of yield-increasing inputs on arable land or grassland “.
- Conventional farmyard manure of cattle, horse, sheep and goat

2.1.4.3 Quality measures

Twice a year the plant operator must submit the following information:

- A list of all components fermented in the plant in t or m^3 indicating whether the components are of organic or conventional origin.
- In case of animal basic material the animal species must be specified along with the livestock husbandry system (tethering, slatted floors etc.) including the stock density of the original farm.
- In order to secure GMO-free production it is necessary to confirm the Austrian origin of maize, soya, potato and sugar beet including their secondary products.
- An annual analysis of the nutrients (N, P, K, DM etc.) is necessary.

- Basically, for sanitary reasons a three month post storage of the biogas slurry takes place.

In case of the application of basic materials of the element group 2 and/or 3 of organic origin according to the animal by-products regulation "EU-VO Tierische Nebenprodukte 1774/2002" (e.g. vegetal and animal household waste of organic origin) the following parameters must be complied with:
Analysis of nutrients (N, P, K, DM etc.), heavy metal and sanitary conditions (Salmonella absence in five samples per 25 g wet matter)

Frequency of the analysis:
- Less than 300 t co-substrata of the element group 2 and/or 3 per year: one analysis every two years
- 300 t - 4.000 t co-substrata of the element group 2 and/or 3 per year: one analysis per year
- More than 4.000 t co-substrata group 2 and/or 3 per year: one analysis a year and one more analysis per each 4.000 m^3 that have been started.

2.1.5 Soil conditioning and fertilization

Besides fertilizers and soil conditioners from one's own holding the following are permitted:

Denomination **Products containing the following products or mixtures thereof:**	**Description:** **Composition requirements;** **Regulations of use**
Farmyard manure In case of conventional origin only from cattle, sheep, goats and horses)	Mixture of animal excrements and vegetable matter (animal bedding). Factory farming origin forbidden[1]. Written authorization by BIO AUSTRIA is required.
Dried farmyard manure In case of conventional origin only from cattle, sheep, goats and horses	Factory farming origin forbidden[1]. Written authorization by BIO AUSTRIA is required.
Composted animal excrements, including poultry manure and composted farmyard manure In case of conventional origin only composted farmyard manure from cattle, sheep, goats and horses	Factory farming origin forbidden.1 Written authorization by BIO AUSTRIA is required.
Liquid animal excrements **only from organic origin (slurry, urine ....)**	Use after controlled fermentation and/or appropriate dilution. Factory farming origin forbidden.1 Written authorization by BIO AUSTRIA is required.
Composted and fermented household waste	Compost from separately collected household waste, gained through composting or anaerobic fermentation in retrospect to the production of biogas. Only vegetable and animal household waste. Only when produced in a close and monitored collection system, accepted by the Member State. Maximum concentrations in mg/kg of dry matter: cadmium: 0,7; copper:70; nickel: 25; lead: 45; zinc: 200; mercury: 0,4; chromium (total): 70; chromium (VI): 0. Quality assurance measures of BIO AUSTRIA regarding composting (see point 2.1.1) and biogas slurry (see point 2.1.4) are to be complied with. Written authorisation by BIO AUSTRIA is required.
Peat	Only in substrates up to 70% of the total amount for plant nurseries
Substratum from mushroom cultures	permissible input substrata see chapter 4.5.
Dejecta of worms (vermicompost) and insects	Written authorisation by BIO AUSTRIA is required.

[1] The following husbandry systems are considered to be "industrial livestock husbandry":
- Exceeding stock density according to ÖPUL (2 LU/ha) irrespective of the husbandry system
- The following husbandry systems are excluded in any case: flatted floors systems, cagjng (as from January 1, 2009 caging is not allowed in Austria anymore! Be careful when importing!). Poultry husbandry without open air areas.

Guano	Written authorization by BIO AUSTRIA is required.
Composted or fermented mixture of vegetable matter	Product obtained from mixtures of vegetable matter, which have been submitted to composting or to anaerobic fermentation for biogas production. Quality assurance measures of BIO AUSTRIA regarding composting (see point 2.1.1) and biogas slurry (see point 2.1.4) must be complied with. Written authorisation by BIO AUSTRIA is required.
Following products or by-products of animal origin: hair meal, wool, felting hair, hair and bristles, as well as horn chips and horn meal dairy products. The use of blood meal, bone meal, fish meal, meat meal and feather meal, meals obtained from fur and skin parts and fur parts is forbidden.	According to EC Ordinance 1774/2002 Maximum concentration in mg/kg of dry matter of chromium (VI): 0 Written authorization by BIO AUSTRIA is required.
Products and by-products of vegetable origin for fertilization purposes (e.g. filter cake of oil seeds, cocoa hulls, malt roots, etc.) NOTE: Potato juice from conventional origin may not be used	Valid compliance agreement with the ban on genetic engineering necessary for corn, soya bean, potato, , sugar beet and rape seed products (so called critical cultures) or a confirmation certifying that they are Austrian products, is required. Written authorization by BIO AUSTRIA is required.
Algae and algae products	Extracted only by: Physical treatment methods, incl. dehydration, freezing, grinding Extraction with water or acid and/or alkaline watery solutions Fermentation Written authorization by BIO AUSTRIA is required.
Sawdust and wood chips	Wood not chemically treated after felling.
Composted bark	Wood not chemically treated after felling.
Wood ash	Wood not chemically treated after felling.
Soft ground rock phosphate	Product as specified in point 6 of Annex IA.2 to Regulation (EC) No 2003/2003. Cadmium content less than or equal to 75 mg/kg of P205.
Aluminium calcium phosphate	Product as specified in point 6 of Annex IA.2 of EC regulation 2003/2003. Cadmium content less than or equal to 75 mg/kg of P205. Use limited to basic soils (pH higher than 7.5).
Slag from iron- or steel preparation. Not permitted: basic slag (meals)	Products as specified in point 1 of Annex IA.2 of EC Regulation 2003/2003
Potassium salt or kainit	Before spreading a written authorization from the inspection authority is required.
Potassium sulphate possibly containing magnesium salt	Product obtained from crude potassium salt by a physical extraction process, containing possibly also magnesium salts.
Stillage and stillage extract	Ammonium stillage excluded Valid compliance agreement to the ban on genetic engineering necessary for corn, soya bean, potato, sugar beet, rape seed, and products and their by-products (so called critical cultures), or a confirmation certifying that they are Austrian products, is required. Written authorization by BIO AUSTRIA is required.
Calcium carbonate (e.g. chalk, marl, ground limestone, Breton ameliorant (maerl, , phosphate chalk, etc.)	Only of natural origin **Note**: compound chalk and quicklime are forbidden!
Calcium carbonate and magnesium carbonate (e.g. magnesian chalk, ground magnesium, , limestone, etc.)	Only of natural origin **Note**: compound chalk and quicklime are forbidden!
Magnesium sulphate (kieserite)	Only of natural origin
Calcium chloride solution	For foliar treatment of apple trees, after identification of deficit of calcium
Calcium sulphate (gypsum)	Only of natural origin. Products as specified in point 1 of Annex ID of EC-Regulation 2003/2003
Industrial lime from sugar production (carbolic lime)	By-product of sugarproduction from sugar beet
Industrial lime from vacuum salt production	By-product of the vacuum salt production from brine found in mountains
Elemental sulphur	Products as specified in Annex ID.3 of EC-Regulation 2003/2003
Trace elements	Inorganic micronutrients listed in part E of Annex I to EC Regulation 2003/2003
Sodium chloride	Only mined salt

Stone meal and clays	

An example list of permissible fertilisers and purchase sources is to be found in the current agricultural supply catalogue.

2.1.6 Store capacity for manure

Storage capacity for manure, urine or slurry must be so calculated that these fertilizers do not have to be distributed during the non-growing season.

Storage space for manure
Basically a holding has to have storage capacity for urine, slurry and litter manure for a minimum of 6 months.

Exceptions:
- Holdings with less than 30 LU equiv. (livestock unit equivalent, DGVE) and solid dung system: a store capacity for three months is sufficient if in-field stacks take place.
- Holdings with less than 30 LU equiv.: if they invested into store capacities after January 1, 2009, there is a transitional period until December 31, 2010.
- If it is certified that the manure is recycled in an environmentally friendly manner by means of co-operations among holdings, manure banks, biogas plants, etc., the storage capacity must be sufficient for at least two months.

Fertilisation restriction:

Setup of in-field stacks
The following provisions must be complied with:
- It is allowed to spread the farm manure after three months at the earliest
- A minimum distance of 25 m to surface water bodies and drainage ditches must be complied with.
- The storage takes place on soils which are as smooth as possible and not sandy.
- Effluents from the in-field stacks must not run off to surface water bodies or drainage ditches.
- The level of the ground water must be in average at least one metre below top edge.
- The location of the in-field stacks must be cleared and changed once a year.
- It is not allowed to build in-field stacks on soils that are filled with water.
- The pure nitrogen content in the farm manure temporarily stored must not exceed the total of the maximum amount of nitrogen which may be applied on the concerned storage area (agricultural land) according to the Austrian law pertaining to water and waterways.

2.2 Crop rotation, seeds and variety selection

2.2.1 Crop rotation and variety selection

Varieties chosen for cultivation must be appropriate to the intended planting site and be as robust and resistant as possible. Non-hybrid varieties should be used whenever possible in order to preserve the genetic diversity of our crop plants. *Die Fruchtfolge ist unter Einbeziehung von Leguminosen…..*

The application of CMS (cytoplasmatic male sterility) hybrids resulting from somatic fusion or cytoplastic fusion is not permitted in the planting of vegetables.

2.2.2 Seeds, vegetative propagating material and seedlings

Only seed and vegetative propagating material produced according to the requirements of organic agriculture may be used. The varieties available in organic quality are to be found in the legal committed seed database of the Agentur für Gesundheit und Ernährungssicherheit, also called AGES at www.ages.at. If matching organic seeds or seed potato are not available on the market, a permission for the seed of conventionally produced untreated seed must be got from the inspection body prior to the sowing Vegetative propagating material (onion sets, wine seedlings, strawberries, young trees and bushes): If sufficient evidence can be submitted to the inspection body, that there is

no organic propagation material from the matching variety, conventional non-treated vegetative propagation material can be used.

Seedlings: Only seedlings from organic production are permitted. This also applies to vegetable seedlings.

Mixtures from permanent grassland and from ley farming: in case of purchase of mixtures from prepared conventional mixtures from permanent grassland and from ley farming no application to the inspection body is required as in this sector there is no sufficient choice yet.

2.3 Plant Protection

2.3.1 Preventative health care

In addition to direct pest control measures, preventative health care is of primary importance in the protection of plants against pests and disease. The last one is to be given particular attention.

Preventative care measures should include:

- Appropriate choice of sorts and varieties
- Encouragement of soil health
- Balanced plant nutrition
- Appropriate cultivation methods, e.g. crop rotation, mixed cultivation, green manuring soil conditioning
- Protection of beneficial animals and insects through the maintenance and creation of appropriate habitats (hedges, nesting sites, etc.)

2.3.2 Non-permitted plant protection substances

The use of non-natural, chemical/synthetic pesticides, growth regulators, wilting agents and genetic modified organisms (GMO) and their by-products is forbidden.

2.3.3 Plant protection substances

Only plant protection substances containing the active agents listed below may be used. This is also for combination products. (No forbidden components allowed according to Annex II of the EU regulation 889/2008 and BIO AUSTRIA regulations.)

The use of the below listed components meets the admission for pest control substances according to the Austrian pest control substance law (PMG 1997). Due to a change in the agricultural law 2002 (BGBI. I No. 110/2002) approved pest control substances in Germany and The Netherlands are simultaneously approved in Austria. They must be announced to the AGES (Austrian Agency for Health and Food Safety)prior to being put in circulation.

A list of these Austrian registered plant protection substances for organic farming and the appropriate indications for their use (pest, crop, range of application), and the purchase sources are included in the current agricultural supplies catalogue. If plant protection substances, other than the listed ones, are to be used then there must be an application for approval to the inspection body

The use of the substances is only allowed when they meet the specific regulations for plant protection substances in Austria. The substances listed below are only to be used when all measures included in section 2.3.1 have failed. Any use of plant protection substances must be recorded; these records must be listed at the organic inspection body.

Active agent	**Use, regulations for use/instruction**
Substances of crop and animal origin	
Azadirachtin extracted from Azadirachta indica (Neem tree)	Insecticide
Bee's wax	Pruning agent
Hydrolyzed protein	Attractant, only for approved uses in connection with other matching substances of this list
Lecithin	Fungicide
Vegetable oils (i.e. Mint oil, pine oil, caraway oil)	Insecticide, acaricide, fungicide, sprout inhibitor

Pyrethrum from Chrysanthemum cinerariaefolium	Insecticide
Quassia from Quassia amara	Insecticide and repellent
Rotenon from Derris spp. Lonchocarpus spp. And Therphrosia spp.	Insecticide
Not permitted for BIO AUSTRIA holdings:	Gelatine (insecticide)
Micro-organisms used for biological pest and disease control	
Microorganisms (bacteria, virus, fungi) e.g. Bacillus thuringiensis, granulose virus preparations	
Substances produced by micro-organisms	
Spinosad	Insecticide Only where measures are taken to minimize the risk to key parasitoids and to minimize the risk of development of resistance. The waiting period provided by law is to be doubled.
Substances to be used in traps and/or dispensers	
Diammonium phosphate	Attractant
Pheromones	Attractant, for use in sexual confusion methods
Not permitted to BIO AUSTRIA holdings:	Pyrethroids (deltamethrin or lambdacyhalothrin)
Preparations to be surface-spread between cultivated plants	
Ferric phosphate (iron (III) orthophosphate)	Molluscicide
Other substances from traditional use in organic farming	
Copper in the form of copper hydroxide, copper oxychloride, (tribasic) copper sulphate, cuprous oxide, copper octanoate	Fungicide; For cropland max. 2 kg pure copper/ha/year For fruit: max. 3 kg For wine: max. 3 kg For hops: max. 4 kg higher levels only with approval from BIO AUSTRIA
Potassium soap (soft soap)	Insecticide
Potassium aluminium (aluminium sulphate) (Kalinite)	Prevention of ripening of bananas
Sulphur lime (calcium polysulphide)	Fungicide, acaricide, repellants,
Paraffin oil	Insecticide, acaricide
Mineral oils	Insecticide, fungicide; only in fruit trees, vines, olive trees and tropical crops (e.g. bananas);
Potassium permanganate	Fungicide, bactericide; only in fruit trees, olive trees and vines
Quartz sand	Repellent
Sulphur	Fungicide, acaricide, repellent
Ethylene	sprouting inhibition in potatoes and onions
Other substances	
Potassium bicarbonate	Fungicide

2.3.4 Biological and biotechnological plant protection measures

The following measures may be taken:

- Release of natural predators (predatory wasps, mites etc.)
- Insect traps, colour traps
- Male sterilization
- Mechanical measures: snail/slug fences, protective nets, fleeces etc.
- Protection of beneficial animals e.g. by nesting boxes, bushes, flowering plants or watering holes.

2.3.5 Plant care products

The following plant care products (plant strengthening products) may be used:

- Algae and stone meal
- Bentonite (clay)

- Herbal extracts, herbal brews and teas (stinging nettle, common horsetail, common tansy, fern, onion, horseradish, etc.)
- Compost extracts
- Any combination of the above named products

The BIO AUSTRIA advisory service offers a list of plant care products, that effect is proved with many positive experiences from the practice. (www.bio-austria.at). It is forbidden to use those products where it cannot be certified that they are free from genetic modified organisms. You can find a list of plant care products registered in Austria which are suitable for organic farming including information (pest organisms, plantation, application area) and information sources in the current agricultural supply catalogue.

2.4 Weed control

The following methods are acceptable forms of weed control:

- Cultivation methods: crop rotation, humus development, under seeding, catch crops, soil activation.
- Mechanical methods: harrowing, hoeing, raking, mulch cover/ fleeces
- Flame weeding

The use of herbicides is forbidden.

2.5. Storage

Storage rooms are to be arranged so as to avoid a negative influence on the taste or aroma of the foods, and to keep spoilage to a minimum. The environment of the store has to be kept in a hygienic and clean stage.

A wet cleaning of the storage place/silo cell before new storage is recommended. Permissible cleaning and disinfection agents are listed in point 2.6.

Dust in storage places raises the risk of pest control substance residues from the time before conversion and encourages storage pests.

Storage of food is to be managed in a way that no storage pests (insects, rodents, birds) can enter (i.e. bird protection grids on the windows) or atmospheric conditions can effect the stored goods. The stored good is to be checked frequently and the storage room to be kept clean.

The treatment before or during storage of the harvested goods with chemical preservatives (insecticides, fungicides) is forbidden. A list of permissible storage protection substances and preservatives for organic farming in the plant production can be found in point 2.3.3

The washing of stored fruit with chemical cleaning agents, artificial after-ripening with chemical substances, the use of sprout inhibitors and the use of ionizing (radioactive) radiation are forbidden.

2.6. Cleaning and disinfection

According to the circular in an agricultural holding the following agents may be use for cleaning and disinfecting buildings and plants for plant production including storage:

- Alcohol
- Chlorine dioxide
- Stone meal
- Potash soap and washing soap
- Caustic potash
- Quick lime
- Calcium carbonate
- Lime milk
- Mechanical/heat treatments (e.g. flame treatment)
- Microorganisms
- Caustic soda
- Sodium carbonate
- Natural essences of plants

- Organic acids and their salts (Citric, peracetic acid, formic, lactic, oxalic and acetic acid and benzoic acid)
- Water and Steam
- Hydrogen peroxide

The list mentioned above is only a reference for non agricultural holdings which store and transport agricultural primary products.

3. Animal Production

3.1. Basic regulations

Healthy, highly productive and long-lived livestock must be kept in a natural and appropriate environment if the animals are to produce high-quality agricultural products and fertilizers.

3.1.1 Livestock (upper) limit

Livestock numbers must be adapted to the agricultural area. An organic farm can hold only so many animals enough that the nitrogen production from the livestock does not exceed 170kg N/ha andyear. (conversion key see point 5.5).

3.1.1.1 Fertiliser exchange

Organic farms with livestock that produces an excess nitrogen production ofmore than 170kg nitrogen/ha andyear can conclude a contractual arrangement with other organic farmers (arrangements for manure exchange). The included holdings need to have on their area no more livestock than will produce a total of 170 kg nitrogen perha LN and year deriving from one's own livestock husbandry and from the purchase of fertilisers. Fertiliser arrangements must be approved by BIO AUSTRIA.

3.1.2 Replacement stock

Replacement stock must originate from the member's own holding or from another certified organic producer. If animals need to be purchased the regulations described in article numbers 3.1.3 must be fulfilled.

3.1.3 Livestock Acquisition

Only organically produced livestock is to be purchased. Any purchase must be recorded.If no livestock from organic farming is available the following exceptions are possible provided that the individual conversion period as indicated in point 3.1.3.8 is observed:

3.1.3.1 Disaster situations

In the case of catastrophe or disaster (e.g. epidemic, fire…) the holding may be renewed or re-stocked with conventionally produced animals if organic livestock is not available, and if the purchase has been approved by the competent regional authority.

3.1.3.2 Cattle

- Calves for fattening must be from organic origin.
- Calves for breeding can be from conventional origin if a new stock is started and there are not enough animals from organic origin. After weaning they must have been kept according to the regulations for organic farming, and can only be purchased up to the age of maximum 6 months.
- Conventional female animals, that have never calved, can be purchased every year for the increase or renewal of the herd, up to a maximum of 10% of the holdings total number of cattle that is older than 12 months. For herds of less than 10 cattle one animal per year can be purchased for renewal. The purchase of all conventional animals must be kept in the records and is permitted within the yearly on site control. This percentage can extend up to 40%, after approval of the concerned regional authority, for a serious increase of the herd, for changes of breed or for the development of a new production branch (the basis of calculation is the stock of animals that are older than 12 months at the time of the application).
- Additionally this exception can be claimed for endangered farm animal breeds (by means of breeding book excerpt or approval from the breeding association); in this case also a purchase of conventional female cattle can be approved by the competent regional authority.

- Male breeding stock can be of conventional origin without limitations, if organic animals are not available.
- In case of still birth or perishing of calves (up to the age of six months) in suckler cows farms it is permitted to substitute the calves with conventional calves if the disposal of the animal cadaver has been confirmed by the carcass disposal plant (Tierkörperverwertung -TKV). The animals used for breeding are considered of organic origin after the necessary conversion period. The animals used for fattening are never considered of organic origin and must be brought to the market conventionally.

3.1.3.3 Pigs

- Piglets for fattening must be from organic origin.
- Conventional piglets for gilt upbringing for the restoring of the stock – if animals from organic origin are not available in sufficient quantities – must after weaning be kept according to the regulations for organic farming and have a weight under 35 kg. This also applies for the start of a new stock. Permission of the inspection agency has to be obtained in advance.
- Additional female animals that never had a litter, can be purchased for the renewal of the herd every year up to 20% of the herd total number of pigs that are older than six months. For herds of less than 5 pigs one animal per year can be purchased for renewal. This percentage can extend up to 40%, after approval of the competent regional authority, for a serious increase of the herd, for changes of breed or for the development of a new production branch (the basis of calculation is the stock of animals that are older than six months).
- Additionally this exception can be claimed for endangered farm animal breeds (by means of breeding book excerpt or approval from the breeding association); or also the purchase of conventional breeding sows can be approved by the competent regional authority.
- Breeding boars can be of conventional origin without limitations, if organic animals are not available.

3.1.3.4 Poultry

For the renewal or restoration of the stock conventional chicks for laying hen production and poultry for meat production can be purchased, if it is certified (confirmation of breeder) that there are not enough animals from organic farming and the chicks are not older than 3 days.

Conventional laying hens (not older than 18 weeks) can only be purchased, if no organic young animals are available, the animals are fed with organic food since hatching, the organic regulations regarding the prevention of diseases and the veterinary treatment have been fulfilled and the competent regional authority approved it.

3.1.3.5 Sheep and goats

- Lambs and kids for fattening must be of organic origin.
- Lambs and kids for breeding can be from conventional origin if a new stock is started and there are not enough animals available from organic origin. After weaning they must have been kept according to the regulations for organic farming. Such animals can only be purchased up to the maximum age of 60 days.
- Conventional female animals, that have never given birth can be purchased every year for the increase or renewal of the herd, to a maximum of 20% of the holdings total number of female sheep or goats that are older than six months. For herds of less than five sheep or goats one animal per year can be purchased for renewal. This percentage can, for a serious increase of the herd, be extended up to 40% (after the approval of the concerned regional authority) for changes of breed or for the development of a new production branch. The basis of calculation is the stock of animals that are older than six months at the point in time of the application.

- Additionally this exception can be claimed for endangered farm animal breeds (by means of breeding book excerpt or approval from the breeding association), for the purchase of conventional mother animals.
- Rams or billy goats can be of conventional origin without limitations, if organic animals are not available.

3.1.3.6 Horses (as far as they are certified according to the organic regulations)

- Foals can be from conventional origin, if a new stock is started and there are not enough animals from organic origin. After weaning they must have been kept due to the regulations for organic farming, and can only be purchased up to the age of six months.
- Conventional female animals that have never foaled, can be purchased for the renewal of the herd every year up to a maximum of 10% of the holdings total number of horses that are older than 12 months. For herds of less than ten horses one animal per year can be purchased for renewal. This percentage can be extended up to 40% after approval of the concerned regional authority for a serious increase of the herd, for changes of breed or for the development of a new production branch. The basis of calculation is the stock of animals that at the point in time of the application are older than 12 months.
- Additionally this exception can be claimed for endangered farm animal breeds (by means of breeding book excerpt or approval from the breeding association); also the purchase of conventional mother animals can be approved.
- Stallions can be of conventional origin without limitations if organic animals are not available.

3.1.3.7 Fallow deer, Sika deer, Mouflon and Red deer

These animals must originate from organic holdings. The following exceptions are possible, if there are no suitable animals from organic origin:

- For the building up of a new stock or in case of the first conversion of a new production branch; a permission of the inspection agency is necessary.
- Female animals can be purchased every year up to 10% of the holdings total number of fully-grown animals, if animals from organic origin are not available and there is a permission of the inspection agency. This percentage can be extended up to 40% after approval of the concerned inspection agency for a serious increase of the herd, for changes of breed or for the development of a new production branch.
- Male breeding animals from conventional origin can be acquired.

3.1.3.8 Conversion periods

Prior to every purchase of conventional animals the following terms have to be kept, before the animals or their products are allowed to be declared organic.

Terms:

- Cattle and horses for meat marketing: 3/4 of their life, yet a minimum of 12 months
- Deer for meat marketing: a minimum of 12 months
- Dairy animals (dairy marketing): minimum 6 months.
- Small ruminants and pigs: minimum 6 months (milk and meat)
- Poultry for meat production: 10 weeks
- Poultry for egg production: 6 weeks

3.1.4 Simultaneous conversion of livestock and forage areas

Conversion of forage areas is described in article number 1.2.5.

Certified animal products may be sold 24 months after the signing of an inspection treaty.

If feeding and husbandry requirements are met in full before the end of the 24 months, then animal products may be sold as certified products after adherence to the time requirements given in Section 3.1.3.8. Partial certification (for poultry, pigs, breeding and dairy cattle) must be requested from the inspection authority and completed.

3.2. Animal breeding

The natural breeding of agricultural livestock should allow for a diversity of breeds.
BIO AUSTRIA holdings honour performance limitations in the dairy farming. Herds of dairy cattle having an average milk production of more than 10.000 kg milk do not meet the breeding goal of BIO AUSTRIA.
In the breeding of dairy cattle bulls with a higher breeding value are deployed in the categories fitness and lifetime performance (both higher than 110) and bulls with a very high breeding value per kg milk are abstained from being used.
Genetic engineering, clones, embryo transfers or the purchase of animals resulting from breeding by means of these methods is forbidden.
Purchased breeding sows and deployed boars must be stress-negative in halothane tests.

3.3. Care

3.3.1 Livestock husbandry requirements

Animals in animal keeping systems, whose well-being depends on the regular care of people, must be controlled at least once a day. This also applies for the operation of constructions and equipment, on which the well-being of the animals depend. If an immediate elimination of the defect is not possible, matching measures have to be undertaken to secure the well-being of the animals. The keeping of livestock in conditions, or on a diet, which may encourage anaemia, is prohibited. Force-feeding is forbidden. Husbandry practices, including stock densities, and housing conditions shall ensure that the developmental, physiological and ethological needs of animals are met.

3.3.2 Hoof care

Hoof care is to be carried out regularly by qualified personnel when necessary and according to the condition of the horn.

3.3.3 Loading and transport

In order to ensure the highest meat quality, the loading and the transport of the animals should be as careful and stress-free as possible. Therefore loading units on the holding are recommended. Electric prods are forbidden. The use of sedatives is forbidden. Animal transport laws are to be observed.

3.4. Feeding

3.4.1 Origin of feeding stuff

Livestock should generally be fed home-grown organic feeds. If feeding stuff is purchased, it should primarily come from domestic BIO AUSTRIA certified holdings. For organic mixed feeding stuff only feeding stuff that is listed in the Austrian agricultural supply catalogue and is BIO AUSTRIA certified is permitted. In BIO AUSTRIA certified mixed feeding stuff contaminations with GMO are tolerated up to a threshold of maximum 0.1%.
Prior to the use of feed supplements (supplements of vitamins, minerals and active ingredients) it must be determined whether the feeding stuff complies with the EC organic regulations and the BIO AUSTRIA regulations. If another product is to be used that is not listed in the agricultural supply catalogue, the inspection body must first check the conformation with the organic regulations. A prescription of non-organic feed supplements through the veterinarian is not allowed.
If an import of feeding stuff (organic or conventional) into Austria is necessary, an application for permission has to be submitted to the department of quality management of BIO AUSTRIA and the approval of the product to BIO AUSTRIA regulations must be demonstrated. The import is only allowed after the written permission of BIO AUSTRIA.

3.4.2 Exemptions

All percentages indicated in the following clause are based on the maximum dry matter content of feeding stuff of agricultural origin in the yearly ration.

3.4.2.1 Conversion feeds

At an average rations may include up to 30% conversion feedstuffs. If the conversion feeds come from one's own holding, then the ration may include up to 100% conversion feedstuffs.

Up to 20% of the total average amount of feedingstuffs fed to the livestock may originate from the grazing or harvesting of permanent pastures or perennial forest parcels or protein crops in their first year of conversion, provided that they are part of the holding itself and have not been part of an organic production unit of the organic holding in the last five years. When both conversion feedingstuffs and feedingstuffs from parcels in their first year of conversion are being used, the total combined percentage of such feedingstuffs shall not exceed the maximum percentages for conversion feedingstuffs mentioned above.

3.4.2.2 Conventional feeds

No conventional feeding stuff may be used for ruminants. In case of mono gastric animals conventional feeding stuff is only to be used if organic feeding stuff is not available.

For other mono gastric animals and "Non-Ruminants":
up to December 12, 2011 5% conventional feeding stuff, afterwards 0% the yearly ration
The percentage of conventional feeds in the daily ration is not to exceed 25%.

The following feedstuffs are permitted within the frame of the above mentioned percentages and periods, so long as they are not assessed as available in Austria in organic quality in organic or conversion quality):

Feed material of plant origin	
Cereals, grains, their products and by-products	maize gluten (only for poultry)
Oil seeds, oil fruits, their products and by-products:	rape seed* as expeller, sunflower seed as expeller, linseed as expeller, pumpkin seed as expeller.
Legume seeds:	Only in case of addition of new land as harvest products of the added areas
Tuber, roots, their products and by-products:	Sugar beet pulp* (wet or dry), potato protein*
Forages and roughages:	Only in case of addition of new land as harvest products of the added areas: lucerne, clover, grass, hay, silage, straw of cereals.
Other plants:	Molasses*, only as a binding agent in mixed feeds, herbs and spices, extracts and powders from plants in mixed feedstuffs up to an amount of 1% (except mineral and supplementary feedstuffs)

* For the use of feedstuffs or feed additive indicated with *, either the domestic origin must be certified by the dealer or the organic farm has to get an assurance declaration about the appliance of the ban of genetic engineering for the concerning product from the producer.

3.4.2.3 Feed stuff components of animal origin

Only feed stuffs of animal origin listed here are allowed to be used!

Feed materials of animal origin	
Milk and milk products:	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, organic curd, organic sour milk.

Fish, other marine animals, their products and by-products	The following products for the feeding of trout-like fish: feeding stuff from organic aquaculture production; fish meal and fish oil resulting from the remaining products of fish from organic aquaculture production; fish meal and fish oil and other fish ingredients from the remaining products of wild fish suitable for human consumption deriving from sustainable fishing
Eggs and egg products	Only of organic origin: For use as poultry feed, primarily from the same holding

3.4.2.4 Emergency situations

In emergency situations (e.g. extreme weather conditions), the inspection authority can approve higher amounts of conventional feeds than those listed in 3.4.2.2 in individual cases. If conventional basic ration must be purchased due to an emergency situation, approval must be obtained from BIO AUSTRIA.

3.4.3 Other feed additives

Feed material of mineral origin:	
Certain sodium, potassium, calcium, phosphorus, magnesium and sulphur compounds are permitted. Please consult the currently valid agricultural supply catalogue when purchasing mineral and trace element supplements.	
Nutritional additives	
Vitamins*	Natural vitamins or synthetic vitamins identical to natural vitamins for monogastric animals (non-ruminants). For ruminants: synthetic vitamins A, D, and E identical to natural vitamins.
Trace elements	Certain iron, iodine, cobalt, copper, manganese, zinc, molybdenum, and selenium compounds are permitted. Please consult the currently valid agricultural supply catalogue when purchasing mineral and trace element supplements.
Micro-organisms*	All micro-organisms according to the regulation 1831/2003 in the currently valid version about supplements for the use in animal feed.
Enzymes	Are not allowed for BIO-AUSTRIA holdings!
Technological additives	
Preservatives	Sorbic acid, formic acid, acetic acid, lactic acid, propionic acid, citric acid
Antioxidant substances	Tocopherol-rich extracts of natural origin used as an antioxidant
Binders and anti-caking agents	Calcium stearate of natural origin Colloidal silica Kieselgur Bentonite Kaolinitic clays Natural mixtures of stearites and chlorite Vermiculite Sepiolite Perlite
Treating agents for silage	Mineral salt, sea salt, whey, sugar, sugar beet molasses*, grain meals,molasses*, , enzymes*,bacteria and yeasts* (permitted additives according to regulation (EU) 1831/2003). The use of lactic, formic, propionic and acetic acid in the production of silage shall only be permitted when weather conditions do not allow for adequate fermentation.
Other substances used in animal nutrition for all animals	
Yeasts	Saccharomyces cerevisiae* Saccharomyces carlsbergiensis*
* For the use of feedstuffs or feed additive indicated with *, either the domestic origin must be certified by the dealer or the organic farm has to get an assurance declaration about the appliance of the ban of genetic engineering for the concerning product from the producer.	

3.4.4 Miscellaneous

Antibiotics, coccidiostatics and other pharmaceuticals, growth promoters and other agents for promoting performance or growth, dyes, urea and non-protein nitrogen compounds as protein substitutes are forbidden.

3.4.5 Feeding of roughage feeders (cattle, sheep, goats, horses, dear)

Roughage for ruminants

Roughage must at any time comprise at least 60% of the daily ration for ruminants. In the feeding of cattle the average concentrated feed of a holding is fixed at a maximum of **15% of the whole yearly dry matter intake.**

Feeding of young roughage feeders (calves, lambs, kids, foals)

Calves are to be offered structured roughage from the second week of age. Young mammals shall be fed on maternal milk in preference to natural milk for a minimum period of:

- Cattle and horses: 3 months;
- Sheep and goats: 45 days

3.4.6 Pig and poultry feeding

The daily rations for swine or poultry must be supplemented with fresh, dried or silaged roughage. The upbringing of piglets shall be with maternal milk in preference to natural milk for a minimum period of 40 days.

3.5. Prevention and treatment of illness

Our farm animals as our fellow creatures are dependent on regular and sufficient care and attention. This requires the greatest conscientiousness that the animals' needs can be fulfilled. In the case of illness, injury or damage the necessary care or veterinarian treatment must be taken swiftly. Sick or injured animals are to be kept according to their special needs and if necessary separated. There must be enough people for the care of the animals who have the necessary suitability as well as the necessary knowledge and qualification. If an animal becomes ill or injured, it is treated immediately and if necessary kept in a sick-partition box.

3.5.1 Permitted methods

Preventive measures are the primary method of ensuring animal health. If an animal becomes ill or injured, it is to be treated immediately. Phytotherapeutic and homeopathic treatments are preferable to treatments with chemical or synthetic pharmaceuticals. The production of homeopathic remedies and nosodes is not allowed for farmers.

If phytotherapeutic (plant extracts and plant essences) and homeopathic methods are not expected to have the appropriate therapeutic success, the veterinarian may employ chemical or synthetic conventional veterinary pharmaceuticals and antibiotics. The prophylactic use of these pharmaceuticals is forbidden. Vaccinations are allowed.

3.5.2 Forbidden methods

Prohibited are:

- Prophylactic use of coccidiostatics and other artificial agents to promote growth or performance
- Hormones or similar agents to influence reproduction (e.g. synchronization of heat cycles), except for the use of hormones for the therapeutic treatment of individual animals.

3.5.3 Waiting periods

The previously valid waiting periods for chemically synthesised medications are to be doubled. If there is no legal waiting period, then the minimum waiting period is to be 48 hours.

3.5.4 Number of treatments

An animal may not be treated more than 3 times within a period of 12 months with chemically synthesised allopathic pharmaceuticals. Treatment does not mean the single administration of a

drug; it means the treatment of an illness from its beginning to its end. Animals with a productive life-cycle of up to 12 months (i.e. animals that do not live longer than 12 months) may only be treated once with chemically synthesised allopathic medicinal products. In a multi-phased animal production system, the current production phase is considered to be the productive life-cycle. This means that, for example in the case of pork production, the life-span of the animal is divided into 2 productive life-cycles, piglet production and fattening. Both life-cycles may be spent on the same holding.

Animals which have been treated more often than specified above must be marketed as conventional. It is possible that these animals repeat the conversion process (see limits in 3.1.3.8).

The following treatments are not included in the limit:
- all treatments against parasites (among these are also coccidia)
- vaccinations
- treatments prescribed by the authorities within the framework of epidemic elimination programs.
- Zoo-technicall measures, like horn removal, castration etc. and the connected use of anaesthesia and analgesia.

3.5.5 Record keeping

If pharmaceuticals are used, their use must be recorded into the log book as follows:
- Diagnosis
- Medication including active ingredient and dosage
- Date, length and kind of treatment
- Legal waiting period and the time period after which the animal can be brought to the market again as organic animal
- Name of the veterinarian (mark and signature)
- Detailed information on the animal and its animal species

3.5.6 Identification of treated animals

Treated animals are to be clearly identified. Small animals like poultry may be identified in groups or batches.

3.5.7 Prohibited operations

- The use of rubber rings to castrate or amputate body parts (extra teats, tails) is forbidden.
- Prophylactic and systematic measures such as tail docking, teeth cutting, beak trimming, horn removal and the like are forbidden.

Certain above mentioned operations may be approved by the regional authority for reasons of safety, hygiene, animal protection, or to improve animal health. Animal suffering is to be reduced to a minimum (anaesthetisation). The guidelines of the animal protection law and its regulations must also be observed.

Permitted interventions are only to be performed by the veterinarian or by another qualified person. A qualified person in this respect is classified as a person, who has a demonstrable respective qualification (via courses, seminars, trainings) about legal requirements, knowledge about anatomy and a professional practical execution.

3.5.7.1 Permitted operations for cattle:

Operations that are permitted without previous approval of the authority:
- Dehorning of the horn disposition, through burning out with an electric hot iron dehorner or by a veterinarian after effective anaesthesia.
- The castration of male cattle, if done after effective anaesthesia/anaesthetisation by a veterinarian or other suitably qualified person, who undertakes this trade on the basis of the Trade, Commerce and Industry Regulation Act 1994, BGBl. Nr. 194, last changed via BGBl. I Nr. 118/2004.

Any other treatment such as the installation of nose rings for breeding bulls may only be carried out upon previous approval of the competent regional authority.

3.5.7.2 Permitted operations for pigs:
Operations that are permitted without previous approval of the authority:
Downsizing of the canines, if
- the pigs are not older than 7 days,
- an even and intact surface is achieved through polishing and
- the operation does not routinely occur but only in order to avoid further injuries to the teats of sows. In the case of this operation anaesthesia/anaesthetization does not have to be carried out.

The castration of male pigs, if
- the pigs are not older than 7 days or
- if done after effective anaesthetisation by a veterinarian or other suitably qualified person, who undertakes this trade on the basis of the Trade, Commerce and Industry Regulation Act 1994, BHBl. Nr. 194, last changed via BGBl. I Nr. 118/2004 and afterwards use of pain relievers. As from January 1, 2011 analgesia must be applied to piglets during castration; these analgesia must relieve the pain after the operation.

Any other operations such as the shortening of the canines of boars may only be carried out upon previous approval of the competent regional authority.

3.5.7.3 Permitted operations for sheep or goats:
Operations that are permitted without previous approval of the authority:
Tail docking in case of female lambs that are meant for breeding (does not apply for goats), if
- the lambs are not older than 3 days or in case of older animals the operation is done by the veterinarian after effective anaesthetisation and
- a maximum of a third or in case of a veterinarian proved farm necessity, maximum half of the tail is removed and
- the operation happens using sharp clippers and
- a veterinarian proved farm necessity has been presented and
- an appropriate anaesthesia/anaesthetisation has been carried out.

The castration,
- if done by a veterinarian or other suitably qualified person, who undertakes this trade on the basis of the Trade, Commerce and Industry Regulation Act 1994, BHBl. Nr. 194, last changed via BGBl. I Nr. 118/2004 and
- after effective anaesthesia/anaesthetisation.

The dehorning of the horn disposition of kids that are meant for breeding up to an age of four weeks if done after effective anaesthesia by a veterinarian until December 31, 2010.

3.5.8 Teat dipping

Prophylactic teat dipping with chemical or synthetic substances is forbidden. After presentation of a written certificate about the necessity through the responsible veterinarian, teat dipping can be done. The certificate must include effected animals, the diagnose and the durance of treatment.

3.6. Disinfection of livestock buildings, equipment and utensils

Buildings, equipment and utensils must be sufficiently cleaned and disinfected so as to avoid infection of the stock. Only cleaning and disinfection agents containing the following components may be used:
- soda and potassium soaps
- water and steam
- lime milk
- lime
- quicklime
- sodium hypochlorite
- caustic soda

- caustic potassium
- hydrogen peroxide
- natural plant extracts
- citric-, peracetic-, formic-, lactic-, oxalic-, and acetic acids
- alcohol
- nitric acid for milking equipment
- phosphoric acid for milking equipment
- formaldehyde
- sodium carbonate cleaning and disinfection agents for milking machines

A list of detergents and disinfectants compliment to the EU council regulation can be found in the current agricultural supply catalogue. If substances other than those listed are used, then the inspection agency has to be consulted prior to the purchase.

3.7. Pest control in livestock buildings

Mechanical and biotechnological methods of control of insects and parasites (e.g. poison free fly paper) are to be used in stall buildings where possible. Where no other recourse is available, preparations with the following components may be used:

- Azadirachtin
- hydrolysed protein as bait in traps
- vegetable oils
- natural pyrethroids
- Quassia amara
- Rotenone
- Micro-organisms
- Pheromones in traps and dispensers
- Potassium soap
- Paraffin oil

Products consisting of these approved components are listed in the current agricultural supply catalogue. Note the indication for BIO AUSTRIA certified farms.
For the control of rodents e.g. mice or rats in livestock buildings chemical agents (rodenticides) are allowed to be used only in traps.

3.8. Community pasture/alpine pasture:

Community pasture/alpine pasture and the sale of products resulting from community pasture/alpine pasture is possible under the following conditions:

- The pasture areas are either organically cultivated, or conventional pasture areas have not been treated with substances that are forbidden in organic farming (according to the EU council regulation 889/2008) for at least 3 years. Conventional pastures must be subject to inspection and a certification of the participation in the measure “Alpine pasturage and herding” of ÖPUL must exist respectively.
- All conventional animals must be from extensive management. (Animals are considered to be from extensive management when they come from holdings which participate in ÖPUL [Austrian Program for Environmentally-Friendly Agriculture] measures or which prove to have an animal concentration of not more than 2 large LU/ha.)
- Conventional and organic animals are either not on pasture simultaneously or they must be easily identifiable at any time (e.g. ear tags for cattle).
- During the alpine farming all organic rules (husbandry, feeding, ...) must be complied with for the animals of organic origin and this must be proven.
- During the time when animals are on a conventional community pasture, animal products may only be declared as organic if it can be proven that the animals of organic origin and/or the organic products were kept separate at all times from the animals of conventional origin and

conventional products and the husbandry and the feeding of animals of organic origin comply with the BIO AUSTRIA regulations.
- A report to the inspection agency is necessary prior to the driving up to the community pastures or alpine pasture of animals that were not mentioned at the completion of the inspection treaty

3.9. Basics of a husbandry appropriate for the species

Animal husbandry is an important part of the organic farm cycle. With the help of farm animals the holdings vegetable feedstuffs are turned into high value food. In this sense we use the animals but also take over responsibility for their condition and well being. The farm animal was taken out of its natural context and via domestication became a part of human culture. Nature is the model for the husbandry systems designed by humans. The husbandry systems must be adapted to the needs of the animals and satisfy their behavioural physiologic demands. The animal keeper is committed to guaranteeing these qualities to the domestic animal in a form appropriate to the animal species and character and involving balanced care, feeding and breeding.
The BIO AUSTRIA animal keeping standards are oriented by these principles and try to harmonise the human interests for the use of animals and their needs and requirements. Through animal appropriate keeping we achieve healthy and vital animals and contribute to the sustainable production of high value food. Adequate freedom of movement and plenty of litter in the sheds (animal comfort), outside access, contact with non-specific animals, species appropriate feeding rations from organic farming, the selection of resistant vital species and intensive care for the animals (animal health and hygiene) are the pillars of BIO AUTSRIA animal keeping.

3.10. The keeping of cattle and horses

An animal-appropriate cattle keeping must allow the animals to fulfil their biological and ethological needs. Cattle are day- and twilight active herd animals. They are herbivores with a stomach with multiple chambers and spend most of their days feeding and resting.
Therefore they have the following requirements:
Species appropriate feeding and feeding methods:
- The majority of the ration must consist of structured roughage
- Demand driven feeding
- Basic feedstuffs should be, if possible, offered all day round for free intake.
- Calves must be fed based on natural milk and are to be offered hay from the second week of age.

Sufficient space for movement and space to take on all resting and sleep positions.
- Tethering only in exceptional cases
- Generous well-structured minimum barn space

Lying spaces with bedding
- If possible daily excess to the outsides/pasture

No obstruction for the species to get up or lie down
- Adapted lying spaces and tethering equipment

Social contact and preferably stable herd structures
- No single keeping (exceptions: sick animals, cows around birth, breeding bulls)

Protection from unsuitable weather conditions, injuries, parasites, diseases and behaviour disruptions
- Possibility of shelter for free range keeping
- Plentiful ventilation and protection from draft in the barns
- good litter (barn hygiene, hoof trimming etc.)
- veterinarian care in case of need in sufficient time

3.10.1 Barns

3.10.1.1 Stock density

Minimum surface areas indoors (net area available to the animals):		
	Live weight (kg)	Minimum required space (m^2/animal)
Breeding and fattening cattle	up to 100 up to 200 up to 350 over 350	1.6 for group keeping; 1,5 for single boxes 2.5 4.0 5, at least 1 m^2/100 kg
Dairy cattle		6
Breeding bulls		10

Minimum barn space requirements for horses in single box keeping: According to the Animal protection law BGBl.I 118/2004 the arrangement happens according to the withers heights (hands) calculated in STM, that gives the height of a horse from the level floor to the highest part of the withers.

Size of animal	**Box size**[1]	**Shortest side**
STM up to 120 cm	6,00 m^2/animal	180 cm/animal
STM up to 135 cm	7,50 m^2/animal	200 cm/animal
STM up to 150 cm	8,50 m^2/animal	220 cm/animal
STM up to 165 cm	10,00 m^2/animal	250 cm/animal
STM up to 175 cm	11,00 m^2/animal	260 cm/animal
STM up to 185 cm	12,00 m^2/animal	270 cm/animal
STM over185 cm	14,00 m^2/animal	290 cm/animal

[1]This area also applies for mares with foals up to weaning or for 2 foals up to an age of one year.

Box partitions need to enable a direct sight contact with fellow animals. For stallions box partitions can be closed if another sight contact with other horses is possible.
The height of the partitions need to be for stallions a minimum of 1,3 x STM and for other animals minimum 0,8 x STM.

Minimum barn space requirements for horses (equines) in group keeping: (according to animal protection law)

Size of animal[1]	Box area for the first and second animal[2]	Box size for every additional animal[2]
STM up to 120 cm	6,00 m^2/animal	4,00 m^2/animal
STM up to 135 cm	7,50 m^2/animal	5,00 m^2/animal
STM up to 150 cm	8,50 m^2animal	6,00 m^2/animal
STM up to 165 cm	10,00 m^2/animal	7,00 m^2/animal
STM up to 175 cm	11,00 m^2/animal	7,50 m^2/animal
STM up to 185 cm	12,00 m^2/animal	8,00 m^2/animal
STM over 185 cm	14,00 m^2/animal	9,00 m^2/animal

[1]The mean of the group;
[2]feeding stands are not included in these areas

For group keeping there need to be individual boxes in sufficient quantities.

3.10.1.2 Adaptation of minimum barn area requirements for cattle or horses

If the barn was constructed before 24 August, 1999 and the stall area conforms to the national requirements (codex of the Austrian Food Administration chapter A8), in its version of August 1999, the minimum surface areas indoors must be complied with in accordance with article 3.10.1.1 as from January 1, 2011, provided that the livestock keeping reaches a minimum of 21 ANI (TGI) points. Who is not going to make the necessary adaptations by January 1, 2011 applies for an extension of the exception until December 31, 2013 at the latest at the competent regional authority. Together with the application form a plan must be submitted describing how the organic regulations are going to be fulfilled as from January 1, 2014. The holdings to which the authority has allowed their application are going to have two inspections per year by the organic body as from January 1, 2011.

For horses in stables, where the area conforms with the EU organic council regulation before the national animal protection law and its regulations came into effect in 01.01.2005, the requirements according to point 3.10.1.1 apply with the start of building measures (reconstruction, new construction, renewing of the stable facilities). The same minimum surface areas indoors as for breeding and fattening cattle apply to these stables for horses.

3.10.1.3 Barn flooring and bedding

Half of the minimum required area must be paved and non-slippery. comfortable, clean, dry lying and resting spaces of adequate size must be available for all animals, so that all animals can lie unhindered there at the same time. The resting spaces may not be perforated and must contain dry bedding material. The area of space available for reclining must be equal to at least one third of the total minimum barn area requirement.

3.10.1.4 Feeding areas and drinking facilities

If there is no possibility for constant access, the animals are to be provided with roughage a minimum of 3 times a day. In case of rationed or timely limited feeding the width of the feeding area must be calculated so that all animals can feed simultaneously (animal-feeding area-ratio 1:1). If the animals are fed in group keeping ad lib in all-day feeding then the ratio of animal-feeding space to cattle must not be less than 2,5:1 and for horses 1,5:1. Fully functional drinking facilities, with clean drinking water, must be continuously available to the animals. The minimum requirements regarding the size of feeding and drinking facilities according to the Austrian animal protection law (Animal keeping regulation, Annex 1 : horses and Annex 2 : cattle, point 2.6.) are to be fulfilled.

3.10.1.5 Light

The barns must have window surfaces or other open or transparent surfaces (tight size*) measurements to the extent of a minimum 3% of the barn floor surface, where daylight can flow in. In the animal space of the barn there must be minimum 8 hours a day of light with a strength of minimum 40 Lux. * corresponds with the plastered and insulated wall opening

3.10.1.6 Barn climate

In closed barns there must be natural or mechanical air condition and ventilation plants. These are constantly to be used, regulated and maintained, so that their function is secured. Harmful drafts in the animal area are to be avoided.

3.10.2 Tethering

Tethering is generally forbidden. Animals are to be kept in groups.

The tethering or the isolation of animals is only permitted for individual animals, if this is timely limited for security reasons, for reasons of animal protection or for veterinary reasons, e.g. in case of illness, during covering, for care measures.

The following exceptions from the ban on tethering are possible only **for cattle**:

- Tie stalls already in use before 24 August 2000, may continue to be utilized as such until 31 December 2010. The following conditions must be met: The husbandry system must have at least 21 ANI (TGI) points. A resting area with bedding must be available and regular outside access be provided. Regular outside access for cattle in tie stalls is defined in point 3.10.5. Who is not going to make the necessary adaptations by January 1, 2011 applies for an extension of the exception until December 31, 2013 at the latest at the competent regional authority. The holdings to which the authority has allowed their application are going to have two inspections per year by the organic body as from January 1, 2011.
- On “small farms” (holdings with a maximum of 35 cattle-large animal unit average stock density), cattle may continue to be kept in tie stalls, as long as the livestock conditions reach 24 ANI (TGI) points as from January 1, 2011, and as long as the animals have access to pasturage during the grazing period or an outside run to open air areas at least twice a week. 21 ANI (TGI) points in husbandry systems are sufficient until December 31, 2010.

3.10.3 Cow trainers

The use of a cow trainer is no longer allowed as from January 1, 2011.

3.10.4 Calf husbandry

All cattle up to 6 months of age are considered calves.

Care of calves:

- Calves are to be fed colostrum.
- If bucket fed, then buckets with nipples are to be used.
- Tethering for calves is not allowed.
- Calves older than one week may not be kept in single pens. Housing systems such as igloos or hutches, when the animals have the possibility to use a common outside access, are not considered as single pens.
- If only one calf of a particular age group is present on the holding, this is not considered to be single pen management.
- Within the first eight weeks calves are not to be kept in groups if:
  - a veterinarian has instructed in writing to do so;
  - in case the calf gets ill and this makes it necessary to separate it for its treatment. This treatment has to be documented as required
  - in case an infection of other calves must be prevented (e.g. in case of diarrhoea)
  - in case the umbilical cord has not fallen off yet;
  - dehorning or castration took place. In this case single pen management is possible up to a maximum of 14 days after the operation
  - the difference in age among the present calves is more than four weeks
  - a reasonable keeping of the cattle in groups does not seem to be possible despite individual counselling of the farms, for instance due to a different use (e.g. breeding calves/fattening calves) a common husbandry is not possible or it is possible only to a limited extent because of different feeding requirements.
  - in case of suckling of the individual animal or of the group.

Other exemptions for reasons of health or behaviour within the first eight weeks must be agreed upon with the inspection agency.

- The As from the eighth week calves may be separated from the group, if there is a veterinarian order, that they must be kept in single pens for treatment.
- Calves kept in groups may be tethered for a maximum of one hour during feeding.
- Because of their physiological condition, it is not necessary to provide calves under the age of 1 week with outside access.
- The requirements listed in Section 3.10.1.1 and 3.10.5.2 are to be met with regard to the minimum barn space and outside access areas that must be available to calves. If transitional

regulations for minimum barn spaces and outside access areas are taken advantage of, the points 3.10.1.2 and 3.10.5.3 apply.

3.10.5 Pasturage and outside access

All animals must have constant access to open air areas, preferably pasturage, , if the condition of the soil and the weather conditions allow it. Furthermore herbivores must always have access to pasturage whenever the conditions allow it.
In no case, for animals with a life cycle of more than a year, should it go below 180 outside access days, distributed throughout the year.
Outside access under the mentioned conditions is also possible in the winter.
If cattle is permitted pasture access during pasture time and if the keeping is in a loose housing, the commitment to outside access all year round is not necessary. Only in case of a lack of space on the farm it may go below 180 outside access days in the husbandry.

For tethered cattle:

In no case can animals with a life cycle of more than a year, have less than 180 days of outside access distributed throughout the year. The Animal Needs Index ANI (TGI) must be followed.
Outside access under the mentioned conditions is also possible in the winter. For disadvantageous conditions, such as lack of space, and at least 21 ANI (TGI) points in the husbandry for cattle, there are transition regulations exemptions up to December 31, 2013 at the latest.

3.10.5.1 Equipping outside areas

Runs areas are to be equipped with protection against rain, sun, cold or heat where necessary. Constantly used runs are to be paved (closed) or equipped with slatted floors. Particular care is to be taken to ensure that over-grazing, trampling down of the soil, erosion or other environmental damages caused by animals are avoided. Outside areas may be partially roofed over. A minimum 10% of the minimum outside access area (m^2/animals) must not be roofed over. The gutter counts into the roof area.

3.10.5.2 Minimum outside access areas

	Live weight (kg)	**Outside access (outside area excluding pasture areas)- (m^2/animal)**
Breeding and fattening bovine	up to 100 up to 200 up to 350 over 350	1.1 1.9 3 3.7; at least 0.75m^2/100 kg
Dairy cows		4.5
Breeding bulls		30
Horses	For stable constructions after January 1, 2005: outside access area a minimum of double the size of the single box area, if there is no possibility for the animal to move around repeatedly at week; for older barns the values indicated in the minimum outside access areas for cattle apply.	

Horse exercise areas and the fencing around the paddock must be arranged in a way that sharp angles are avoided. The use of barbed wire or wide mesh fences is forbidden.

3.10.5.3 Transition regulations for outside access area for existing barns

If the stables were constructed before 24 August, 1999, the minimum requirements of the Austrian Codex Alimentarius Chapter 8 as per August 1999 have been complied with, and if the holdings have taken advantage of the following transitional regulations:

- too small outside access areas, however a minimum of half of the domestic determined minimum barn area as indicated in the Austrian Codex Alimentarius Chapter A8 as per August 1999

- too small outside access areas (small than half of the minimum barn area which was determined nationwide in 1999) due to lack of space
- missing outside access areas due to lack of space.

The organic regulations must be complied with as from January 1, 2011. Who is not going to undertake the necessary adaptations by January 1, 2011, must apply for an extension of the exemption until the end of 2013 at the competent regional authority. Together with the application a plan must be submitted indicating the way the organic regulations will be complied with as from January 1, 2014. The holdings to which the authority has allowed their application are going to have two inspections per year by the organic body as from January 1, 2011.

3.10.6 Keeping in the open all year round

For every animal there must be available a roofed, dry and bedded lying area with wind protection to the extent that all animals can lie undisturbed at the same time.
If feeding needs cannot be covered sufficiently by pasture then additional feeding stuff must be offered. Even at low temperatures this supply must be secured and the amount and energy content of the existing feedstuffs sufficient to cover the energy need of the animals.
The soil in the permanently used feeding and drinking area must be paved.
Sick and injured animals are kept separately and protected.

3.11. Sheep and goat husbandry

Basics of the husbandry appropriate to the species of sheep and goats

An animal appropriate sheep and goat husbandry must enable the animals to fulfil their physiological and behavioural needs. Therefore it is also necessary to supply

- species appropriate nutrition and feeding methods:
  Sheep spend the greater part of their day with grazing and rumination. During feeding goats have a strong need for selection. They use many different types of feedstuffs.
- Sufficient freedom to move and space to take up resting and sleep positions:
  Sheep generally keep their sleep places, higher places are preferred. Goats have a distinct exploration behaviour and need climbing possibilities.
- Social contacts and, if possible a stable herd structure:
  Sheep are “patient sufferers”, goats need sufficient possibility to avoid and to withdraw.
- Protection against unsuitable weather conditions, injuries, parasites, diseases and behaviour disturbances.
- Dry, airy but draft free barns.

3.11.1 Barns

3.11.1.1 Stock density

Minimum barn area (net area available to the animals) (m^2 - animal)	
Sheep and goats	1.5 per sheep/goat, ram, billy goat 0.35 per lamb/kid after separation from the mother (separate keeping): 0.5 per lamb/kid (up to 6 months) 0.6 per young lamb, young kids (6 – 12 months)
In single boxes possible, m^2/animal	
Breeding ram, billy goat Separate keeping during lambing for: mother sheep/goat with 1 lamb/kid mother sheep/goat with 2 lambs/kids	3 2/1.85 2.30/2.20

3.11.1.2 Transitional regulations for minimum area requirements

If the barn was constructed before 24 August 1999 and the stall area conforms to the national requirements (Chapter A8 of the Austrian Codex Alimentarius) as valid August 1999, then the minimum barn areas described in point 3.11.1.1 do not have to be fulfilled until January 1,2011. Who is not going to undertake the necessary adaptations by January 1, 2011, must apply for an extension of the exemption until December 31, 2013 at the competent regional authority. Together with the application a plan must be submitted indicating the way the organic regulations are going to be complied with as from January 1, 2014. The holdings to which the authority has allowed their application are going to have two inspections per year by the organic body as from January 1, 2011.

3.11.1.3 Barn flooring and barn facilities

Half of the minimum required area must be paved and non-slippery. Comfortable, clean, dry lying and resting spaces of adequate size must be available for all animals, so that all animals can lie there unhindered at the same time. These may not be perforated and must contain dry bedding material. The area of space available for reclining must be equal to at least one third of the total minimum barn area requirement.

3.11.1.4 Feeding areas and drinking facilities

In case of rationed or timely limited feeding intake the width of the feeding area per animal must be calculated so that all animals can feed simultaneously (animal-feeding area-ratio 1 :1).. If the animals are fed in group keeping ad lib in all-day feeding, the ratio of animal-feeding place must not be less than 2.5 : 1.

Functional drinking facilities with clean drinking water must be continuously available to the animals.

The minimum requirements for the size of the feeding and drinking facilities according to the Austrian animal protection law (Tierhalteverordnung BGBl II 485/2004, Section 3: sheep and Section 4: goats, point 2.6) are to be followed.

3.11.1.5 Light

The barns must have open or transparent surfaces (tight size*) measurements to the extent of a minimum 3% of the barn floor surface, where daylight can flow in. In the animal space of the barn there must be minimum 8 hours a day light with a strength of minimum 40 Lux. * corresponds with the plastered and insulated wall opening

3.11.1.6 Barn climate

In closed barns there must be natural or mechanical air condition and ventilation plants. These are constantly to be used, regulated and maintained so that their function is secured Harmful drafts in the animal area are to be avoided.

3.11.1.7 Animal care

Sheep must be shorn a minimum of once a year, if it is necessary for the species. The condition of the feet must be checked regularly and, if necessary, foot treatment is to be undertaken.

3.11.2 Tethering

Tethering is generally forbidden. Animals are to be kept in groups. The tethering or the isolation of animals is only permitted for individual animals, if this is timely limited for security reasons, for reasons of animal protection or for veterinary reasons, e.g. in case of illness.

3.11.3 Pasturage and outside access

All animals must have constant access to to the open air areas, preferably pasturage, if the condition of the soil and the weather conditions allow it.

Furthermore, herbivores must always have access to pasturage whenever the circumstances allow it.

In no case, for animals with a life cycle of more than a year, should it go below 180 outside access days, distributed throughout the year.
Outside access under the mentioned conditions is also possible in the winter.
If the animals are permitted pasture during the grazing period, the commitment to outside access all year round is not necessary. But in husbandry only in case of a lack of space on a farm it may go below 180 outside access days.

3.11.3.1 Equipping outside areas:
Outside access areas are to be equipped with protection against rain, sun, cold or heat where necessary. Regular used runs are to be paved (closed).
Particular care is to be taken to ensure that over-grazing, trampling down of the soil, erosion or other environmental damages caused by animals are avoided. Outside areas may be partially roofed over. A minimum of 10% of the minimum outside area (m^2/animal) is not to be roofed. The gutter counts as roof area. If the farms cannot offer pasturage for their dairy goats the outside access for goats must be constructed in such a way, that goats actually accept it; the outside access should be accessible for all animals at any time. The accessibility is to be guaranteed by exits are are big enough and in a sufficient amount. To make the outside access attractive for goats this must equipped with climbing facilities, protection against bad weather conditions, brushes or hay racks.

3.11.3.2 Minimum outside access areas for sheep and goats

Minimum outside access area (outside access areas exclusive of pasture areas – m^2/animal)	
Sheep/Goats	2.5
Lamb/Kid	0.5

3.11.3.3 Transitional regulations for outside access areas
If the barn was constructed before August 24, 1999 and the minimum requirements as indicated in the Austrian Codex Alimentarius Chapter A8 as valid in August 1999 are complied with, and if the holdings have taken advantage of the following transitional regulations:

- too small outside access areas, however a minimum of half of the domestic determined minimum barn area as indicated in the Austrian Codex Alimentarius Chapter A8 as per August 1999
- too small outside access areas (small than half of the minimum barn area which was determined nationwide in 1999) due to lack of space
- missing outside access areas due to lack of space

the organic regulations must be complied with as from January 1, 2011. Who is not going to undertake the necessary adaptations by January 1, 2011, must apply for an extension of the exemption until the end of 2013 at the competent regional authority. Together with the application a plan must be submitted indicating the way the organic regulations will be complied with as from January 1, 2014. The holdings to which the authority has allowed their application are going to have two inspections per year by the organic body as from January 1, 2011.

3.11.4 Keeping in the open all year round

For every animal there must be available a roofed, dry and bedded lying area with wind protection to the extent that all animals can lie undisturbed at the same time.
If feeding needs cannot be covered sufficiently by pasture, additional feedstuffs must be offered. Even at low temperatures this supply must be secured and the amount and energy content of the existing feedstuffs are sufficient to cover the energy need of the animals.
The soil in the permanently used feeding and drinking area must be paved. Sick and injured animals are kept separately and protected.

3.12. Swine husbandry

An animal appropriate swine husbandry must enable the animals to fulfil their physiological and behavioural needs. Therefore it is also necessary to

- Possibilities for occupation, grubbing and cooling down. Pigs spend most of their day investigating and foraging. Wallowing is an important part of comfort behaviour and serves for cooling down and as a defence against ectoparasites.
- Structured pens which enable the separation of excrement, lying and feeding places. This way sleep nests are made for resting and sleeping . Pigs frequent different places for excrement. The feeding and resting places are kept clean.
- Species appropriate nutrition and feeding methods.
- Group keeping with manageable group sizes and if possible stable social structure.
- Special facilities for undisturbed littering
- Protection against unsuitable weather conditions, injuries, parasites, diseases and behaviour disturbances.

3.12.1 Barns for pigs

3.12.1.1 Stock density

Minimum barn space (net area available to the animals):		
	Live weight (kg)	Minimum area (m^2/animal)
Nursing sows with piglets up to 40 days of age		7.5
Piglets	over 40 days and up to 30 kg	0.6
Fattening pigs	up to 50 up to 85 up to 110 over 110	0.8 1.1 1.3 1.5
Breeding sows		2.5
Breeding boars		6.0

If the bay is used as a covering bay then the minimum barn space requirement is 10m^2.
For group keeping of more than 6 animals then every side of the bay must be at least 2.80 m long.
For group keeping of up to 5 animals at least one side of the bay must be more than 2.40 m long. That applies for all pig barns that are newly built, rebuilt, or used for the first time after January 1, 2003 and
after January 1, 2013 for all keeping facilities.
Piglets may not be kept in flat deck batteries or piglet cages.

3.12.1.2 Transitional regulations for minimum area requirements

If the barn was constructed before August 24, 1999 and the stall area conforms to the national requirements (Chapter A8 of the codex of the Austrian Food Administration) as valid August 1999, then the minimum barn areas as described in point 3.12.1.1 do not have to be fulfilled until January 1, 2011. Who is not going to undertake the necessary adaptations by January 1, 2011, must apply for an extension of the exemption until the end of 2013 at the competent regional authority. Together with the application a plan must be submitted indicating the way the organic regulations will be complied with as from January 1, 2014. The holdings to which the authority has allowed their application are going to have two inspections per year by the organic body as from January 1, 2011.
For any holding with pig husbandry in the transition regulation a minimum of 24 ANI (TGI) points are reached.

3.12.1.3 Barn flooring and facilities
Half of the minimum required barn area must be paved and non-slippery.
Comfortable, clean and dry lying /resting spaces of adequate size must be available for all animals so that all animals can rest there unobstructed at the same time. These may not be perforated and must contain dry bedding material.

3.12.2 Barn climate

In closed barns there must be natural or mechanical air condition and ventilation plants. These are constantly to be used appropriately or to be regulated and to be maintained, so that their function is secured. Harmful drafts in the animal area are to be avoided.

3.12.3 Light

The barns must have window surfaces or other open or transparent surfaces (tight size*) measurements to the extent of a minimum 3% of the barn floor surface, where daylight can flow in. In the animal space of the barn there must be minimum 8 hours a day light with a strength of minimum 40 Lux. (* corresponds with the plastered and insulated wall opening)

3.12.4 Group husbandry

Tethering is generally forbidden. Pigs, including sows, are to be kept in groups. Individual management is acceptable only in late pregnancy and during the suckling period. Sick or injured pigs are allowed to be separated from their group for a limited period of time. Several separation pens must be available in sufficient quantities.

3.12.5 Care for pregnant sows and young sows

Pregnant or young sows must, if necessary, be treated against ecto- or endoparasites. Before being put in farrowing pens the animals must be carefully cleaned. In the week before the expected farrowing the animals need to be given nest bedding in sufficient quantities. They must be provided with sufficient basic feedstuffs and feedstuffs with high crude fibre content, as well as concentrated feed.

3.12.6 Feeding places and drinking facilities

In case of rationed or timely limited feed intake the width of the feeding area per animal must be calculated so that all animals can feed simultaneously (animal-feeding place-ratio 1 : 1).
For reservoir feeding with dry feeding machines there must be one feeding place for every four animals. For reservoir feeding with wet- or mash feeding machines there must be at least one feeding place for every eight animals.
Functional drinking facilities with clean drinking water must be available to the animal all day long.
The minimum requirements for the size of feeding and drinking facilities according to the Austrian animal protection law (Tierhalteverordnung BGBl II, 485/2004, Section 5, point 2.8) are to be followed.

3.12.7 Outside access

All animals must have access to pasture, access to the open or at least a paved exercise yard, if the condition of the soil and the weather conditions allow it. In no case, for animals with a life cycle of more than one year, should it go below 180 outside access days, distributed throughout the year. Outside access under the mentioned conditions is also possible in the winter.
For farms with a lack of space, if at least 24 ANI (TGI) points are reached, exemptions apply in the sense of a transition regulation up to December 31, 2013. They can be found in Section 3.12.7.3.

3.12.7.1 Equipping outside areas:
Outside access areas are to be equipped with protection against rain, sun, cold or heat where necessary.
Regular used runs are to be paved (closed) or equipped with slatted floors.

Since outside runs must provide opportunities for rooting, paved areas should have at least hay/straw racks.
Outside areas may be partially roofed over. A minimum of 10% of the minimum outside area (m^2/animal) is not to be roofed. The gutter counts as roof area.

3.12.7.2 Minimum outside access for pigs

	Live weight (kg)	**Minimum outside access area (outside areas not including pasture) (m^2/animal)**
Nursing sows with piglets up to 40 days old		2.5
Fattening pigs	up to 50 up to 85 up to 110 over 110	0.6 0.8 1 1.2
Piglets	over 40 days and up to 30 kg	0.4
Breeding sows		1.9
Breeding boars		8.0

3.12.7.3 Transitional regulations for outside access areas

If the barn was constructed before August 24, 1999, the minimum requirements as indicated in Chapter A8 of the codex of the Austrian Food Administration as valid in August 1999 are complied with, and the holdings have taken advantage of the following transitional regulations:

- too small outside access areas, however a minimum of half of the national minimum barn area as indicated in the Austrian Codex Alimentarius Chapter A8 as per August 1999
- outside access for sows with piglets during the suckling period.
- too small outside access areas (small than half of the national minimum barn area as per 1999) due to lack of space
- missing outside access areas due to lack of space,

the organic regulations must be complied with as from January 1, 2011. Who is not going to undertake the necessary adaptations by January 1, 2011, must apply for an extension of the exemption until the end of 2013 at the competent regional authority. Together with the application a plan must be submitted indicating the way the organic regulations are going to be complied with as from January 1, 2014. The holdings to which the authority has allowed their application are going to have two inspections per year by the organic body as from January 1, 2011.

3.13. Poultry Management

Basics of the husbandry appropriate to the species of chicken

An animal appropriate chicken husbandry must enable the animals to fulfil their physiological and behavioural needs. Especially for high performance laying hens it is important to fulfil all behavioural needs from the chick onwards, as behaviour disturbances such as pecking of feathers and cloacas and cannibalism can occur more often. A species appropriate husbandry must fulfil the following:

- A minimum offer of space in the barn as well as a suitable outdoor area or pasture access
- A separation of the barn into resting and activity zones.
- Chickens possess a varied repertoire of behaviours that concern life and foraging on the ground. They show an extensive comfort behaviour including sand and sunbathing.Thereforebehaviour relevant facilities like suitable nests, scrabble areas, sand bathing possibilities, sitting poles at various levels etc. are important.

- Feeding appropriate to needs and behaviour as well as sufficient feeding and drinking facilities.
- Sufficient daylight in the barn.
- A barn climate with little dust and contaminants.
- Protection from sickness, morbid conditions, injuries and scavengers

3.13.1 Housing

3.13.1.1 Stock density

As "**usable barn space**" count an unrestricted accessible, minimum 30 cm wide and highest 14% (=6.3°) tilted area with headroom of a minimum 45 cm (minimum distance between levels). The nest area, its approach grids, advanced sitting poles and surfaces in the outside scrabble space are not part of the usable barn space. In systems with more stacked situated levels, usable barn space is all the lattice or grid surfaces, that can be cleared of dung with dung clearing facilities directly under it, as well as the bedded barn floor surface.

Minimum barn space (net area available to the animals):		
	Number animals/m^2	Nest
Laying hens	6 animals/m^2; in case of outside scrabble space considered in conformity with the regulations max. 7 animals /m^2 of usable space in the barn (definition of outside scrabble space will follow)	5* laying hens per nest or in the case of a group nest: 120 cm^2/animal
Laying hens in aviaries	Maximum 7 animals/m^2 usable barn space (for closed barn openings maximum 14 animals/m^2 barn surface space)	5* laying hens per nest or in the case of a group nest: 120 cm^2/animal
Table poultry (in permanent housing)	10 animals/m^2, maximum allowable live weight 21 kg/m^2; geese maximum 15 kg/m^2; in case of outside scrabble space considered in conformity with the regulations: broilers and turkeys maximum 28 kg/m^2, broilers maximum 12 animals/m^2 of usable space in the barn.	
Table poultry (in moveable housing)	16 animals/m^2, maximum allowable live weight 30 kg/m^2, only if the floor area in the moveable houses are maximum 150 m^2; geese maximum 15 kg/m^2, ducks maximum 25 kg/m^2.	
* Nests must be provided with natural, mouldable materials.		

Outside scratching area (outside climatic area)

An outside scratching area that is considered in conformity with the regulations must fulfil the following conditions:

An **outside or cold scratching area** describes an outside climate area, that is roofed, not insulated, littered, with light, that is bordered on one or more sides with grids or wind nets or other equipment; this area is not considered to be part of the usable space in the barn and

- during the whole activity phase (light phase, natural and artificial light) is accessible for the animals through all barn openings
- comprises a minimum of one third (minimum one quarter for the raising of young chickens up to 18 weeks) of the usable barn space inside the barn,
- is roofed, has automatic sliding openings or hatches, illumination, fencing and wind protection facility,
- is littered,
- has a minimum height of 1.5 m,

- is positioned on the same level as the barn and respectively the difference in levels between barn and outside scratching area is maximum 80 cm (maximum 50 cm for the raising of young chickens up to the age of 18 weeks). The difference in levels may only be maximum of 40 cm in the case of broilers and for wild turkeys maximum 25 cm. Higher differences in level in case of broilers and wild turkeys can be overcome with descend and ascent aids, but need to be approved by BIO AUSTRIA.
- have openings from the inside of the barn into the outside scratching area, that fulfil the requirements for openings to the outside (wild turkeys: minimum width: 80 cm; minimum height 60 cm; laying hens and broilers: minimum width: 40 cm, minimum height: 35 cm).

3.13.1.2 Definition of a poultry barn/house

A poultry barn is a closed unit with its own airspace drinking and feeding belts and with outside access for animals around the barn.

Such a poultry barn may not house 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 ducks of any kind, or 2,500 capons, geese or turkeys.

One holding may not have more than 1,600 m^2 barn area for poultry intended for meat production. The overall maximum limit per farm is 9,600 animals in case of broilers.

3.13.1.3 Barn floor

At least 1/3 of the floor space available to the animals must be paved and strewn with litter (structured material like straw, wood chips, etc.) and must be available to the animals as scratching area. A sufficiently large area of the available barn's floor area is to function as a droppings pit for laying hens.

3.13.1.4 Design of the perches

20 cm per bird in form of raised perches must be available for laying hens and guinea fowl. Furthermore, the perches for laying hens may not be over the litter-strewn area, and may not have sharp edges. If grates are installed over the droppings pit, then 1 m^2 of grate may replace 3 running m of perch. However, at least half of the required perches must be arranged in a terraced manner, in which the horizontal distance between the perches is at least 30 cm, and the distance from perch to wall at least 20 cm. Raised perches must be constructed at a minimum of 35 cm over the usable space in the barn.

3.13.1.5 Keeping of laying hens in aviaries

The keeping of laying hens in aviaries is only allowed in connection with an outside scratching area, if the following parameters are fulfilled:

- Existence of an outside scratching area that is considered in conformity with the regulationsset
- correctly implemented aviary with a maximum of three levels (i.e. floor plus three levels; if three levels, than the highest level has to be arranged as a resting area with sitting poles).
- Stock density see 3.13.1.1

3.13.1.6 Openings to the outside area

In case of poultry openings to the outside area of at least 4 m wide per 100 m^2 of the barn area which is available to the animals must be provided.

In case of laying hens, pullets and broilers individual openings to the outside area must be at least 35 cm high and 40 cm wide, and must be distributed in a manner that they can be easily used by all birds as a connection between barn and yard. For turkeys the minimum width per opening is 80 cm and the minimum height 60 cm.

3.13.1.7 Light

In poultry barns a luminous intensity of minimum 20 lux has to be reached in the light – phase (recommended value: window space – tight size* = minimum 3% of the minimum barn area) *corresponds with the plastered and insulated wall opening

Artificial light may be used.

Only high frequency fluorescent tubes or other light sources are used that cause no stroboscopic effect. An uninterrupted night-time phase of at least eight hours without artificial light must be observed. For light changes gliding of staged or graduated transitions are obligatory. If heavy feather pecking occurs, then daylight in the inside of the barn can be shaded temporarily (a minimum of 5 lux). For pullets access to an outside scratching area must be available in this case.

3.13.1.8 Feeding places and drinking facilities

Functional drinking facilities with clean drinking water must be continuously available to the animals If nipple watering places/facilities or drinking cups are used, for every keeping unit (group) there must be at least two units in reach.

The distribution of the feeding and drinking facilities must allow all animals to have unobstructed access. The minimum requirements for the size of feeding and drinking facilities for alternative keeping systems according to the Austrian animal protection law (Tierhalteverordnung BGBl. II 485/2004,
Section 6, point 3.1) are to be followed.

3.13.1.9 Barn Hygiene

All stall buildings, facilities and tools that are in contact with the animals, must be regularly cleaned and disinfected completely after every complete clearance of one party of animals and before the introduction of the next party of animals. As long as the barns are occupied, all surfaces and facilities have to be kept clean.

Excrements are to be removed as often as necessary, dead animals daily. All animals have to be controlled at least once a day. Sick or injured animals must be separated if necessary or be kept separately.

Cleaning and disinfection agents: The permitted substances for cleaning and disinfection of poultry barns can be seen in point 3.6. A list of agents for cleaning and disinfection that conform to the regulations is included in the agricultural supply catalogue for organic farming. If other agents than those listed are to be used then before the purchase the inspection authority must be consulted.

Insect treatment in poultry barns: Products that consist of substances qualified for organic farming (see point 3.7) are listed in the current agricultural supply catalogue.

3.13.1.10 Barn climate, noise

In closed barns there are natural or mechanical air condition and ventilation plants. The exchange of air must happen constantly and be sufficient without effecting harmful drafts.

Where the well-being of the animals depend on the air conditioning system, an alarm system and a suitable replacement system must be in place.

The noise level must be reduced to a minimum. Constant or sudden noise is to be avoided. The construction, the placement, the alarm system and the operation of the ventilation plants, the feeding machines or other machines are to be regulated in such a manner that they produce as little noise as possible.

3.13.1.11 Transitional regulations for poultry barns

If the barn was constructed before August 24, 1999, the minimum requirements of the Austrian Codex Alimentarius Chapter A8 as valid per August 1999 have been complied with and the farms have taken advantage of the following transitional regulations:

- Minimum barn area, see point 3.13.1.1
- Upper limits regarding the number of animals per barn as indicated in point 3.13.1.2

- Regulations concerning dimensions of scratching areas and droppings pit, see 3.13.1.3
- Regulations concerning openings to exercise yard, see Section 3.13.1.6

the organic regulations must be complied with as from January 1, 2011. Who is not going to undertake the necessary adaptations by January 1, 2011, must apply for an extension of the exemption until the end of 2013 at the competent regional authority. Together with the application a plan must be submitted indicating the way the organic regulations are going to be complied with as from January 1, 2014. The holdings to which the authority has allowed their application are going to have two inspections per year by the organic body as from January 1, 2011.

3.13.2 Outside access

All animals must have access to open air areas, preferably pasture, , whenever the weather conditions and the condition of the ground/soil allow it.
For disadvantageous conditions, such as lack of space, there are transition regulations until December 31, 2013 (see point 3.13.2.5).
Free range management of laying hens must include a pasture area, mainly plant-covered, of at least 10 m^2 per animal. The outside access area must be provided with protective facilities protecting against adverse weather conditions and predators and if necessary with an adequate number of drinking troughs. Particular care must be given to avoid over-grazing.
Outside access areas for laying hens must be within a radius of maximum 150 m of the poultry barn. The outside area borders directly the opening to the outside of the barn and outside scratching area or forecourt respectively. Tunnels or similar measures to overcome obstacles are not permitted.

3.13.2.1 Use of the outside area

The outside area must be freely accessible all day, whenever the weather conditions and the condition of the soil allow it. In the summer term preferably all day round, but for a minimum 8 hours, in the winter term a minimum of 4 hours per day. If the outside temperatures are below the freezing point, the outside access time can be limited to lunchtime or in justified cases (e.g. danger of freezing) be cancelled.

3.13.2.2 Equipping outside areas

It is recommended to offer the animals a forecourt covered with gravel, wood chips or concrete following the poultry barn and the outside scratching area Furthermore a possibility for dust bath should be provided In case of moveable barns it is not recommended to fortify them, if the area of the forecourt changes with each party.
The care for the forecourt must take account of hygienic necessities in order to reduce the transmission of diseases via rodents or wild birds and others (regular clearing of excrements and
feedstuffs rests).

The forecourt can be separated from the pasture area by a fence. The connection of the forecourt with the pasture must have at least the same wide openings as the openings to the outside areas of the barn,
Fruit orchards, woodland or pastures, as far as woodland and pastures are approved by the competent authorities, are also considered to be green outside access areas.
Paddock management is recommended in case of laying hens and turkeys, with paddocks of minimum 5 m^2 per paddock and animal.

3.13.2.3 Outside area rest

In case of poultry that is raised in lots and kept in limited access to ouside areas a rest of four weeks should be kept between production cycles. These necessities do not apply for poultry that is not kept in restricted outside areas, but runs free all day.

3.13.2.4 Minimum outside access areas for poultry

	Minimum outside areas
Laying hens	10 m^2/animal, as long as the upper limit of 170 kg/N/ha/year is not exceeded*
Table poultry (in fixed housing)	Broilers and guinea fowls: 4 m^2/animal Ducks:4.5 m^2/animal Turkeys: 10 m^2/animal Geese: 15 m"/animal The upper limit of 170 kg/N per ha per year may not be exceeded by any of the poultry types.
Table poultry (in mobile housing)	Ducks, broilers and guinea fowls: 2.5 m^2/animal Geese and turkeys: 10 m^2/animal The upper limit of 170 kg/N per ha per year may not be exceeded by any of the poultry types.
* Floor management with outside access is possible until December 31,2013 (see 3.13.2.5): Outside access of at least 1 m^2 per 5 laying hens in the form of a paved exercise yard must be freely available for at least 8 hours a day and for at least 200 days a year.	

3.13.2.5 Transitional regulations for outside access areas

If the barn was constructed before August 24, 1999, the minimum requirements as indicated in the Austrian Codex Alimentarius Chapter A8 as valid per August 1999 are complied with and the farms have taken advantage of the following transitional regulations:

- too small outside access areas, however a minimum of half of the national minimum barn area as indicated in the Austrian Codex Alimentarius Chapter A8 as per August 1999
- missing outside access areas due to lack of space
- missing vegetation and protective cover in outside access areas for poultry,

the organic regulations must be complied with as from January 1, 2011. Who is not going to undertake the necessary adaptations by January 1, 2011, must apply for an extension of the exemption until the end of 2013 at the competent regional authority. Together with the application a plan must be submitted indicating the way the organic regulations are going to be complied with as from January 1, 2014. The holdings to which the authority has allowed their application are going to have two inspections per year by the organic body as from January 1, 2011.

3.13.2.6 Water access for waterfowl

As far as climatic conditions and hygiene requirements allow it, waterfowl must have access to a becks, ponds, lakes or water basins, so that the animals can live according to their typal needs and the requirements related to animal protection are fulfilled. . Water containers must be constructed in such a manner that they allow at least the dipping of head and neck with subsequent scooping movement. If it is not a through-flow system then the containers have to be emptied and cleaned regularly. To rest the pasture, the containers have to be moved frequently. The frequency must be adapted to the local requirements as that there is no puddling. The minimum water depth is 10 cm.

3.13.3 Minimum slaughter ages

The following ages at slaughter apply to poultry:
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 Mulard ducks
94 days for Guinea hens
140 days for male turkeys and geese
100 days for female turkeys
The minimum slaughter ages need not be applied to slow-growing breeds.

3.14. Regulations for the rearing of young chickens

The special part on poultry is always to be read together with the general part on poultry in point 3.13.

In addition to the general regulations (chapter 1) and the regulations on livestock husbandry (section 3.1 - 3.7and 3.13) the following regulations for the rearing of young chickens apply:

The young chickens shall during their rearing learn natural behaviourism and be able to execute it in a laying barn. Thus possible behaviour disturbances shall be avoided. The barn system in the upbringing barn shall be compliment with the laying hen barn as far as possible. Therefore the young chicken upbringing for laying hens in aviaries should also happen in aviaries. In-breeding resistance and a natural immunity shall be developed and built up.

3.14.1 Animal stock

In one barn unit with its own outside area, no more than 4,800 young chickens shall be kept. Up to the age of three weeks a rearing of a total of maximum 9,600 animals is permitted, separated into at least two groups of maximum 4,800 animals respectively.

3.14.2 Conditions of husbandry

3.14.2.1 Stock density

maximum 35 animals/m^2 usable barn area up to the age of 3 weeks
maximum 20 animals/m^2 usable barn area up to the age of 6 weeks
maximum 14 animals/m^2 usable barn area up to the age of 10 weeks
maximum 10 animals/m^2 usable barn area up to the age of 18 weeks

For barns with outside scratching area according to the regulations a stock density of maximum 12 animals/m^2 usable barn area between week 11 and 18 is possible. For a definition of usable barn area and outside scratching area see point 3.13.1.1.

3.14.2.2 Equipping of the barn

From the first day of life for the chicks on there are cascaded sitting poles. The minimum distance to the floor is 15 cm. In addition from the first day on structures in the barn are recommended (e.g. hay or straw bales).
Up to the end of week 10: 4 cm sitting pole/animal
From the week 11 on: 10 cm sitting pole/animal.
Unlike that, in aviaries as from week 11 the structures of the higher levels are sufficient as sitting poles. The chicks must have litter from the first day on with sand partitions for free disposal. At least one third of the barn must be a littered scratching area. The bedding is to be kept dry, loose and clean.

3.14.2.3 Organic young chicken rearing in aviaries

The aviary husbandry for organic young chicken rearing is permitted. Only aviaries with a maximum of three levels are permitted (ground space + three levels), whereas the third level is to be equipped as a resting area. The same stock densities/m^2 usable barn area as in other husbandry systems apply, the limit is a maximum of 24 animals/m^2 barn floor.

3.14.2.4 Light – see point 3.13.1.7

If heavy feather pecking occurs, then daylight in the inside of the barn can be shaded temporarily (a minimum of 5 lux), if access to an outside scratching area is given.

3.14.3 Outside scratching area and run

3.14.3.1 Openings to th outside access areas – see point 3.13.1.6

3.14.3.2 Outside scratching area
At least from week ten on during activity times the animals need to have access to a regulation compliant outside climate area (outside scratching area definition see 3.13.1.1). Excepted are holdings with a stock size of less than 200 young chickens or with mobile barns, as long as green outside access is provided.

3.14.3.3 Green run (in addition to point 3.13.2)
From week 12 at the latest the chickens need green outside access. On days with extreme weather conditions (e.g. snow), access to the outside scratching is sufficient. The green run must comprise of at least 0.5m^2/animal. Only areas within a radius of 50 meters from the openings to the outside count as outside access area.

In buildings operating young chicken rearing which had already existed before January 1,2002 and have no regulation compliant outside scratching area, a green run is sufficient.

3.15. Free-range broiler husbandry

The special part on poultry is always to be read together with the general part on poultry 3.13.
In addition to the general regulations (Chapter 1) and the regulations on livestock husbandry (chapter 3.1 3.7 and 3.13), the following requirements apply to holdings of over 100 broilers:

3.15.1 Number of animals

3.15.1.1 Maximum number of animals per barn - see point 3.13.1.2
No more than 4,800 broilers may be kept in one barn.
1 Overall limits per holding
The total allowable number of broilers per farm is 9,600 broilers.

3.15.2 Husbandry

3.15.2.1 Stock density
The following stock densities per m^2 of usable barn area are permissible:
Chicken rearing: maximum. 35 animals/m^2 until the end of the 4th week of age (28 days)
Fattening stage maximum 10 animals/m^2 from the 5th week of age.
More than 21 kg live weight/m2 usable barn area may not be exceeded in any case.
In case of barns with a regulation compliant outside scratching area (definition usable barn area and outside scratching area see 3.13.1.1) a stock density of a maximum of 12 animals /m^2 of usable barn area is possible. The maximum stock density in the barn may not exceed 28 kg live weight per m^2 net area which is constantly available to the animals.

3.15.2.2 Litter
The chickens use the litter in the barn area to create a loose, dry, deep litter. Grain should be added to the litter regularly, so that the chickens break it up and loosen it.

3.15.3 Outside access- in addition to point 3.13.2

Outside access is to be made available to the chickens from the fifth week of age (in well-founded cases from the sixth week at the latest, admission through BIO AUSTRIA is required).

3.15.3.1 Openings to exercise yard – in addition to point 3.13.1.6
Animals must be able to reach the openings easily. Distance to the openings to the exercise yard should not exceed 12 m for chickens. In newly constructed barns distances to the openings may not exceed 12 m for chickens. Areas that are farther than 12 m from an opening to the outside exercise yard are not calculated as barn area.

The minimum width per opening to the exercise yard is 40 cm, the minimum height is 35 cm.
During cold weather periods and at the beginning of the fattening period, the openings may be reduced enough to maintain an adequate barn temperature, while still allowing the animals to get outside.

3.15.3.2 Green run, Pasture area – in addition to point 3.13.2
Distances of over 45 m should be avoided.

3.15.4. Breeds and minimum age for slaughter
The minimum slaughter age of 81 days need not be applied to slow-growing breeds.

3.15.5 Capture, transport, slaughter
Broilers should be handled with care during capture, transport and slaughter. The animals must be taken to the nearest slaughterhouse immediately after loading, and length of transport may not exceed six hours.

3.16. Turkey husbandry

The general part on poultry is always to be read in connection with the general part on poultry 3.13.
In addition to the general regulations (chapter 1) and the regulations on livestock husbandry (chapter 3.1 – 3.7 and 3.13) the following regulations regarding turkey husbandry apply:

3.16.1 Stocking levels

3.16.1.1 Maximum stock per barn – see point 3.13.1.2
Not more than 2,500 turkeys are to be kept in one barn.
The overall used area of poultry barns per holding does not exceed max. 1,600 m^2.

3.16.1.2 Stock density – see point 3.13.1.1
The stock density is not to exceed ten animals and max. 21 kg live weight/m^2 for fixed barns.
In case of barns with a regulations compliant outside scratching area the maximum stock density in the barn may not exceed 28 kg live weight per m^2 of the net area which is constantly available to the animals.

3.16.2 Husbandry

3.16.2.1 Barn floor litter
The usable barn floor is not to be perforated (slatted, grids) and is kept with dry and loose litter (structured material like straw, wood chips etc) as scratching room for the animals.
In order to enable the animals to act out their biological behaviour patterns as far as possible (investigation behaviour, resting zones, flight possibilities and high seat possibilities), the barn shall contain higher seats like such as straw bales or tables.

3.16.2.2 Opening to the outside area – in addition to point 3.13.1.6
The minimum width per opening to the outside area is 80 cm, the minimum height is 60 cm. For all newly built barns after July 1, 2006 the openings to the outside are to be allocated evenly over the side of the building that borders the outside area (applies for stocks over 100 animals), so that it is for all animals an easy to use connection between barn and outside area. In cold weather conditions the number of the openings can be reduced so far as a sufficient barn temperature is secured and the turkeys still have access to the outside areas.

3.16.3 Outside access – in addition to point 3.13.2
From the eighth week of age unrestricted access to the outside is possible in the daytime.
The outside access area is a minimum of 10 m^2/animal.

3.16.4 Breeds and minimum age for slaughter

The minimum slaughter age of 140 days for turkeys and 100 days for female turkeys does not have to be applied to slow growing breeds.

3.16.5 Transport and slaughter

The loading of the animals should be done with care and with the smallest stress for the animals possible. The animals must be taken to the nearest slaughterhouse immediately after loading, and the length of transport may not exceed six hours.

4. Horticulture and permanent crops (Planting, processing, storage)

4.1 Vegetable production

In addition to the pertinent general regulations (Chapter 1) and the regulations applicable to plant production (Chapter 2.1 to 2.6), the following regulations also apply to the growing and production of vegetables:

4.1.1 Humus management

The cultivation method must result in a positive humus balance. To ascertain this, the humus content of the soils must be analysed every 2 to 3 years.

4.1.2 Fertilization – in addition to the regulation point 2.1

Prior to any purchase of organic fertilisers an approval by BIO AUSTRIA is necessary.
In case of the purchase of organic fertilisers of conventional origin the quantity must be calculated in such a way that the total amount of nitrogen of 170 kg/ha of the agricultural crop land including the fertilisers of one's own farm is not exceeded. In case of vegetables the permissible amount per ha and year corresponds to:
Planting of field vegetables: maximum 80 kg N_{jw} /ha and year
Protected planting: maximum 170 kg N_{jw} /ha and year
This regulation is limited until the end of 2013.
The calculation basis is the nitrogen (N_{jw}) per year according to ÖPUL 2007.
Fresh manure (slurry, urine, fresh farm yard manure) may not be applied directly to crops from planting to harvesting (for permanent crops up to the last harvest of the particular year).

4.1.3 Cultivation of young plants

Young plants needed by the holding must either be cultivated on the premises or purchased from another organic farm. The application of CMS (cytoplasmatic male sterility) hybrids resulting from somatic fusion or cytoplastic fusion is not permitted in the planting of vegetables.

4.1.4 Soil and substrata

Vegetables may only be grown in a soil culture. Cultivation on mineral wool, hydroculture, nutrient-film technique and similar procedures are not permitted. Chicory and cress may be sprouted in water.
Peat content in substratum mixtures for the cultivation of young plants may not exceed 70% of the total amount. Peat may not be used as an organic soil supplement. Styrofoam refuse and other synthetic materials may not be used in soil or substrata.
Soils and additional substances added to substrata (e.g. commercially available soils, bark products, and commercially available compost and compost materials) may not contain any additives that are not approved in the BIO AUSTRIA regulations on planting (see 2.1.5).

4.1.5 Steam treatment of fields and soils

Steam treatment in the open is forbidden. Steam treatment of cultivating soil and substrata in plastic tunnels and greenhouses is permitted at the discretion of the consultant.

4.1.6 Cultivation under glass and plastic

During the winter (December through February), cultivated areas may be only kept free from frost (up to 10° C, 50° F). Young plants and pot plant production and the exclusive heating using only demonstrable renewable energy sources (renewable resources, wood chips, sun energy) and the use of rejected heat (biogas plants etc.) are excepted.
Greenhouses are to be well insulated.
Artificial light is forbidden(except for young plants).

4.1.7 Used plastic sheeting and other materials are to be recycled.

4.1.8 Packaging and storage

Vegetable packaging should be chosen to best preserve the quality and freshness of the product, while at the same time taking into account the environmental-friendliness of materials and production.
Styrofoam trays are not permitted.

4.2. Herb production and processing

In addition to the pertinent general regulations (Chapter 1) and the regulations applicable to plant production (Chapter 2.1 through 2.6), the following regulations also apply to the growing and processing of herbs:

Many herbs are used not only for human nutrition but also serve medicinal purposes. For this reason particular care must be taken in the cultivation and processing herbs.

4.2.1 Selection of location

Locations near densely populated areas (cities) are to be avoided. The distance to heavily used roads (motorways and main roads) must be at least 50 meters. Protective hedgerows are generally recommended in such cases. If the growing area borders on a field that is cultivated conventionally then a distance of at least 5 meters between fields is recommended. Bordering on conventional fields should be avoided if possible. Protective hedgerows are recommended.
A well-considered crop rotation plan is necessary to ensure optimal cultivation and to prevent disease.

4.2.2 Fertilization – in addition to regulation point 2.1

Fertilization and/or distribution of fresh manure (surface compost mulch) is permissible only at the end of the vegetation period. Farmyard manure prepared according to the regulations (urine, slurry, manure) may be spread only until the beginning of the growing season. During the growing season, only fully composted farmyard manure is permitted.
Prior to any purchase of organic fertilisers an approval by BIO AUSTRIA is necessary.
In case of the purchase of organic fertilisers of conventional origin the quantity must be calculated in such a way that the total amount of nitrogen of 170 kg/ha of the agricultural crop land including the fertilisers of one's own farm is not exceeded. In case of herbs the permissible amount per ha and year corresponds to:
Botanicals: maximum 80 kg N_{jw}/ha and year
Blossom products: maximum 50 kg N_{jw}/ha and year
The calculation basis is the nitrogen (N_{jw}) per year according to ÖPUL 2007.

4.2.3 Collection in the wild

The collection of edible plants (including mushrooms), and any of their parts, that occur naturally in the wild, in forests and on cultivated areas is acceptable as long as:

- It can be proven that, in the 3 years prior to the collection of the plants, the collection areas have only been treated with such substances as are specifically permitted in other chapters of these regulations.
- The collection does not affect the balance of the natural habitat and the preservation of the plant species in the collection area.

These areas are to be subjected to at least one annual inspection. All necessary records must be kept. Therefore a complete description of the farming unit must give some information on the storage and production sites, the lots of land and/or the locations of collection and if necessary about the premises where further processing or packaging steps are conducted indicating the date when agents that are not permitted have recently been spread on the concerned lots.

4.2.4 Preparation and drying

4.2.4.1 Preparation

Freshly harvested herbs are to be processed in accordance with the regulations immediately after harvest. Lengthy transport is to be avoided. During any unavoidable temporary storage

periods, the herbs are to be kept loosely piled, not too high, and protected from warming up and direct sun.
Only machines that ensure a careful handling of the crops should be used for processing and packing. Contamination with harmful substances (e.g. lubricants, oil) is to be avoided. Blades must be regularly inspected for sharpness and cleanliness.

4.2.4.2 Drying

The pre-processed fresh goods are to be dried with care immediately after preparation (cutting, sifting, etc.). Drugs containing essential (ethereal) oils may not be dried at temperatures exceeding 40°C. This temperature is to be taken as a guideline for all other drugs. In the case of drugs that tend to have a high bacterial count, such as flower drugs (Calendula officinalis, etc.) or as a preventative measure against pest contamination (e.g. Arnica montana), higher temperatures are permitted. Higher temperatures are permitted if the aesthetic quality of the product would suffer by drying at a lower temperature, thus failing to achieve the values as required by the Austrian and/or German Pharmacopoeia, (lovage, ribwort, etc.).
Any drugs that would negatively influence one another during drying may not be dried together in the same drying equipment. The recently dried product is to be filled into clean containers and labelled after the cooling phase. (minimum declaration: name of product, cut, year of harvest).

4.2.4.3 Drying room and heating

The drying room should be a separate unit. The room may not contain any materials contaminated with harmful substances (e.g. treated particle board). It is forbidden to use direct heating with fuel oil, gas, coal, or wood, or dehydration through chemical additives. Heating with renewable energy sources (regrowing resources, wood chips, sun energy) or the use of rejected heat (biogas plants etc.) is preferred if possible.

4.2.4.4 Record keeping

A batch record of drying temperatures and drying times is to be kept, which is to be made available during the annual inspection.

4.2.5 Storage

The storage space must be protected from light, dry and as cool as possible. High fluctuations in temperature are to be avoided (Recommendations: A humidity level of approx. 60% and a temperature of 19°C). Drugs must be inspected regularly and the storage areas kept clean. Storage areas are to be kept separate from processing locales.
Storage protective measures include strict supervision of stored goods (inc. pest monitoring with pheromone traps etc.) and freezing of endangered wares. Should these measures prove insufficient, storage areas may only be treated with pest control substances that are permitted in organic agriculture (see point 2.5 and 2.6). A list of permissible substances can be found in the current agricultural supply catalogue.
Chemical and radioactive disinfestation and disinfection agents are strictly forbidden. For the entire processing and storage records about charges and amounts are to be kept in order to make steady flow of goods traceable.

4.2.6 Ingredients

Ingredients must come from BIO AUSTRIA farms or from farms belonging to an association recognized by BIO AUSTRIA as equivalent. If for climatic or technical reasons no domestic BIO AUSTRIA products are available, then other organic goods may be obtained.
Drugs collected from the wild must be declared as such on the packaging. (Ingredient "…"from collection from the wild.)

4.2.7 Packaging

Packaging for herbs should be chosen to best preserve the quality and freshness of the product, while at the same time taking into account environmental-friendliness in respect to materials and production.

4.3. Fruit production (stone and pomaceous fruits, strawberries and berries)

In addition to the pertinent general regulations (Chapter 1) and the regulations as applicable to plant production (Chapter 2.1 through 2.6), the following regulations also apply to the growing and the production of fruit:

Since orchards are perennial crops, it is important to preserve as diverse an ecological balance as possible.

4.3.1 Choice of species and variety

The choice of fruit species and varieties must be in accordance with the suitability of the intended location. The orchard's surroundings as well as accompanying cultivation (flowering plants, bushes, hedges…) must be considered particularly carefully.

4.3.2 Crown structure

Trees with a loosely-structured crown are desirable, so that leaves and fruit receive as much sun as possible. This is particularly important for facilities using protective hail netting. The trees should be equally balanced between branch growth and fruit formation.

4.3.3 Land planting and soil preparation and fertilization

Land planting with a planting mixture appropriate to the location is required throughout the year. In areas with extreme dryness in summer, the land planting period must be at least 10 months. The plantings may not be ploughed under in the period between the beginning of September until the end of March. Mulch cuttings are to be treated in a way that beneficial organisms are protected for example leave border areas cannot be mulched or mulched alternately). Humus content must be shown to increase. When planting new trees, a thorough preparation of the soil is especially important. Particularly in the case of young trees, the rows can be kept open using mechanical methods, or covered with organic material.

4.3.4 Fertilisation – in addition to regulation point 2.1

Prior to any purchase of organic fertilisers an approval by BIO AUSTRIA is necessary.

In case of the purchase of organic fertilisers of conventional origin the quantity must be calculated in such a way that the total amount of nitrogen of 170 kg/ha of the agricultural crop land including the fertilisers of one's own farm is not exceeded.

In case of pomiculture the permissible amount per ha and year corresponds to:

Pomaceous fruit and stone fruit including soft fruit: maximum 60 kg N_{jw}/ha and year; elder: maximum 80 kg N_{jw}/ha and year.

The calculation basis is the nitrogen (N_{jw}) per year according to ÖPUL 2007.

Manure (urine, slurry, and fresh manure) as fertilizers may not be applied as top fertilization to berry plants (i.e. strawberries), with the exception of berry plantings after harvest.

4.3.5 Conversion – in addition to regulation point 1.21

The gradual conversion of an orchard requires a detailed conversion plan. The conversion plan must be approved by BIO AUSTRIA. All requirements listed under section 1.2.1 must be fulfilled.

4.3.6 Record keeping – in addition to regulation point 2.3.3

Use of copper may not exceed 3.0 kg pure copper per hectare and year.

4.4. Wine production

In addition to the pertinent general regulations (Chapter 1) and the regulations as applicable to plant production (Chapter 2.1 through 2.6), the following regulations also apply to vineyards:

4.4.1 Land planting and soil preparation

The vineyard must be cover cropped throughout the year, in order to provide a habitat for diverse flora and fauna. Species-rich mixtures should be sown. Cover cropping may be interrupted for up to 2 months for soil preparation, winter furrowing of heavy soils, loosening of the soil, new sowing, summer drought and for new plantings. No cover cropping is necessary under the vines.

4.4.2 Plant nutrition – in addition to regulation point 2.1

Cover cropping is an important aspect of plant nutrition, supplying organic substance and nitrogen through the use of legumes. All organic materials resulting from planting and/or processing are to be either composted on a compost heap or returned to the soil in the form of surface compost mulch. Only fertilizers listed in the current agricultural supply catalogue ad in the chart 2.1.5 may be used.

4.4.3 Pest control

All vinicultural measures should be oriented towards the strengthening of the vines' resistance to disease and the encouragement of beneficial organisms. The choice of vine varieties that are appropriate to the intended location is very important, as are the training of the grape vines and vine structure. The use of chemical/synthetic insecticides, acaricides, organic fungicides and herbicides is forbidden. Only pest and disease control measures listed under section 2.3.3 of this manual are permitted.
Use of copper may not exceed 3.0 kg pure copper per hectare and year. But in exceptional cases, a higher level may be used after approval by BIO AUSTRIA.

4.4.4 Conversion requirements – in addition to regulation point 1.2.1

According to a conversion plan approved by BIO AUSTRIA the entire holding must convert to organic agriculture within a pre-determined period of time (max. five years). Before beginning conversion, a conversion plan must be submitted containing proposals pertaining to the following points:

- A soil preparation program designed to augment soil fertility,
- Creation of environmental conditions, under which the occurrence of pests and disease are reduced.

The conversion plan must be accepted by BIO AUSTRIA. Pre-conversion wines, conversion wines, and accredited wines must be clearly and comprehensibly labelled. Even after the entire holding is accredited, conventional wines and conversion wines must be correctly declared. It must be excluded that mixing of the products can occur during processing. Processing procedures must be verifiable for inspectors, and the cellar log be made available at inspection.

4.4.5 Processing

The goal of organic viticulture is the production of wine made from organically grown grapes. The product should be of a high sensory quality, taste good and be easily digestible. Resource and energy intensive procedures are to be avoided. Organic waste resulting from wine production must be recycled and returned to the soil. Waste water may not lead to environmental pollution.

4.4.6 Permitted oenological practices:

- Thermal treatments such as heating of crushed grapes and/or must to initial fermenting temperature, cooling
- Hot bottling of wine
- Treatment with air or gas using protective gas (Nitrogen, CO2) technically pure air and O2
- Filtration with the help of the following filtering agents: Kieselghur (diatomaceous earth), perlite, cellulose and filtration with membrane filters
- Concentration methods

4.4.7 Treating agents for must and wine

Only the following substances are permissible for the treatment of must and wine:
Organically grown grape juice

- Organically grown thickened grape juice concentrate
- Organically grown sugar
- Selected yeasts (dried yeast, fresh yeast from organic production)
- Lactic bacteria
- Yeast maintenance salts (diammonium phosphate, ammonium sulphate and thiamine)
- Citric acid
- Sulphuric acid in the form of SO_2 (sulfur dioxide) and potassium metabisulfite (also called kaliumpyrosulfite or potassium metabisulphite).
- Copper sulphate (maximum 0.5 g/hl, after previous analyses)

- Copper citrate (Pre and after analysis necessary, as well as obligatory report to the Federal Inspection body for cellars (“Bundeskellereiinspektion”).

Clarification by means of the following agents:
- Bentonite
- Egg white from organic agriculture
- Hausenblase (without preserving agent, dry products)
- Casein
- Pectolytic enzymes
- Silicon dioxide in the form of colloidal silica (silica sol)
- Gelatin
- Oenological charcoal (activated charcoal)

Agents needed for the de-acidification and Weinsteinausfällung:
- Calcium carbonate
- Potassium bicarbonate
- Potassium tartrate

The addition of cleared organically grown thickened grape juice concentrate, mesotartaric acid and gum Arabic are not permitted.
All wine treating agents and food additives must be from GMO-free production. A list of sources where these products can be obtained is included in the current agricultural supply catalogue.

4.4.8 Cleaning and disinfection

The use of cleansing and disinfection products is only acceptable when the use of water, steam and mechanical cleaning methods prove to be insufficient to achieve a high-quality product that is stable under storage conditions and hygienically satisfactory. Waste water pollution is to be avoided.

The following cleansing and disinfection agents are permitted:

Soda (sodium carbonate)	Potash soap (soft soap)
Caustic soda (sodium hydroxide)	Caustic potash
Sulphuric acid	Hydrogen peroxide
Acetic acid, citric acid, tartaric acid	Peracetic acid
Surfactants (98% degradable)	

4.4.9 Packaging

The acceptance of empty packaging (bottles) must be possible. The use of crown caps is to be avoided. Paper labels are preferred. PVC and styrofoam packaging materials are forbidden. Only fermenting and storage containers made of wood, stainless steel, enamel, neutral baked enamel, cistern tiled or glassed tanks or food safe polyester resin (only existing containers; not permitted as new acquisitions) are to be used. Methods of transport and shipping are to be as environmentally-friendly as possible.

4.4.10 Labelling

Only wines produced according to these regulations may be labelled with the BIO AUSTRIA trademark. Other denominations such as ”Wine made from organically grown grapes” or “wine made from grapes of organic farming” are also permitted.

4.5. Cultivation of mushrooms

In addition to the pertinent general regulations (Chapter 1) and the regulations as applicable to plant production (Chapter 2.1 through 2.6), the following regulations also apply:

4.5.1 Substrates

The substrate may consist of the following components:
Only from organic agriculture:
- Farm yard manure (fresh or dried)
- Compost from animal excrements and farmyard manure

- Liquid animal excrements (urine, slurry)
- Other agricultural products, e.g. straw

Not from organic agriculture:
- Non- chemically treated peat
- Wood that was not chemically treated after cutting
- Mineral substances according to chapter 2.1.5
- Water
- Soil

4.5.2 Exemption

If farmyard manure or compost from animal excrements from organic agriculture are not available then these components can be used from conventional production up to a content of 25% of the basic material. The restrictions from chapter 2.1.5 have to also be followed (from extensive husbandry, poultry manure, …).

5. Other Animal alternatives of organic origin

5.1. Fish Farming

The BIO AUSTRIA fish farming regulations apply to two types of habitat: The ”Carp Section” regulates production in standing waters and warmer water biotopes, and the ”Trout Section” applies to the production of predatory fish inhabiting cold, running, oxygen-rich waters in low-nutrient water biotopes.

Definition of the common fish types regarding organic pond farming for carps and trouts

Main species “Carp	**pond”**	**“domestic”**
Cyprinus carpio	Mirror carp, scale carp, wild carp	x
Secondary species	**“Carp pond” (extract)**	
Tinca tinca	tench	x
Esox Lucius	Pike	x
Stizostedion lucioperca (s. volgensis)	Pike perch (Volga pike perch)	x (x)
Silurus glanis	Catfish or sheatfish	x
Perca fluviatilis	perch	x
Rutilus rutilus	Roach	x
Abramis brama	Bream	x
Coregonus spp.	Cisco and white fish	x
Carassius carassius	Crucian carp	x
Chondostroma nasus	nase	x
Lota lota	burbot	x
Main fish species ”trout	**pond”**	
Oncorhynchus mykiss	Rainbow trout	
Salmo trutta (forma fario, f. lacustris)	Brown trout, lake trout	x
Salvinus alpinus	Speckled trout	x
Salvelinus fontinalis	Brook trout	
Salmo and cross-breeding of salvelinus	Brown trout and cross-breeding of char	
Salvelinus namaycush	American speckled trout	
Secondary species	**“trout pond” (excerpt)**	
Thymallus thymallus	grayling	x
Hucho hucho	Danube salmon	x

5.1.1 Basic principles

Organic pond farming is oriented towards intact ecological systems and complete nutrient cycles. To this end, methods and techniques are employed that maintain indefinitely the fertility of fish and water, make use of sustainable resources, avoid unnecessary pollution of the environment, encourage the natural cycles that naturally occur in the water, and do not hinder other processes transpiring along the food chain.

Design and judgement of husbandry conditions are to be based on the natural behaviour and the needs of the fish.

BIO AUSTRIA general regulations and livestock regulations analogously apply to fish farming. Pertinent legal requirements e.g. in production and processing are to be adhered to.

5.1.2 Water management and sustainable production

5.1.2.1 Those locations are chosen that are not contaminated by harmful substances or by substances that are not permitted in organic production, which could be detrimental to the organic quality of the products. The natural quality of the water at the location must

correspond to the physiological needs of the relevant species in particular with regard to temperature, sufficient oxygen content and lighting conditions.

5.1.2.2 The production sites are provided with natural filter beds, slurry tanks, organic or mechanical filters or they use algae and/or animals (shell) in order to improve the quality of residual water. In case of flow through systems the flow rate and the quality of water of the in- and outflowing water can be monitored.

5.1.2.3 An adequate **sustainability plan** for aquaculture must be prepared according to the size of the production site. The plan includes information on the impact of the production on the environment, on the planned monitoring of the environment and the measures to be taken in order to reduce to a minimum the pollution of neighbouring waters and land areas e.g. nutrients contamination/production cycles. The maintenance and repairs of the technical equipment, a plan for waste reduction, and measures intended to protect and prevent predators shall also be taken into consideration.

5.1.2.4 Renewable energy and recyclable materials are to be preferably used.

5.1.2.5 For all production sites which applied for being registered as organic producers and which produce more than 20 tons of products yearly an adequate **environment-related inspection** must take place according to the size of the production site in order to assess its condition and that of its direct surroundings including the effects of its initial operation.

5.1.3 Prerequisites for husbandry

5.1.3.1 Aquaculture requires limited, for the most part artificially, created systems. In order to insure a maximally species-appropriate husbandry, the habitat must be adjusted to the animals' needs and allowance for natural behaviour.

5.1.3.2 Fish are to be kept in natural-style ponds with, at least, a natural bottom and sufficient space for them to interact and feel comfortable. Different current/flow areas as well as areas of light and shadow are to be provided which correspond to the needs of the animals.

5.1.3.3 Artificial containers (polyester, concrete, metal, etc.) are only to be used for short-term confinement, and for the care of fry (maximum 16 weeks). Net cages are forbidden.

5.1.3.4 Closed recirculation systems for aquaculture is forbidden.

5.1.3.5 The production sites have to be constructed in such a way that there is no risk for the animals to escape. In case fish or shellfish still manage to escape, appropriate measures are to be taken in order to avoid detrimental effects on the ecosystem. Relevant measures have to be recorded in a book.

5.1.3.6 For the natural flora and fauna bound to water and water-land transitions, natural structures (biotopes, watersides with bushes, reed, trees etc.) equal to 5% of the water-land are to be left undeveloped on the ground The flora and fauna occupying these biotopes are to be provided with an undisturbed habitat.

5.1.3.7 The water may be warmed or cooled artificially only in hatchery halls or young fish systems. Natural well water may be used at any production stage for warming or cooling the water.

5.1.4 Prevention of diseases, hygiene and veterinarian's therapy

5.1.4.1 The prevention of diseases must base on optimal husbandry conditions, an appropriate choice of location, an adequate planning of the site, the application of optimal husbandry and management methods, including regular cleansing and disinfection of the farms, high quality feedstuffs, an adequate stock density and the choice of appropriate breeds. The

farm must conclude a maintenance contract with a Fish Health Service which comes to inspect the farm at least once a year.

5.1.4.2 In case of illness, the encouragement of natural healing powers and the elimination of contributing factors (e.g. feeding) have first priority. Natural treatments (e.g. homoeopathy) are preferable to chemical-synthetic medications.

5.1.4.3 In case of imminent danger and with a prescription in writing from a veterinarian (before use), the use of medications including parasites treatment is acceptable under the following conditions: The waiting periods prescribed for a given animal pharmaceutical is to be doubled. The waiting period is to be calculated respectively in day degrees. If no waiting period has been specified, the waiting period is at least 48 hours.

5.1.4.4 Allopathic treatment is to be limited to two treatments per year except for vaccinations and compulsory Tilgungspläne. In case of a life time of less than one year however, only one allopathic treatment is permitted. In case of frequent allopathic treatments the animals may not be sold as organic products.

5.1.4.5 Parasite treatments may only be conducted twice a year, in case of a lifetime of less than 18 months only once a year.

5.1.4.6 Facility buildings, tools and machines must be kept hygienically clean while keeping environmental pollution to a minimum.
The following agents are permitted for the cleansing and disinfection of equipment and production sites during the absence of the fish:

- Sodium choride
- Sodium hypochlorite
- Calcium hypochlorite
- Calcium carbonate (CaO, calcium oxide)
- Caustic soda
- Alcohol
- Hydrogen peroxide
- Organic acids (acetic acid, lactic acid, citric acid)
- Humic acid
- Peroxyacetic acid
- Iodophors
- Potassium manganite
- Peracetic acid
- Active oxygen, peroctanoic acids and copper sulphate are not permitted for being used as disinfecting agents.

Permitted agents during the presence of the fish:

- Limestone (calcium carbonate) for the monitoring of pH value

5.1.4.7 Resting periods
In order to better hygienic conditions a resting period is recommended in pools and ponds.

5.1.5 Fish reproduction and origin

5.1.5.1 Exclusively domestic species are to be used whose production does not endanger wildlife to a large extent (see point 5.1). Fish breeding's target is to have fish stocks which are well adapted to the prerequisites of aquaculture, are healthy and make good use of the feedstuffs. Records regarding the origin of the fish are to be submitted to the inspection body. A stocking of maximum 5% amur fish, tolstolob, bighead carp and silver carp are permitted. However, these animals must be brought to the market conventionally.

5.1.5.2 In case there are no fish produced organically by aquaculture wild fish or conventional fish may be used in the farm for purposes of breeding or to better genetics of the breeding

stock. They must be kept at least three months on the organic farm before they may be used in breeding purposes.

5.1.5.3 Basically organic fish is to be purchased. As stocking fish or in case young fish produced organically is not available, conventional young fish may be purchased. They must be kept on organic farms for at least the last two thirds of their lifetime.
The share of conventional young fish which may be used on a farm is reduced to 80% until December 31, 2011, to 50% until December 31, 2013 and to 0% until December 31, 2015.

5.1.5.4 The use of wild fish as fish stocking is only permitted in case of a natural inflow of fish larvae and larvae of crayfish when ponds and other equipment are filled.

5.1.5.5 Artificial polyploidy induction, artificial hybridisation, cloning and the production of consexual lines is forbidden. The purchase of such animals is not permitted.

5.1.5.6 The use of hormones and their derivate for the breeding and reproduction is forbidden.

5.1.6 Transportation of and handling with fish

5.1.6.1 Any interventions in animals from aquaculture are to be reduced to a minimum and carried out with the utmost care by using adequate equipment and procedures in order to avoid stress and injuries resulting from treatments.

5.1.6.2 In order to avoid excessive exposure to stress fish are to be anaesthetized during stripping.

5.1.6.3 During slaughter particular care is necessary to ensure that the fish are anaesthetized immediately and feel no pain.

5.1.6.4 Live fish are to be transported in suitable sufficiently cleaned containers with clean water fulfilling the physiological needs of the fish with regard to temperature and oxygen content. The cleansing and disinfection of the containers is to be recorded.

5.1.6.5 In order to protect the fish particular care is given to ensure an adequate stock density during transport. The following chart contains an overview of the necessary water volumes during fish transport.

Stock densities during transportation are to be recorded.

Transport recommendations for live transport of different fish species at 4–10 °C:		
Fish species	**Fish weight in kg per 1000 litre water**	**Fish : Water**
Carp, over 1.000 g	500	1 : 1
Tench, over 200 g	500	1 : 1
Northern pike, 50 to 200 g	150	1 : 5.7
Northern pike, over 500 g	200	1 : 4
Trout/char, 10 to 12 cm	90	1 : 10
Trout/char, over 20 cm	150	1 : 5.7

The physiological requirements of the fish regarding temperature and oxygen content during transport are to be considered and recorded.

5.1.6.6 Day light is not extended artificially beyond the maximum limit which is allowed for the ethological needs, the geographical conditions and the general health requirements of animals from aquaculture. The maximum limit is 16 hours except for reproduction

purposes. Sudden changes in light intensity by means of dimmers or background lighting is to be avoided.

5.1.6.7 The use of mechanical air ventilation or of oxygen is only permitted in the following cases, if the animals' health condition and difficult stages of production and transport require it:
- In case of an exceptional increase in temperature, decrease in pressure or accidental contamination;
- During single husbandry procedures such as sampling and sorting;
- In order to guarantee the survival of the stock.

The use of mechanical air ventilation or of oxygen must be recorded in the production logs.

5.1.7 Inspection and conversion

5.1.7.1 The following records have to be kept in a "pond book" and updated regularly; they must be available to the inspection body:
- At the first inspection a complete description of the production sites and, if necessary, the results of the environmentally-related assessment and of the sustainability plan.
- Origin, date of transfer, and conversion period (age, weight and size) of the fish transferred to the farm.
- Batch number, age, weight and addressee of the fish leaving the farm.
- Details on the escaped fish
- Type and quantity of the feedstuffs used for the fish and in case of carps and similar species records on the feedstuffs used during the additional feeding.
- Veterinary treatments indicating the purpose of the treatment and the date of the administration, type of administration, kind of administered drugs and waiting period.
- Measure for the prevention of diseases including details on resting periods, cleansing and water treatment.

5.1.7.2 The following conversion periods apply according to the type of the production site:
- A conversion period of 24 months for those production sites that cannot be emptied, cleansed and disinfected.
- A conversion period of 12 months for those sites that were emptied or in which a resting period was observed.
- A conversion period of 6 months for those sites that were emptied, cleansed and disinfected.

5.1.7.3 A total conversion of the farm shall take place. In exceptional cases a stage plan (timetable and pond occupation plan, feeding plan, management) has to be drawn up and submitted for approval to BIO AUSTRIA, department for quality management. The conversion of the entire farm is to be concluded after four years at the latest in case of carps and after two years in case of salmonidae.

5.1.8 Carp pond production

5.1.8.1 Water management system

5.1.8.1.1 The fish capture area must be equipped with a clean water inlet and of a size to provide optimal comfort for the fish. The fish must be stored in clean water after harvest.

5.1.8.1.2 Organic and mineral fertilisation of the ponds shall be carried out in compliance with the list 2.1.5. of the fertilisers and soil conditioners permitted by BIO AUSTRIA.

5.1.8.1.3 Treatments involving synthetic chemicals for the control of hydrophytes and plant coverage present in production waters are prohibited. In order to regulate vegetation a stocking of maximum 5% amur fish, tolstolob, bighead carp and silver carp are permitted. However, these animals must be brought to the market conventionally.

5.1.8.2 Husbandry requirements

Areas of natural vegetation shall be maintained around inland water units as a buffer zone for external land areas not involved in the farming operation in accordance with the rules of organic aquaculture.

5.1.8.3 Feeds

5.1.8.3.1 The regulations 3.4. from the BIO AUSTRIA regulations and its applicability to fish apply as well as the current agricultural supply catalogue.

5.1.8.3.2 Most of the feed (over 50%) is to come from the pond's natural feed sources.

5.1.8.3.3 Where natural feed resources are not available in sufficient quantities, organic feed of plant origin, preferably grown on the farm itself or seaweed may be used. Documentary evidence of the need to use additional feed is to be kept.

5.1.8.3.4 Amount of feed is to depend on the gain and feeding ratios. The following basic rules apply to the calculation of the maximum amount of feed:
<50% of gain from additional feeding,
Calculation formula (simplified):
Max. amount grain: Gain x 1.75 = kg feed.
Max. amount high protein feed: Gain x 0.75 = kg feed.
Calculations are to be adjusted accordingly when feeding mixed feeds.

5.1.8.4 Hygienic requirements

Organic carp production is permitted in fishponds that are periodically fully drained.

5.1.8.5 Stock

5.1.8.5.1 For grow-out "polyculture" shall be used on condition that the criteria laid down in the present specifications for the other species of lakes fish are duly adhered to.

5.1.8.5.2 In order to ensure an optimal exploitation of the natural feed resources, stock must include several different fish species after the first year of age (at least 2 non-predatory and 1 predatory species)

5.1.8.5.3 Stock density is to be based on the natural potential yield and the climatic conditions. Stock density limits apply for 2 regions (Region I = cold region, e.g. Waldviertel, Region II = warm region, e.g. Styria).

Region I	Region II
Number carp/ha	Number carp/ha
2.500 C1 (4 m^2/fish)	3.000 C1 (3.33 m^2/fish)
500 C2 (20 m^2/fish)	600 C2 (16.66 m^2/fish)

For C1 weights of 50 to 100 g, for C2 0,7 kg are based. For specific objectives of the farming (e.g. regional typical end weights, prolonged production cycles) the stock numbers can be increased by up to 20%. Calculations are to be adjusted according to the weights of the fish being kept (e.g. tench) in the case of mixed stock. No more than 1,500 kg fish (of any species) may be produced per hectare and year.

5.1.9 Trout pond production

5.1.9.1 Water management system

Ponds shall not be exposed to unimpeded sunlight. It is recommended that at least one part of the water zone of each pond has shade.

5.1.9.2 Husbandry requirements

Spawning mats are required during spawning and until fry begin to be fed.

5.1.9.3 Feeding

5.1.9.3.1 The regulations 3.4 from the BIO AUSTRIA regulations apply analogously as well as the current agricultural supply catalogue.

5.1.9.3.2 Salmon-type fish are predators. Due to their demanding requirements high quality protein and fatty acids may be supplied at a level of up to 50% of the dry matter of the ration. Any additional raw materials of agricultural origin must be produced entirely according to the BIO AUSTRIA regulations.

During the selection of feedstuffs to be included one has to comply with the following sequence:

- Organic feed products of aquaculture origin
- Fish meal and fish oil from organic aquaculture trimmings
- Fish meal and fish oil and ingredients of fish origin derived from trimmings of fish already caught for human consumption in sustainable fisheries
- Organic feed materials of plant origin and of animal origin as listed in point 3.4.2.3.

If these feed products are not available, fish meal and fish oil from trimmings of wild fish caught for human consumption may be used for a transitional period until December 31, 2014. Such feed material shall not exceed 30% of the daily ration. The feeding of fish from conventional aquaculture is not permitted.

5.1.9.3.3 Astaxanthin derived primarily from organic sources, such as organic crustacean shells my be used in the feed ration for salmon and trout within the limit of their physiological needs. If organic sources are not available natural sources of astaxanthin (such as Phaffia yeast) may be used.

5.1.9.4 Stock density

Stock density is to be based for the most part on the available oxygen level. The stock level is to be calculated in such a way as to maintain an oxygen saturation level of at least 60% near the outflow.

A maximum of 10 kg fish may be kept per m^3 of pond surface, maximum 15 kg/m^3 in flowing water canals.

5.2. Organic bee-keeping

5.2.1 Placement of the bee colonies

Placement locations should be chosen in which the bees and their products are subjected to a minimum of stress. Organically cultivated areas are preferred. Bee products must be analysed if there is any suspicion of heavy pollution with harmful substances. Should the suspicion be confirmed, the location must be changed. The bees' pasture must consist for the most part of plants from organic agriculture, spontaneous vegetation, forests and plants cultivated on areas which do not affect the organic quality of beekeeping production, within a radius of 3 km.

The beehives must be a sufficient distance away from any possible non-agricultural sources of pollution, such as urban areas, main roads, industrial areas, waste-disposal depots, waste incineration facilities, etc.

5.2.2 Beehives and foundations

The beehive and the foundation must be constructed entirely of natural materials (solid wood, straw or clay), with the exception of connective parts, roofing, grated floors, spacers and feeding facilities. The inside of the beehive may only be treated with propolis or wax from organic bee-keeping except for cases of disease prevention and veterinary treatments. The outside of the hive may only be treated with substances made from natural, ecologically harmless materials.

5.2.3 Operating procedures

5.2.3.1 Colony management

In accordance with the principles of organic agriculture, care of bee colonies should be oriented towards the bees' natural needs. The unity of the breeding nest should be kept intact and in the process of expansion not be disturbed through relocation of combs. A barrier should be used only in exceptional situations, and not until the end of the colony growth.

5.2.3.2 Beekeeping

The propagation of bee colonies must be adapted to the natural course of the colony's development during the yearly cycle. The use of genetically manipulated bees is forbidden. Bee colonies used for honey production may only be kept in a single-queen husbandry method. In breeding particular attention is to be paid to local conditions, their vitality and resistance to disease and pests. Preference shall be given to the use of European breeds of Apis mellifera and their local ecotypes. The clipping of queen bees' wings is forbidden. Artificial insemination is permitted in order to maintain the purity of the bee strains.

5.2.3.3 Purchase of colonies and queen bees

The operating method is to be based mainly on existing stock. Bees may only be purchased from holdings which practice organic bee-keeping. Up to 10% of the queens or swarms may be purchased annually from conventional agriculture for stock renewal provided that the queen bees and swarms are placed in hives with combs or comb foundations coming from organic-production units.

In case of a high death rate within the bee colonies or catastrophe situations the inspection authority may approve the purchase of swarms from conventional agriculture for re-stocking, if colonies from organic holdings are not available. In this case the conversion periods apply (see Section 5.2.8).

5.2.3.4 Comb construction

The colonies must be able to build natural comb on at least 10% of the breeding space. Only wax from an organically operating farm is to be used for the construction of starting strips or foundations. If beeswax from organic bee-keeping is not available, in exceptional cases proven residue-free beeswax of other origin may be used.

5.2.3.5 Wax processing

The wax cycle is to be kept intact within the organic holding. If wax is processed outside the holding, the organic wax must be processed under inspected conditions. No solvents or bleaches may be used during wax processing.

5.2.3.6 Storage of comb

Comb material must be stored in cool, dry, well-ventilated areas. Only substances listed in Section 5.2.6 may be used as protection against wax moths.

5.2.3.7 Pollen collection

Only meshed grid or punched plastic grids that has been deburred may be used for pollen collection.

5.2.4 Feeding

The bees' natural diet is based on honey and flower pollen, and these should always be available to the colony in sufficient amounts.

5.2.4.1 Feeding of bee colonies, swarms and new swarms

The feeding of colonies is authorised only where the survival of the hives is endangered due to extreme weather conditions; it may be carried out only between the last honey harvest and 15 days before the start of the next nectar or honeydew flow period. In this case the use of organically produced honey, organically produced sugar syrup or organic sugar may be used for additional feeding.

5.2.4.2 Emergency feeding
The inspection authority can temporarily authorise the feeding of bee colonies with organically produced honey, organically produced sugar syrup or organic sugar in case of longterm exceptional climatic conditions or in catastrophe situations which endanger the nectar or honeydew flow production.

5.2.4.3 Pollen feeding
Pollen substitutes are forbidden.

5.2.5 Honey production

Comb honey is honey in its original form, and this high quality should be preserved until the honey is offered for sale.

5.2.5.1 Honey collection
Bees should be removed from the honeycomb a gently as possible. No chemical or synthetic substances are permitted to subdue or drive away the bees. Comb that contains brood may not be used for honey production.

5.2.5.2 Extraction of honey
Honey may not be warmed to a temperature of over 35°C during extraction, filtration, purification or final storage. Pressure filtration is forbidden.

5.2.5.3 Honey Storage
Honey must be stored in air-tight containers, and in dark, dry, constantly cool conditions. Only stainless steel storage containers are to be used. Plastic food storage containers currently in use may only be used until they wear out. A new purchase of food safe plastic containers is only permitted, if there are stainless steel containers for the mean yearly harvest and the new plastic containers serve the purpose of transport and/or contract filling. Only glass containers are to be used for sale to the consumer (except for comb honey).

5.2.5.4 Assessable quality of honey, values of analysis
In addition to the legal requirements, the following criteria apply: Water content may not exceed 18% as measured by DIN/AOAC. HMF content may not exceed 10 mg per kg, measured according to Winkler. Enzyme activity, measured according to Siegenthaler, must be at least 37.5 units, with the exception of naturally enzyme-low honeys. These quality criteria are valid until submission of the honey by the bee-keeper.

5.2.6 Hygiene, disease prevention and veterinary treatments

The measures employed in organic bee-keeping are intended to preserve the colony's vitality and self-healing capabilities. The loss of individual colonies which may be particularly susceptible to certain disease carrying organisms or pests must be accepted as part of the natural selection process. If it becomes necessary to treat for disease or parasites, particular care is to be taken as to use only the substances listed below and and to ruleout a contamination of the honey. If bee colonies get ill or contaminated despite all precautions, they are to be treated immediately and the apiary sites can be isolated if necessary.
Admissible substances: herbal teas, homeopathic preparations, formic acid, acetic acid, lactic acid, oxalic acid, thymol, eucalyptol, camphor, menthol, brimstone, carbonate of sodium, caustic soda, water, steam, heat and cold. The use of menthol, thymol, eucalyptol, and camphor is only permitted under the conditions described in point 5.2.6.2.
The regulations of the Bee Epidemic Control Laws apply in any case.

5.2.6.1 Pest control
In order to protect foundations, hives and combs in particular against pests, only rodenticides may be used (which may be used only in traps) and suitable substances according to point 5.2.6.

5.2.6.2. Varroa control

The practice of destroying the male brood is permitted only to contain the infestation with Varroa jacobsoni.

In case of an infestation with Varroa jacobsoni formic acid, lactic acid, acetic acid and oxalic acid may be used. The use of the essential oils menthol, thymol, eucalyptol or camphor is permitted under the following conditions:

- The essential oils are not to lead to a contamination of the honey. Their use in honey production colonies is permitted after the last honey harvest up to the last mite treatment during the winter.
- A treatment with essential oils during all year round is not permitted (no thymol frame).
- Comb material contaminated with essential oils is to be aired before using it with bee colonies.
- If there is suspicion of forbidden use of essential oils the inspection body must draw a sample on site. Thymiol contents in honey exceeding the natural value lead to a prohibition of the BIO AUSTRIA declaration (according to the type of honey contents below 800 ppb are to be observed).

5.2.6.3. The use of chemically synthesised allopathic veterinary medicinal products

If a treatment is applied with chemically synthesised allopathic products, during such a period, the colonies treated must be placed in isolation apiaries and all the wax must be replaced with wax deriving from organic beekeeping. Subsequently, the conversion period of one year will apply to those colonies.

Whenever veterinary medicinal products are to be used, the type of product (including the indication of the active pharmacological substance) together with details of the diagnosis, the posology, the method of administration, the duration of the treatment and the legal withdrawal period must be recorded clearly and declared to the inspection body or authority before the products are marketed as organically produced.

5.2.7 Record keeping

The following records must be kept:

- Location map with an index of the hives (map, cadastral map)
- Details regarding the feeding: kind of product, details of the feeding, quantity and concerned hives
- Treatment log to record the treatment of disease and pests (see point 5.2.6.3.)
- Rotation plan including locations, number of colonies, time period and amount of harvest.
- Colony stock list with continuous numbers (e.g. stock card)
- General records of harvest amounts, purchases, sale and processing (flow of goods)

5.2.8 Certification

Every new applicant must undergo a twelve-month conversion phase. Beeswax must be replaced with organic wax during the conversion period. If it can be proven that the existing wax is free of residues, then no replacement is necessary.

Participation in an introductory course or a written certification about a special counselling in organic bee-keeping is a requirement for a BIO AUSTRIA certification.

5.2.9 Marketing

BIO AUSTRIA bee-keepers who intend to market their honey under the BIO AUSTRIA label must have a wax analysis conducted in addition to the requirements listed here. Whether or not the honey can carry the BIO AUSTRIA label depends on the results of this analysis. Wax is analysed for varroa and wax moth control substances which are forbidden in organic agriculture. A mixed sample of comb, foundations and wax supplies is taken. Residues of Varroa and wax moth control substances may not exceed 0.5 mg/kg wax per substance. The costs for analysis are the responsibility of the applicant. If these criteria are not fulfilled, then the BIO AUSTRIA trademark may not be used. The current valid regulations concerning labelling, as well as relevant regulations of the food hygiene

regulation for bee-keeping apply in any case. Marketing of Propolis drops under the BIO AUSTRIA label is only permitted if organic alcohol is used for the production.

5.3. Rabbit husbandry

In addition to the general regulations (chapter 1) and the regulations regarding animal production (Sections 3.1 to 3.9), the following requirements apply to stocks of fattening rabbits:

5.3.1 Origin, purchase of the animals

Basically animals from organic production are to be purchased. If no suitable animals of organic origin are available, animals of conventional origin may be purchased under the following conditions:

- When a stock is built for the first time or during the first conversion of a production unit up to 100% of the necessary animals may be of conventional origin. An approval by the inspection body is necessary.
- This exception also applies in case of a renewal of the stock until regulations for breeding are adopted.
- Conventional male animals for breeding may be brought into a production unit.
- The age of the purchased young animals of conventional origin (weaning animals) is maximum five weeks.

5.3.2 Conversion

Animal products may be marketed as products of organic agriculture, if the animals are continuously kept at least 2/3 of their lifetime according to the valid provisions on organic agriculture.

5.3.3 Feeding and drinking facilities

In addition to the regulations regarding monogastric animals according to point 3.4. the following applies:

- All animals are at all times given hay, and green fodder during the vegetation period.
- Fresh water must be continuously available.
- Feeding facilities must be arranged in such a manner that even lower-ranked animals receive sufficient feed.
- Branches with bark must be available for gnawing, and must be changed when necessary. (recommended: branches from pomaceous fruit trees, ash, willow, fir or oak)

5.3.4 Husbandry conditions

- Minimum barn area: from weaning until the end of the 8th week of age = 8 animals per m^2. After the end of the 8th week: 46 animals per m^2
- Housing flooring is litter strewn resting area. Up to maximum 50% of the housing floor may be perforated.
- A structured barn such as a second stock is recommended. This stock however is not calculated as part of the barn area.
- Outside access: paved and easy to clean, partial roofing is possible up to 100% of the outside access area. Minimum outside access area: 0.125 m2 per animal (8 animals/m2). Further outside areas can be extended to plant-covered ground (2 animals/m2).
- Stock density: the maximum permissible amount of animals/hectare is 400 fattening rabbits (GVE according to ÖPUL, equivalent to 170 kg nitrogen per hectare and year).
- Group husbandry with manageable group sizes of approx. 50 animals.
- In case of barns of fattening rabbits which were built after August 1, 2010 the current version of the 1st provision an animal husbandry systems annex 9 must additionally be taken into consideration. Particular care is to be given to the fact that higher positioned areas in the barn by at least 20 cm or shadowed areas must be made available; similarly, husbandry systems must not be positioned one above the other.

5.4. Animals and animal products from Fallow deer, Sika deer Mouflon and Red deer

In addition to the general regulations (chapter1) and the regulations regarding animal production (sections 3.1 to 3.9) the following regulations apply to fallow deer, sika deer mouflon and red deer:

5.4.1 Feeding

For all enclosed deer the same regulations as for ruminants apply. An analogous description is to be found in section 3.4.1 up to 3.4.5 of these regulations.

5.4.2 Husbandry systems

The mentioned deer species are to be kept on pasture all year round.

5.4.3 Enclosure

Regulations concerning the enclosure are governed in the individual regional laws differently. If a regional law sets in particular points different (higher) minimum standards, those regional laws apply. The location of the enclosure needs to ensure sufficient weather- (wind, sun, rain) and disturbance protection. Extremely wet (muddy) locations are to be avoided. In the enclosure there must be natural feeding in the vegetation period. Locations, that cannot contribute the main part of the feeding through green growth in the vegetation period are to be excluded.
The minimum size of an enclosure for fallow deer, sika deer and mouflon is 1ha; for red deer 2 ha.If more deer species are kept together, the minimum size of the enclosure is 3 ha. The enclosures are to be designed in a way, that the two animal species can visually separate themselves. For every enclosure there must be the possibility to separate it into two different paddocks. This is in order to assure the conduction of care measures on the area. The minimum paddock size for fallow, sika and mouflon deer is 0.5 ha, for red deer of more deer species in one enclosure 1 ha.
Organic holdings with existing smaller enclosures can continue to use them, if the permitted animal stock per ha (see section 5.4.5 of this regulation) is not exceeded.

5.4.4 Facilities in the enclosures

The animals need sight and weather protection: This is best achieved via trees and bushes (inclusion of tree groups, wood parts or wood rims into the enclosure). Is this not possible in a sufficient degree, the animals are to be provided with shelters. They must be roofed and closed on the weather side. If through the condition of the soil the wearing of the hoof is not ensured, it is to be remedied by suitable measures (e.g. fortifying or paving of the feeding area).
In red deer enclosures there must be possibilities for wallowing for body care and temperature regulation. The feeding areas are to be on a weather protected place that can be easily reached by both animals and care personal. In the feeding area the soil must be sufficiently fortified/paved. If there is no constant access to the feeding, the feeding facilities must be dimensioned in a way, that all animals, including those of lower rank, can feed simultaneously. Facilities for reservoir feeding (e.g. hay racks) must be roofed over.
Inside the enclosure there must be clean water for the deer at all times and in sufficient quantities.
If a natural, and easily accessible source of water is not present, reservoir drinking places have to be provided.

5.4.5 Animal stock

The mentioned deer species live in social groups. The minimum stock per species is therefore in one enclosure three female and one male animals. The isolated keeping of single animals is not permitted, except if it is a time limited measure (e.g. sick animals).
The animal stock is to chosen in a way that the animals can feed in the vegetation period predominantly from the green growing of the enclosure. The maximum stock per ha enclosure is 10 adult animals for fallow, sika and mouflon deer. For red deer it is 5 adult animals per ha. Young animals descending from the herd are not counted extra.

The maximum stock per ha is to be reduced, if special characteristics of a particular area demand it in order to keep the regulations. The stocking per area is basically to limit in particular the impact to the environment, especially to the soil, the surface waters and the groundwater due to overgrazing or erosion is to be reduced to a minimum.

5.4.6 Fencing

Newly constructed enclosure fencing for fallow- sika and mouflon deer should be a minimum of 1.8m high and for red deer, 2m. This does not apply for fences within the enclosure for paddock creation. In order to avoid injuries outside, as well as inside, fences must be clearly visible for the animal. It is essential to pay attention to avoiding sharp angles so that animals can move close to the fence without danger.

5.4.7 Catching and transport of animals

The catching of animals can only be conducted with the help of suitable catching facilities or via immobilisation of the animals. For immobilisation the legal regulations have to be followed. Anaesthetised animals are not to be left unsupervised. Heavily pregnant animals, as well as animals with antlers in velvet are not to be transported.

5.5. Conversion key for animal stock

Animal species	Kg nitrogen per animal and year
Horses up to 1 year	31.2
Horses 1 to 3 years	72.7
Horses over 3 years	85
Calves 0 to 3 month	12.8
Calves 3 to 6 month	42.5
Young cattle 6 to 12 month	42.5
Cattle between 1 and 2 years	51.5
Male cattle from 2 years on	85
Pregnant young cattle	85
Dairy cows/mother cows	85
Sheep	12.8
Goats	12.8
Breeding pigs with average 19 piglets	34.55
Fattening pigs over 20 kg	12.14
Boars	26.15
Fattening poultry/Table poultry	0.29
Laying hens	0.74
Young chickens up to 18 weeks	0.34
Ducks	0.58
Geese	0.58
Turkeys	0.63
Female rabbits for breeding	1.7

Production regulations for food of organic origin

6. Labelling and marketing for BIO AUSTRIA members

6. 1 Identification

Animals and animal products as well as vegetal products are to be identified in all stages of production, processing, transport and marketing.

6. 2 Using the trade mark

The authorisation to use the trade mark is acquired only after concluding a written declaration of accession to the association BIO AUSTRIA by means of which the producer commits to complying with these regulations.
BIO AUSTRIA trade mark may be used to label only food and feedstuffs of approved organic origin.

6. 3 Notification of address

The producer is obliged to write his/her name and address on all packaging designed for end consumers enabling to determine the food's origin with absolute certainty.

6. 4 Packaging

In order to protect the producer and the consumer, products of organic agriculture are marketed in containers (e.g. boxes, bags, …) labelled with the association logo. This label shall hinder unfair competition and enable the consumer to recognise the quality products of approved association's holdings. BIO AUSTRIA packaging material is distributed only to approved member holdings; it may be used only for products containing an organic share of at least 95% - see also point 7.3.2.

6. 5 Farm's board

The approved member holding has to label his/her farm on a board illustrating the association trade mark in a manner true to the original.

6. 6 Product range

A BIO AUSTRIA holding may offer the following organic products (in one's own behalf or on behalf of others) within his/her farm sale or in his/her own farm shop:

a) With the BIO AUSTRIA trade mark: products of BIO AUSTRIA member holdings and their cooperation partners (see also point 6.2. of these regulations)
b) Without using the BIO AUSTRIA trade mark (because it is regionally not available according to BIO AUSTRIA quality criteria):
   - Products of other certified Austrian organic holdings
   - Foreign products if the origin of the organic quality is confirmed by means of a certification of the prior supplier

c) The following products which are not directly or exclusively of organic agricultural production are to be labelled in such a way that consumers do not get confused. This also applies to indications on websites, advertising and presentation material, on means of transport, and others:
   - Venison deriving from hunts holdings, cheese/dairy products of common pasturage, plants and parts of them from wild collection.
   - In justified cases an exception for additional products can be applied for at the department of BIO AUSTRIA quality management (e.g. in case of purchase of land areas of conventional status).

For more information regarding more detailed product declarations please contact the BIO AUSTRIA national association.

6. 7 Purchased products

The regulation described in point 6.6. applies analogously to the purchase of organic products for the processing see also point 7.3.2.

6. 8 Processing, product specification

The standards set in point 7.3.2 apply to the processing of agricultural raw material to food of organic origin.

6. 9 Farm sale shops:

According to the EU regulation on organic agricultural products any operator who produces, prepares, stores, or imports from a third country products or who places such products on the market shall, prior to placing on the market of any products as organic or in conversion to organic:
Notify his activity to the competent authorities of the Member State where the activity is carried out;
Submit his undertaking to the control system.
According to the circular dated July 5, 2005 of the Austrian Ministry of Health (*Bundesministerium für Gesundheit*) retail operators who sell their products directly to the end consumers, are excluded here from. However, as soon as products are started to be produced or processed, stored other than in connection with the point of sale or products are imported from a third country, the undertaking is subject to the mentioned obligations.
If a BIO AUSTRIA member operates a trading farm sale shop which makes it necessary to conclude an inspection contract due to the legal requirements (see above), also a cooperation agreement with BIO AUSTRIA is compulsory which enables to forward the inspection data to BIO AUSTRIA.

7. Regulations for BIO AUSTRIA cooperation partners

7.1 Preamble

Processors of organic food continue the work of the farmers who operate in organic agriculture and produce BIO AUSTRIA quality products by means of selected processing procedures.
Particular care is given to the choice of adequate raw material, additional stuffs, processing aid and packaging.
Furthermore, by complying with all laws and regulations the processor actively contributes to the protection of natural resources and on-going improvement of environmental protection on the farm.
Thus in order to achieve a stable and hygienically clean quality product the use of water, steam and mechanic cleansing is to be preferred to treatments with cleansing and disinfecting agents, if possible.

7.2 Scope of application

The present regulation applies to all processors of food whose products are to be labelled with a BIO AUSTRIA reference.
Processor in terms of this regulation means any person who gains, produces, prepares, cultivates, processes or clarifies or fills in a raw material, a part of a product or a final product from components of organic origin under his own responsibility.

7.3 Labelling as BIO AUSTRIA product

7.3.1 The authorisation to use the trade mark

The authorisation to use the BIO AUSTRIA trade mark is acquired only after concluding a written contract with the association by which the producer commits to comply with these regulations.

7.3.2 Product specification

A product which is labelled as BIO AUSTRIA product has to fulfil the following requirements:

- All raw material of agricultural origin originate basically 100% from organic farming. Conventional agricultural ingredients which may be used up to a maximum of 5% and all other permissible ingredients, additional stuffs and processing aids are listed under point 7.9.
- Austrian ingredients of agricultural origin which are contained in compound food derive for at least 2/3 from BIO AUSTRIA member holdings and maximum 1/3 from other holdings operating organically (domestic, EU or third country). For these ingredients the authenticity of the organic origin is to be proved by means of an approved certificate of the prior supplier.
- Single-ingredient products are 100% BIO AUSTRIA certified products.
- In case of processed food products the ingredients meat, wheat, milk, eggs, potato, maize and their by-products or partial products are 100% BIO AUSTRIA certified products.

In case no respective products are available due to climatic or technical conditions, an application for exemption can be forwarded to the BIO AUSTRIA department of quality management.
Raw material deriving from wild collection must be declared as such on the packaging.
The calculation of the percentage of ingredients of organic agricultural origin takes place with regard to the weight at the point in time of production irrespective of added water, salt and cultures of microorganisms.
Special regulations can be approved by BIO AUSTRIA for products of cooperatives producing organic products in order to maintain small agricultural units and to promote fair trade.

7.3.3 Products labelling with BIO AUSTRIA trade mark

In order to secure that BIO AUSTRIA label looks homogenously to the consumers, new packaging drafts are to be agreed upon with BIO AUSTRIA. To this regard direct sellers refer to their respective regional office of the association, cooperation partners to their competent consultants.

BIO AUSTRIA-Labeling

7.3.4 Labelling in trading the goods

BIO AUSTRIA products must be declared with the name “BIO AUSTRIA” on all documents that are necessary for business correspondence such as e.g. BIO AUSTRIA wheat or organic wheat, BIO AUSTRIA.

7.4 Genetic engineering

Only additional material and processing aids that are free from GMO or ingredients from or by GMO are used.

7.5 Storage

In order to avoid any mixing, a clear labelling and division of BIO AUSTRIA approved raw material from the rest takes place during storage.
The store halls are to be designed in such a way that any taste or smell adulteration is kept as minimal as possible.
Preventive measures (e.g. by ways of construction or hygiene) are to be preferred to any form of chemical pest control. If pest control is still necessary, mechanical measures are to be preferred.
A chemical pest control may be carried out only by means of agents that are permissible in organic farming, if these are permitted in compliance with the Austrian legal requirements for storage protection.

7.6 Processing

During storage, transport, processing including labelling particular attention is necessary to ensure that products of conventional origin and products of organic origin do not get mixed.
With regard to the level of processing BIO AUSTRIA national board has the right to forbid the labelling of products that were highly processed without any evident reason, with the BIO AUSTRIA trade mark.

7.7 Packaging

Packaging is to be reduced to a minimum of the technologies needed therefor thus enabling to preserve the quality and freshness of products while ensuring a low impact on the environment. Non-reusable packaging for beverages is only permitted if its use can be justified by current eco-balances on packaging material.
In this regard recyclable packaging is to be used whenever possible. Packaging material containing PVC is not permitted. If some packaging material is considered harmful according to the latest scientific standards, BIO AUSTRIA reserves the right to forbid the certification of such material with the BIO AUSTRIA trade mark.

7.8 Inspection body

Compliance with BIO AUSTRIA regulations is conducted by a national inspection body on behalf of BIO AUSTRIA or by BIO AUSTRIA itself. The inspection of food regulatory requirements can be carried out also by this inspection body.

7.8.1 Control intervals

The control takes place at least once a year.

7.8.2 The implementation

For the implementation of the control system the association has the right to inspect the holding at any time through its bodies or commissioned organisations and persons, to request written justification documents and records, to arrange arrear inspections or carry out any measures which are deemed to be important by the association for the inspection of the product quality or to request quality tests and arrear inspections. In case regulations breaches are proved to be true the holding has to carry the costs of the inspection.
The necessary confidential treatment of sensible data regarding the contract holding is to be guaranteed by the inspecting body.

7.8.3 Sanctions

The BIO AUSTRIA association has the right to impose sanctions in case of infringement of regulations. These sanctions range from reprimands with a deadline for repairing the damage to the annulation of the contract with compensation for damages if necessary, and the publication of the decision.

7.9 List of permitted ingredients, additives and processing aids for processing products of plant origin and of animal origin

The following ingredients, additives, processing aids and agricultural additives of conventional origin are permitted:

Name	Specific conditions
7.9.1. Food additives including carriers	
E 153 Vegetable carbon	It is not permitted for BIO AUSTRIA holdings
E 160b Annatto, Bixin, Norbixin	It is not permitted for BIO AUSTRIA holdings
E 170 Calcium carbonate	Shall not be used for colouring or calcium enrichment of products
E 220 Sulphur dioxide or E 224 potassium metasulphite	In fruit wines 1)[2] without added sugar (including cider and perry) or in mead: maximum 50 mg/l. For cider and perry prepared with addition of sugars or juice concentrate after fermentation: 100 mg 2)[3]
E 250 Sodium nitrite or E 252 potassium nitrite	For meat products E 250: indicative ingoing amount expressed as NaNo2: 80 mg/kg; For E 252: indicative ingoing amount expressed as NaNo3: 80 mg/kg. Maximum residual amount for E 250, expressed as NaNo2: 50 mg/kg, for E 252 expressed as NaNo3: 50 mg/kg.
E 270 Lactic acid*[4]	
E 290 Carbon dioxide	
E 296 Malic acid	It is not permitted for BIO AUSTRIA holdings
E 300 Ascorbic acid*	For products of plant origin and for meat products
E 301 Sodium ascorbate*	For meat products in connection with nitrates and nitrites
E 306 Tocopherol-rich extract	Anti-oxidant for fats and oils Ingredient of agricultural origin
E 322 Lecithins*	For products of plant origin and milk products Ingredient of agricultural origin
E 325 Sodium lactate	For milk-based and meat products
E 330 Citric acid*	For products of plant origin
E 331 Sodium citrates*	For products of animal origin
E 333 Calcium citrates*	For products of plant origin
E 334 Tartaric acid (L(+)-)*	For products of plant origin
E 335 Sodium tartrates*	For products of plant origin
E 336 Potassium tartrates*	For products of plant origin
E 341 (i) Monocalcium-phosphate	It is not permitted for BIO AUSTRIA holdings
E 400 Alginic acid*	For products of plant origin and milk products
E 401 Sodium alginate*	For products of plant origin and milk products
E 402 Potassium alginate*	For products of plant origin and milk products
E 406 Agar	For milk-based and meat products
E 407 Carrageenan	For products of plant origin and milk products
E 410 Locust bean gum	Product of agricultural origin
E 412 Guar gum	Product of agricultural origin
E 414 Arabic gum	Product of agricultural origin
E 415 Xanthan gum*	

1): fruit wine = is defined as wine made from fruits other than grapes
2): Maximum levels available from all sources, expressed as SO2 in mg/l
*): A declaration assuring that the ban on the use of genetic engineering has been complied with is necessary (GMO free certification)
Differentiation between products of plant origin and animal products:
If more than 50% of the weight of the agricultural products is of animal origin, the product is considered of animal origin.

E 422 Glycerol	It is not permitted for BIO AUSTRIA holdings
E 440 i Pectin*	For products of plant origin and milk products Ingredient of agricultural origin
E 464 Hydroxypropyl methyl cellulose	Encapsulation material for capsules
E 500 Sodium carbonates	For products of plant origin and "Dulce de leche" and soured-cream butter and sour milk cheese
E 501 Potassium carbonates	For products of plant origin
E 503 Ammonium carbonates	For products of plant origin
E 504 Magnesium carbonates	For products of plant origin
E 509 Calcium chloride	For milk coagulation
E 516 Calcium sulphate	As carrier in products of plant origin
E 524 Sodium hydroxide	Surface treatment of "Laugengebäck"
E 551 Silicon dioxide	It is not permitted for BIO AUSTRIA holdings
E 553b Talc	For products of plant origin and as coating agent for meat products
E 938 Argon	
E 939 Helium	
E 941 Nitrogen	
E 948 Oxygen	
7.9.2. Flavours	
Natural flavours and flavouring preparations*	
Smoke only from unprocessed wood and branches	
7.9.3. Water and salt	
Drinking water Salt (with sodium chloride or potassium chloride as basic components) generally used in food processing	
7.9.4. Preparations of micro-organisms	
All cultures of micro-organisms generally used in food production except for genetically modified organisms (GMO), enzymes*, rennet substitutes*, natural rennet*.	
7.9.5. Minerals, vitamins, aminoacids, and other nitrogen combinations	
It is only permitted if legal requirements exist for the concerned food	
7.9.6. Processing aids and other products	
Drinking water	
Calcium chloride	In products of plant origin as coagulation agent
Calcium carbonate	In products of plant origin
Calcium hydroxide	For products of plant origin
Calcium sulphate	In products of plant origin as coagulation agent
Magnesium chloride (or nigari)	In products of plant origin as coagulation agent
Potassium carbonate	For drying of grapes
Sodium carbonate	Sugar(s) production
Lactic acid*	For the regulation of the pH of the brine bath in cheese production
Citric acid*	In products of animal origin for the regulation of the pH of the brine bath in cheese production; in products of plant origin for oil production and hydrolysis of starch
Sodium hydroxide	For sugar(s) production and oil production from rape seed
Sulphuric acid	In products of animal origin for gelatine production; in products of plant origin for sugar(s) production
Hydrochloric acid	In products of animal origin only for gelatine production and for the regulation of the pH of the brine bath in the processing of Gouda-, Edam and Maasdammer cheeses, Boerenkaas, Friese and Leidse Nagelkaas
Ammonium hydroxide	In products of animal origin only for gelatine production
Hydrogen peroxide	In products of animal origin only for gelatine production
Carbon dioxide	

Nitrogen	
Ethanol*	As solvent for products of plant origin
Tannic acid	For products of plant origin as filtration aid
Egg white albumen	For products of plant origin
Casein	For products of plant origin
Gelatin	For products of plant origin
Isinglass	For products of plant origin
Vegetable oils	Only as greasing agent for baking trays
Silicon dioxide gel or colloidal solution	For products of plant origin
Activated carbon	For products of plant origin
Talc	For products of plant origin
Bentonite	For products of plant origin and as sticking agent for mead
Kaolin	For products of plant origin and for propolis
Celluose	For products of plant origin and in case of products of animal origin only for gelatine production
Hazelnut shells	For products of plant origin
Rice meal*	For products of plant origin
Beewax	As releasing agent for products of plant origin
Carnauba wax	As releasing agent for products of plant origin
7.9.7. Ingredients of agricultural origin produced conventionally (maximum 5% in relation to the total weight)	
7.9.7.1. Unprocessed products of plant origin	Acorns (Quercus spp.) Gooseberries (Ribes uva-crispa) Maracujas (Passion fruit, passiflora edulis) Raspberries (dried) (Rubus idaeus) Pepper (Peruvian, Schinus molle L.) Horseradish seeds (Armoracia rusticana) Lesser galanga (Alpinia officinarum) Safflower flowers (Carthamus tinctorius) Algae, including seaweed The following ingredients are not permitted: Cola nuts (Cola acuminata), dried red currants (Ribes rubrum), watercress herb (Nasturtium officinale)
7.9.7.2. Processed products of plant origin	Fructose* Rice paper* unleavened bread paper* pea protein Pisum spp. rum, (true rum only obtained from cane sugar juice, not Inländer Rum!) Kirsch (prepared on the basis of fruits and flavourings) The following is not permitted: Vegetable oils, starch from rice and waxy maize
7.9.7.3. Animal products	Gelatine Casings The following is not permitted: aquatic organisms and whey powder “herasuola”

8. Registry of the Austrian organic associations in the network of BIO AUSTRIA

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