

Standards for the production, processing and marketing of produce from organic farming

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Associazione svizzera delle organizzazioni per l'agricoltura biologica
Associazion svizra da las organisaziuns d'agricoltura biologica

Introduction

Swiss farmers played a leading part in the development of organic farming. Indeed, shortly after the founding of the biodynamic agriculture by Dr. Rudolf Steiner (1924), operations were started in Switzerland which utilised his methods, adapted to the climate and structural conditions of Switzerland. In the 1940s, Dr. Hans Müller developed the organic biological method, taught farmers about the importance of fertile soil, and firmly established the concept of sustainable organic agriculture with closed cycles in crop production. Back in 1974, far-sighted representatives using both these farming methods formed the Research Institute for Organic Agriculture (FiBL), engaged to establish a scientific justification for the observations of the pioneers of Organic Agriculture. Modern times for Organic Agriculture began in 1981 with the founding of the Association of the Swiss Organic Agriculture Organisations (BIO SUISSE). Under its aegis, there are today members of more than 30 farmers organisations, the Re-search Institute for Organic Agriculture and the Bio-Forum Möschberg.

The first common standards on organic farming methods were passed in 1981, and, at the same time, the common logo, the BUD-label, was created. Today the BUD-label is much sought after in modern marketing in which consumers have developed a high level of confidence.

The revised and up-dated edition of BIO SUISSE standards presented here govern the inspection and declaration of this sector according to the requirements of the European Union's decree on ecological agriculture and the Swiss Ordinance on Organic Farming, but, regarding production techniques (crop production and animal husbandry) and processing, it goes considerably further in a number of respects.

BIO SUISSE

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Regina Fuhrer". The script is cursive and fluid.

Regina Fuhrer
President

Reader's guide

The additional reglementations and documents marked with → in the BIO SUISSE standards are available at BIO SUISSE; moreover, most of them may be loaded down from the BIO SUISSE website (www.bio-suisse.ch) as PDF-files.

The documents marked with * are only available in German, French and Italian.

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List of abbreviations

ET	embryo transfer
FiBL	Forschungsinstitut für biologischen Landbau (Research Institute for Organic Agriculture)
GMO	genetically modified organisms
IFOAM	International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movements
LAE	large animal equivalents. 1 LAE corresponds to the annual manure output of one adulte milk cow (105kg N, 35kg P2O5, 180kg K2O, 12kg Mg). For all other domestic animals, there are existing conversion factors (e.g. 1 sheep (not milked) = 0.17 LAE, 1 breeding pig = 0.45 LAE, 1 fattening pig = 0.17 LAE, 100 layers = 1 LAE, 100 fryers = 0.4 LAE, 100 turkeys = 1.5 LAE)
LCP	label-commission «Production»
LCI	label-commission «Import»
LCPM	label-commission «Processing/Marketing»
METAS	Bundesamt für Metrologie und Akkreditierung (Swiss Federal Office for Metrology and Accreditation)
PVC	Polyvinyl Chloride
SOV	Schweizerischer Obstverband (Swiss Fruit Association)
UV	ultraviolet

Preamble

PRINCIPLES OF ORGANIC AGRICULTURE *

Farming while conserving the land

In the knowledge that healthy soil, pure air and pure water, and a multitude of large and small plants and animals are irreplaceable, organic agriculture strives constantly for a relationship with nature and the environment that conserves both as far as possible.

Taking on responsibility

Organic farmers are aware of their responsibility with respect to the natural fundamentals of life, and try to bring their work into harmony with the cycles of nature. Being a human activity, farming is always an intrusion into nature.

Conserving diversity

Organic farming has to be integrated into a diverse, self-regulating eco-system. Hedges, dry swards, edges of fields, mature trees and other bio-topes not only enrich the appearance of the landscape, but also help to-wards maintaining the diversity of species, and thus also increasing benefits.

Active soil

In the long term, only an active soil will bear fruits. Therefore the maintenance and increase of natural soil fertility by appropriate cultivation practices is of central significance. Everything that works against this goal is to be abandoned. Most especially, synthetic chemical fertilisers are forbidden.

Prophylactic crop protection

The health of crop plants is to be governed by the choice of resistant crops and varieties suited to the climate, appropriate fertilization, and suitable methods of cultivation and care. The use of synthetic crop protection products is prohibited.

Rearing of farm animals by methods appropriate for each

The specific needs of each type of animal must be taken into account. In doing this, ethical and ecological viewpoints must be considered. One should strive for a good life-time performance by the animals, not for maximum output. Embryo transfer is not permitted.

No use of genetic engineering

Organic agriculture (production and processing) renounces on interventions of genetic engineering and the use of genetically modified organisms (GMO) and their follow up products.

Producing quality

Production of quantity may not be achieved at the expense of intrinsic quality.

* The terms "Organic Agriculture", "Biological Agriculture" and "Ecological Agriculture" are used with the same meaning in Switzerland

Maintaining quality

Maintenance of quality, and especially of valuable constituents, should also be considered during further processing of the produce from organic farming.

In the interest of the consumers

Organic agriculture offers foodstuffs that contribute greatly to health, along with the greatest possible preservation of the environment, and so is wholly concerned with consumers' interests and their health.

Consideration of value

In turn, it is expected that the consumers appreciate the value to their health and are prepared to pay an acceptable premium for these products.

Agriculture with a future

Only in harmony with nature has agriculture a future. Organic agriculture must, however, be compatible not only with the environment, but also with human needs. Farms are only capable of survival in the long term if they provide adequate living conditions and appropriate wages.

Under the BUD-label

Products raised according to the standards of BIO SUISSE (Association of the Swiss Organic Agriculture Organisations) are identified by the BUD-label, the trademark for well inspected organic products. They offer the consumer a guarantee of foodstuffs produced by healthy methods that respect the environment.

1 General principles

1.1 RANGE OF APPLICATION

BUD-products

1.1.1 The standards of BIO SUISSE (Association of the Swiss Organic Agriculture Organisations) apply:

- for the production of plant and animal products which are to be marketed under the BUD-label, the trademark of BIO SUISSE or which are indicated as being produced under the standards of BIO SUISSE;
- for the processing and marketing of foodstuffs which are partly or wholly composed of raw materials which were produced following the standards of BIO SUISSE and which are marked by the BUD-label;
- for auxiliary substances which are declared under the BUD-label or which are indicated as being produced under the standards of BIO SUISSE.

1.1.2 The General Assembly of BIO SUISSE is responsible for the issue and amendment of the standards. The following appendices are integral parts of these standards:

- Appendix 1: Permitted inputs for fertilization and soil conditioning;
- Appendix 2: Permitted products for plant pest and -disease control;
- Appendix 3: BIO SUISSE definition of roughage;
- Appendix 4: Definition of animal categories for the calculation of feeding parameters;
- Appendix 5: Permitted non-organic feeding stuffs;
- Appendix 6: List of additional documents;
- Appendix 7: BIO SUISSE member organisations.

Alteration of these appendices and the issuing of instructions according to Article 1.1.3 of these standards come under the competence of the label-commissions «Production» (LCP), «Processing/Marketing» (LCPM) and «Import» (LCI). Member organisations of BIO SUISSE have the right of appeal. If appeals have not been received by the Executive Committee of BIO SUISSE from at least three member organisations within 30 days, then the decision comes into force. In the case of an appeal, the Executive Committee of BIO SUISSE comes to a decision on the basis of reports received from the relevant expert commission of BIO SUISSE. An action against the decision of the Executive Committee of BIO SUISSE can be brought before the General Assembly within 30 days.

Individual agricultural organisations are free to make additional impositions on their members in some areas.

Interpretation of the standards

1.1.3 Any interpretation of these standards must be based on an understanding of the concept of nature involved in organic agriculture as defined in the rules for production.

How the standards are to be interpreted is incorporated into the instructions where necessary.

Relation of the standards to the law

1.1.4 Should legal regulations on processing, storage or specifications of foodstuffs conflict with these standards, there can be no entitlement to the use of the BUD-label.

1.2 CONTRACTUAL OBLIGATIONS

Inspection and certification contract

- 1.2.1 Producers (farmers; producers of agricultural products) as well as processing and trading companies have to sign a contract on the inspection and certification with an inspection- and/or certification body designed by BIO SUISSE. BIO SUISSE has a list of these bodies.

→ *to Art. 1.2.1: List of the organisations that are entitled to inspect or certify farms and produce according to BIO SUISSE standards (in Switzerland)**

Contract between producers and BIO SUISSE (producer's contract)

- 1.2.2 The producers are entitled by a producers contract to use the protected BUD trademark and obliged to pay the federation- and marketing contributions. The contract also rules the labelling of products in sale and trade. If producers achieve a substantial turnover from the trade of purchased BUD-products, they too are obliged to take out a licensing contract. The Executive Committee of BIO SUISSE lays down the terms for this.

Contract between processing and trading companies and BIO SUISSE (licensing contract)

- 1.2.3 BIO SUISSE is the holder of the BUD-label. The right of third parties to use the trademark can only be obtained by signing a contract. The closing of a licensing contract and the paying of the licence fees determines who may use the BUD-label.

→ *to Art. 1.2.3: Directives (Part for licensees and on farm-processing) «General requirements»**

Fees

- 1.2.4 The fees for the producer's contract (according to Art. 1.2.2) will be set by the General Assembly of BIO SUISSE. The fees for the licensing contract (according to Art. 1.2.3) will be set every year by the Executive Committee of BIO SUISSE in a separate regulation.

→ *to Art. 1.2.4: Regulations on fees**

1.3 RULES FOR THE USE OF THE BUD-LABEL

- 1.3.1 BIO SUISSE is the holder of the Swiss collective labels «Knospe», «Bourgeon», «Gemma», and «BUD» as well as of the corresponding logo (figurative BUD) registered with the Swiss Institute for Intellectual Property.

- 1.3.2 Producers, processing- and trade operations that have signed a contract with BIO SUISSE are entitled to use the collective label for goods and services registered with the Swiss Institute for Intellectual Property. This right expires with the cancelling of the contract (producer's or licensing contract).

2 Crop Production

2.1 BASIC PRINCIPLES

Soil fertility and Soil management

- 2.1.1 A healthy soil is a prerequisite for healthy plants, healthy animals and healthy food. In biological farming, the care of a living soil and consequently the maintenance and improvement of natural fertility are at the centre of all measures adopted. A varied vegetation and a soil which is covered as long as possible with plants are the best prerequisites for this.

Maintenance of humus

- 2.1.2 In organic agriculture, the objective is to achieve a careful conservation of humus. The supply and natural build-up of organic material should at least replace all that is broken down. This objective is served by the development of clover grass farming, the growing of suitable green manure crops, limits on the root crops grown in rotation and the working in of organic matter.

Soil cultivation

- 2.1.3 Cultivation of the soil is to be carried out with care and consideration. Tolerance of life in the soil and the soil structure is to be taken into account in all operations. Deep ploughing should be avoided, and also any cultivation of the soil when it is wet. Nutrient loss due to intensive cultivation and all unnecessary expenditure of energy are to be avoided.

Fertilization

- 2.1.4 Fertilization should promote life in the soil. Nitrogen is given exclusively in the form of organic fertilisers. Mineral supplements are given on the basis of local needs, soil analyses, observations on the farm and the nutrient balance of the whole farm, and they should be kept to a minimum.
The use of synthetic chemical nitrogen fertilisers, easily soluble phosphates and also concentrated fertilisers containing chloride or pure potassium is forbidden in organic farming. Fertilisers are listed in Appendix 1 and also in the annually updated list of auxiliary inputs of the FiBL (Research Institute for Organic Agriculture).
- 2.1.5 Organic inputs, compost and earth brought in from outside must not contain any ingredients that are not allowed under the general standards. Particular attention should be paid to anything which could result in contamination by harmful substances (heavy metals, antibiotics, residues of chemical pesticides etc.). If there are doubts, the necessary analyses must be carried out or requested.
- 2.1.6 Exact records are to be kept of the nutrient inputs brought in (source, amount and use). In case of doubt, analyses must be performed and assessed by certification body.
- 2.1.7 The intensity of fertilization, especially with nitrogen, must not adversely affect the quality of the yield (constituents of value, taste, smell, storage life, wholesomeness).
- 2.1.8 Moreover, the amount of fertiliser given must be adjusted according to the site and climatic conditions. The quantities of all nutrients employed per hectare should, under optimum conditions, not exceed the amount in the droppings from 2.5 large animal equivalents (LAE) per hectare in lowland areas (planes).

To calculate the average stocking rate of a farm, the average stocking rate (intensity) of the various areas need to be taken into account. In covered crops, more than 2.5 LAE/ha respectively 135 kg Navailable may be spread, if the need of the respective crop is proven to be higher (Swiss-Balance).

- 2.1.9 In the case of legally recognised co-operatives situated within limited areas (e.g. cheese-making co-operatives, producers associations and other forms of co-operation between farms) which have common sales of BUD-products, the exchange of manure and fodder is permitted.

→ *to Art. 2.1.4 – 2.1.9 (fertilization):*

- *Directive «Nutrients supply»*
- *List of auxiliary inputs of the FiBL (Research Institute for Organic Agriculture): Part «Permitted fertilizers and trade substrates»**

Fodder production

- 2.1.10 The intensity of use of natural meadows and permanent pasture land must match the natural conditions of the location in terms of the amount of manure applied and the frequency of cutting for hay, and be graded to correspond with the possibilities of fodder utilisation within the farming operation.

Rotations

- 2.1.11 Any crop rotation should be worked out to be varied and balanced so that it will maintain long-term soil fertility and guarantee healthy plants. The rotation must, in particular, minimise the leaching of nutrients into groundwater and their passage into surface water.

Choice of crops and varieties

- 2.1.12 The crops and varieties grown must be those best suited to local and regional conditions, the least susceptible to disease and of a good nutritional and physiological quality.

Pollution control

- 2.1.13 Farm operations and/or fields that are exposed to heavy pollution by non-permitted auxiliary inputs or harmful substances can be excluded from the BUD-marketing, respectively the LCP can impose measures to prevent contamination.

→ *to Chapter 2.1 (storing of farm manure, fertilizing and moor protection on alpine pastures): Directive «Animal husbandry on alpine pastures and alpine products»**

2.2 SEED, PLANTING MATERIAL AND VEGETATIVE PROPAGATION MATERIAL

Requirements on the use

- 2.2.1 The use of genetically modified/engineered seed and transgenic plants is forbidden in organic farming.
- 2.2.2 Swiss seed, planting material and vegetative propagation material must derive from BUD-farming. Imported seed and planting material must at least comply with the requirements of IFOAM. Preferably BIO SUISSE approved seed, planting material and vegetative propagation material should be used.
Planting material in vegetable and herb cultures as well as vegetative propagation material in fruit-and berry-cultures must derive from cultivations that comply with the BUD-requirements.

- 2.2.3 Seed, planting material and vegetative propagation material treated with not allowed substances (subsequently called «treated») must not be used. The use of peat for the cultivation of planting material has to be restricted as much as possible.
- 2.2.4 When seeds and vegetative propagation material as defined in Art. 2.2.2 can be proved to be unobtainable in quality and quantity usual in the trade, untreated seed respectively vegetative propagation material produced by non-organic methods may be used during a transition period until 31.12.2003. The use of treated seeds is only allowed in exceptional cases. The LCP will set new rules on the requirements for proof and for exceptions for each crop every year during the transition period.
- 2.2.5 The LCP decides, in accordance with the valid legislation in this matter, on special regulations concerning the use of non-organic seed, planting material and vegetative propagation material after 31.12.2003.

Requirements for the production

- 2.2.6 BUD-labelled seed and vegetative propagation material have to meet the following requirements: The parent plants must be cultivated at least for one generation or, in case of perennial cultures, for at least two growth periods, on a BIO SUISSE approved farm. Further requirements on the propagation of single species are set down in folders and instructions.

→ *to Chapter 2.2:*

- *Directives «Rearing of seedlings in organic vegetable and herb cultivation»*
- *LCP-leaflet «Propagation material (seed, vegetative propagation material) and seedlings»*

2.3 CROP PROTECTION

- 2.3.1 The proper choice of variety, stimulation of soil fertility, a well-balanced fertilization, careful sowing and cultivation techniques (e.g rotation, variety, use of mixed cropping, enough space between plants and green manure) hinders the incidence of pests and diseases. Varied micro-environments such as hedges, nesting sites or wetlands provide favourable conditions for the natural enemies of pest and disease organisms.
- 2.3.2 In order to increase the self-regulatory ability of the crop stand and to improve the resistance of the plants to domination by potential pest organisms (fungi, bacteria, insects and other animals), certain regulators and plant tonics may be applied as specified in Appendix 2 and the annually updated list of auxiliary inputs of the FiBL (Research Institute for Organic Agriculture).
- 2.3.3 Permissible for the direct control of pest organisms are mechanical and bio-technical methods, and also the products listed in Appendix 2 and the annually updated list of auxiliary inputs of the FiBL (Research Institute for Organic Agriculture), but only if considerable damage is anticipated, based on an assessment of the likely development in the balance between pest and beneficial organisms. The choice and method of the treatment must have specific results, i.e. they must not affect other organisms nearby.
- 2.3.4 The use of crop protection agents produced from synthetic chemicals and genetic engineering is forbidden. There should be no detectable residues of these products, unless they originate from a general contamination of the environment. Fields that are exposed to heavy pollution by chemical-synthetic or genetically engineered crop protection products can be excluded from the marketing with the BUD-label, respectively the LCP can impose measures to prevent contamination. Permitted crop protection products are given in Appendix 2 and the annually updated list of

auxiliary inputs of the FiBL (Research Institute for Organic Agriculture). Products not specifically mentioned in these lists are not permitted for use.

- 2.3.5 Weed control is carried out by cultivation and mechanical methods. Flame weeding is allowed. Thermic sterilisation of the soil in the outdoor fields is forbidden.
- 2.3.6 All use of herbicides and growth regulators (straw shorteners, chemical hormones for fruit regulation, chemical soil disinfection or stem weakening substances etc.) and other chemical plant hormones (desiccants, e.g.) is forbidden.

→ *to Chapter 2.3: List of auxiliary inputs of the FiBL (Research Institute for Organic Agriculture): Part «Permitted products for crop protection»**

2.4 PROMOTION OF DIVERSITY OF SPECIES

Entitled areas

- 2.4.1 A farm manager has the duty to retain, augment or create ecologically diversified areas (the so called «compensatory ecological habitats») as nearly natural as possible, and to care for them properly. These habitats must constitute at least 7% of the agricultural land. They must be situated in the same parts of the farm which are used for agricultural purposes and be owned or rented by the farmer. All elements defined in the Swiss Ordinance on Direct Payments must be handled at least in accordance with the requirements of this directive.
- 2.4.2 The requirements of the Swiss Ordinance on Direct Payments and of the «Instruction for compensatory ecological habitats on farm holdings» of the consulting centers LBL and SRVA must be met. Cooperation between several farms with regard to the compensatory ecological habitats is not allowed.

Transitional period

Current cooperations may be maintained until the end of 2006.

Farms with several production units

- 2.4.3 Farms which have several production units, which are outside the regular farmed area must identify the «compensatory ecological habitats» for each production unit in proportion to its size. For farming operations with areas in other countries, these «compensatory ecological habitats» must comprise at least 7% of the area used for agriculture in each case.

Minimum proportion of land with unimproved meadows and pastures

- 2.4.4 The proportion of less frequently cut meadows and unimproved meadows, grazed pastures, woodland clearings or wet meadows must comprise at least 5% of the permanent grassland, lays (including unimproved meadows on fallow fields) and wet meadows. The buffer strips of hedges, field- and bank copses may be added to the 5 %.

Border areas

- 2.4.5 Alongside paths, grass strips at least a 0.5 m wide area should be left. These strips can only be counted as «compensatory ecological habitats» when they are within the farmed area, fulfil the relevant conditions for unimproved or less intensively used meadows, and are at least 3 m wide. In areas carrying perennial crops, the first 3 m of such border strips lying across the main direction of cultivation are counted as

headlands of the cultivated area. They cannot be counted as unimproved or less intensively used meadows.

- 2.4.6 Alongside or around surface water, wood-sides, hedges and copses or trees in fields, grass strips of at least 3 m wide must be left. No fertilisers and no crop treatments may be applied.
Grazing is permitted as appropriate for the location. The LCP can replace the compulsory requirement for grass strips by an interdiction of treatments with fertilisers or plant treatment products whenever specific technical reasons require this (e.g. the field width between two hedges) or when the hedge does not lie within the farmer's own farm.

SPECIAL CULTURES

→ *to Chapters 2.5ff (Special cultures): Directive «Horticulture (cultivation of ornamental plants)»*

2.5 VEGETABLE AND HERB PRODUCTION

Soil and potting earth/substrates

- 2.5.1 Growing of vegetables is permitted only in soil. Growing in earth-less media (e.g. stone wool), hydro- culture, nutrient-rich plastic films and similar methods and techniques are not allowed. Chicory buds may be grown in water, but without added fertiliser.
- 2.5.2 The addition of peat to enrich the soil with organic matter is not allowed. The same applies to the use of polystyrene and other synthetic substances in the soil or in growth media.
- 2.5.3 Purchase of organic fertiliser (compost) serves only as a supplementary measure to cultivation methods.

→ *to Art. 2.5.1 – 2.5.3: List of auxiliary inputs of the FiBL (Research Institute for Organic Agriculture): Part «Permitted fertilizers and trade substrates»**

Seedlings

- 2.5.4 Seedlings must either be from the farm itself or purchased from BIO SUISSE approved operations. When unforeseeable shortages occur, the LCP will decide on the procedure within the bounds of legal prerequisites.
- 2.5.5 When rearing seedlings are cultivated, the amount of peat used is to be kept to a minimum.

Steam treatment of small areas and soil

- 2.5.6 When growing under plastic covers and in the production of seedlings, a superficial steaming for control of competing plants is authorised. This applies to soil and other growth media, but the steam treatment is to be kept to a minimum level.
- 2.5.7 Deep steam treatment to eliminate soil epidemics in case of need requires a special permit.

Growing under glass and plastic

- 2.5.8 In winter (1st December to 28th February) these cropping areas may simply be kept free of frost (about 5 degrees C). An exception is made in the case of seedling production.
- 2.5.9 In a selecting a heating system and the fuel to be used, compatibility with the environment must be respected. Care must be taken to have housing with good insulation.
- 2.5.10 The use of plastic and fibre sheet etc. on the soil is to be kept to a minimum. Used sheeting is to be taken away for recycling.

→ *to Chapter 2.5:*

- *Directive «Rearing of seedlings in organic vegetable and herb cultivation»*
- *LCP-leaflet «Propagation material (seed, vegetative propagation material) and seedlings»*

2.6 FRUIT PRODUCTION

Growing systems

- 2.6.1 The shape of trees and the planting distance must ensure that sufficient light is available to the fruit during the whole growing period. The fruit species and varieties and the rootstock should be appropriate to the local soil and climatic conditions.

Pruning

- 2.6.2 To obtain good quality fruit, pruning promotes an open tree crown with slow-growing but strongly developed fruit-bearing wood. It must be adapted to the condition of the trees, and also their shape, vigour and age.

Soil management

- 2.6.3 Orchards must have ground cover present all the year round. It should be maintained so that it keeps a diverse flora and fauna. Cover by a monoculture should be avoided.
- 2.6.4 The rows of trees may, particularly in young orchards, be kept cultivated mechanically or covered with material of organic origin (e.g. bark com-post, rape straw) or by long-life plastic sheeting.

Fertilization and mulching

- 2.6.5 Amended organic material may be brought in and used as mulch, or it may also be worked under.
- 2.6.6 Fertilization and mulching must be carried out sparingly and at appropriate times, so as not to distort the physiological balance of the trees and the quality of the fruit.

Pest and disease management

- 2.6.7 All tree cultivation measures, such as the choice of shape, distance between trees, variety and general care, also serve to increase the resistance of fruit trees.
- 2.6.8 When new plantings are made, disease-resistant fruit varieties should be given preference.

- 2.6.9 Products permitted for the treatment of fruit trees are listed in Appendix 2 and the annually updated list of auxiliary inputs of the FiBL (Research Institute for Organic Agriculture).

Bearing and growth regulation

- 2.6.10 Accurate thinning by hand at the right time serves to improve fruit quality and prevent alternate bearing.

Berries and miscellaneous fruit

- 2.6.11 These standards are valid wherever relevant also for bush fruits and any other fruit crops.

Quality and grading

- 2.6.12 Quality and grading criteria are shown in the BIO SUISSE minimum rules (see leaflet «*Minimal grading criteria for organic fruits*»*).

2.7 VINE PRODUCTION

Soil Management

- 2.7.1 Productive vineyards should bear a complete vegetation cover all year round. The cover may, from time to time, be replaced by a compost mulch or by a sown cover crop. The soil of newly planted vineyards may be shallowly cultivated. The vegetation cover must comprise a diversity of species and be sustained so that a rich flora and fauna is encouraged (by pruning severely in alternate years and appropriate fertilization).

Fertilization

- 2.7.2 The soil-conditioning and manure materials that are permitted are listed in Appendix 1 and the annually updated list of auxiliary inputs of the FiBL (Research Institute for Organic Agriculture).
- 2.7.3 Any compost brought in is to be worked superficially into the soil or used as a covering mulch. Breaking of hardened surface soil should be carried out not by turning the soil, but by means of deep-rooted plants. When new vines are planted, deep (ripper) ploughing is allowed.

Crop protection and care

- 2.7.4 All cultivation measures such as rearing young vines, stock preparation, pruning, trellising, inter-row width and general care serve to increase the resilience of the vines.
- 2.7.5 As far as possible, disease-resistant vines should be grown.
- 2.7.6 Crop protection products approved for treatment of vines are listed in Appendix 2 and the annually updated list of auxiliary inputs of the FiBL (Research Institute for Organic Agriculture).

Improvement of quality

- 2.7.7 The natural sugar content should be optimised by proper cultivation such as pruning, canopy manipulation and control of the potential yield. The median production from

the landholding to be aimed at, as a minimum, is the local average for the variety concerned.

2.8 MUSHROOM PRODUCTION

Starting material

2.8.1 For organically produced mushrooms, only organic and/or mineral starting materials which are acceptable according to BIO SUISSE standards and the Swiss Sub-Ordinance on Organic Farming, Appendix 2, clause 4 may be used.

2.8.2 The substrate and any additional materials must derive 80% from organic production (based on dry matter content).

Hygienic measures

2.8.3 The growth medium and covering soil may only be sterilised by heat. In particular, it is forbidden to apply any synthetic chemical pesticides to the growth medium, soil, water or ambient air.

2.8.4 The growing areas can only be disinfected by heating or with products approved by BIO SUISSE.

→ *to Chapter 2.8: Directive «Production of edible mushrooms»*

2.9 COLLECTION OF WILD PLANTS

2.9.1. Are regarded as wild plants edible plants and mushrooms as well as their parts which grow naturally in forests and on agricultural land and are not cultivated by agricultural methods and means. The collection of wild plants is meant to complete agricultural production.

2.9.2 The following requirements must be met for the BIO SUISSE-approval:

- A complete description of the gathered area, of the gathering activities, of storing and processing;
- Prove that no unauthorized auxiliary inputs for organic agriculture have been used for the three previous years;
- Prove of ecological harmlessness (stability of the habitat and biodiversity);
- There mustn't be any sources of emission/contamination in the respective area and in the neighbourhood;
- Collectors must have a sound knowledge of sustainable gathering.

2.9.3 There is no conversion period for the collection of wild plants. The produce may be labelled as fully organic after certification.

2.9.4 The BUD-label is provided to non-producers by means of the conclusion of a licence contract with BIO SUISSE. The wild collection project manager must not be the manager of a non-organic agricultural operation at the same time.

→ *to Chapter 2.9: Directive «Collection of wild plants»*

3 Animal Husbandry

3.1 BASIC PRINCIPLES

Breeding

- 3.1.1 The health and performance of animals is to be promoted by appropriate rearing, the choice of suitable races and the breeding methods adopted. Animals should be bred which fit in well with the ecological limits of the various requirements and conditions to be found on a organic farm. The target is a high longevity performance by the animals. Genetic manipulation, and synchronisation of oestrus cycles are forbidden. Artificial insemination is allowed, but all other forms of artificial or other-wise influenced reproduction (eg. embryo transfers, sperm-sexing) are forbidden. The LCP can authorize exceptions in accordance with the Swiss Federal Office of Agriculture, in order to preserve endangered genetic re-sources. The respective animals and their products must not be marketed under the terms of organic farming.

Embryo transfer

No animals deriving from embryo transfer must be kept on the farm. Excepted are cattle bred under contract with a non-organic farm. These animals must be given back to the original farm operation after a definite period stipulated by the contract.

Animals of embryo transfer that have been kept on the farm before January 1, 2001 or before conversion to organic farming may be kept on the farm until they are slaughtered or die.

Bulls resulting directly from embryo transfer (ET) and their sperm are not to be used.

- 3.1.2 On organic farms, natural reproduction techniques shall be preferred whenever possible. In selecting animals, particular attention should be paid to the longevity performance of their forbears.

Housing and welfare

- 3.1.3 The specific ethological needs of all species of domestic animals must be taken into account with the provision of appropriate housing and the opportunity for movement and activity. The National Animal Protection Law must be observed in entirety.

The regulations on the regular free-range (Swiss «Program for regular free-range of livestock») must be complied with.

Keeping the animals in herds is to be preferred to keeping them separated. A journal must be kept on the grazing and free range periods of all animals (in accordance with the «Swiss Ordinance on the regular free-range of livestock).

Tethering

It is principally not allowed to tether animals. Exceptions of this principle:

- cattle on small farm operations, the size of which is defined by the authorities;
- individual animals for safety- respectively protection reasons, for a limited time;
- cattle and goats kept in buildings existing before 1.1.2001, until 31.12.2010;
- on request, the LCP can grant exceptions for the tethering of work horses until December 31, 2010.

- 3.1.4 The number of animals must be appropriate for the farmed area, the site and the climatic conditions. In lowland (plains), the stocking rate may not exceed 2.5 large animal equivalents (LAE; see Art. 2.1.8 respectively Directive «Nutrients supply») per hectare of agricultural area. In mountain areas under poor conditions, the stocking rate is to be reduced, as shown in Art. 2.1.8.

Stables

3.1.5 Stable floors with fissures or holes are forbidden. The bedding areas for all animals must be covered with straw or be dry and well insulated. Daylight must be provided.

3.1.6 Materials and paints in stables must be innocuous (non-toxic). As far as possible, the cleansing agents and disinfectants being used must be innocuous and biodegradable. BIO SUISSE has a list of all recommended agents.

→ *to Art. 3.1.6: List of auxiliary inputs of the FiBL (Research Institute for Organic Agriculture): Parts «Permitted agents to control stable flies»*, «Recommended detergents and disinfection agents»* and «Recommended cleaning and sterilization agents for organic dairy operations»**

Feed

3.1.7 Animals are to be fed correctly according to species (according to their natural feeding behaviour). The feeding of animals should not be in direct competition with the growing of food for humans.

3.1.8 Animals are to be fed with fodder from the farm itself. Conversion-fodder produced on the farm may be used in a proportion of max. 60% of the portion per animal (conversion-farms: up to 100%).

Purchased fodder serves only as supplement to this home-produced feed and fodder and should be organically produced as far as possible. The following fodder may be purchased:

- BUD-fodder;
- BUD-fodder produced under the terms of conversion to organic farming; the proportion of conversion-fodder must not exceed 30% of the ration of each specific livestock category;
- fodder certified with the «BUD for auxiliary inputs»;
- As of 01/01/2004, non-organic feeding stuffs are only to be used in accordance with the appendix 5 «Admitted non-organic feeding stuffs». This list is periodically adjusted to the present situation in supply and to the aims of BIO SUISSE by the LCP.
- The admitted non-organic feeding stuffs may however only be used on the farm as single components or as component of a certified feeding stuff. When mixed fodder is produced on the farm, the respective directives must be observed.
- Mineral feeding stuffs: The compliance with the standards of BIO SUISSE must be unambiguously proven (e.g. by means of tags on containers or on the delivery note).

Non-organic fodder

The proportion of non-organic fodder contained in the total fodder ration and the max. share of non-organic feeding stuffs in fodder certified with the BUD for auxiliary inputs is yearly defined by the LCP in the appendix 5 «admitted non-organic feeding stuffs». It must however not exceed the following percentages:

- Ruminants: 10% of the total dry matter consumption;
- Non-ruminants: 20% of the total dry matter consumption per animal category.

The definition of the percentage takes account of the present situation in supply and of the physiological properties of the animals in terms of nutrition. It aims at reducing the share of non-organic concentrated feed to almost zero percent as of 12/31/2006 for ruminants and keeping it as low as possible as of 12/31/2008 for non-ruminants. The use of non-organic roughage-components should be as low as possible in any case.

Non-organic fodder proportions of the daily ration must not exceed 25% of dry matter.

In case of losses of fodder yield, in particular because of extraordinary weather conditions, the certification body can authorize, in agreement with the Federal Office of Agriculture, a higher percentage of non-organic roughage for directly affected livestock keepers, in a specific area and for a limited time.

Specific feeding regulations

Young mammals must be fed on the basis of natural milk, preferably mother's milk. All mammals must be fed with natural milk during a mini-mum period, that is defined according to each specific animal species. For cattle (including water buffalos and bisons) and horses it amounts to three months, for goats and sheep to 35 days and for pigs to 40 days.

As of 01/01/2004, ruminants must receive at least 90% of dry fodder matter as fresh, dried or ensilaged roughage per animal category (separate registering of brood and mother animals). The LCP defines in the appendix «definition of roughage», which feeding stuffs are considered as roughage.

As for poultry, the fodder administered during the fattening period must consist of at least 65% grains and grain legumes (their products and by-products) and oil seeds (their products and by-products).

Forbidden fodder

- 3.1.9 The fodder components must be of natural condition, and the processing methods must be as natural and as energy-saving as possible. Fodder must not contain any traces of genetically modified organisms or of their by-products exceeding the quotas defined in the directive «Feeding without the use of genetic engineering».

In addition are forbidden:

- chemical-synthetic additives (urea, anti-microbial fattening promoters, enzymes, synthetic amino-acids etc.);
- therapeutic chemical medication used prophylactically (sulphonamides and others), antibiotics, hormones, coccidiostatic preparations etc. Excepted are worming cures in areas of high risk (alpine meadows, permanent meadows);
- fattening methods with forced feeding and the keeping and housing of animals in conditions that could lead to anaemia;
- the use of gastro-waste is forbidden. For BUD-farm operations that have been using gastro-waste before January 1, 2005, a transitional period until December 31, 2006 is granted.

The addition of animal proteins, animal fats, patented preparations of fats and proteins, propylene glycol, propionic acid and any similar substances and additives that do not suit the digestion of ruminants to their fodder is forbidden. Mixtures of mineral substances or trace elements as well as vitamin preparations are allowed to meet the demand. Natural products are recommended.

→ to Art. 3.1.7 – 3.1.9:

- *Directives «Feeding without the use of genetic engineering» and «Animal fodder»*
- *List of feeding stuffs BIO SUISSE/ALP/FiBL**
- *List of auxiliary inputs of the FiBL (Research Institute for Organic Agriculture): Part «Permitted silage additives»**

Provenance of animals

- 3.1.10 The livestock, except for horses not-used for food production, male breeding animals and animals kept for fun, must principally come from approved organic farm operations. To support this aim, the LCP can impose a steering tax on non-organic animals (see Art. 7.2.6).

If the animals are aestivated on alpine meadows, it has to be on organic farm operations as far as possible. In special cases the animals can be aestivated on farm operations meeting the requirements of art. 10, paragraph 1 of the Ordinance on the subsidies for aestivation of March 29, 2000 .

Organic farm operations may breed cattle coming from non-organic farm organisations on the terms of a breeding contract. These animals must however be brought back to their original farm after a definite period stipulated in the contract. An organic marketing of these animals is not allowed in any case.

Purchase of livestock from organic farms that are not member of BIO SUISSE

Purchased organic animals from farms that are not affiliated to BIO SUISSE must be kept in accordance with BIO SUISSE standards for at least 3 months in order to be marketed as BUD-animals respectively as BUD-in-conversion-animals. Animals of the categories laying hens, poultry and pigs must be exclusively purchased from approved BIO SUISSE-farm holdings.

Purchase of non-organic animals

If the quantity of animals from BIO SUISSE or organic farm holdings available to supplement the natural increase or renewal of the stock is not sufficient, the livestock owner may, in agreement with the certification body, put in stable yearly nullipare female young cattle or horses (animals that have not yet thrown), including water buffalos or bisons from non-organic farm operations, in a quantity coming up to 10% of the grown up cattle and horses, as well as up to 20% of the stock of grown up pigs, sheep or goats. For organic farms with less than 10 cattle or horses or with less than five pigs, sheep or goats, the renewal is limited to one animal per year.

Exceptions for the purchase of non-organic animals

On request and in agreement with the Federal Office of Agriculture, the LCP is entitled to authorize individual farm operations to stable animals from non-organic farms in proportion of 40% of the stock, if animals from organic farms are not available in sufficient quantity. This may occur for the following reasons:

- considerable increase of animal husbandry;
- conversion to other races;
- development of a new branch of animal production;
- necessity of a substitute calf for a mother- or nurse-cow.

In case of increased mortality because of epidemics or other catastrophes, the LCP authorizes, in agreement with the Federal Office of Agriculture, the renewal or reconstruction of the livestock with animals from non-organic farm operations, if there are not enough animals available from organic farms.

Male breeding animals from non-organic farm operations may be purchased any time.

Waiting-periods for animals from non-organic farms

In order to be regarded as organic animals, livestock not coming from organic farm operations that are purchased after the beginning of the conversion to organic farming must be kept in accordance with the rules of these standards for at least:

- 12 months as for cattle and horses (including water buffalos and bison-species) used for meat production; in any case at least during three quarters of their life;
- 6 months as for small ruminants and pigs;
- 6 months as for milk producing animals;
- 56 days as for poultry for meat production, which have been put in the chicken-coop before reaching the age of three days;
- 6 weeks as for poultry for egg production.

In order to develop a stock, calves and small ruminants for the production of meat may be marketed as animals from organic farming, if they are kept in accordance with the rules of these standards during the following periods before they are slaughtered:

- calves for at least 6 months;
- small ruminants for at least 2 months.

Transitory rules

Until 31.12.2005, the following animals may be purchased from non-BIO SUISSE farm operations for the development of a new livestock, if there are not enough animals available from BIO SUISSE farms:

- laying hens up to an age of 18 weeks;
- broilers, pullets and breeding hens (must be put into the chicken-coop on the 3rd day of their live at the latest).

Animal health

- 3.1.11 Injured or sick animals must be treated. Natural remedies and healing methods have first priority, if experience shows that they have a therapeutic effect on the respective animal species or the disease that is to be treated. Chemical-synthetic allopathic treatments may be carried out on the veterinarian's prescription, if the disease or injury cannot be efficiently treated with alternative methods. The treatment must be recorded indelibly in the stable book.

Withdrawal periods

The withdrawal period between the last administering of a chemical-synthetic allopathic veterinary medicine and the marketing of foodstuff from such an animal amounts principally to the double of the legally stipulated time indicated on the package. Excepted are drugs for the draining of cows with udder problems. Before the use of draining agents, a bacteriological analysis of the milk must be carried out.

Prophylactic treatment

Prophylactic treatments with chemical-synthetic allopathic medicines, antibiotics and hormones are forbidden. The use of coccidiostatics, prophylactic iron-injections on pigs as well as the use of hormones or similar substances to control the reproduction (e.g. induction or synchronization of the heat) or for other aims are not permitted. Hormones may yet be administered to an individual animal in case of a therapeutic treatment by a veterinarian. Synthetic chemicals as worming agents and vaccinations are allowed on prescription by a veterinarian.

Treated animals must be identifiable any time and unmistakably as such.

For disinfection of the teats, drugs from the list of the Swiss Dairy Research Institute (FAM) are allowed.

Number of treatments

If an animal is treated more than three times within a calendar year with chemical-synthetic allopathic veterinarian medicines or antibiotics (or more than once, if the productive life-cycle is of less than a year), the respective animals or products of these animals must not be sold as organic; and the animals must undergo once more the conversion-periods defined in Art. 3.1.10. Excepted are vaccinations, the treatment of parasites and treatments under the terms of state-run programs against animal epidemics.

- *to Art. 3.1.11: List of auxiliary inputs of the FiBL (Research Institute for Organic Agriculture): Part «Recommended agents to control ectoparasites»**

Zoo-technical measures

- 3.1.12 Zoo-technical measures must be kept to a minimum. De-horning of young animals should only be carried out as a precaution for the safety of people and other animals and under local stunning. Permitted zoo-technical measures must be carried out by qualified personnel. Castration is permitted, whereby the regulations of the Swiss Ordinance on animal protection must be complied with.

Forbidden measures

The de-horning of adult animals and the use of nose-rings for pigs are forbidden. The LCP can yet authorize, in justified cases and in agreement with the Federal

Office of Agriculture, exceptions as for the de-horning and the fastening of nose-rings on pigs in alpine pasture areas.

Particularly forbidden without a vet's prescription are:

- tail-docking, except in the case of sheep when diarrhoea caused by their feed leaves no alternative and shearing does not help;
- blunting of teeth;
- clipping of beaks and claws in poultry;
- trimming of wing-bones;
- caponising of roosters.

→ *to Chapter 3.1: Directive «Animal husbandry on alpine pastures and alpine products»**

SPECIES SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

- *to Chapters 3.2 ff (species specific requirements):*
- *LCP-leaflet «Quail husbandry»* (BUD-labelling is possible)*

3.2 CATTLE

Rearing

- 3.2.1 Electric cattle prods are forbidden with effect from 1.1.2002. The Swiss «Ordinance on the regular free-range of livestock» must be complied with, as stated in Art. 3.1.3 above.

Feeding

- 3.2.2 Cattle are primarily to be fed with roughage. Concentrates may only be used as a supplement. The amount of fodder that may be bought in is given in Art. 3.1.8.
- 3.2.3 Calves shall not be taken off milk before they are 3 months old. Powdered milk substitute or powdered milk shall not be given.

3.3 SHEEP

Rearing

- 3.3.1 Sheep must be kept in flocks on pasture land, or in a free stable where they can move around freely and have access to the open air. Keeping them individually in boxes is only allowed for a maximum of seven days at lambing time and if they fall ill. Rams can be kept individually.
During the season of vegetative growth, sheep must be put into the pasture land every day. In bad weather, it is sufficient to let them out in an outdoor run every day. In winter, all animals must have exercise area outside at least 13 times a month.
- 3.3.2 Castration is allowed. The requirements of the Swiss Ordinance of the Protection of animals must be met.
- 3.3.3 Sheep from transhumance systems (migratory herding) may not be marketed under the BUD-label. Farms that practise transhumance and stall rearing in the winter months may sell their home-reared animals under the BUD-label, on condition that the animals from the transhumance flocks are not brought back on to the farm.

Feeding

- 3.3.4 Sheep should be primarily fed with roughage. The rules on the buying in of non-organically grown fodder are given in Art. 3.1.8.
Lambs are basically to be reared and fattened on mother's milk. The use of milk powder is forbidden.

Veterinary medicine

- 3.3.5 The keeping of sheep should be optimised so that worming with synthetic chemical medicaments is needed as little as possible. These medicaments are permitted by order of a vet.

Preference should be given to individual treatment for claw diseases (cutting, disinfection). In bathing the feet, copper salts and formalin are to be used with discretion.

→ *to Chapter 3.3: Directive «Sheep-keeping - milk and meat»**

3.4 GOATS

Rearing

3.4.1 Goats must be taken to graze every day. The Swiss Ordinance on the regular free-range of livestock applies.

During the birth period, mother animals must be able to move about freely for at least a day. Keeping goats individually in boxes is only permitted for a maximum of seven days after the lambs are born and in cases of illness.

Billy-goats (male goats) may kept individually. Hormonal synchronisation of oestrus is forbidden.

Feeding

3.4.2 Goats are to be fed primarily with roughage produced on the farm. The proportion of concentrates (non-organically or organically grown) may only comprise 10% of the total consumption. Rules on the buying in of non-organic grown fodder are given in Art. 3.1.8.

Veterinary medicine

3.4.3 The rearing of goats should be optimised so that worming with synthetic chemical medicaments is needed as little as possible. These medicaments are permitted by order of a vet.

The use of persistent antibiotics to dry of lactation is forbidden.

→ *to Chapter 3.4: Directive «Goat-keeping»**

3.5 PIGS

Rearing

3.5.1 All pigs must have daily access to an outdoor-run from the 24th day of life. Farrowing sows are excepted from this in the first 24 days after farrowing. Non-lactating sows may only be shut in during feeding; otherwise they must be kept in groups, as a rule in pastures or rooting areas. Mother sows may held individually in farrowing pens for the week before farrowing and during the suckling period. Tying up the mother sows is not allowed. The piglets may not be weaned before the age of six weeks.

The pigs must have tall-growing roughage or straw available to keep them occupied.

Feeding

3.5.2 The share of non-organically produced fodder-components may be increased from 20 (see art. 3.1.8) to 35% of the total dry matter-portion of pigs` fodder, if dairy waste products are used.

- 3.5.3 The maximum mineral and selected vitamins' content in pig feed are set down in the List of feeding stuffs BIO SUISSE/ALP/FiBL. Roughage must be offered every day to breeding sows and pigs being fattened.

→ *to Chapter 3.5: Directive «Pig-keeping»**
 → *to Chapter 3.5: List of feeding stuffs BIO SUISSE/ALP/FiBL **

3.6 LAYING HENS

Rearing

- 3.6.1 If the outdoor-run is restricted, each laying hen must have at least 5 square meters of pasture available. The minimum surface in paddock systems is of 2 square meters per laying hen. The pasture must comprise structures providing shade and protection from enemies. The laying hens must have access to a protected free range with a sand-bath. .
- 3.6.2 The maximum flock size is 250 laying hens. In case of 3-dimensional rearing systems (Water and fodder on different levels) the flock size can be increased up to 500 birds. Max. 4 flocks are allowed per coop.. It is recommended to keep cocks .
- 3.6.3 In the stables, there shall be no more than five laying hens per square meter of accessible floor space. In coops with integrated protected free range, max. 8 laying hens are allowed per square meter of available walk-on area. 33% of the coop floor must be straw-covered scratching area.. The hens must have sufficient nest boxes available, containing straw or synthetic matting and a sufficient number of high set perches sufficient raised perches.
 Bulbs and HFL (highly fluorescent light > 1000 Hertz) are allowed for lighting. The light period mustn't exceed 16 hours per day (except daylight during the summer). The coops must be regularly evacuated. The manure heap must be separated off. . Moulting should not be artificially induced.

Feeding

- 3.6.4 The rules on the buying in of non-organic grown fodder are given in Art. 3.1.8. Laying hens in the straw-covered areas must be given a suitable grain mixture in the straw or on the floor.
- 3.6.5 Laying hens must have the possibility to drink from an open water surface.

→ *to Chapter 3.6: Directive «Poultry»**

3.7 BREEDING PULLETS

Rearing

- 3.7.1 The young hens should be reared so that they learn to behave naturally, which they can then continue once they are in the laying hen-houses. As part of their rearing, they should develop a natural immunisation. Basically the same standards apply as for laying hens.
 The young hens must be given free range according to their age.
- 3.7.2 The size of the flock mustn't exceed 1000 young hens per unity. Up to the age of 21 days, the flock may comprise max. 2000 young hens. The number of flocks and coops are defined in analogy with Art. 3.6.2.

- 3.7.3 Max. 8 young hens may be kept per square meter of the available walk-on surface. In coops with integrated protected free range, max. 13 young hens per square meter of the available walk-on surface may be kept during the night. The number of young hens mustn't exceed 24 per square meter of the coop floor (after 43 days of age).

Feeding

- 3.7.4 The feeding is ruled in 3.1.8/3.1.9. Pullets must be supplied with a suitable grain mixture.
- 3.7.5 Young hens must be given the possibility to drink from an open water surface.

→ *to Chapter 3.7: Directive «Poultry»**

3.8 FATTENING POULTRY

Rearing

- 3.8.1 The pasture is to adjust to the needs of the respective species of poultry. Each poultry species must be given free range according to its age. All poultry species except for water poultry must be given access to free range provided with a sand-bath. Water poultry must always have access to an open water surface.
- 3.8.2 Extensively and semi-intensively reared species and races must be particularly suitable for free range covered with vegetation by their genetic disposition. BIO SUISSE can define a positive list for species and races. The max. flock size must be adjusted to the respective poultry species. The free-range must contain structures providing the hens with shade and protection from enemies. After each batch of pullets, the position of the outdoor-run must be changed to avoid a build-up of parasite populations. The outdoor-run for poultry may be used twice a year. A break of at least 12 weeks must be observed between the usage of the same outdoor-run.
- 3.8.3 The size and the form of perches for pullets, turkeys, guinea fowl, flying ducks must be adjusted to each species and to the age of the fowl. Light bulbs and HFL (Highly fluorescent light > 1000 Hertz) are allowed.

Feeding

- 3.8.4 Art. 3.6.4 and 3.6.5 apply equally to laying hens and pullets being fattened. Pullets for fattening that are capable to make a meaningful use of grass, must graze a considerable share of their fodder on the pasture

→ *to Chapter 3.8: Directive «Poultry»**

3.9 RABBITS

- 3.9.1 For husbandry and feeding of rabbits, the regulations for other animals apply.
- 3.9.2 In deviation from other animal species, for which the Swiss Ordinance on the regular free-range of livestock is to be met, rabbits have to be kept in compliance with the Swiss «Program for particularly animal-friendly housing-systems».
- 3.9.3 In order to market rabbits under the BUD-label, young stock must come from breeding groups that are kept according these regulations.

→ *to Chapter 3.9: Directive «Rabbit-keeping»**

3.10 EDIBLE FISH

Basic principles

- 3.10.1 The general principles of animal production (Chapter 3.1) apply in analogy to the production of edible fish. Special attention is drawn to 3.1.7 - 3.1.9 (feeding); 3.1.10 (origin of the animals) and 3.1.11 (animal health).
- 3.10.2 In fish production it is required that the ecologic balance is not being disturbed, that natural populations are not endangered and that the basic principles of sustainability are observed. The specific needs of fish have to be taken into consideration (pond/installation, structure of the habitat, stock density, water quality etc.).
- 3.10.3 The fish must not be exposed to unnecessary strains or stress during keeping, transport or slaughter.

Origin

- 3.10.4 In principle only local fish species that are adapted to the local conditions are to be raised. Exceptions require authorization and are subject to regulations.
The use of genetically modified or triploid fish is forbidden.
Parents and young stock must not be or have been fed with antibiotics, growth promoters or hormones.

Feeding

- 3.10.5 For salmonides and other carnivorous fish species, the addition of fish meal and fish oil is allowed. It has to be produced either from residues of edible fish processing or come from provably sustainable fishing.

Fish farms

- 3.10.6 Fish farms are allowed to purchase the total food requirements in deviation from 3.1.8, but all the other feeding-requirements must be met.
The entire fish farm has to produce organic fish. The parallel production of organic and non-organic fish is not allowed.
The Chapters 4 and 7 of these standards regarding conversion respectively. inspection and certification must be observed.

→ *to Chapter 3.10:*

- *Directive «Production of edible fish»*
- *List of auxiliary inputs for fish-farms**

3.11 APICULTURE AND APIARIST PRODUCTS

Principles

- 3.11.1 Non agricultural beekeeping operations may produce and trade apiarist products under the BUD-label. They therefore conclude a license contract with BIO SUISSE. If an apiarist runs several bee hives, all unities must meet the BIO SUISSE requirements, even if they are set up in different areas.
- 3.11.2 Apiarists who are responsible for a non-organic farm operation are not admitted for beekeeping under the BUD-label.
- 3.11.3 The beekeeping on a BIO SUISSE approved farm operation may be non-organic if it is hired out to a third person who has no responsibility for an organic farm operation.

Risk areas and sites

- 3.11.4 BIO SUISSE can define areas the products thereof mustn't be marketed under the BUD-label. The minimum requirements must nevertheless be met in those areas as well.

Labelling

- 3.11.5 A BIO SUISSE approved farm operation may keep its bees according to the minimum requirements set down in the directives if its products are not labelled with the BUD-label.

→ *to Chapter 3.11: Swiss Sub-Ordinance on Organic Farming, art. 8ff (SR 910.181)*

4 Conversion to organic agriculture

4.1 GENERAL

- 4.1.1 Conversion to organic agriculture basically concerns the whole farm operation and the entire land surface. The standards of BIO SUISSE should be implemented in entirety during the conversion process.
- 4.1.2 Farms wishing to convert to organic agriculture shall submit full details of their previous farming methods and soil analyses (nutrient reserves) to the inspection/certification bodies.
- 4.1.3 Newly converted farm operations are duty bound to complete a course of introduction and instruction lasting at least two days on the background and methods of organic agriculture. The days taken over the course will be recorded by a certificate.

→ *to Art. 4.1.1-4.1.3: Directives «Comprehensive organic farm management (definition of farm operations for BIO SUISSE approved farms)», «Newly cultivated land», «Cooperations of animal husbandry and farm operations» and «Animal husbandry on Alpine Pastures and alpine products»**

Time-span

- 4.1.4 The time needed for conversion is at least two full calendar years. At the beginning, conversion carries the written obligation of the farmer to comply with BIO SUISSE standards. Full certification as a BIO SUISSE approved operation will follow from the third year after the conversion started. Vegetal products harvested and animal products obtained as from January 1 of the third year of conversion may be marketed with the BUD, except for all products obtained from roughage consuming livestock: these products may only be marketed with the BUD-label as from May 1 of the third year of conversion. The conversion certificate (U2) made out the previous year is sufficient as legitimation for the marketing as fully organic. A farm operation that is certified under the terms of the Swiss Ordinance on Organic Farming can be BIO SUISSE approved as organic after an additional conversion year according to BIO SUISSE standards. Organic farms complying with at least equivalent standards of another label can be BIO SUISSE approved as organic without a conversion period. A BIO SUISSE approved operation must however have paid BIO SUISSE contribution for at least two years previous to the approval, except for equivalent farm operations complying fully with BIO SUISSE standards and being a member of a BIO SUISSE member organisation.
- 4.1.5 In the first year of conversion, after certification (1st of May at the earliest), all crop-products of cultures sowed after the 1st of January may be marketed under the BUD-in conversion-label. Cultures sowed before the 1st of January may be marketed under the BUD-in conversion-label, if the producer has registered for organic farming before the sowing date and has confirmed in writing that the culture in question has been cultivated from the date of sowing according to the standards of organic farming. The certification authority sets the terms for proof.
- 4.1.6 Fodder harvested in the first year of conversion (forage cereals, lucerne etc.) that is fed to the producer's own stock may be counted as organic fodder, independently of the standards in Art. 4.1.5, paragraph 2. Fodder from the own farm harvested in the year before the conversion is considered to be non-organic fodder, except for roughage after the 1st of May of the conversion year.

- 4.1.7 Crop-products from perennial crops may be marketed under the BUD-in conversion-label after certification (1st of May) of the first conversion year.

4.2 STEP BY STEP CONVERSION

Crop production

- 4.2.1 If an immediate conversion of the whole operation would impose totally unacceptable risks, farm operations producing wine, fruit or ornamental plants may carry out a step by step conversion to organic production, on condition that the whole farm is converted to fulfill BIO SUISSE standards within five years. The detailed rules may be found in the directive «step by step conversion».
- 4.2.2 The criteria for step by step conversion are:
1. A binding conversion plan with full written details of the conversion steps, with a timetable.
 2. Evidence of the inspectability regarding production techniques, avoidance of drift and separate flows of produce.
 3. The production procedures and flows of produce on the whole farm should be documented and will be examined. The conversion plan shall also include the farming procedures in the non-organically run areas. The rule is: as quickly as possible and as organic as possible.
 4. Total separation of the differently farmed areas and the yields from them, from field to sale. The overlap at the borders between organically and non-organically farmed areas is to be kept as small as possible.
 5. Any interim regression to non-organic methods on the organically farmed areas is out of the question.
 6. Permission of the Federal Office of Agriculture.
- 4.2.3 With the exception of vine growing, the only products that can be sold bearing the BUD in conversion-label are those which are in appearance clearly and easily distinguishable from those being non-organically grown at the same time. In the case of vine growing, the products produced from one and the same variety can be certified and marketed separately, provided that a complete record is kept of the flow of the produce (e.g. of the quantity produced, within the framework of the official administrative controls over the grape harvest).
- 4.2.4 Organically grown produce can be sold with the BUD-label after a conversion period of two years, as long as all other production branches are in the process of being converted.

Animal husbandry

- 4.2.5 If an immediate and full conversion of animal husbandry is not reasonable, the LCP and the Swiss Department for Agriculture can authorize the farm operation to convert the animal husbandry progressively within three years in function of each animal category. The detailed regulations of this requirement are stipulated in the directive« Stepbystepconversion»

Animal categories, Requirements

- 4.2.6 Except for ruminants and horses, all animal categories may be converted on a step-by-step basis. The parallel keeping of animals of the same livestock category is not allowed.
- As to feeding and purchasing, a deviation of the respective standards is allowed for single animal categories on the term of a special authorization. The requirements for the keeping, rearing and for the health of the animals must however be met from the beginning of the step-by-step conversion.

Conversion- and waiting periods

- 4.2.7 During a period of max. 3 years after the beginning of conversion, the authorized animal categories need not yet to meet all requirements of the BIO SUSSE standards. All animal categories must be converted by the end of the third year, which means that the waiting periods must be concluded by December 31. The waiting periods are defined for each animal category in art. 3.1.10 of these standards. In deviation of the step-by-step-conversion in crop production, the waiting periods of each animal category can be handled independently of the calendar year. During the waiting period, all requirements of the standards must be fully met (including feeding and origin of livestock). After the waiting period, the products may be marketed with the BUD- or the BUD IN CONVERSION-label, depending on the status of the whole farm operation.

Authorization

- 4.2.8 A conversion plan must be submitted to the LCP before the registration period expires. According to art. 9 of the Swiss Ordinance on Organic Farming, the step-by-step-conversion must also be authorized by the Swiss Department of Agriculture.

Apiculture

- 4.2.9 The conversion period for beekeeping is of at least one year. It is but only concluded when the wax has been exchanged according to the requirements of the directives. Marketing indicating organic agriculture in conversion is not allowed.

➔ *to Chapter 4.2: Directive «Step by step conversion»**

5 Processing and marketing

- *to Chapter 5: Directives «On farm processing, subcontracted processing, trade and direct marketing of organic products»*, «Feeding without the use of genetic engineering»*, «Gastronomy»* and «Feeding stuffs»**

5.1 GENERAL RULES

- 5.1.1 Insofar as requirements for specific groups of products are not governed by directives, these general rules of processing apply.

- *to Chapter 5.1: LCPM-Directives «General and product specific requirements for the processing according to BIO SUISSE standards»*

Directives for the processing are available for the following product groups:

- *«Milk and dairy products»;*
- *«Meat and meat products»;*
- *«Fruit and vegetables»;*
- *«Cereals and cereal products»;*
- *«Alcoholic drinks and vinegar»;*
- *«Vegetable oils and fats»;*
- *«Eggs and egg products»;*
- *«Spices, seasonings, bouillon, soups, sauces»;*
- *«Gastronomy»;*
- *«Feeding stuffs».*

5.2 ORIGIN OF INGREDIENTS

General requirements

- 5.2.1 All additional ingredients of agricultural origin must come from recognized organic agriculture. The rules that apply are the BIO SUISSE standards or rules in other countries that are recognized as equivalent by BIO SUISSE.
- 5.2.2 Wild grown raw materials may be used, if they have been collected according to Chapter. 2.9 of these standards.

Exemptions

- 5.2.3 If the applicant can prove that the ingredients of agricultural origin are not all available in sufficient quantity or adequate quality, BIO SUISSE may allow exemptions from the general requirements under the following conditions:
- Single components must not be of organic and non-organic origin at the same time.
 - At least 95% of the ingredients have to come from organic farming. Allowed non-organic ingredients are listed in list C, appendix 3 of the Swiss Sub-Ordinance on Organic Farming. Additional restrictions of BIO SUISSE are possible. Non-organic ingredients have to be declared as such. Processing of these must also be carried out according to the present standards.
 - If less than 95%, but at least 70% of the ingredients come from organic farming, the respective products can be marked with the BUD DECLARATION-label. The list of allowed non-organic ingredients (list C, appendix 3 of the Swiss Sub-Ordinance on Organic Farming) and of permitted additives (see product specific directives for the processing) also apply to these products.

- Products from conversion farms can be marketed with the BUD-in conversion-label.

BUD-labelled products must principally not contain any ingredients from farms in conversion or else they must be labelled as BUD-in conversion-products.

- 5.2.4 The standard for the calculation is the proportional volume at the moment of processing.

→ *to Chapter 5.2 (product specific): LCPM-directives for the processing according to BIO SUISSE standards*

5.3 PROCESSING PROCEDURES AND METHODS

General principles

- 5.3.1 Products that are intended to bear the BUD trademark may only be processed by careful mechanical and physical leavening and fermentation processes, or combinations of these procedures.

- 5.3.2 Unnecessary manipulation or processes, or the preparation of products from isolated substances, is not allowed.

- 5.3.3 Procedures and treatments which use ionising radiation and microwaves are not allowed.

Use of micro-organisms, enzymes and special procedures

- 5.3.4 Foodstuffs should not contain any genetically modified organisms or products thereof. The permitted enzymes are listed in the product specific directives for the processing.

Chemical processing of food

- 5.3.5 Chemical processing of foodstuffs or chemical alteration of substances in food is forbidden. Adjustment of the pH level is permitted on proven grounds. The inclusion of additives and processing aids (see Art. 5.4.1 and 5.4.2) is not considered as a change involving a chemical process within the meaning of this ruling.

→ *to Chapter 5.3 (product specific): LCPM-directives for the processing according to BIO SUISSE standards*

5.4 ADDITIVES AND PROCESSING AIDS

Definitions

- 5.4.1 For additives, the definitions in the Swiss Food Ordinance are binding.

- 5.4.2 Processing aids are substances or materials (excluding implements and technical equipment) that are not normally in themselves regarded as food-stuffs and that are purposely brought into contact with foodstuffs at one stage or another of their processing. Since these processing aids are re-moved or largely disappear during the process, they are not reckoned as components or only in trace amounts.

General requirements

- 5.4.3 All usage of additives and processing aids is to be avoided as much as possible. As additions, only substances that are made by physical separation processes, leavening and/or fermentation are permissible. Processing aids which are made by hydrolysis, e.g. gelatine, require a special permit from BIO SUISSE.
- 5.4.4 If, by following a hydrolytic method, any other than purely physical conditions are imposed, a permit will only be issued if the applicant can clearly show that the desired properties of the end-product can only be obtained by these means.
- 5.4.5 The authorised additives are listed in the product specific directives for the processing. If the use of any additive is allowed for a particular food product, this does not automatically confer the right to use it for other products.

→ *to Chapter 5.4 (product specific): LCPM-directives for the processing according to BIO SUISSE standards*

5.5 WINE PROCESSING

- 5.5.1 Grape juice and wine must be produced exclusively (100%) from organically grown grapes. Each operation disposing of its own wine processing is subject to an additional cellar inspection.
- 5.5.2 The admitted additives and processing aids, filtration aids and physical proceedings are listed in the product specific directives for the processing.
- 5.5.3 The addition of either dry sugar (saccharose) or concentrated grape must or rectified grape-must-concentrate in order to increase the natural alcohol content is allowed. The natural alcohol content may be increased by 1.25 volume-percent at the most (corresponds to 2.5 kg of saccharose/hl grape must). Exemption: wines from Labrusca-grapes and sparkling wines, whose natural alcohol content may be increased by 2 volume-percent at the most (corresponds to 4 kg/hl). In justified cases, the LCPM can allow an increase of the natural alcohol content of 2 volume percent at the most for other wines too.
- 5.5.4 As preserving agents, only sulphurous acid may be used, at the following maximum concentrations:

In general:		120 mg/l
Exempted:	- dry wines	30 mg/l
	- naturally sweet luxury wines (according to Swiss Food Ordinance)	40 mg/l

→ *to Chapter 5.5: LCPM-directive «Alcoholic drinks and vinegar»*

5.6 CLEANSING AGENTS

- 5.6.1 The selection and use of cleansing agents must be carried out to as to minimise damage to the environment. BIO SUISSE has a list of permitted cleansing agents and disinfectants.

→ *to Chapter 5.6: «List of permitted cleansing agents and disinfectants in processing plants» (not yet completed)*

5.7 PEST MANAGEMENT IN STORAGE AND PROCESSING

General principles

- 5.7.1 The occurrence of pests should be avoided by good production practices and hygienic conditions. In addition to that, preventive measures have to be taken. An immediate treatment of the pest organism with agents is only allowed in exceptional cases and only with BIO SUISSE-admitted agents.

Admitted measures

- 5.7.2 The admitted agents (active substances) and measures for prevention are listed in the directive «pest control in storage and processing»
- 5.7.3 The admitted agents (active substances) and measures for direct application on BUD-products are listed in the directive «pest control in storage and processing»

Measures subject to authorization

- 5.7.4 Agents (active substances) requiring an authorization of the certification body are listed in the directive «Pest control in storage and processing» . Each use of these agents has to be registered for authorization with the certification body at least 10 days before.
The agents listed in the directive «Pest control in storage and processing» must not be brought into direct contact with BUD-products. Appropriate measures have to be taken in order to prevent a contamination of BUD-products.

Forbidden measures

- 5.7.5 All measures and agents for pest management that are not mentioned in Art. 5.7.2, 5.7.3 and 5.7.4 are forbidden, particularly all kinds of fumigation and irradiation of foodstuffs or of their raw materials with ionising radiation and microwaves.

→ *to Chapter 5.7: Directive «Pest control in storage and processing»*

5.8 BUILDINGS AND INSTALLATIONS

- 5.8.1 Wherever products of organic and non-organic origin are being processed in the same building and installations, the individual batches of produce are to be kept strictly separate by means of organisational measures.

Storage

- 5.8.2 Produce from organic farming must be stored so that any mixing or switching by mistake with non-organic products is impossible. Non-organically and organically grown produce should only be stored together when they are packed ready for sale and labelled. Storerooms and boxes for unpackaged produce must be kept separate from each other and specially labelled. The effect of any possible treatments with pesticides before these rooms and boxes are used must be excluded. Lifts, pipes, etc. must be free from the remains of non-organically grown produce.

- 5.8.3 Other than simple storage at the ambient temperature, the following specific storage conditions are permitted:

- cooling;
- deep-freezing;
- controlled atmosphere (using only CO₂, O₂ and NO₂).

If there is a strong adverse effect on the quality, raw materials that have to be deep-frozen to make them firm enough to process must be declared on the label.

Transport

- 5.8.4 Organically and non-organically grown products may only be transported together when they are packaged accordingly and separately labelled. The packaging must conform with the packaging rules in these regulations.

5.9 PACKAGING MATERIALS

General requirements

- 5.9.1 The packaging system used should be one that causes the least possible contamination of the environment. Where it is practicable, re-usable systems should be preferred.

Forbidden packaging materials

- 5.9.2 Materials that are forbidden are:

- PVC and other chlorinated plastics;
- aluminium drink cans;
- aluminium-plastic laminates (the LCPM may permit exceptions in well-founded cases).

→ *to Chapter 5.9 (product specific): LCPM-directives for the processing according to BIO SUISSE standards*

5.10 IMPORTED BUD-PRODUCTS

Principles

- 5.10.1 Imported organic products (raw materials and processed products) labelled with the BUD, must meet the following requirements:
- The production of the product must keep the present standards. The principle of equivalence applies thereby. To this end the producer (see Art. 5.10.5 and 5.10.6) or the cultivators association (see Art. 5.10.7) must be approved by BIO SUISSE;
 - The import is exclusively reserved to trading companies provided with a valid license contract with BIO SUISSE (see Art. 1.2.3);
 - BIO SUISSE only awards the BUD-label to products imported by land or sea (flight ban). In individual cases, exceptions must be authorized by the LCI;
 - the legal requirements of the Swiss Ordinance on Organic Farming must be met;
 - priority must be given to organic produce from the neighbouring countries.
- 5.10.2 If the requirements of Art. 5.10.1 are met and the flow of the goods can be unambiguously identified back to the BIO SUISSE approved operation, the importing licensee receives a BUD-label product approval for each imported supply, that entitles him to label the products with the BUD. The BIO SUISSE approval of a foreign operation alone does not entitle the importer to label his produce with the BUD.
- 5.10.3 BIO SUISSE restricts the BUD-labelling for foreign produce in case of sufficient supply inside Switzerland or in case of entire processing abroad.

Fresh produce

- 5.10.4 Fresh products (fresh fruit and vegetables) from overseas can principally not be labelled with the BUD, except for produce, which cannot be cultivated in Switzerland or in Europe for climatic reasons. Those products and its provenance are listed.

➔ *to Art. 5.10.4: Positive list: «Fresh products from overseas»**

BIO SUISSE approval of individual operations outside of Switzerland

- 5.10.5 The keeping of the standards is monitored in each foreign operation by BIO SUISSE (LCI) or a foreign inspection or certification body that is recognized by BIO SUISSE. The BIO SUISSE approval of individual operations must be renewed yearly.
- 5.10.6 Processing and trade operations have to be inspected and certified in accordance with the BIO SUISSE standards. The LCI is entitled to carry out simplified approval procedures in individual cases.

BIO SUISSE recognition of producers associations

- 5.10.7 BIO SUISSE is also entitled to approve, in addition to individual operations, produce from cultivators associations on the basis of an assessment of their keeping to the BIO SUISSE standards.

Regulations on procedures and sanctions

- 5.10.8 The LCI is entitled to decree regulations on certain procedures in definite areas that are not sufficiently covered by the BIO SUISSE standards (e.g. specific topics concerning the cultivation in tropical areas, approval of cultivation projects). In

addition, the commission has specific regulations on sanctions imposed in case of offences.

→ *to Art. 5.10.8: Regulations on procedures and reasons for decisions by the BIO SUISSE label-commission «Import»*

Fees

5.10.9 For the approval of individual operations outside of Switzerland, BIO SUISSE charges the importing licensee a fee according to the time required for the assessment. The fee is also charged, if the proposed operation is not approved.

6 Labelling / Marketing

6.1 LABELLING

General

- 6.1.1 Once a contract with BIO SUISSE has been signed, the BUD trademark may be used according to the following regulations and the directive «Requirements for the labelling of products and advertising material with the BUD». Packages have to comply with the rules and print patterns of this directive and must be submitted to the BIO SUISSE office before being printed.

Swiss organic products

- 6.1.2 For products that comprise at least 90% Swiss-grown raw materials, the BUD-label is used together with the words BIO and SUISSE.



(Partially) imported products

- 6.1.3 For products that comprise less than 90% Swiss-grown raw materials, the BUD-label and the word BIO is used.
Imported organically grown products must fulfil the conditions of Chapter 5.10. in order to be labelled with the BUD-label.



The BUD declaration-label

- 6.1.4 If less than 95% but at least 70% of the ingredients of a product derive from organic farming, the BUD-label (without the words BIO and SUISSE) may be used in the list of ingredients (as the so-called BUD declaration-label). The declaration must, in such cases, clearly relate to the ingredients produced according to the present standards, and it must appear in the same colour with an identical size and style of lettering as the other indications in the list. In the maximally 30% of non-organic ingredients, only the raw materials listed in list C, appendix 3 of the Swiss Sub-Ordinance on Organic Farming can be used.
In the same field of vision as the product description an indication such as «X% of ingredients of agricultural origin were obtained in accordance with the rules laid down for organic farming» must appear. This indication is compulsory as to the wording and has to appear in the same colour with an identical size and style of lettering as the indications in the list of ingredients. Moreover, it shall not be more prominent than the product description.

The BUD in conversion-label

- 6.1.5 Products that come from farms in conversion may be sold with the BUD in conversion-label. Moreover, all conversional products have to be marked with the indication «produced under the terms of conversion to organic farming». The sentence is compulsory as to its wording.

For products comprising at least 90 % Swiss-grown raw material.



For products comprising more than 10 % raw material grown abroad



The BUD in conversion-label must be used as shown, without the word «BIO».

Moreover the following restrictions are applied:

- The reference to conversion (compulsory sentence) and the indications regarding organic farming shall not be more prominent than the product description as to colour, size and style of lettering.
- The words «organic farming» shall not stand out more than the words «produced under the terms of conversion to».
- In the case of products with multiple agricultural ingredients, the BUD in conversion-label shall not contain any reference to organic farming in the product description. The BUD in conversion-label has to be used clearly separated from the product description.
- Products with the BUD in conversion-label must not be marketed as organic products in the EU.

Information on processing and properties of the produce

- 6.1.6 The most important processing methods and the address of the processor or marketing organisation must be given on the labels of organic products. Whenever possible, the country of origin should be given, or at least the indication "Import".
- 6.1.7 The LCPM has the right to ask for a declaration for the deep-freezing of produce with a high water content (see Art. 5.8.3).

Lists of ingredients and additives

- 6.1.8 In addition to the ingredients, all additives must be listed under their product group names and either the E-number (International Numbering System) or their full name. Non-organically grown ingredients of agricultural origin must be shown as such. Evading this by a carry-over effect (e.g. by including ingredients or additives on the list which are themselves composed of more than one component) is not permitted.

Special regulations for herbs and spices

- 6.1.9 When herbs and/or spices comprise less than 2% of the total weight, they may be listed simply under the designation of herbs and/or spices. When inspections are carried out, the full and true mixture must be available.

Wild collected products

6.1.10 The wild collection must be declared as follows:

- in the product description for products completely gathered in the wild;
- in the list of ingredients for mixed products (e.g. «certified wild collection»).

Special rules for apiarist products

6.1.11 Apiarist products admitted for marketing with the BUD-label may only be labelled with the remark «product (e.g. honey, wax etc.) from BUD-apiculture». The term «organic» mustn't be used in the product description. The word BUD may be replaced by the BUD-label. The requirements set down in art 6.1.2 and 6.1.3 must be met.

→ *to Chapter 6.1: see Directives «Requirements for the labelling of products and advertising material with the BUD», «Feeding stuffs», «Animal husbandry on alpine pastures and alpine products»*, «Gastronomy» and «General and product specific requirements for processing according to BIO SUISSE standards»*

6.2 MARKETING OF BUD-PRODUCTS

Sales declaration

6.2.1 The BUD-label may not be used either in advertisements or in informative literature in sales outlets in a misleading fashion implying that there is connection between it and products not produced according to these standards. BUD-products must be totally separated from all others.

Critical selection of products

6.2.2 Products which detract from the BUD-image (in that they do not confer the perception of wholesomeness to consumers, are of suspect essential quality, give the impression of being highly processed products etc.) may have their licensing contracts revoked.

Additional regulations for stallholders and direct sale from the farm

6.2.3 On market stalls or when products are directly sold from the farm, the offer of BUD-labelled products together with non-organically grown agricultural products and non-organically processed food stuff is only allowed with the authorization of the LCPM. An authorization can only be given if a deception of the consumers can be excluded.

6.2.4 Offering the same product from organic and non-organic production at the same time is forbidden.

6.2.5 If a stall or a sales point gives the impression to be the sales point of an organic farm, it has to be marked with the producers certificate that proves that the farm is recognized.

→ *to Art. 6.2.3-6.2.5: Directive «On farm processing, subcontracted processing, trade an direct marketing of organic products»**

7 Inspection and certification

7.1 OBLIGATION FOR INSPECTION

- 7.1.1 Farms and organisations which have a contract with the BIO SUISSE will regularly be inspected to check that they comply with these regulations.

7.2 INSPECTION OF PRODUCERS

Records

- 7.2.1 Farms must be able to show records of the purchases and use of manure, fodder or anything added to it, and also crop protection products (for pest and disease management). As these regulations make clear, unauthorised inputs should not be present on the farm.
- 7.2.2 The farms are additionally required to keep records of production and to keep a suitably detailed record of purchases and sales.

Inspection

- 7.2.3 The inspection is made at least once a year and include the whole farm operation, including processed products. The inspection has to be carried out by an inspection organisation indicated by BIO SUISSE and accredited by the competent Swiss Federal Authority (METAS).

→ *to Art. 7.2.3: List of the organisations that are entitled to inspect or certify farms and produce according to BIO SUISSE standards (in Switzerland)**

→ *to at. 7.2.1-7.2.3: Directive «On farm processing, subcontracted processing, trade and direct marketing of organic products»**

Exceptional permits

- 7.2.4 The certification body decides annually on exceptional permits, acting on information from the LCP. Exceptional permits are only issued for a limited time.
- 7.2.5 In the field of crop protection, exceptional permits are only issued in special cases which are not integral parts of a rotation programme, and when the case concerns problems that cannot be solved adequately by the techniques of organic agriculture.

Steering contributions

- 7.2.6 The LCP can impose a steering tax limited on maximally 3 years on non-organic means of production as e.g. additives, fodder, young stock in case of insufficient disposal of the organic alternative. The deadline of this steering contribution may any one time be extended for 2 years until the objective of the steering is reached. The return has to be invested to reduce the costs of the organic alternative and/or to be used for a purpose in the interest of organic farming as a whole. If there is no appeal within 30 days of at least 3 member organisations to the Executive Committee of BIO SUISSE, the decision becomes effective. An action against the decision of the Executive Committee of BIO SUISSE can be brought before the General Assembly of BIO SUISSE within 30 days. The Executive Committee decides upon a possible suspending effect after hearing the presidents of the member organisations.

The Executive Committee defines the amount of the steering contribution and of the cost reduction, based on the rules of the first paragraph of this article. In case of a modified situation of supply, the amount of the steering contribution as well as the amount of the cost reduction may be modified by the Executive Committee observing an announcement period of 3 months.

→ *to Art. 7.2.6: Directive «Steering taxes on purchasing young animals»**

7.3 INSPECTION OF PROCESSING AND MARKETING

Obligation to keep records, book-keeping

7.3.1 Every license holder has to prove adherence to these standards. Records and book-keeping must be completed and kept at all stages, from the actual growing to transport, storage, silo, the actual processing and packaging by the processor or wholesaler, to the retail stage.

This documentation must include:

- batch (or lot) numbers, dates, quantities, nature of the product at input, processing, storage and delivery;
- all details of suppliers, including a guarantee (certificate) that the product is organically produced;
- processing recipes, including losses during processing and storage;
- flow charts;
- products used and methods of cleaning and controlling pests.

7.3.2 Every batch (or lot) of produce must be identifiable back to its place of origin. Whenever produce from different origin is mixed, in storage or during processing, the origin must be ascertainable from the books kept.

The license holder must retain a sample from every batch of produce and keep it separately for the period of time that the final product is normally on sale. Exceptions may be allowed by the BIO SUISSE. The BIO SUISSE may collect samples of certain products and deposit them with neutral authorities.

Inspection

7.3.3 The inspection will be carried out at least once a year at a suitable time. The inspection has to be carried out by an inspection organisation indicated by BIO SUISSE and accredited by the competent Swiss Federal Authority (METAS).

Inspections will be made to see that these standards are observed and that the general conditions of the licensing contract are met. All measures taken in connection with the production of organic products and the flow of goods will be checked particularly carefully.

→ *to Art. 7.3.3: List of the organisations that are entitled to inspect or certify farms and produce according to BIO SUISSE standards (in Switzerland)**

→ *to Chapter 7.3: LCPM-directive «General requirements» (valid for licensees) and directives «On farm processing, subcontracted processing, trade and direct marketing of organic products»**

7.4 CERTIFICATION ACCORDING TO BIO SUISSE STANDARDS

7.4.1 The certification according to BIO SUISSE standards is carried out by a certification body indicated by BIO SUISSE and accredited by the competent Swiss Federal Authority (METAS). The offer of certified products with the BUD-label or the

reference to the BIO SUISSE standards is only admissible after the allocation of the BUD-label by BIO SUISSE.

→ *to Art. 7.4.1: List of the organisations that are entitled to inspect or certify farms and produce according to BIO SUISSE standards (in Switzerland)**

Appeals

7.4.2 Appeals against the decisions of the certification body have to be addressed to the certification body.

7.5 ALLOCATION OF THE BUD-LABEL

7.5.1 The signature of a producer's- respectively licensing contract with BIO SUISSE is a prerequisite to the labelling of products with the BUD-label. A second prerequisite is the certification according to BIO SUISSE standards. The BIO SUISSE label-commissions (LCP, LCPM, LCI) decide on the allocation of the BUD-label.

Appeals

7.5.2 Appeals against the decisions of the label-commissions are dealt with by the Executive Committee of BIO SUISSE.

7.6 OFFENCES AND SANCTIONS

7.6.1 The sanctions in case of offences against these standards are defined in the regulation of sanctions of BIO SUISSE. The weakest sanction is a warning allowing for a defined period to eliminate the deficiency. The strongest sanction is the removal of the right to use the BUD-label, resp. the annulment of the producer's- respectively licensing contract, linked with the payment of a penalty and a compensation as well as the publication of the decision.

Appeals

7.6.2 Appeals against the sanctions are to be addressed to the decreeing organism.

→ *to Chapter 7.6: Regulations of sanctions «Processing and marketing»* and «Production»**

8 Appendices

APPENDIX 1

PERMITTED INPUTS FOR FERTILIZATION AND SOIL CONDITIONING

For fertilization and soil conditioning, the following inputs are permitted for use in organic agriculture (the requirements of the directive «nutrients supply» must be met in any case)::

1. Farm-own production of organic fertilizers

- fresh or aerobically rotted animal manure;
- liquid manure, after aerobic preparation (with agitation and aeration if possible);
- organic garbage and crop residues, aerobically composted;
- organic mulch;
- green manure crops;
- straw;
- household waste water is only permitted from the farm itself, and only when mixed with several times its volume of liquid manure from cattle or pigs, and prepared together with these.

2. Organic fertilizers brought onto the farm from outside

- compost;
- animal manure from outside of the farm and organic waste according to the directive «nutrients supply»;
- products and by-products of animal origin, such as horn-, hair- and feather-wastes;¹
- algal products;
- organic by-products from food processing factories (with no chemical residues);
- sawdust and bark shreds (without chemical treatment)

3. Mineral fertilizers brought onto the farm from outside

- pulverised rock, such as basement rocks, quartz, basalt and powdered clays such as bentonite and others;
- calcified seaweed;
- limestone derived materials with the slowest possible decomposition (dolomite, mountain limestone, but no quicklime or slaked lime);
- raw rock phosphate, natural phosphates and basic slag, both with a low content of heavy metals;
- pulverised silicate rocks which contain potassium (feldspars, micas);
- potash-magnesia (patent-potassium), potassium sulphate (but only when soil analyses show up a potassium deficiency).

¹ according to the present regulations of the authorities

4. Substances for activating composts and soils

In order to aid the composting process and activate soil organisms, only methods and substances shall be used that are based exclusively on organic farming methods.

Permitted are:

- plant-based products;
- algal extracts;
- bacterial products;
- bio-dynamic preparations.

5. Inputs for strengthening plants

- plant extracts and products such as infusions and tea;
- algal extracts;
- pulverised rock, bentonite and other clay minerals;
- bio-dynamic products.

→ *to Appendix 1: List of auxiliary inputs of the FiBL (Research Institute for Organic Agriculture): Part «Permitted fertilizers and trade substrates»**

APPENDIX 2

PERMITTED PRODUCTS FOR PLANT PEST AND -DISEASE CONTROL

Basically, the only products that may be used are those approved by the Federal Registration Authorities which are included in the list of auxiliary inputs of the FiBL (Research Institute for Organic Agriculture). Mechanical control measures are exempted. All instructions such as dosage rates and waiting periods are to be followed.

Permitted for use are:

1. Biological and bio-technical measures

- insect regulation with pheromones, such as the confusion technique;
- repellents derived from plants or animals;
- natural predators, e.g. parasitic wasps, predatory mites, nematodes and gall midges, in the field and in the greenhouse;
- naturally occurring micro-organisms, such as *Bacillus thuringiensis*, granulose viruses and fungi which are insect pathogens;
- mechanical defensive measures, such as protective nets, slug-proof fences, adhesive plastic chromatic traps and limed rings.

2. Products against fungus diseases

- sulphur products, in low doses which help predatory mites to survive, in fruit orchards, vineyards and vegetable growing;
- inorganic copper products, for fruit, vines, vegetables, potatoes and hops (maximum legally permitted rate of 4 kg of pure metallic copper per hectare/annum); maximum permissible rates of pure copper per hectare treated surface per annum are as follows:
 - pomefruit (apples, pears) 1.5 kg;
 - berries 2 kg;
 - potatoes and vegetables 4 kg;
 - stone fruits 4 kg;
 - vines 4 kg (the fourth kilo must be notified to the certification body);
 - hops 4 kg;
 - vine production: 4kg, this quantity being balanced over a period of 5 years. The maximum quantity - 6kg per hectare/year - mustn't be exceeded in any case. Quantities exceeding 4kg/hectare/year must be announced to the certification body

3. Products against animal pests

- products based on soft soap;
- plant extracts such as pyrethrum, rotenone, quassia, tobacco;
- plant oils and mineral oils;
- sulphur preparations.

4. Auxiliary substances

White paraffin oils and turpentine (pine resin distillate) as by product to increase activity.

→ *to Appendix 2: list of auxiliary inputs of the FiBL (Research Institute for Organic Agriculture): Part «Permitted products for crop protection»**

APPENDIX 3

BIO SUISSE DEFINITION OF ROUGHAGE

- straw used as animal feeding stuff;
- feeding stuff from perennial meadows and artificial meadows;
- field fodder crops including whole cereal crops (including maize) fresh, silaged or dried;
- sugar beets chops;
- unprocessed fodder beets;
- unprocessed potatoes;
- waste of fruit- and vegetable processing (apples, carrots, beetroots etc.);
- drêche (Malt draff): a signed InfoX-gene-form must be enclosed (can be downloaded from www.infoxgen.com)

Whole maize plants are considered as roughage; whereas e.g. corn-cob-meal is already considered as concentrated feed stuff.

The list is conclusive.

APPENDIX 4

DEFINITION OF ANIMAL CATEGORIES FOR THE CALCULATION OF THE FEEDING PARAMETERS

Animal category	Yearly consumption per LAE (deci-tons dry matter)	Yearly consumption per animal or place (deci-tons dry matter)
Milk cows (5000kg milk [*])	55	
Cattle for meat production	55	
Calves	55	
Horses	55	
Milk sheep	55	
Sheep for meat production and rearing	55	
Milk goats	55	
Goats for meat production and rearing	55	
Other roughage consumers	55	
Breeding pigs and piglets	38	17 per place
Fattening pigs	40	2 per animal resp. 6 per place
Laying hens	40	0.4 per place
Fattening pullets (5.5 breeding turns/year)	84 (5.5 breeding turns /year)	5.5kg per animal resp. 30kg per place

* LAE-factor for milk cows: 1 LAE corresponds to a yearly milk output of 5'000 kg to 5'999 kg. The LAE-factor decreases per 0.1 per 1'000 kg higher or lower milk output (4'000 kg – 4'999 kg = 0.9 LAE / 6'000 kg – 6'999 kg = 1.1 LAE / 7'000kg – 7'999 kg =1.2 LAE / etc.)

APPENDIX 5

PERMITTED NON-ORGANIC FEEDING STUFFS

This appendix is valid as of 01/01/2004 and is periodically adapted by the LCP

A) The components listed below may still be used in non-organic quality. A signed InfoX-gene-form must be submitted for the components marked with * (the corresponding form can be downloaded from www.infoxgen.com). The origin of the components can be restricted to certain countries, regions or continents (in brackets). It's a positive list, that is, the components not mentioned below must be of BUD-quality (in accordance with art. 3.1.8 of these standards).

- Potato protein;
- Maize gluten*;
- Roughage (from Switzerland or neighbouring countries);
- Molasses from sugar production;
- Beer yeast*;
- Linseed.

Permitted species-specific:

- Dextrose* for ruminants' fodder;
- Wheat protein for nutrient meal for calves;
- Juniper berries for rabbit fodder;
- Dairy waste products for pigs (see art. 3.5.2).

B) The max. shares of non-organic feeding stuffs are:

	Share of the total portion (in proportion of dry matter)	Share in feeding stuffs certified with the BUD for auxiliary inputs (in proportion of the organic matter)
Ruminants [%]	10	20
Non-ruminants [%]	20	20

APPENDIX 6

LIST OF ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTS

The additional regulations and documents marked with → in the BIO SUISSE standards are available at BIO SUISSE; moreover, most of them may be loaded down from the BIO SUISSE website (www.bio-suisse.ch) as PDF-files. Some of the documents (marked in the standards with *) are only available in German, French and/or Italian.

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By name, the following regulations and documents are available:

1. **Directives for producers (including appendix with the instruction leaflets of the LCP)**
2. **Directives for licensees and processing farm operations**
3. **Regulations on the implementations LCP***
4. **Regulations on the implementation LCI**
5. **Catalogue of criteria for the authorization of exceptions for producers***
6. **List of auxiliary inputs: Permitted and recommended auxiliary inputs for organic farming ***
published by FiBL and proved by BIO SUISSE
7. **List of auxiliary inputs for fish-farms***
published by FiBL, 5070 Frick; BIO SUISSE, 4053 Basel
8. **List of permitted cleansing agents***
9. **Positive list of permitted feeding stuffs BIO SUISSE/ALP/FiBL: basic principles for the production and use of feeding stuffs in organic farming***
published by ALP, 1725 Posieux; FiBL, 5070 Frick; BIO SUISSE, 4053 Basel
10. **Positive list: Fresh products from overseas***
11. **List of organisations that are entitled to certify and to inspect organic farming under the terms of BIO SUISSE standards (Switzerland)***
12. **Regulations on sanctions for producers***
13. **Regulations on sanctions for licensees***

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