



Organic Production Rules

22 March 2024

TITLE

Organic Export Requirement: Organic Production Rules

COMMENCEMENT

This Organic Export Requirement is effective from 22 March 2024.

REVOCATION

This Organic Export Requirement replaces the Organic Export Requirement: Organic Production Rules (OER: OPR), dated 2 October 2023.

ISSUING BODY

This Organic Export Requirement is issued by the Ministry for Primary Industries.

Dated at Wellington, 22 March 2024.

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Introduction

This introduction is not part of the Organic Export Requirement, but is intended to indicate its general effect.

Purpose

This Organic Export Requirement outlines the responsibilities of operators participating in the Ministry for Primary Industries' (MPI) Official Organic Assurance Programme (OOAP).

Background

This Organic Export Requirement (OER) outlining the Organic Production Rules (OPR) is an integral part of the MPI system for official assurances for organic products. It describes the responsibilities of operators participating in the OOAP. The OOAP is not a mandatory programme, however, operators choosing to participate in the OOAP are obliged to abide by the requirements in OER: OPR.

This OER is in addition to all relevant legislative requirements, including but not limited to agricultural production, horticultural production, food, wine, and resource management.

Who should read this Organic Export Requirement?

This Organic Export Requirement should be read by organic operators participating in the OOAP.

Why is this important?

Operating other than in accordance with this Organic Export Requirement may result in the suspension of operator's eligibility to participate in the OOAP. Failure to address the agreed corrective actions to resolve a suspension will result in the termination of operator's eligibility. Operators who fail to abide by the requirements in OER: OPR may be refused official assurances for their consignments.

Document history

No.	Version Date	Section Changed	Change(s) Description
1	November 2019	Full revision	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Reviewed and published in accordance with MPI Requirements and Guidance ProgrammeRenamed to Organic Export Requirement: Organic Production RulesAdded rules for Aquaculture production and Algae production
2	January 2022	1.2 Definitions Schedule 1 Schedule 3: Table 3.1.1 and 3.3.4	<ul style="list-style-type: none">New definition Gut flora stabilisersFulvic acids added to Schedule 1Conditions for use of Humic acids amended in Schedule 1Monocalcium phosphate, Potassium iodide, andSodium iodide added to Schedule 3New Table 3.3.5 Gut flora stabilisers (enzymes and microorganisms) added to Schedule 3

No.	Version Date	Section Changed	Change(s) Description
3	October 2023	<p>Introduction (various)</p> <p>1.1.5 Application</p> <p>1.2 Definitions</p> <p>2.3.7 Algae Guidance box</p> <p>3.2.3 Soil Fertility</p> <p>3.3 Wild Harvest Guidance box</p> <p>3.4.7 Feed</p> <p>3.4.7 Feed Guidance box</p> <p>3.4.8 Health Management</p> <p>3.4.8 Health Management Guidance box</p> <p>3.6.12(4) Specific rules for land-based aquaculture facilities</p> <p>3.7 Algae production Guidance box (Various)</p> <p>Schedule 1: Fertilisers & Soil Conditioners</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clarified guidance on compliance regulatory • Added 'where relevant' to 'brand names' throughout the OER to improve clarity as not all products may have brand names • Clarified where the requirements of the Agricultural Compounds and Veterinary Medicines (ACVM) Act 1997 apply • Clarified the products that are not covered by this Requirement • Added definition for beach cast seaweed, • Reworked definition for wild harvest to remove mention of beach cast seaweed • Added definition for fishing permit • Added definition for licensed fish receiver • Clarified where the requirements for beach cast seaweed can be found within this OER • Clarified that beach cast seaweed may be use for soil fertility and set conditions around its use • Clarified where the requirements for beach cast seaweed can be found within this OER • Clarified technical requirements for using beach cast seaweed in livestock feed • Added Guidance to explain the term 'fit for purpose' as it relates to beach cast seaweed • Clarified the conditions for using beach cast seaweed products for disease prevention and management • Corrected error concerning the maximum number of courses of veterinary medicines permitted per year for animals before reconversion is required • Added guidance to explain the term 'fit for purpose' as it relates to beach cast seaweed • Corrected a numbering error to include clause (4)i) • Clarified where the criteria for using beach cast seaweed can be found with this OER • Standardised column heading terms across all tables • Clarified the criteria for using beach cast seaweed • Clarified the criteria for using beach cast seaweed to make seaweed products

No.	Version Date	Section Changed	Change(s) Description
		Schedule 3 Table 3.1.2: Other Feed Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Added beach cast seaweed as a feed material and set conditions for its use
4	March 2024	1.1 Application 1.2 Definition 2.1 Registration 2.9 Official organic assurance Schedule 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clarified the products that the OOAP applies to. Added definition for export non-compliance. Added definition for OMP verification report. Clarified registration requirements (and guidance) for operators. Added new clauses on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Voluntary (temporarily) suspension Transferring between agencies Voluntary withdrawal Non-voluntary withdrawal Registration to participate in the OOAP again, after a period of withdrawal Clarified the steps in applying for an official organic assurance. Clarified the steps needed for revoking and replacing an organic export certificate. Updates to trace element / micronutrients to facilitate the use of lignosulphonate. Addition of lignosulphonate as a new input. Clarified the specific conditions for using lignosulphonate under the OER: OPR.

Other information

Compliance with other regulations

All products within the scope of the OOAP must first meet relevant New Zealand legislation, including but not limited to the following Acts and Codes, including secondary legislation such as regulations, notices and standards:

- Agricultural Compounds and Veterinary Medicines (ACVM) Act 1997;
- Animal Products Act 1999;
 - including Overseas Market Access Requirements (OMARs) issued under the Animal Products Act;
- Animal Welfare Act 1999;
 - including Codes of Welfare issued under the Animal Welfare Act 1999;
- Australia New Zealand Food Standard Code, as enabled by the Food Act 2014;
- Biosecurity Act 1993;
- Fisheries Act 1996;
- Food Act 2014;
- National Animal Identification and Tracing Act 2012;
- Wine Act 2003;
 - including Overseas Market Access Requirements (OMARs) issued under the Wine Act; and

- Other legislative requirements not administered by MPI, as relevant, including but not limited to the Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act 1996 and Resource Management Act 1991.

In addition, plant products within the framework of the OOAP will need to meet the relevant phytosanitary certification requirements as stipulated in the applicable Importing Countries Phytosanitary Requirement (ICPR).

- Refer to the OER: [OMAR search function](#) on the MPI website to find all relevant Notices for animal products, including dairy products; and
- Refer to the [ICPR search function](#) on the MPI website to find all relevant Standards for plant products.
- Exporter Regulatory Advice Service (exporterhelp@mpi.govt.nz); and
- Market Access (market.access@mpi.govt.nz).

Disclaimer: It is beyond the scope of this OER to advise organic operators (including organic exporters) on all the relevant legislative and regulatory requirements for their product type.

Stock in Trade

Products in compliance with “OOAP Standard OP3 – Registration and Performance Measurement Criteria for Operators” may continue to be exported or supplied for export until stocks are exhausted.

Guidance versus Requirements

The information contained within a border throughout this document is for guidance and is not part of the requirements. Guidance is not mandatory.

Guidance

- This is an example of a guidance box.

Guidance may include:

- interpretative material or further explanation;
- help for where the reader can find more information (e.g. hyperlinks); and
- examples or indications of preferred ways of doing things.

Operators do not have to show that they have followed guidance and recognised agencies do not need to check that guidance has been followed by operator.

Note that guidance in this document may present information that is a requirement of another Standard and so is out of scope to be enforced under OER: OPR.

Requirements of OER: OPR are presented as numbered clauses and Schedules. Requirements are mandatory. They present:

- requirements that must be met;
- prohibitions that must be met; or
- allowances/approval that may be approved, provided set conditions are met.

Useful reference information

Operators may also find the following documents useful:

- ISO/IEC Standard 17020:2012 Conformity Assessment – Requirements for the operation of various types of bodies performing inspection;
- ISO/IEC Standard 17065:2012 Conformity Assessment – Requirements for bodies certifying products, processes and services;
- Organic Export Requirement: Recognised Agencies and Persons (OER: RAP); and
- The Contract for Services as Recognised Agencies for the Official Organic Assurance Programme.

Part 1: Requirements

1.1 Application

- (1) This Organic Export Requirement: Organic Production Rules (OER: OPR) applies to operators participating in the OOAP.
- (2) This OER: OPR applies to any of the following products, which are produced and processed within the framework of the OOAP, and, which carry, or may carry an organic labelling claim:
 - a) unprocessed plant products;
 - b) wild harvest of plant products for human consumption;
 - c) animal products for human consumption from bovine, porcine, ovine, caprine, cervine, equine, avian, ratite, bivalve molluscan shellfish, and *Apis mellifera*;
 - d) live animals from the same species as listed in 1.1 (2)c);
 - e) wine;
 - f) mushrooms;
 - g) algae;
 - h) yeast;
 - i) processed products from ingredients listed in a) to h);
 - j) processed agricultural products for animal consumption;
 - k) vegetative propagating material and seed for cultivation;
 - l) unprocessed or minimally processed ovine wool.
- (3) This OER: OPR applies to any product exported or used as an ingredient in a product to be exported under the OOAP, where labelling, advertising material or commercial documents claims the product, its production or its ingredients is 'organic'.
- (4) In addition to OER: OPR, products exported under the OOAP must also meet the importing country specific requirements, which are set in the Organic Export Requirement: Overseas Market Access Requirement (OER: OMAR) for each destination. Where there are conflicts or inconsistencies between the requirements in an OER: OMAR and OER: OPR, the OER: OMAR requirements take precedence.
- (5) Organic products not included in subclause (2) may be issued with an official assurance if the requirements of the OOAP, including the relevant OER: OMARs have been met, with the exception of any of the products in the following categories:
 - a) algae products cultivated in land-based aquaculture facilities;
 - b) products of hunting of wild terrestrial animals;
 - c) products of fishing;
 - d) production of finfish in coastal marine areas or land-based aquaculture facilities.

1.2 Definitions

- (1) In this OER: OPR:

accountable person means the person named in an organic management plan (OMP) who is responsible for all operations covered by the OMP, and for ensuring that those operations comply with regulatory and non-regulatory requirements including this OER.

adverse event means an event declared as such by the MPI. Adverse events may include, but are not limited to storms, droughts, floods, snowstorms, volcanic eruptions, earthquakes, or biosecurity incursions.

agricultural compound has the same meaning as in the Agricultural Compounds and Veterinary Medicines Act 1997.

algae means macroalgae and microalgae (including kelp, seaweeds and phytoplankton), which grow naturally or under cultivation in marine or freshwater aquatic environments.

algae production involves active cultivation of algae and collection of algae that is growing naturally in unmanaged areas.

animal product business has the same meaning as in the Animal Products Act 1999.

animal welfare recommended best practice means those practices identified in the relevant Code of Welfare as recommended best practice for the care and management of animals.

apiary production means to keep honey bees (*Apis mellifera*) for the purposes of producing bee products in apiaries required to be notified under the American Foulbrood Pest Management Plan (AFBPMP), but does not include the extraction of honey and other bee products.

aquaculture means:

- a) the cultivation of spat or bivalve molluscan shellfish (BMS) in a growing area; or
- b) the cultivation of BMS in a land-based aquaculture facility.

aquaculture product means aquatic animals or animal products at any stage of their life cycle resulting from any aquaculture activity in compliance with this Requirement.

Guidance

- This version of OER: OPR only includes specific aquaculture production rules for bivalve molluscan shellfish grown in coastal marine areas, refer to section 3.6.10, and for land-based aquaculture facilities, refer to section 3.6.12.
- Section 3.6.11 is reserved for finfish.

aquaculture production means the production of aquaculture animals in a growing area or land-based aquaculture facility.

avian means poultry for the production of eggs, meat, or other animal products as defined under the Animal Products Act 1999, and includes, but is not limited to, chickens, turkeys and ducks.

bivalve molluscan shellfish (BMS) has the same meaning as in the Animal Product (Regulated Control Scheme – Bivalve Molluscan Shellfish) Regulations 2006. For the purposes of this Requirement, this definition only includes Greenshell™ mussels (*Perna canaliculus*) and pacific oysters (*Crassostrea gigas*).

background contamination means background levels of naturally occurring substances or persistent synthetic chemicals that are present in the soil at the beginning of the conversion period.

beach cast seaweed has the same meaning as in the Fisheries Act 1996.

beer has the same meaning as in the Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code.

biofouling is the accumulation of aquatic organisms such as micro-organisms, plant and animals on surfaces and structures immersed in or exposed to the aquatic environment.

bovine for the purpose of OER: OPR means a cow raised for the production of meat, milk or other animal products as defined under the Animal Products Act 1999, and includes, but is not limited to cow, cattle, bull, beef and calf.

buffer zone means a clearly defined and identifiable boundary area bordering an organic production site that is established to limit impacts of the application of substance not permitted by OER: OPR on adjacent areas.

caprine means an animal of the genus *Capra* (goats) raised for the production of milk, meat or other animal products as defined under the Animal Products Act 1999.

cervine means an animal of the family Cervidae (deer) raised for the production of milk, meat or other animal products as defined under the Animal Products Act 1999.

chaptalisation means the addition of sucrose before or during fermentation for the purpose of increasing (or potentially increasing) the actual alcoholic strength of wine.

cider has the same meaning as in the Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code.

coastal marine area has the same meaning as in the Animal Products (Regulated Control Scheme – Bivalve Molluscan Shellfish) Regulations 2006.

compost means decayed organic material used as a soil fertility amendment in agricultural production, produced by a combination of actions over time by microbes, invertebrates, temperature, and other elemental factors (for example, moisture content, aeration). Composted material shows no indication of the original substrate(s) from which it was made.

contamination means contact of organic crops, animals, land or products with any substance that would compromise the organic integrity.

contractor means a natural or legal person or business entity who provides services specified in a contract.

control file means all the documentation relating to an operator participating in the OOAP, for the purposes of the certification activities.

conventional means any production or processing practice or system that does not comply to organic production practices and standards.

conversion period means the time between the start of organic management and the recognition of crops, pasture and animal products as organic.

critical non-compliance means non-compliance that is reasonably likely to jeopardise:

- a) public health; or
- b) animal welfare; or
- c) market access; or
- d) organic statements or claims; or
- e) official assurances; or
- f) credibility of the OOAP.

crop rotation means the practice of alternating the species or families of annual and/or biennial crops grown on a specific field in a planned pattern or sequence so as to break weed, pest and disease cycles and to maintain or improve soil fertility and organic matter content.

dairy processor has the same meaning as in the Animal Products Act 1999.

dispensation means an approval granted by a recognised agency, or a recognised authorisation granted by MPI, exempting an operator from meeting a requirement where a dispensation is provided.

enrichment means the addition of grape juice, concentrated grape must (juice), rectified concentrated grape must (juice) or sucrose (chaptalisation) before or during fermentation for the purpose of increasing (or potentially increasing) the actual alcoholic strength of a grape wine.

equine means a horse raised for the production of meat, and includes, but is not limited to, horses, pony, mule and donkey.

exporter means an operator registered with MPI to export organic products under the OOAP.

export certificate has the same meaning as official assurance and official organic assurance.

export non-compliance (ENC) means any situation where exported organic product:

- a) is not fit, or is no longer fit, for its intended purpose; or
- b) is refused entry by the foreign government; or
- c) does not meet, or no longer meets, the relevant OER: OMAR; or
- d) does not have, or no longer has, the required official assurances.

facilities means machinery, equipment, premises, packaging and transport containers used during the production, harvesting, processing and handling of organic products.

farm dairy has the same meaning as in the Animal Products Act 1999.

feed additive has the same meaning as in the Agricultural Compounds and Veterinary Medicines (Exemptions and Prohibited Substances) Regulations 2011.

food additive has the same meaning as in the Australia New Zealand Food Standard Code.

food business has the same meaning as in the Food Act 2014. **fruit and vegetable wine** has the same meaning as in Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code.

genetically modified organism (GMO) has the same meaning as in the Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act 1996.

GMO derivative means a substance that is produced by or from a GMO. This is traced one step back from the substance to its source. 'Produced from GMO' means that it consists in whole or in part of a GMO. 'Produced by GMO' means that it is a GMO metabolite.

grape wine has the same meaning as in the Wine Act 2003.

green manure means a crop that is grown and then incorporated into the soil for the purpose of soil improvement, erosion prevention, preventing nutrient loss, mobilisation and accumulating plant nutrients, and balancing soil organic matter. Green manure may include spontaneous crops, plants or weeds.

growing area has the same meaning as in the Animal Product (Regulated Control Scheme – Bivalve Molluscan Shellfish) Regulations 2006.

gut flora stabilisers mean microorganisms or other substances, which, when fed to animals, supports gut flora and animal health.

handling includes transport, import and export of organic products, and as relevant for the product type, has the same meaning as:

- a) 'processing and handling' in the Food Act 2014, specifically section 11 (c), (d), (e) and (f);
- b) 'dairy processing' in the Animal Products Act 1999, but does not include the extraction of milk;
- c) 'process' in the Animal Products Act 1999;
- d) 'making' or 'made' in the Wine Act 2003.

holding means all of the production units operated under a single management for the purpose of producing and/or processing agricultural or aquaculture products. Each holding is a physically, financially and operationally independent entity.

homeopathic preparation means preparations made through successive dilutions of a substance that in larger amounts produces symptoms in healthy subjects similar to those of the disease itself.

hydroponic production means the method of growing terrestrial plants with their roots in a mineral nutrient solution only or in an inert medium, such as perlite, gravel or mineral wool to which a nutrient solution is added.

importer means an operator who imports a consignment for use or supply to operators producing or processing organic products for later export under the OOAP.

in-conversion feed means feed produced during the period of conversion to organic production, excluding feed harvested in the first 12 months of conversion.

ingredient means any single substance, including a food additive, vitamins and minerals used in the processing, manufacture or handling of a food.

input means agricultural compound, plant propagation material, and seeds for planting, ingredients, food additives, and processing aids as permitted in Schedules 1 to 4, and Schedule 6.

irradiation means technology using high-energy emissions from radio-nucleotides, capable of altering a product's molecular structure for the purpose of controlling microbial contaminants, pathogens, parasites and pests in products, preserving products or inhibiting physiological processes such as sprouting or ripening. Irradiation does not include low-level radiation sources such as the use of X-rays for foreign body detection.

labelling means any written, printed or graphic matter that is present on the label, accompanies the product, or is displayed near the product, including that for the purpose of promoting its sale or disposal.

land-based aquaculture facility has the same meaning as in the Animal Product (Regulated Control Scheme – Bivalve Molluscan Shellfish) Regulations 2006, and includes facilities used for the production of bivalve molluscan shellfish spat.

liqueur has the same meaning as in the Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code.

livestock means any domestic or domesticated animal (including bovine, ovine, porcine, caprine, cervine, equine, avian, ratites, and bees) sold as live animals or used in the production of food. This does not include the products of hunting or fishing of wild animals, or aquaculture harvest of natural deposits of bivalve molluscan shellfish, and wild harvest of crustacean.

livestock production means to farm, raise, grow, or keep animals for reward or for the purposes of trade in those animals or in animal material or products derived or taken from those animals, and includes the extraction and storing of raw milk from dairy animals.

market access eligibility means a product that has met the requirements of the importing country, as set in the relevant OER: OMAR for that market.

marketing means holding or displaying for sale, offering for sale, selling, delivering or placing on the market in any other form.

mead has the same meaning as in Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code.

MPI means Ministry for Primary Industries.

natural flavouring means substances obtained by physical, microbiological or enzymatic processes from vegetable or animal origin materials either in their raw state or after processing by traditional preparation processes including drying, roasting and fermentation.

non-compliance means any failure to comply with the requirements of the OOAP.

nulliparous means a female mammal who has never given birth.

OOAP means MPI's Official Organic Assurance Programme, and includes Organic Export Requirements and relevant OER: OMARs.

official assurance means a statement made by MPI to a foreign government, or an agent of a foreign government, attesting that, as appropriate, any one or more of the following conditions apply in respect of a product:

- a) any specified process has been completed with respect to the product concerned;
- b) the product concerned meets the Standards set for the product;
- c) any market access requirements of the importing country, which New Zealand has agreed to meet, that are stated in the official assurance, have been met by the system under which the product was produced or processed;
- d) the situation in New Zealand, in relation to any matter concerning plant or animal product, is as stated in the official assurance.

Official organic assurance means an official assurance attesting that the products concerned meet the requirements of the OOAP including any relevant overseas market access requirements for the importing country.

operation means the business unit within which organic products are produced, processed and handled. This includes holdings, production units, food businesses, wine businesses, farm dairies, dairy processor, animal product businesses and import and export businesses.

operator means the owner or person in control of the products for which certification is sought under the OOAP, has the day-to-day management or contractual control of an Organic Management Plan, and includes primary producers, processors, handlers, importers and exporters.

Organic Management Plan (OMP) means a plan for managing a certified organic operation that has been agreed to between the operator and the recognised agency. The OMP covers all aspects of organic production, processing or handling, and describes all measures taken to ensure compliance to the requirements of the relevant OER: OMARs.

OMP verification report means a report written by an OMP Verifier following an OMP verification.

organic certification means the written endorsement from a recognised agency to an operator that specified products are being produced according to the OERs and relevant OER: OMARs, following verification by the recognised agency.

organic product means a product that has been produced, processed, or handled in compliance with OER: OPR and the relevant OER: OMARs.

Overseas Market Access Requirements (OMARs) means the MPI issued requirements agreed between the New Zealand government and the government of the export destination.

ovine means an animal of the genus *Ovis* (sheep) raised for the production of milk, meat, fibre or other animal products as defined under the Animal Products Act 1999.

package has the same meaning as in the Food Act 2014.

perry has the same meaning as in the Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code.

plant production means the growing and harvesting of plants and plant products including crops, wild crops, pasture and seeds. This includes any plant or part of a plant intended to be sold or used:

- a) as food for human consumption; or
- b) as livestock feed; or
- c) for plant propagation; or
- d) as a fertiliser or soil conditioner.

point of export means the time and place where the consignment is loaded onto a vessel or aircraft for export.

polyculture means the rearing of two or more species, usually from different trophic levels, in the same aquaculture production unit.

porcine means an animal of the family Suidae raised for the production of meat (pigs).

processing has the same meaning as relevant for product type as in:

- a) 'processing and handling' in the Food Act 2014, specifically section 11(a) and (b);
- b) 'dairy processing' in the Animal Products Act 1999, but does not include the extraction of milk;
- c) 'process' in the Animal Products Act 1999;
- d) 'making' or 'made' in the Wine Act 2003.

processing aid has the same meaning as in the Australia New Zealand Food Standard Code.

production means the processes undertaken to produce agricultural or aquaculture products in the state in which they occur on the farm, and may include initial post-harvest handling activities that are normally carried out on the farm.

production cycle in relation to aquaculture and algae production, means the lifespan of an aquaculture animal or algae from the earliest lifestage to harvesting.

production unit means all assets to be used for the production of agriculture or aquaculture products including, but not limited to: production premises; land parcels; pasturages; open air areas; livestock buildings; ponds; structures, and containment systems for algae or aquaculture animals; land-based aquaculture facilities; premises for the storage of crops, crop products, algae products, animal products, aquaculture products, raw materials and any other inputs as relevant for the specific sector.

ratite means birds of the order Ratitae raised for production of eggs, meat or other animal products as defined under the Animal Products Act 1999, and includes but is not limited to ostriches, emus and rheas.

recognised agency means a person or a group of persons who are recognised by MPI to provide services under Part 2 of the Organic Export Requirement: Recognised Agencies and Persons (OER: RAP).

recognised person means a person who have been formally recognised by MPI as being competent to undertake one or more roles defined in the Organic Export Requirement: Recognised Agencies and Persons.

registration means the formal confirmation and record of participation in the OOAP. For the purposes of OER: OPR, all operators must be registered by the recognised agency and exporters must also be registered with MPI. Recognised agencies and registered organic exporters are listed on the MPI website.

residual sugar means the sum of glucose and fructose expressed as g/L for wine.

simultaneous conversion means the conversion of pasture and livestock at the same time. This means that during the conversion period the in-conversion livestock feeds on the in-conversion pasture belonging to the converting production unit.

spirits have the same meaning as in the Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code.

split production means conventional, in-conversion and organic production, breeding or processing within the same holding.

stocking density in relation to aquaculture, means the live weight of animals at any time during the grow-out phase, either per cubic metre of water or per square metre of surface, as appropriate to the species concerned.

sustainable fisheries means a fisheries resource managed in accordance with the Fisheries Act 1996.

synthetic means a substance that is formulated or manufactured by a chemical process, or by a process that chemically changes a substance extracted from naturally occurring plant, animal or mineral sources. This does not include substances created by naturally occurring biological processes.

traceability means the ability to verify the history, location or application of a product through records or record keeping.

trans-shipped means a consignment that temporarily physically enters New Zealand's jurisdiction, but is not cleared by the New Zealand Customs Service.

vegetative propagating material means any plant tissue including shoots, leaf or stem cuttings, roots, tubers, rhizomes, bulbs, or corms used in plant production or propagation.

verification means the ongoing checks carried out:

- a) by recognised persons to determine whether:
 - i) the OMP meets the requirements of the OOAP; and
 - ii) the OMP is appropriate for the operation and the business; and
 - iii) the OMP is effective at ensuring the requirements of the OOAP are met; and
 - iv) the OMP is being complied with; and
 - v) organic products requiring an official assurance for export meet the relevant OER: OMAR.
- b) By an MPI Technical Expert or Accreditation Body to determine whether a recognised agency or recognised person meets the requirements of the Organic Export Requirement: Recognised Agencies and Persons.

veterinary medicine has the same meaning as in the Agricultural Compounds and Veterinary Medicines Act 1997.

wild harvest is a plant or portion of a plant that is collected or harvested from a terrestrial site that is not maintained under cultivation or other agricultural management; and includes naturally growing algae, seaweed, and wild fungi.

wine has the same meaning as in the Wine Act 2003.

wine business has the same meaning as in the Wine Act 2003.

wine product has the same meaning as in the Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code.

withholding period means the interval between the last administration of a veterinary medicinal product to animals under normal conditions of use and the production of foodstuff from such animals.

Part 2: Administrative requirements

2.1 Registration

- (1) All operators must:
- be registered with a recognised agency that meets the requirements in the OER: RAP; and
 - be verified as meeting the requirements of OER: OPR and relevant OER: OMARs by the recognised agency in subclause (a).

Guidance

- OER: OMARs can be found on the MPI website here:
<https://www.mpi.govt.nz/export/food/organics/requirements/>

- (2) Operators who produce, import, process or handle products described as an 'organic product' must ensure that products comply with the technical requirements for their product type in OER: OPR Part 3, and relevant OER: OMARs in clause 1.5.
- (3) Operators, except for operators that only import or export organic products, must demonstrate continual registration to participate in the OOAP.
- (4) Operators transferring to a new recognised agency must keep documentary evidence to demonstrate continual compliance with all relevant requirements in OER: OPR and relevant OER: OMARs during the transfer and be prepared to share this with the new recognised agency when requested.

Guidance

- Examples of documentary evidence the new recognised agency may request from a transferring operator, include:
 - any parts of their previous approved OMP relevant to demonstrating compliance with OER: OPR and relevant OER: OMARs; and
 - any records listed in clause 2.4.
- Operators seeking to transfer to a new recognised agency that cannot demonstrate continual compliance with all relevant OOAP requirements, may be refused registration.
- See OER: OPR clause 2.2.1(1)c) and [OER: RAP](#) clause 2.3.3(1)d)ii) concerning transfer of the OMP verification reports between recognised agencies.
- See [OER: RAP](#) clause 2.3.6(2) requiring recognised agencies to share information on non-compliances, when an operator seeks to change recognised agencies.

- (5) Operators may request their recognised agency to voluntarily suspend their registration to participate in the OOAP for a period of time agreed between the recognised agency and MPI.

Guidance

- For more information on voluntary suspensions, see:
 - [OER: RAP](#) clause 2.3.3(3); and
 - [Official Organic Assurance Programme \(OOAP\): Voluntary Suspension of Operators under Organic Export Requirement: Recognised Agencies and Persons \(OER: RAP 2.3.3\(3\)a\)iii\)\) \(mpi.govt.nz\).](#)

- (6) Operators may formally request their recognised agency to withdraw their organic certification in the form and manner specified by their recognised agency.

Guidance

- Once conversion is complete, organic operators should not switch back and forth between organic and conventional management.

- (7) Operators that voluntarily withdraw from the OOAP in accordance with clause (6) and have not transferred to another recognised agency in accordance with clause (4), may apply to a recognised agency for approval to register to participate in the OOAP. The recognised agency must apply to MPI for authorisation and provide the following information:
- a) documentary evidence described in clause (4);
 - b) a copy of the last OMP verification report completed prior to the operator voluntarily withdrawing; and
 - c) on any non-compliance raised in the 12 months prior to the voluntary withdraw taking effect, including:
 - i) root cause analyses; and
 - ii) corrective actions completed.
- (8) Operators in the following situations may apply to a recognised agency for registration and the recognised agency must apply to MPI for authorisation if the:
- a) operator has been refused registration by a recognised agency; or
 - b) operator has had their registration withdrawn in accordance with OER: RAP clause 2.3.3(5)a)i).
- (9) Where clause (8) applies, the recognised agency must provide to MPI all of the following:
- a) relevant information on why the operator was refused registration or had their registration withdrawn;
 - b) a comprehensive report on what actions or corrective actions were put in place to ensure the operation will comply with all relevant OER: OPR and OER: OMAR requirements; and
 - c) any other information required by MPI.
- (10) Where clause (8) applies, and the recognised agency has received authorisation from MPI to register an operator, the following conversion requirements apply:
- a) land for plant production must reconvert in accordance with clause 3.2.1;
 - b) land for livestock production must reconvert in accordance with clause 3.4.3;
 - c) livestock must reconvert in accordance with clause 3.4.4;
 - d) land and livestock may reconvert simultaneously in accordance with clause 3.4.5;
 - e) hives must reconvert in accordance with clause 3.5.1;
 - f) aquaculture animals must reconvert in accordance with clause 3.6.5; and
 - g) mushroom production facilities must reconvert in accordance with clause 3.8(2).

Guidance

- Prior recognition provisions under clause 3.2.1(3) may apply, provided the land was fallow during the intervening period. Refer to clause 3.2.1(4)a)i).

- (11) Operators who export products must:
- a) be registered with MPI as an organic exporter; and

Guidance

- The application form “OP1 Organic exporter registration” for registering as an organic exporter can be found on the MPI website at [forms and templates for exporting organics](#).
- Exporters will need to provide documentary evidence from their recognised agency that they comply with clause (1).
- It is the organic exporters responsibility to:
 - ensure organic exporter registration with MPI remains current; and

- keep registration contact information up to date to ensure you receive correspondence from MPI.
- To update any registration information, contact MPI Approval on approvals@mpi.govt.nz.
- The list of MPI registered organic exporters can be found on the MPI website at [Organic Exporters \(foodsafety.govt.nz\)](https://foodsafety.govt.nz).
- Organic exporters that allow their MPI organic exporter registration to lapse will not receive an official organic assurance (organic export documents).

- b) designate a person or persons to apply for official organic assurances; and

Guidance:

- Organic exporters are encouraged to:
 - keep the list referred to in clause (10)b) of designated persons that are authorised to apply for official organic assurances current;
 - use the form “CERT7 Organic exporter form for designating persons that can apply for official organic assurances” for adding (and removing) designated persons, which can be found on the MPI website at [forms and templates for exporting organics](#); and
 - save a copy of the updated form in your records. Organic exporters should be prepared to show a copy of the most recent CERT7 form to the recognised agency.

- c) ensure products comply with the requirements in the relevant OER: OMAR.

2.2 Providing access and information to the recognised agency

2.2.1 Access and information

- (1) Operators must allow:

- a) the recognised agency full access to the operator's records, personnel and facilities at any reasonable time; and
- b) the exchange of information between recognised agencies in cases where an operator is certified by more than one recognised agency; and
- c) the transfer of the OMP verification reports between recognised agencies where the operator changes their recognised agency; and
- d) MPI representatives and importing country officials' access to all premises, land, accounts and other relevant documentation to enable verification of compliance with OER: OPR; and
- e) the recognised agency to store the operator's control file for a period of at least five years in cases where the operator withdraws from the OOAP; and
- f) access to the product or production site for the purpose of sampling for testing as considered necessary by the recognised agency; and
- g) the recognised agency to report any relevant information on the operator's holding to MPI.

2.2.2 Management of non-compliance

- (1) Operators must undertake corrective actions to address any non-compliance within the timeframe specified by the recognised agency.
- (2) Operators must notify purchasers of any product that is affected by a non-compliance.

2.2.3 Application of the Official Information Act 1982

- (1) All information collected by a recognised agency in the course of activities undertaken under the OOAP on behalf of MPI is official information and is subject to the requirements of the Official Information Act 1982.

2.2.4 Fees

- (1) Operators must pay all fees charged by the recognised agency and MPI related to the registration and participation in the OOAP.
- (2) Operators must pay all charges associated with routine testing.

2.3 Organic Management Plan (OMP)

2.3.1 All operations

- (1) Operators must document an OMP addressing all parts of the supply chain under their control.
- (2) The OMP must include all of the following:
 - a) the scope of the plan;
 - b) details of legal owner of the holding;
 - c) details of accountable person(s) who has overall responsibility for the holding;
 - d) details of any person with delegated responsibility for selected activities;
 - e) details of contractors and all activities undertaken by them;
 - f) procedure to ensure traceability of product under the operators control;
 - g) procedures for tracking products through the operation and between operations;
 - h) procedures for controlling and securing non-complying product;
 - i) contingency plans;
 - j) record keeping procedures;
 - k) production unit or processing schedules;
 - l) procedures for ascertaining organic status and market access eligibility;
 - m) procedures for mitigating the risk of contamination by unauthorised substances or products; and
 - n) procedures for product recall.

Guidance

- OMPs should be developed using a risk management framework that identifies, monitors, controls, manages and eliminates or minimises hazards and other risk factors.
- Recognised agencies can implement more restrictive conditions than set in this Requirement. The operator must comply with whichever requirement is higher.

- (3) The OMP must be approved by the recognised agency.
- (4) Operators must operate in accordance with their OMP.
- (5) The OMP must be kept up-to-date and all amendments to the OMP must be approved by the recognised agency.
- (6) Operators must review their OMP annually.
- (7) Operators must provide training to staff, contractors and visitors in their roles and responsibilities as set out in the OMP.

2.3.2 Plant production

- (1) In addition to the requirements in clause 2.3.1, the OMP must provide a full description of the production unit including all of the following:
 - a) map with land valuation numbers or other unique identifiers for production areas including boundary lines, water supplies and buffer zones;
 - b) map of storage facilities;
 - c) areas of organic production per crop type;
 - d) areas used by livestock;

- e) inputs planned to be used, including brand names (where relevant), quantities and reason for use;
 - f) pest, disease and weed management practises; and
 - g) post-harvest handling activities.
- (2) Operators may manage a holding as a split production holding of clearly separated production units which are not all managed under organic production, with recognised agency approval and annual reassessment of the conversion plan.
- (3) For the purposes of subclause (2), the OMP must include all of the following:
- a) type and location of non-organic crops;
 - b) storage facilities for non-organic inputs and products;
 - c) organic and non-organic harvest procedures;
 - d) procedures for ensuring separation between organic and non-organic products;
 - e) procedures for clean-down of any equipment used for both organic and non-organic processes; and
 - f) a plan for converting the non-organic part of the holding.
- (4) When applying for conversion to organics, operators must include the following in their OMP:
- a) sufficient evidence of the date of the last application of prohibited substances on the area under conversion to organics; and
 - b) test results for prohibited substances that may potentially be present as background contamination in the soil.

2.3.3 Wild harvest

- (1) In addition to the requirements in clause 2.3.1, the OMP must also include all of the following:
- a) map of the collection area;
 - b) the collection method; and
 - c) procedures for ensuring the volume collected will not deplete the collection area.
- (2) Where relevant, the OMP must also include a copy of any permit for the collection.

2.3.4 Livestock production

- (1) In addition to the requirements in clause 2.3.1, the OMP must provide a full description of the production units including all the following:
- a) information required in clause 2.3.2 relating to pasture areas;
 - b) animal nutrition;
 - c) animal health disease prevention and veterinary treatments;
 - d) livestock welfare and husbandry practices;
 - e) livestock identification;
 - f) handling activities that minimise stress;
 - g) manure management, including installations for the storage of animal manure;
 - h) livestock buildings and storage facilities; and
 - i) equipment cleaning procedures.
- (2) Operators may manage a holding as a split production holding of clearly separated production units which are not all managed under organic production, with recognised agency approval and annual reassessment of the conversion plan. The OMP must include all of the following:
- a) species and number of non-organic animals;
 - b) organic areas grazed by non-organic animals and timing when such grazing takes place;
 - c) identification and segregation of non-organic animals at all stages of production;
 - d) storage facilities for non-organic inputs and products;
 - e) procedures for ensuring segregation of organic and non-organic products;

- f) procedures for clean-down of any equipment used for both organic and non-organic processes; and
- g) a plan for converting the non-organic part of the holding.

2.3.5 Apiary production

- (1) In addition to the requirements in clause 2.3.1, the OMP must provide a full description of the holding including all of the following:
 - a) number of hives;
 - b) map of hive sites;
 - c) description of the bee foraging area;
 - d) disease prevention and veterinary treatments;
 - e) supplementary feeding;
 - f) honey extraction and production methods for other bee products;
 - g) storage facilities;
 - h) bee products handling facilities; and
 - i) equipment cleaning procedures.
- (2) Operators may run organic and non-organic beekeeping units in the same holding for the purpose of pollination activities, with recognised agency approval and annual reassessment of the conversion plan.
- (3) For the purposes of subclause (2), the OMP must include all of the following:
 - a) number of non-organic hives;
 - b) location of non-organic hives;
 - c) identification and segregation of non-organic hives, honey and other bee products at all stages of production;
 - d) storage facilities for non-organic products;
 - e) procedures for ensuring segregation of organic products and non-organic products;
 - f) procedures for clean-down of any equipment used for both organic and non-organic processes; and
 - g) a plan for converting the non-organic part of the holding.

2.3.6 Aquaculture production

- (1) For operations in coastal marine areas:
 - a) in addition to the requirements in clause 2.3.1, the OMP must provide a full description of the operation including all of the following:
 - i) maps showing the location of all organic aquaculture production units, neighbouring non-organic activities, potential contamination sources, including land-based contamination sources, and relaying areas where relevant;
 - ii) details on the source of spat;
 - iii) details of disease prevention strategies and veterinary treatments;
 - iv) husbandry practices;
 - v) identification procedures;
 - vi) handling activities;
 - vii) relaying facilities and processes, where relevant;
 - viii) location of sorting sheds;
 - ix) harvesting vessels and equipment;
 - x) transport between facilities such as harvest vessel, sorting shed, storage;
 - xi) storage facilities for products, inputs and equipment;
 - xii) equipment cleaning procedures, including for sorting sheds, storage, harvest vessels, and transportation units;

- xiii) an environmental assessment describing the aquaculture production unit and its immediate environment and any environmental impact; including procedures for monitoring the environmental effects;
- xiv) water quality monitoring procedures; and
- xv) a waste reduction plan.

Guidance

- If the production unit has already been subject to an assessment under relevant regulatory requirements that addresses these same factors, that assessment may be used to demonstrate compliance with this clause.

- b) Operators may run organic and non-organic aquaculture production units in the same holding, with recognised agency approval and annual reassessment of the conversion plan. The OMP must include all of the following:
 - i) number of non-organic aquaculture production units;
 - ii) location of non-organic aquaculture production units;
 - iii) identification and segregation of all aquaculture production units, relaying facilities, sorting sheds, storage facilities, harvest vessels, transport units, input storage facilities, and products at all stages of production;
 - iv) procedures for clean-down of any equipment used for both organic and non-organic products and processes; and
 - v) a plan for converting the non-organic part of the holding.
- (2) For operations breeding and growing BMS spat in land-based aquaculture facilities:
 - a) in addition to the requirements in clause 2.3.1, the OMP must provide a full description of the operation including all of the following:
 - i) maps showing the location and layout of the facility, and neighbouring non-organic activities, and other potential contamination sources;
 - ii) water sources, and details of water quality monitoring procedures;
 - iii) details on the source of spat;
 - iv) spat production procedures;
 - v) feed and nutrition of bivalve molluscan shellfish spat, where relevant;
 - vi) disease prevention strategies and veterinary treatments;
 - vii) husbandry practices;
 - viii) identification procedures;
 - ix) handling activities;
 - x) harvesting activities;
 - xi) transport activities;
 - xii) storage facilities for inputs and equipment;
 - xiii) equipment cleaning procedures;
 - xiv) an environmental assessment describing the production unit and its immediate environment and any environmental impact, including procedures for monitoring the environmental effects of the operation; and
 - xv) a waste reduction plan.

Guidance

- If the production unit has already been subject to an assessment under relevant regulatory requirements that addresses these same factors, that assessment may be used to demonstrate compliance with this clause.

- b) Operators may run organic and non-organic land-based aquaculture facilities in the same holding, with recognised agency approval. The OMP must include all of the following:
- i) number of non-organic production units;
 - ii) location of non-organic production units;
 - iii) identification and segregation of all production units, input storage facilities, and products at all stages of production; and
 - iv) procedures for clean-down of any equipment used for both organic and non-organic processes.
- (3) For relaying operations in land-based aquaculture facilities:
- a) in addition to the requirements in clause 2.3.1, the OMP must provide a full description of the operation including all of the following:
- i) maps showing the location and layout of the facility, neighbouring non-organic activities, and other potential contamination sources;
 - ii) water sources, and details of water quality monitoring procedures;
 - iii) identification procedures;
 - iv) handling activities;
 - v) transport activities;
 - vi) storage facilities for products, inputs and equipment;
 - vii) equipment cleaning procedures;
 - viii) an environmental assessment describing the production unit and its immediate environment and any environmental impact, including procedures for monitoring the environmental effects of the operation; and
 - ix) a waste reduction plan.

Guidance

- If the production unit has already been subject to an assessment under relevant regulatory requirements that addresses these same factors, that assessment may be used to demonstrate compliance with this clause.

- b) operators may relay organic and non-organic products in the same holding, with recognised agency approval in which case the OMP must include all of the following:
- i) procedures for separating organic and non-organic relay activities;
 - ii) procedures for ensuring segregation of organic and non-organic products;
 - iii) procedures for managing relay and storage facilities in a way that clearly separates between organic inputs and products, and inputs and products not permitted for use in organic relay activities; and
 - iv) procedures for clean-down of any equipment used for both organic and non-organic relay activities.

2.3.7 Algae

Guidance

- This section covers:
 - active cultivation of algae and seaweed in coastal marine areas; and
 - collection of algae and seaweed growing naturally in unmanaged coastal marine areas.
- Active cultivation of algae means the deliberate growing and controlled harvesting of algae on man-made structures (ropes and other equipment) in the water.
- Collection of naturally growing algae means picking, cutting or otherwise harvesting algae from non-made structures, where the algae is naturally growing and not being actively managed in any way.
- This section does not include the collection of beach cast seaweed.

- Requirements for the following specific uses of beach cast seaweed can be found in clauses elsewhere in OER: OPR:
 - for use as a fertiliser or soil conditioners, refer to section 3.2 Plant Production.
 - for use as a supplementary feed, refer to clause 3.4.7(8) Feed.
 - for use in disease prevention and management, refer to clause 3.4.8(2) Health management.
 - for spat for aquaculture production, refer to section 3.6 Aquaculture production.

(1) For algae that are actively cultivated:

- a) in addition to the requirements in clause 2.3.1, the OMP must provide a full description of the operation including all of the following:
- i) an environmental assessment showing the conditions of the production unit and its immediate environment and likely effects of its operation;
 - ii) water quality monitoring procedures;
 - iii) procedures for monitoring the environmental effects of the operation on the surrounding environment;
 - iv) procedures for monitoring biomass estimates;
 - v) map of the collection area;
 - vi) collection method; and
 - vii) copies of any permits required for this activity.

Guidance

- If the production unit has already been subject to an assessment under relevant regulatory requirements that addresses these same factors, that assessment may be used to demonstrate compliance with this clause.

- b) operators may manage a holding as a split production holding of clearly separated production units which are not all managed under organic production, with recognised agency approval and annual reassessment of the conversion plan, and the OMP must include all of the following:
- i) type and location of non-organic facilities;
 - ii) storage facilities for non-organic inputs and products;
 - iii) organic and non-organic harvest procedures;
 - iv) procedures for ensuring separation between organic and non-organic products;
 - v) procedures for clean-down of any equipment used for both organic and non-organic processes; and
 - vi) a plan for converting the non-organic part of the holding.

(2) For collection of algae that are naturally growing, in addition to the requirements in clause 2.3.1, the OMP must also include all of the following:

- a) map of the collection area;
- b) the collection method;
- c) procedures for ensuring the volume collected will not deplete the collection area; and
- d) copies of any permits required for this activity.

2.3.8 Mushroom production

- (1) The OMP must meet the requirements in clauses 2.3.1 and 2.3.2.

2.3.9 Processing and handling

- (1) In addition to the requirements in clause 2.3.1, the OMP must provide a full description of the operation, which must include all of the following:
- a) processing facilities;
 - b) process for each product type;

- c) packaging, including bottling;
 - d) labelling;
 - e) storage and storage facilities;
 - f) transport between operations; and
 - g) equipment cleaning procedures.
- (2) Operators may process and handle organic and non-organic products in the same operation, with recognised agency approval in which case the OMP must include all of the following:
- a) procedures for separating organic and non-organic processing runs;
 - b) procedures for ensuring segregation of organic and non-organic products;
 - c) procedures for managing storage facilities in a way that clearly separates between organic inputs and products, and inputs and products not permitted for use in organic production or processing; and
 - d) procedures for clean-down of any equipment used for both organic and non-organic processes.

2.3.10 Alcoholic beverages

- (1) In addition to the requirements in clause 2.3.1, the OMP must provide a full description of the alcoholic beverages business including all of the following:
- a) processing facilities;
 - b) production process for each product type;
 - c) packaging, including bottling;
 - d) labelling;
 - e) storage and storage facilities; and
 - f) equipment cleaning procedures.
- (2) Operators may make organic and non-organic alcoholic beverages in the same operation, with recognised agency approval. The OMP must include all of the following:
- a) procedures for separating organic and non-organic products;
 - b) procedures for ensuring segregation of organic products and non-organic products;
 - c) storage facilities for non-organic inputs and products; and
 - d) procedures for clean-down of any equipment used for both organic and non-organic processes.

2.3.11 Importing and exporting

- (1) In addition to the requirements in clauses 2.3.1, the OMP must provide a full description of the operation including all of the following:
- a) procedures for ascertaining the organic status and market access eligibility of products back to their origin; and
 - b) procedures for recording the first destination of all organic consignments.

2.4 Record keeping

2.4.1 All operations

- (1) Operators must keep records of all activities described in the OMP including all of the following:
- a) pest management, cleaning and sanitising activities;
 - b) need for use of agricultural compounds listed in Schedules 1 to 3 or food additives and processing aids listed in Schedule 4, or inputs listed in Schedule 6;
 - c) any dispensations approved, and how they have been used;
 - d) training records for personnel and contractors;
 - e) records of all activities performed by contractors, if relevant;
 - f) relevant records for the specific type of operations described in clauses 2.4.2 to 2.4.10;

- g) copy of any laboratory test results, including enough detail to identify the laboratory, and the method used;
 - h) annual pre-season estimates of products collected, harvested, produced, or processed; and
 - i) quantities of organic products sold or supplied, including date, product description, and client.
- (2) In addition to the record keeping requirements for all operators listed in subclause (1), for split production units, operators must also keep records of:
 - a) all organic and non-organic operations; and
 - b) quantities of organic products harvested, produced, processed or handled; and
 - c) quantities of non-organic products harvested, produced, processed or handled.
- (3) Operators must maintain adequate record keeping ensuring that products can be tracked through the operation and between operations.
- (4) Operators must keep these records for at least 5 years.
- (5) Importers and exporters do not need to meet the requirements in subclause (1)b), h) and i), but must meet all other requirements in subclause (1) to (4).

2.4.2 Plant production

- (1) In addition to the record keeping requirements for all operators listed in clauses 2.4.1(1) to (4), plant production operators must also keep records of:
 - a) purchase of inputs including date, origin, brand name (where relevant), quantity; and
 - b) use of inputs including brand name (where relevant), date of application, amount applied, reason and need for use, crop or area input is applied to; and
 - c) harvest details including date, type and amount of harvested products; and
 - d) propagation material and seeds harvested; and
 - e) crop rotation, if relevant.

2.4.3 Wild harvest

- (1) In addition to the record keeping requirements for all operators listed in clauses 2.4.1(1) to (4), wild harvest operators must keep records of:
 - a) species collected;
 - b) collection dates;
 - c) name of the person responsible for the collection; and
 - d) quantity harvested.
- (2) Where relevant, any environmental quality monitoring activities, including dates and as relevant observations or test results.

2.4.4 Livestock production

- (1) In addition to the record keeping requirements for all operators listed in clauses 2.4.1(1) to (4), operators must keep records required in clause 2.4.2 relating to pasture areas included in their OMP.
- (2) For animals brought onto the holding, the operator must document all of the following:
 - a) species and breed;
 - b) number of animals by age and sex;
 - c) name of the operation that supplied the animals;
 - d) date of arrival;
 - e) veterinary treatments received before stock enter into the holding;
 - f) current health and welfare status including lameness, broken tails and problems not previously treated in subclause (2)e); and
 - g) organic status and market access eligibility.

- (3) For livestock included in the OMP, the operator must keep records of all of the following:
- a) feed offered, including pasture and supplementary feed in clause 3.4.7(8) and 3.4.7(9);
 - b) access to free-range areas and movements from one grazing area to another;
 - c) health treatments including diagnosis, date of treatment, and veterinary medicines, and copies of the following as relevant:
 - i) for unrestricted veterinary medicines: product name, dosage, administration method, duration of treatment and withholding periods ACVM registration number; and
 - ii) for restricted veterinary medicines: a copy of the veterinary authorization.
 - d) livestock deaths and culls, with reasons where known; and
 - e) natural increase in herd size as a result of a breeding programme.
- (4) For animals leaving the holding, the operator must keep records of all of the following:
- a) species and breed;
 - b) number of animals by age, sex and weight, if relevant;
 - c) date of departure;
 - d) destination; and
 - e) organic status and market access eligibility.

2.4.5 Apiary production

- (1) In addition to the record keeping requirements for all operators listed in clauses 2.4.1(1) to (4), operators must keep records of all of the following:
- a) inventory of hives, queen bees and swarms;
 - b) data on any hive movements;
 - c) purchase of inputs including date, origin, brand name (where relevant), amount;
 - d) use of health treatments including brand name (where relevant), date of application, dosage, method, duration, reason for use, hives affected;
 - e) use of supplementary feeding including product type, brand name (where relevant), date of application, amount, reason, hives affected;
 - f) honey extraction details including dates, types, quantities and process used;
 - g) harvest details for any other apiary products; and
 - h) details of production of other apiary products including dates, types, quantities and process used.

2.4.6 Aquaculture production

- (1) For operations in coastal marine areas, in addition to the record keeping requirements for all operators listed in clauses 2.4.1(1) to (4), operators must keep records of all of the following:
- a) data obtained from environmental monitoring undertaken, including water temperature, oxygen content, pH;
 - b) origin of stock (juveniles and spat), including supplier details, date of arrival and any conversion periods;
 - c) locations and dates any wild bivalve molluscan shellfish (BMS) spat was seeded out;
 - d) purchase of inputs including supplier details, date, brand name (where relevant), amount;
 - e) disease prevention measures;
 - f) use of health treatments including brand name (where relevant), date of application, dosage, method, duration, reason for use, production units affected;
 - g) harvest details including dates, types, lot identifications, quantities and process used; and
 - h) facility and equipment cleaning and maintenance activities.
- (2) For operations breeding and growing BMS spat in land-based aquaculture facilities, in addition to the record keeping requirements for all operators listed in clauses 2.4.1(1) to (4), operators must keep records of all of the following:
- a) data obtained from environmental monitoring undertaken, including water temperature, oxygen content, pH;

- b) origin of stock (juveniles and spat), including supplier details, date of arrival and any conversion periods;
 - c) purchase of inputs including supplier details, date, brand name (where relevant), amount;
 - d) disease prevention measures including details for fallowing, and cleaning equipment;
 - e) use of health treatments including brand name (where relevant), date of application, dosage, method, duration, reason for use, production units affected;
 - f) use of techniques to manipulate light, temperature, oxygen levels, aeration, and the like;
 - g) spat deaths and culls, with reasons where known;
 - h) harvest details including dates, types, lot identifications, quantities and process used; and
 - i) facility and equipment cleaning and maintenance activities.
- (3) For relaying operations in land-based aquaculture facilities, in addition to the record keeping requirements for all operators listed in clauses 2.4.1(1) to (4), as relevant, operators must keep records of all of the following:
- a) data obtained from environmental monitoring undertaken, including water temperature, oxygen content, pH;
 - b) origin of BMS for relay, including supplier details, date of entry and exit;
 - c) purchase of inputs including supplier details, date, brand name (where relevant), amount;
 - d) use of health treatments including brand name (where relevant), date of application, dosage, method, duration, reason for use, production units affected;
 - e) use of techniques to manipulate light, temperature, oxygen levels, aeration, and the like;
 - f) BMS deaths and culls, with reasons where known;
 - g) harvest details including dates, types, lot identifications, quantities and process used; and
 - h) facility and equipment cleaning and maintenance activities.

2.4.7 Algae

- (1) For algae that are actively cultivated, in addition to the record keeping requirements for all operators listed in clauses 2.4.1(1) to (4), operators must keep records of all of the following:
- a) harvesting activity for each species, including dates, locations, and quantities;
 - b) environmental monitoring activities, including dates and as relevant: observations or test results; and
 - c) biodiversity and biomass estimates before and after harvest operations.
- (2) For collection of algae that are naturally growing, in addition to the record keeping requirements for all operators listed in clauses 2.4.1(1) to (4), operators must keep records of all of the following:
- a) species collected;
 - b) collection dates;
 - c) name of the person responsible for the collection; and
 - d) quantity harvested;
 - e) biodiversity and biomass estimates before and after harvest operations; and
 - f) any environmental quality monitoring activities, including dates and as relevant: observations or test results.

2.4.8 Mushroom production

- (1) Operators must keep records of all the requirements in 2.4.1 and 2.4.2.

2.4.9 Processing and handling

- (1) In addition to the record keeping requirements for all operators listed in clauses 2.4.1(1) to (4), operators must keep records of all of the following:
- a) inward raw materials, inputs and products, including quantities;
 - b) movement of any products to and from any third party packaging facilities;
 - c) outward products, including quantities;
 - d) sources and/or suppliers of raw materials; and

- e) customers, including customers organic certification and market eligibility details.

2.4.10 Alcoholic beverages

- (1) In addition to the record keeping requirements for all operators listed in clauses 2.4.1(1) to (4), operators must keep records of all of the following:
 - a) inward raw materials, inputs and products, including quantities;
 - b) movement of any product to and from any third-party packaging facilities;
 - c) outward products, including quantities;
 - d) sources and/or suppliers of raw materials; and
 - e) customers, including customers organic certification and market eligibility details.

2.4.11 Importing and exporting

- (1) Operators must keep records of all products under their control including type, quantity, labelling, certification history, and market access eligibility.
- (2) Operators must keep records of suppliers and customers.
- (3) Operators must keep records of organic product location and movements.
- (4) Operators must maintain records which ensure non-complying products are traceable after dispatch as required in clause 2.5.

2.5 Traceability

- (1) Products must be traceable from the primary producer to the point of export meaning that each operator must be able to document:
 - a) the quantities of all types of products produced by the operation; and
 - b) batch or lot identification, as relevant; and
 - c) where products and inputs have been sourced from, including details of the organic certification and supplier, as relevant; and
 - d) the market access eligibility and location of products while under their control; and
 - e) the first destination of the product after dispatch.

2.6 Contracted activities

- (1) Operators must have a written agreement in place with any contractors carrying out activities under the OMP.
- (2) The agreement must cover:
 - a) access to relevant contracted premises and facilities for the purpose of the OMP verification by the recognised agency; and
 - b) traceability procedures; and
 - c) procedures to protect the organic integrity of the product; and
 - d) record keeping of all activities performed on behalf of the operator.

2.7 Imported inputs to be used in products that will be exported

- (1) Operators using imported organic inputs in the production or processing of products must ensure that such inputs are in compliance with the relevant provisions of the OER: OMAR for the destination market.
- (2) Imported organic products trans-shipped through New Zealand are not eligible for official organic assurance.

2.8 Product identification and labelling

- (1) Product identification methods must ensure traceability in the supply chain from:
 - a) primary producer to the point of export, and
 - b) importer to the point of export.
- (2) The use of organic logos on any product requiring an official organic assurance must meet the importing markets requirements for use of that logo.
- (3) In all cases, organic label claims must clearly identify:
 - a) the recognised agency of the operator who has carried out the most recent preparation step of the product; and
 - b) the name or identification number of that operator.

Guidance

- All products must meet New Zealand labelling requirements first and foremost.
- Specific organic labelling requirements for different markets, including any use of logos, are set out in OER: OMARs.

2.9 Official organic assurances

- (1) Only products produced and handled in accordance with the relevant OER: OMAR may be eligible for export to the market covered by the OER: OMAR.

Guidance

- OER: OMARs can be found here:
[Requirement documents for exporting organics | NZ Government \(mpi.govt.nz\)](https://www.mpi.govt.nz/requirement-documents-for-exporting-organics/)
- Although product may comply with organic export requirements and be given an official assurance (where relevant, by way of an export certificate), the importing market ultimately retains control over what product is cleared for entry or allowed to be sold on the market as 'organic'.

- (2) Only operators that meet the requirements in clause 2.1(11)a) are eligible to export products with an official organic assurance.
- (3) To apply for an official organic assurance, a designated person that complies with clause 2.1(11)b) must:
 - a) apply in the manner designated by MPI;
 - b) demonstrate export eligibility of the products in the consignment and provide sufficient information about:
 - i) each product, and
 - ii) the supply chain.
 - c) provide any additional supporting documents specified in the relevant OER: OMAR;
 - d) complete any additional process steps specified in the relevant OER: OMAR;
 - e) sign a declaration confirming that products comply with OOAP requirements, including approved OMPs and the relevant OER: OMAR for the destination of the consignment; and
 - f) submit the completed application form and all supporting documents to the MPI Certification Unit.

Guidance

- The manner designated by MPI to request an official organic assurance is the official organic assurance application form that can be found on the MPI website at [Forms and templates for exporting organics | NZ Government \(mpi.govt.nz\)](https://www.mpi.govt.nz/forms-and-templates-for-exporting-organics/).

- The form includes general instructions and additional guidance on how to complete the application.
- Specific instructions and guidance, where relevant, may be found in the relevant OER: OMAR for the destination market.
- Manual, spreadsheet-based applications should be emailed to MPI Certification Unit on Organic.Certification@mpi.govt.nz.

- (4) Organic exporters must allow sufficient time for the application to be processed to enable official organic assurances to be issued before the consignment:
- a) leaves New Zealand – where required by the OER: OMAR; or
 - b) arrives at the export destination – where this is allowed by the OER: OMAR.

Guidance

- MPI will arrange for the recognised agency(s) to verify the export eligibility of the products in your consignment.
- MPI cannot issue the OOA if the respective recognised agency has not completed the verification.
- MPI will not issue an OOA if the recognised agency indicates that:
 - the products are not compliant with the OER: OMAR; or
 - there are known unresolved or un-controlled compliance issues from the last verification for any operator in the supply chain that would compromise the organic status of this consignment or its market access eligibility.
- As the time needed to complete export eligibility checks necessary to inform a decision to issue an official organic assurance differs according to product type and the complexity of the supply chain, exporters are recommended to contact the MPI Certification Unit or your recognised agency to discuss how much time is normal (sufficient).

- (5) When requesting a replacement (amended) official organic assurance, the exporter's designated person must contact the MPI Certification Unit via email on Organic.Certification@mpi.govt.nz and must provide them with the following information:
- a) the certificate number for the certificate that must be replaced;
 - b) the reason(s) a replacement certificate has been requested, including any evidence to support the change request;
 - c) the original hardcopy official organic assurance, where this has been physically issued;
 - d) the reason the original hardcopy certificate cannot be retrieved including evidence that the original certificate has either been:
 - i) given to a New Zealand embassy/consulate post; or
 - ii) given to another MPI office in New Zealand; or
 - iii) lost and cannot be used.
- (6) MPI may revoke an official organic assurance when any of the following situations occur:
- a) evidence demonstrates that the consignment does not comply with the OER: OMAR;
 - b) the official organic assurance contains incorrect information;
 - c) the official organic assurance was issued on the basis of fraudulent information; and
 - d) the requestor has advised the official organic assurance is no longer required.
- (7) Revoked official organic assurances that were issued in hardcopy must be returned to MPI or to a NZ embassy/consulate post.

2.10 Reporting to the recognised agency

- (1) Operators who produce or process products must make annual production volumes, including a breakdown by production unit, available to the recognised agency to enable the recognised agency to conduct an annual reconciliation of volumes of inputs brought into an operation, products produced by the operation, and products in compliance with OER: OPR leaving the operation.

- (2) Operators must notify the recognised agency of any non-compliance that might affect the organic status or the market access eligibility of the product as soon as practical.

2.11 Management of non-complying products

- (1) Operators must ensure that all products, including inputs, that are identified as non-compliant are isolated, appropriately labelled and secured against:
 - a) export with an official organic assurance; and
 - b) use as an input or ingredient in a processed product intended for export with an official organic assurance.
- (2) When an operator identifies an organic product as non-compliant, they must:
 - a) notify the recognised agency; and
 - b) locate all non-compliant product in the supply chain; and
 - c) notify any client(s) to whom non-compliant product has been dispatched; and
 - d) co-operate with the recognised agency in the investigation of the cause(s) of the non-compliance; and
 - e) co-operate with the recognised agency in recalling or relabelling non-compliant product if necessary.

Part 3: Technical Requirements

3.1 General

3.1.1 Inputs used in organic production

- (1) Unless specified otherwise in OER: OPR, operators must only use inputs listed in Schedules 1 to 4 and Schedule 6, and which have been approved by the recognised agency as part of the operator's OMP.
- (2) The use of all inputs must be in accordance with the conditions set in OER: OPR.

Guidance

- Recognised agencies can implement more restrictive conditions than set in OER: OPR. The operator must comply with whichever requirement is higher.

- (3) Operators must take reasonable steps to seek out and secure a reliable supply chain for organic inputs.

3.1.2 Pest management

- (1) Operators must implement suitable pest management measures.
- (2) Pest management practices must be based on the following order:
 - a) prevention; then
 - b) physical methods; then
 - c) non-physical methods approved by the recognised agency.
- (3) The performance of the measures in subclause (1) must be monitored and recorded.
- (4) Pest management must be performed in a way that does not compromise the organic integrity of the organic products.

3.1.3 Cleaning and sanitising

- (1) Operators must carry out cleaning and sanitising activities of product contact surfaces in a way that does not compromise the organic integrity of the organic products.
- (2) An intervening step must be performed between the use of cleaners and sanitisers on surfaces in contact with organic products. This intervening step must be sufficient to manage the risk of residues of cleaners or sanitisers being detected in organic products.
- (3) The performance of the activities in subclauses (1) and (2) must be monitored and recorded.
- (4) For organic production in aquatic environments, cleaners and sanitisers must not have adverse environmental effects.

Guidance

- Product contact surfaces include farm implements and machinery, transportation units for bivalve molluscan shellfish (BMS), food contact surfaces, and the like.
- If certified organic cleaning/sanitising products, such as alcohol, are available and fit for purpose, no intervening event may be necessary.
- Examples of intervening steps could include:
 - washing or rinsing contact surfaces to remove traces of cleaning products;
 - allowing time for the cleaning products to dissipate naturally; and

- for continuous production systems, where it is not possible or practical to stop production, consider flushing the system with a suitable buffer, or diverting the first portion of 'organic' product following the cleaning/sanitising activity to non-organic production lines.

3.1.4 Handling and packaging

- (1) Operators must implement procedures which segregate organic and non-organic products and prevent the contamination of organic products with non-organic products and prohibited substances.
- (2) Operators must use packaging that does not compromise the organic integrity of organic products.
- (3) Operators must not use or reuse packaging material unless such material has been thoroughly cleaned and poses no risk of compromising the organic integrity of organic products.
- (4) In the case of non-dedicated handling operations, operators must ensure that any products that do not comply with OER: OPR are stored and handled separately in place or time from organic products.
- (5) Storage and treatment techniques that modify or regulate atmosphere, temperature and humidity are allowed, provided they do not compromise the organic integrity of organic products.

3.1.5 General prohibitions

- (1) GMOs and their derivatives are prohibited, except for veterinary vaccine products.
- (2) Irradiation is prohibited for use as a treatment of organic products.

3.1.6 Emergency pest or disease treatment

- (1) Where a substance not permitted by OER: OPR has been used under legislative direction or a mandatory pest or disease treatment programme, operators must:
 - a) notify their recognised agency of the mandatory direction as soon as practicable; and
 - b) discuss, develop and document an appropriate risk mitigation plan with their recognised agency.
- (2) The recognised agency must make a decision regarding the on-going certification status of affected operations.
- (3) Following consultation with MPI, the recognised agency may allow products from affected operations to continue to be marketed as organic provided residues of the substance are not detectable.

3.2 Plant production

3.2.1 Conversion

- (1) The conversion period starts when the recognised agency first approves the operator's OMP showing how OER: OPR will be met.
- (2) The relevant provisions of OER: OPR must have been applied on the parcels of land during a period of:
 - a) at least 2 years before sowing; or
 - b) in the case of pasture, at least 2 years before any product is marketed as organic feed; or
 - c) in the case of perennial plants other than pasture, at least 3 years before the harvest of products to be exported with an official organic assurance.
- (3) The operator may apply to the recognised agency for approval, and the recognised agency must apply to MPI for authorisation, to recognise a period of time immediately prior to the start of the conversion period.
- (4) The maximum period that may be approved in subclause (3) is 12 months for annual crops and pasture, or one full growing cycle for perennial crops. All the following conditions must be met:

- a) the land has been:
 - i) a natural or fallow agricultural area; or
 - ii) under active organic management, and only inputs listed in Schedules 1 and 2 have been applied to the land; and
- b) the land has been under the oversight of a recognised agency for a period of 12 months from the lodgement of the OMP and a minimum of 2 onsite verifications have been completed; and
- c) the recognised agency is confident at the end of the 12-month period that the operator is able to comply with OER: OPR; and
- d) the recognised agency can prove that subclauses (4)a) to (4)c) have been met, by providing the following evidence:
 - i) sufficient evidence of the last date of application when prohibited substances were used; and
 - ii) the most recent recognised agency OMP verification report; and
 - iii) satisfactory soil test results for background contamination of persistent compounds; and
 - iv) any other relevant information requested by the recognised agency.

Guidance

- If soil test results indicate the presence of contamination with persistent compounds, an additional risk analysis will be needed to demonstrate that residues of compounds will not be detected in finished products.

- (5) Land that has been treated with a product not included in Schedule 2 as part of a mandatory pest or disease control scheme or, scientific tests approved by MPI, must be reconverted.
- (6) The operator may apply to the recognised agency for approval, and the recognised agency must apply to MPI for authorisation to reduce the reversion period in subclause (4) where it can be demonstrated that residues of the treatment substance will not be detected in products derived from the treated land or perennial crops. The maximum period that may be approved is 12 months for annual crops and pasture, or one full growing cycle for perennial crops.

Guidance

- The recognised agency may, in consultation with MPI, extend the conversion period in certain cases where the land has been contaminated with products that do not comply with OER: OPR.
- Once conversion is complete, organic operations should not switch back and forth between organic and conventional management.

3.2.2 Split production

- (1) Operators may manage split production holdings provided that:
 - a) the requirements in clauses 2.3.2(2) and 2.4.2 are met; and
 - b) different species or varieties of plants which are easily and obviously distinguishable are involved; and
 - c) the organic and non-organic units are managed separately; and
 - d) non-organic activities are separated in space or time from organic activities; and
 - e) handling and harvesting activities are carried out only after suitable cleaning of the equipment.

3.2.3 Soil fertility

- (1) The fertility of the soil must be maintained or improved by any combination of the following:
 - a) cultivation of green manures and appropriate crop rotation;
 - b) incorporation of animal manure and products from organic animal production, preferably composted; or

- c) incorporation of other (non-animal) material from organic production units, preferably composted.
- d) incorporation of beach cast seaweed that has been collected in compliance with relevant legislation.

Guidance

- Materials used for soil fertility should be used in compliance with the requirements under the ACVM Act 1997.
- Soil management practices should include tillage and cultivation practices that maintain or increase soil organic matter, biological activity, enhance soil stability and soil biodiversity prevent soil compaction and erosion.
- For perennial crops where a rotation is not possible, a diverse ecosystem should be created and maintained, for example by companion planting, under sowing, mixed cropping, creating wildlife refuges, and similar practises.

- (2) Where adequate soil fertility cannot be maintained by the methods set out in subclause (1), fertilisers and soil conditioners listed in Schedule 1 may be applied, as a complement to the methods in subclause (1).
- (3) Composts, soil conditioners and mulches must meet the physical, chemical and biological criteria set out in the current version of NZS 4454 (New Zealand Standard - Composts, Soil Conditioners and Mulches).
- (4) The use of manure and/or animal excrements collected and managed in accordance with the conditions in Schedule 1 must not result in an amount of nitrogen per hectare per year (N/ha/yr) exceeding any set limit and must not exceed 170 kg N/ha/year.
- (5) Synthetic nitrogen fertilisers are prohibited.
- (6) Hydroponic production methods are prohibited.

Guidance

- Where livestock are an integral part of the operation, Table 5.1 of Schedule 5 provides the recommended stocking density to facilitate meeting the requirement in subclause (4).

3.2.4 Seeds and vegetative propagating material

- (1) Seeds and vegetative propagation material must come from parent plants that have been produced in compliance with OER: OPR for at least 12 months before propagules are considered organic.
- (2) Seeds and vegetative propagating material produced in compliance with OER: OPR must be used, wherever possible.
- (3) Non-organic seed or vegetative propagating material may be used in the following order of preference only if seed or material produced in compliance with OER: OPR is not available, subject to the conditions in subclause (4):
 - a) first preference: untreated material from a production unit in conversion to organic farming; then
 - b) second preference: untreated non-organic material; then
 - c) third preference: non-organic material treated with a product listed in Schedule 2; then
 - d) final preference: with MPI authorisation, material treated to meet New Zealand import requirements.
- (4) The conditions for using non-organic seed or vegetative propagating material allowed in subclause (3) are:
 - a) operators must request recognised agency approval to use this material; and
 - b) operators must demonstrate to the recognised agency that material of a higher order of preference is not available; and

- c) operators must demonstrate to the recognised agency that access to this material is necessary for the continuity of production.
- (5) Edible sprouts must only be produced from seeds from certified organic plants.
- (6) Non-organic planting stock must be managed in compliance with OER: OPR for at least 12 months before harvested products can be exported with an official organic assurance.
- (7) Seeds and vegetative propagating material may temporarily be grown in containers, before transplanting for on growing to produce products that may be eligible for official organic assurances. This propagating material may be supplied to other operators participating in the OOAP.

3.2.5 Pest, disease and weed management

- (1) The operator must prevent crop pests, weeds, and diseases by using a combination of the following management practices:
 - a) crop rotation and soil and crop nutrient management practices; or
 - b) sanitation measures to remove disease vectors, weed seeds, and habitat for pest organisms; or
 - c) management practices which suppress the spread of disease organisms; or
 - d) selection of plant species and varieties with regard to the suitability of site-specific conditions and resistance to prevalent pests and diseases.
- (2) Pests, diseases and weeds may be controlled through a combination of any of the following measures:
 - a) biological control;
 - b) development of habitat for natural enemies of pests;
 - c) rotation programmes;
 - d) mechanical controls such as barriers, light and sound;
 - e) non synthetic repellents;
 - f) mechanical cultivation;
 - g) mulching with biodegradable materials;
 - h) mowing and hand weeding; or
 - i) grazing of animals.
- (3) Traps and dispensers may be used however it must be collected after use and disposed of safely. They must be designed in such a way to prevent any substances coming in contact with organic crops or being released into the environment.
- (4) Soil solarisation may be performed, provided any plastic is re-used and recycled responsibly once it has deteriorated beyond use.
- (5) Flame or steam weeding of emerged plants must be carried out using mobile units which minimise soil damage.
- (6) Products referred to in Schedule 2 may be used only when the appropriate measures in clause 3.2.5(1), (2) and (3) have failed.
- (7) The operator may exceed the limits for copper in Schedule 2 up to a maximum of 6 kg per ha in any one year. The operator must apply to the recognised agency for approval. Approval is subject to the following:
 - a) operator must provide information on the reason the increased limit is necessary; and
 - b) operator must demonstrate that alternative options are unavailable or will be ineffective; and
 - c) the average amount of copper used over a consecutive 5-year period, including the year the exceeded amount is approved, does not exceed 4 kg per ha per year.

3.3 Wild harvest

Guidance

- This section covers:
 - gathering of plants, plant products and fungi from the wild;
 - gathering of aquatic plants grown in the riparian zone where the land and water meet.
- This section does not cover:
 - wild collection of spat for aquaculture, refer to section 3.6;
 - algae production, refer to section 3.7; and
 - the collection of beach cast seaweed.
- Requirements for the following specific uses of beach cast seaweed can be found in clauses elsewhere in OER: OPR:
 - for use as a fertiliser or soil conditioners, refer to section 3.2 Plant Production;
 - for use as a supplementary feed, refer to clause 3.4.7(8) Feed;
 - for use in disease prevention and management, refer to clause 3.4.8(2) Health management.

- (1) Edible plants, plant products, including aquatic plants and fungi which have grown spontaneously in natural or agricultural areas, including aquatic plants growing in the riparian zone, may be eligible for an official organic assurance provided that:
 - a) the collection area is clearly defined; and
 - b) the operator managing the collection is clearly identified and familiar with the collection area; and
 - c) the collection area has not received any treatment with prohibited substances for a period of three years before products are gathered or collected; and
 - d) the collection area is at an appropriate distance from conventional farming, conventional farming run-off, pollution and contamination; and
 - e) the collection activity does not affect the stability of the natural habitat or the maintenance of the species in the collection area and does not damage the environment.

3.4 Livestock production

3.4.1 General

- (1) The use of livestock production systems which are not pasture based is prohibited.
- (2) Animals and animal products must be identified at all stages of their production, preparation, transportation and marketing.
- (3) Identification techniques must be appropriate to each species. Existing (permitted) animal identification formats already in use may be used.

Guidance

- Recommended best practice described in relevant Codes of Welfare issued under the Animal Welfare Act should be followed wherever practicable.

3.4.2 Split production

- (1) Operators may manage split production holdings provided that:
 - a) the requirements in clauses 2.3.4(2) and 2.4.4 are met; and
 - b) the non-organic animals are reared on units where the buildings and land parcels are clearly separated from the units where organic animals are reared; and
 - c) non-organic animals are visually different from animals raised in compliance with OER: OPR

- (2) Animals not reared in compliance with OER: OPR may use the pasture of complying organic units. The operator must apply to the recognised agency for approval. This approval is subject to the following conditions:
- animals that have been fed feed containing GMOs are quarantined for one week before being introduced to the organic unit; and
 - animals that have been treated with antibiotics are quarantined for a period of twice the label withholding period or, where this period is nil or is not specified, 48 hours; and
 - animals reared in compliance with OER: OPR are not present on this pasture at the same time.

Guidance

- The recognised agency may require reasonable quarantine measures for all animals brought into the unit from units not complying with OER: OPR, to manage the risk of introducing pests to the organic flock or herd.
- Consideration should also be given to the risk of introducing weed seeds to the organic production area.

3.4.3 Conversion of land**Guidance**

- The rules for conversion of land are covered in section 3.2.1 Conversion.

- (1) The conversion period for land used only for non-herbivores may be reduced. The operator must request recognised agency approval for this reduction in conversion period. The reduced conversion periods are:
- 12 months for pasture, open air runs and exercise areas; or
 - 6 months where the land has not been treated with products other than those allowed in Schedules 1 and 2, for the previous 12 months.

3.4.4 Conversion of animals

- (1) The conversion period starts when the recognised agency first approves the operator's OMP showing how OER: OPR will be met.
- (2) To be eligible for official organic assurance, animals must be reared according to OER: OPR for at least:
- 12 months in the case of equine, cervine, bovine and ratite species for meat production, and in any case at least three quarters of their lifetime; or
 - 6 months in the case of caprine, ovine and porcine species for meat production; or
 - 6 months in the case of bovine, caprine, ovine species for milk production; or
 - 10 weeks for poultry for meat production, brought in before they are 3 days old; or
 - 6 weeks in the case of poultry for egg production.
- (3) Animals and animal products produced during the conversion period must not be marketed as organic, with the exception of offspring born under simultaneous conversion as noted in clause 3.4.5 (3).

3.4.5 Simultaneous conversion of land and animals

- (1) The conversion period starts when the recognised agency first approves the operator's OMP showing how OER: OPR will be met.
- (2) Where the whole production unit is converted simultaneously, products from non-organic animals present on a holding at the beginning of the conversion period may be marketed as organic once the whole production unit has completed conversion.

- (3) The total combined conversion period for the existing animals, their offspring, pasturage, and any land used for animal feed production may be reduced to 24 months if the animals are predominantly fed with products from the same production unit.
- (4) Animals born during the conversion period under simultaneous conversion, can be marketed as organic when the 24 months conversion period is completed.

3.4.6 Origin of animals

- (1) The choice of breeds must take into account the capacity of animals to adapt to local conditions and the farming system, their vitality, and their resistance to disease.
- (2) Animals born and raised on fully converted production units in compliance with OER: OPR may be brought in.
- (3) Animals not complying with OER: OPR which were present on the production unit before the beginning of the conversion period can be converted. The operator must apply to the recognised agency for approval to convert these animals. The requirements in clause 3.4.4 must be met.
- (4) When a herd or flock is constituted for the first time, non-organically reared animals may be brought into an organic production unit, subject to the following conditions:
 - a) bovine, equine and cervine species must be reared according to OER: OPR as soon as they are weaned and must be less than six months old at the date on which they enter the herd; or
 - b) ovine and caprine species must be reared according to OER: OPR as soon as they are weaned and must be less than 60 days old at the date on which they enter the herd; or
 - c) porcine species must be reared according to OER: OPR as soon as they are weaned and weigh less than 35 kg at the date on which they enter the herd.
- (5) Poultry for egg production and meat production may be brought in, with recognised agency approval, subject to the following conditions:
 - a) the animals are less than 3 days old; and
 - b) the operator can show that organically reared animals are not available in sufficient numbers.
- (6) Non-organic adult male and nulliparous female mammals may be brought on to an organic unit to renew a livestock herd. The operator must apply to the recognised agency for approval to bring on these animals. This approval is subject to the following conditions:
 - a) organically reared animals are not available in sufficient numbers; and
 - b) for production units with 10 or more animals, the number of female mammals is limited to an annual maximum of:
 - i) 10 % of adult bovine, equine or cervine animals; or
 - ii) 20 % of the adult porcine, ovine or caprine animals.
 - c) for production units with less than 10 equine, bovine or cervine animals, or with less than five porcine, ovine or caprine animals, any renewal is limited to a maximum of one animal per year; and
 - d) livestock must undergo the conversion periods in 3.4.4; and
 - e) non-organic adult male mammals brought in for breeding purposes must be managed in accordance with OER: OPR while they are on the organic property; and
 - f) the use of this clause must be kept to a minimum and be limited in time.

Guidance

- The recognised agency may require reasonable quarantine measures for all animals brought into the unit from units not complying with OER: OPR to manage the risk of introducing pests to the organic flock or herd.

- (7) The maximum percentage of non-organic nulliparous female mammals in subclause (6)b) may be increased to 40 %. The operator must apply to the recognised agency for approval to utilise this

maximum percentage. The recognised agency must apply to MPI for authorisation for the increase, and this will only be considered in the following cases:

- a) when a major extension to the farm is undertaken; or
 - b) when a breed is changed; or
 - c) when a new animal specialisation is being developed.
- (8) A herd or flock may be renewed or reconstituted with non-organic animals where health or adverse events cause high mortality of animals. Operators must apply to the recognised agency for approval to renew or reconstitute the herd or flock. The recognised agency must apply to MPI for authorisation for these animals. The operator must demonstrate that:
- a) organically reared animals are not commercially available; and
 - b) this is a temporary measure necessary to ensure access to live animals.

Guidance

- The recognised agency, in consultation with MPI, may set a time frame within which this approval and authorisation must be used.

3.4.7 Feed

- (1) To be eligible for Official Organic Assurance Programme livestock must be fed organic feed.
- (2) In-conversion feeds may be included in the feed ration. The operator must apply to the recognised agency for approval as follows:
 - a) up to 30 % of the feed ration, where organic feed is unavailable; or
 - b) up to 100 %, where organic feed is not available, provided this comes from within the same organic unit.
- (3) Animals of all ages must receive sufficient quantities of organic feed and nutrients to enable each animal to:
 - a) maintain good health; and
 - b) meet their physiological requirements; and
 - c) minimise metabolic and nutritional disorder.
- (4) When the body condition score of any animal falls below the species appropriate score as described in any relevant Codes of Welfare, urgent remedial action must be taken to improve condition.
- (5) Feeding must be managed so that any injury and/or conditions resulting in ill health, as a consequence of the feed or feeding methods are minimised.
- (6) Feed must come from the same organic unit or, when this is not possible, from other operations complying with OER: OPR.
- (7) For herbivores, at least 60 % of the feed must come from the organic unit itself.
- (8) The following feed materials and feed additives may be used as supplementary feed:
 - a) non-organic spices, herbs and molasses, up to 1 % of the feed ration calculated annually as a percentage of dry matter of feed from agricultural origin; and
 - b) products from sustainable fisheries, subject to the following conditions:
 - i) they are processed without the use of chemical solvents; and
 - ii) their use is restricted to non-herbivores; and
 - iii) the use of fish protein hydrolysate is restricted solely to young animals.
 - c) commercially processed beach cast seaweed, subject to the following conditions:
 - i) microbiological and chemical hazards at the point of harvesting and processing are identified and managed; and
 - ii) only fit for purpose beach cast seaweed is processed.

Guidance

- If the collection area has already been subject to an assessment under relevant legislative requirements that address the factors in subclause 3.4.7(8)c)i), the outcome of the most recent assessment may be used to demonstrate compliance with this clause.
- Fit for purpose beach cast seaweed is:
 - collected when and where the risk of contamination is low;
 - collected in line with collection requirements under the Fisheries Act 1996;
 - demonstrated to be fit for the intended purpose; and
 - of a consistent quality.
- Products made using fit for purpose beach cast seaweed should be made and used in compliance with the requirements under the ACVM Act 1997.

d) salt as sea salt or rock salt.

- (9) The feed materials and feed additives in Schedule 3 may only be used for the function and under the specific conditions listed.
- (10) Synthetically derived vitamins A, D and E may be used for ruminants. Operators must apply to the recognised agency for approval, and the recognised agency must apply to MPI for authorisation for the use of these vitamins. The operator must demonstrate that:
 - a) the health and welfare of the animals cannot be guaranteed without their use; and
 - b) they are identical to non-synthetic vitamins.
- (11) The feeding of young mammals must be based on natural milk, preferably maternal milk. All mammals must be fed on natural milk for a minimum period, depending on the species concerned:
 - a) 90 days for bovine, cervine, and equine species; or
 - b) 45 days for ovine and caprine species; or
 - c) 40 days for porcine species.
- (12) If young mammals require feed from sources other than natural milk to meet subclause (3), this feed must be provided.
- (13) Operators may request recognised agency approval to reduce the period for which young mammals must be fed natural milk where the rearing systems use supplementary feed in the form of fresh and dry grass as well as milk.
- (14) Feeding systems for herbivores must be based on maximum use of grazing according to the availability of pastures in the different periods of the year, except where restricting an animal to feed on pasture alone does not meet the requirements of subclause (3).

Guidance

- Use of feedlots for organic production systems should not be allowed because these are not considered to be a 'pasture based' system.

- (15) At least 60 % of the dry matter in daily rations of herbivores must consist of roughage, fresh or dried fodder, or silage.
- (16) Operators may request recognised agency approval for a reduction in use of grazing to 50 % for animals in dairy production for a maximum period of 90 days in early lactation to allow an increase in supplementary feed with materials listed in subclause (8).
- (17) For porcine species and poultry, a limited proportion of non-organic protein feed of agricultural origin may be used where organic protein feed is not available on the market. Operators must apply to the recognised agency for approval, and the recognised agency must apply to MPI for authorisation to use this feed. Use of this feed will be subject to the following conditions:

- a) such dispensations must be kept to a minimum, and must be limited in time; and
- b) non-organic feed materials must not be produced or prepared with the use of chemical solvents; and
- c) the maximum percentage of conventional protein feed authorised per 12-month period is 5 %. These figures must be calculated annually as a percentage of the dry matter of feed from agricultural origin.

(18) Operators must have contingency plans in place for normal variations in climatic conditions.

Guidance

- Normal variations in climatic conditions are those that do not cause MPI to declare an adverse event.

- (19) Non-organic feeds may be used for a limited period, in a specified area. Operators must apply to the recognised agency for approval, and the recognised agency must apply to MPI for authorisation to use these non-organic feeds. Use of this feed will be subject to the following conditions:
- a) forage production is lost as a result of an adverse event as declared by MPI; and
 - b) the health of the animals is at risk.
- (20) Where porcine species and poultry are housed, roughage, fresh or dried fodder, or silage must be added to the daily ration.
- (21) Animals being moved on foot from one grazing area to another may graze on non-organic land, provided this is kept to a minimum.
- (22) Force-feeding and feed deprivation are prohibited.
- (23) Antibiotics, coccidiostats, medicinal substances, growth promoters or any other synthetic substance intended to stimulate growth or production must not be used in organic feed.

3.4.8 Health management

- (1) Operators must have effective preventative measures in place to minimise the occurrence of diseases.
- (2) Disease prevention and management of parasite populations must be based on the following principles:
- a) selection of appropriate breeds or strains; and
 - b) application of animal husbandry practices appropriate to the requirements of each species; and
 - c) handling that minimises stress; and
 - d) use of high-quality feedstock, including:
 - i) mixed species pasture; and
 - ii) rotational grazing; and
 - iii) mineral supplements where necessary;
 - e) allowance for regular exercise and access to grazing; and
 - f) appropriate density to avoid overstocking; and
 - g) adequate housing maintained in hygienic conditions, including clean bedding.
 - h) use of commercially processed products made from beach cast seaweed, subject to the following conditions:
 - i) microbiological and chemical hazards at the point of harvesting and processing are identified and managed; and
 - ii) only fit for purpose beach cast seaweed is processed.

Guidance

- Herbal and homeopathic preparations may be used to support animal health and welfare subject to compliance with relevant legislation.

- If the collection area for beach cast seaweed has already been subject to an assessment under relevant legislation requirements that address the factors in subclause (2)d)i), that assessment may be used to demonstrate compliance with this clause.
- Fit for purpose beach cast seaweed is:
 - collected when and where the risk of contamination is low;
 - collected in line with collection requirements under the Fisheries Act 1996;
 - demonstrated to be fit for the intended purpose; and
 - of a consistent quality.
- Products made using fit for purpose beach cast seaweed should be made and used in compliance with the requirements under the ACVM Act 1997.

- (3) Where ill-health or injury is identified, appropriate remedial action must be taken. Professional advice must be sought where there is any significant injury or disease, or if a problem persists.
- (4) Treatment must not be withheld where it will result in unnecessary pain and suffering of the livestock, even if this will result in the animal losing its organic status.
- (5) Non-synthetic remedies must be used in preference, provided that their therapeutic effect is effective for the species of animal, and the condition for which the treatment is intended.
- (6) If non-synthetic remedies are not effective, veterinary medicines, may be used, as follows:
 - a) for restricted veterinary medicines: by authorization of a veterinarian; and
 - b) for unrestricted veterinary medicines: under the supervision of a veterinarian or a qualified person.

Guidance

- Only veterinary medicines that are registered for use in New Zealand under the ACVM Act 1997 or are exempt from registration may be used.
- Examples of restricted veterinary medicines include antibiotics, pain relief, etc.
- Examples of unrestricted veterinary medicines include antimicrobials, teat sanitisers, etc.

- (7) Hormones may be administered to individual animals under the responsibility of a veterinarian, and only for therapeutic purposes.
- (8) Mandatory veterinary medicines must be administered when a disease risk has been identified as present in a specific area in which the production unit is located.
- (9) Treated animals must be clearly identified, individually where possible or by batch in the case of poultry. Existing animal identification formats may be used.
- (10) The withholding period applied must be twice the label withholding period or, where this period is nil or is not specified, 48 hours.
- (11) Animals that receive more than the following maximum number of courses of treatment with registered veterinary medicines based on productive lifecycle are not eligible for official organic assurances:
 - a) for animals with a productive lifecycle greater than one year: three courses of treatment within one year; or
 - b) for animals with a productive lifecycle less than one year: one course of treatment.

Guidance

- For restricted veterinary medicines a single course of treatment is the period of treatment the veterinary medicine is to be used for, as specified by the authorising veterinarian.
- For unrestricted veterinary medicines a single course treatment is the period of treatment as specified on the approved product label.

- (12) Animals that have received more than the number of treatments specified in subclause (11) must be reconverted in accordance with clause 3.4.4(2) if they are to remain in the organic flock or herd.
- (13) The following treatments are excluded from the number of treatments counted in subclause (11):
 - a) treatments for parasites, subject to the operator demonstrating that the following are not sufficient to manage parasite populations:
 - i) the preventive measures described in subclause (1); and
 - ii) the principles described in subclause (2).
 - b) mandatory vaccinations; and
 - c) treatments under compulsory eradication schemes.
- (14) The use of synthetic veterinary medicines or antibiotics for preventive treatments is prohibited.
- (15) The use of substances to promote growth or production, including antibiotics, coccidiostats and other artificial aids for growth promotion purposes, is prohibited.
- (16) The use of hormones or similar substances to control reproduction (for example, induction or synchronisation of oestrus) is prohibited.

Guidance

- Where it is necessary to cull an animal, the animal should be humanely destroyed following the recommended best practice in the relevant Codes of Welfare.

3.4.9 Breeding

- (1) Reproduction of organically reared animals must be based on natural methods.
- (2) Artificial insemination using species appropriate methods is permitted.
- (3) Hormones must not be used to control reproduction.
- (4) Other forms of artificial or assisted reproduction (for example embryo transfers) are prohibited.

3.4.10 Painful husbandry procedures

- (1) Painful husbandry procedures may be used. The operator must apply to the recognised agency for approval to carry out these procedures. Use of these procedures will be subject to the following conditions:
 - a) they are allowed under relevant Codes of Welfare; and
 - b) they are carried out in accordance with any recommended best practise described in relevant Codes of Welfare.

3.4.11 Access to pasture and free-range areas**Guidance**

- New Zealand's sheep, dairy and beef cattle farming systems are primarily based on year-round grazing on pastures, avoiding the need for housing.

- (1) Animals must have access to an outdoor area or pasture.
- (2) Herbivores must have access to grazing whenever weather conditions and the state of the ground allow.
- (3) Outdoor stocking densities must be appropriate to:
 - a) the species concerned, their stage of development and their behavioural needs; and
 - b) ensure integrated management of livestock and crop production on the production unit; and
 - c) avoid problems of over-grazing and soil erosion; and

- d) meet the nitrogen limit in clause 3.2.3(4).
- (4) Any form of pollution, in particular of the soil, and of surface and ground water, must be minimised.
- (5) Free-range, open-air exercise areas, or open-air runs must provide sufficient protection against rain, wind, sun and extreme temperatures, appropriate for the local weather conditions and the breed concerned.
- (6) Where animal manure is collected for spreading on the holding, storage facilities for animal manure must be designed in such a way as to prevent pollution of the soil and water. They must have the capacity necessary for the entire period they are required.

3.4.12 Housing

- (1) Livestock may be temporarily confined during periods of inclement weather when their health, safety or welfare could be jeopardised.
- (2) Housing conditions for animals must follow the recommended best practise in relevant Codes of Welfare.
- (3) Stocking densities in buildings must follow the recommended best practise in relevant Codes of Welfare.
- (4) Minimum surface areas for indoor and outdoor areas and other housing characteristics for different classes and species of livestock are set out in Tables 5.2 and 5.3 of Schedule 5.
- (5) Animal buildings, installations, equipment and utensils must be properly cleaned and sanitised to prevent infection and the build-up of disease-carrying organisms.
- (6) Faeces, urine and uneaten or spilt feed must be managed to preserve health and welfare, minimise smell and to avoid attracting insects or rodents.
- (7) For mammalian species:
 - a) animal housing must have smooth, but not slippery floors. At least half of the total floor area must be solid, not of slatted or of grid construction. Slatted or grid areas must not be made of materials that could cause damage to the feet of the animal; and
 - b) animal housing must have a clean and dry laying/rest area of sufficient size. Ample dry bedding strewn with litter material must be provided in the rest area. The litter must comprise straw or other suitable natural material; and
 - c) the litter may be improved and enriched with any mineral product listed in Schedule 1; and
 - d) edible bedding materials must be produced in compliance with OER OPR.
- (8) Rodenticides (in traps only), and the products listed in Schedule 2, can be used for the control of pests in buildings and other installations where livestock is kept.

3.4.13 Transport and slaughter

- (1) Transport of livestock must follow the recommended best practise in relevant Codes of Welfare.
- (2) The use of any type of electrical stimulation to coerce livestock is prohibited.
- (3) The use of any tranquilliser before, and during transport, is prohibited, unless withholding tranquilliser compromises the animal's welfare.
- (4) The slaughter of livestock must follow species specific minimum standards for animal welfare and any recommended best practises set down in relevant Codes of Welfare.

3.4.14 Specific rules for bovine production

- (1) Farming of bovine livestock must comply with the following requirements in addition to the requirements in clause 3.4.1 to 3.4.13.

- (2) Only the final fattening phase of adult bovines for meat production may take place indoors, provided that this indoors period does not exceed one fifth of their lifetime, and in any case only for a maximum period of 90 days.

Guidance

- Recommended stocking densities for bovine species can be found in Table 5.2.
- Dairy production includes milking sheds and storing of raw milk before transport.
- Dairy production does not include processing raw milk into dairy products.
- There are no additional specific rules for bovine production.

3.4.15 Specific rules for ovine production

- (1) Farming of ovine livestock must comply with the following requirements in addition to the requirements in clause 3.4.1 to 3.4.13.
- (2) Wool produced within the framework of the OOAP, the ovine species must:
- a) have been managed in accordance with OER: OPR for at least six months before shearing; and
 - b) not have received treatments for external parasites in the previous three months.
- (3) Where ovine livestock must be transported to shearing facilities, the requirements of clause 3.4.13 must be met.
- (4) Where ovine livestock must be transported to non-organic properties for shearing, the following conditions apply:
- a) provisions must be made to ensure sufficient organic feed is provided; and
 - b) animals not reared in compliance with OER: OPR are not present at the same time.

Guidance

- Recommended stocking densities for sheep can be found in Table 5.2.
- Dairy production includes milking sheds and storing of raw milk before transport.
- Dairy production does not include processing raw milk into dairy products.
- There are no additional specific rules for production of meat or milk or wool.

3.4.16 Specific rules for caprine production

- (1) Farming of caprine livestock must comply with the following requirements in addition to the requirements in clause 3.4.1 to 3.4.13.

Guidance

- Recommended stocking densities for goats can be found in Table 5.2.
- Dairy production includes milking sheds and storing of raw milk before transport.
- Dairy production does not include processing raw milk into dairy products.
- There are no additional specific rules for goat production.

3.4.17 Specific rules for porcine production

- (1) Farming of porcine livestock must comply with the following requirements in addition to the requirements in clauses 3.4.1 to 3.4.13.
- (2) At least 30 % of the feed shall come from the organic unit itself.
- (3) Sows must be kept in groups, except in the last stages of pregnancy and during the suckling period.
- (4) Sows in the last stages of pregnancy and during the suckling period must be able to move freely in the pen and movement may only be restricted for short periods.

- (5) Exercise areas must permit dunging and rooting by the animals.

Guidance

- Recommended stocking densities for pigs can be found in Table 5.2.

3.4.18 Specific rules for cervine production

- (1) Farming of cervine livestock must comply with the following requirements in addition to the requirements in clauses 3.4.1 to 3.4.13.

Guidance

- Recommended stocking densities for deer can be found in Table 5.3.
- There are no additional specific rules for deer production.

3.4.19 Specific rules for equine production

- (1) Farming of equine livestock must comply with the following requirements in addition to the requirements in clauses 3.4.1 to 3.4.13.

Guidance

- Recommended stocking densities for horses can be found in Table 5.2.
- There are no additional specific rules for equine livestock production.

3.4.20 Specific rules for avian production

- (1) Poultry must be reared in free-range conditions.
- (2) Poultry must have access to outdoor runs whenever weather conditions allow and must have such access for at least one-third of their life.
- (3) Waterfowl must have access to water bodies such as streams, ponds or lakes.
- (4) Buildings for poultry must meet all the following minimum conditions:
- at least one third of the floor area must be solid, that is, not of slatted or of grid construction, and covered with a litter material such as straw, wood shavings, sand or turf;
 - any slatted or grid areas must not be made of materials that could cause damage to the feet of the poultry;
 - any edible litter materials must be produced in compliance with OER: OPR ;
 - poultry houses for laying hens must include a surface for pecking and scratching, a secluded rest area and sufficient floor area for the collection of bird droppings;
 - buildings must have perches of a size and number appropriate for the size of the group, and not less than the minimum set in Table 5.4 of Schedule 5;
 - buildings must have openings that are wide enough to enable birds to freely move to and from the outdoors at all times without the risk of smothering or injury;
 - each building (fixed housing) must not exceed 600 m²;
 - each mobile house must not exceed 150 m²; and
 - the density in each poultry house must be adequate for birds to exhibit their natural behaviour, and in any case, not be less than the minimum set in Table 5.4 of Schedule 5.
- (5) Natural light may be supplemented by artificial means to provide a maximum of 16 hours light per day with a continuous nocturnal rest period without artificial light of at least eight hours.
- (6) Outdoor runs must:
- be covered mainly with vegetation; and
 - provide protective facilities; and

- c) permit animals to have easy access to adequate water and food.
- (7) Between batches of poultry:
 - a) buildings must be emptied of animals; and
 - b) buildings and fittings must be cleaned and sanitised; and
 - c) outdoor runs must be left empty to allow vegetation to grow back.
- (8) The requirements in subclause (7) do not apply where poultry are not reared in batches, are not kept in runs and are free to roam throughout the day.

3.4.21 Specific rules for ratite production

- (1) Farming of ratite livestock must comply with the following requirements in addition to the requirements in 3.4.1 to 3.4.13.

Guidance

- There are no additional specific rules for ratite production.

3.5 Apiary production

3.5.1 Characteristics of hives and materials used in beekeeping

- (1) Hives must be made of natural materials presenting no risk of contamination to the environment or the apiary products.
- (2) Only natural products may be used in the hives, with the exception of the synthetic products listed in clause 3.5.7(7).
- (3) Beeswax for new foundations must come from organic production units.
- (4) Beeswax from non-organic production units may be used for new installations or during the conversion period. The operator must apply to the recognised agency for approval to use this beeswax. This approval is subject to the following conditions:
 - a) organically produced beeswax is not available on the market; and
 - b) the non-organic wax is free of contamination by substances not complying with OER: OPR; and
 - c) the non-organic wax comes only from the cap.
- (5) The protection of frames, hives and combs from pests, must be done in accordance with clause 3.1.2.

Guidance

- Physical treatments such as steam or direct flame may be used.

3.5.2 Conversion

- (1) The conversion period starts when the recognised agency first approves the operator's OMP showing how OER: OPR will be met.
- (2) The hives must be managed in compliance with OER: OPR for at least 12 months.
- (3) The wax must be replaced as set out in clause 3.5.1(3).

3.5.3 Split production

- (1) Operators may run organic and non-organic beekeeping units in the same holding for the purpose of pollination activities provided that:
 - a) the requirements in clauses 2.3.5(2) and 2.4.5 are met; and
 - b) organic and non-organic honey hives must be easily and obviously distinguishable.

3.5.4 Origin of the bees

- (1) The ability of bees to adapt to local conditions, their vitality and their resistance to pests and diseases must be taken into account when choosing a breed.
- (2) Apiaries must be established by one of the following methods:
 - a) division of existing colonies managed in compliance with OER: OPR; or
 - b) acquisition of swarms; or
 - c) hives from apiaries managed in compliance with OER: OPR.
- (3) Existing apiaries in the production unit that have not been managed in compliance with OER: OPR may be converted. The operator must apply to the recognised agency for approval to convert these apiaries. The requirements in clause 3.5.2 must be met.
- (4) For the renewal of the organic apiaries, 10 % per year of the queen bees and swarms may be replaced by queen bees and swarms not complying with OER: OPR. The queen bees and swarms must be placed in hives with combs or comb foundations coming from units in compliance with OER: OPR. In this case, the conversion period does not apply.
- (5) Organic apiaries may be re-established with non-organic bees. The operator must apply to the recognised agency for approval, and the recognised agency must apply to MPI for authorisation to use these non-organic bees. The operator must demonstrate that:
 - a) organic apiaries are not available and high mortality of bees was caused by health or adverse events; and
 - b) this dispensation is necessary to allow organic production to continue or recommence; and
 - c) use of this dispensation is kept to a minimum and is limited in time.

3.5.5 Location of the apiaries

- (1) Apiaries must not be sited in areas that are potential sources of contamination with substances not permitted in OER: OPR.

Guidance

- Beekeeping in compliance with OER: OPR may not be practicable in some areas.

- (2) During the nectar or honeydew flow period the location of apiaries must:
 - a) ensure enough natural nectar, honeydew, pollen sources and access to water; and
 - b) ensure that nectar and pollen sources within a 3 km radius of the apiary site consists essentially of:
 - i) organic crops; or
 - ii) spontaneous vegetation; or
 - iii) non-organic crops treated with low environmental impact methods.

3.5.6 Feed

- (1) At the end of the productive season, hives must be left with sufficient reserves of honey and pollen to survive the dormant period until the start of the next nectar or honeydew flow period.
- (2) Organic honey, organic molasses or organic sugar may be used as supplementary feed for bee colonies during the dormant period after the end of the productive season, and, where the survival of the hives is endangered. The operator must apply to the recognised agency for approval to use this supplementary feed.

Guidance

- This supplementary feeding provision is restricted to the dormant (non-productive) season. That is, from the end of the last honey harvest after honey supers have been removed until the beginning of the following nectar/honeydew flow period and before honey supers are placed onto the hive.

- (3) Supplementary feed products other than organic honey, organic pollen, or organic sugar must not be used.
- (4) Organic honey, organic pollen or organic sugar may be used as supplementary feed where adverse events hamper normal nectar or honeydew flow. Operators must apply to the recognised agency for approval, and the recognised agency must apply to MPI for authorisation to use this supplementary feed. Honey from this production season is not eligible for official organic assurance.
- (5) For organic queen bee production, operators may request recognised agency approval for the feeding of organic sugars for temporary periods throughout the year when survival of the nucleus beehive is endangered. Where this practice is used between the start of the nectar or honeydew flow period and the end of the production season, honey from these hives is not eligible for an official organic assurance.

3.5.7 Health management

- (1) Operators must have preventative measures in place to minimise the occurrence of disease.
- (2) Disease prevention must be based on the following principles:
 - a) the selection of appropriate breeds taking into account their capacity to adapt to local conditions, their vitality, their resistance to disease; and
 - b) the application of management practices encouraging strong resistance to disease and the prevention of infections.

Guidance

- Management practices may include:
 - renewal of queen bees;
 - systematic inspection of hives to detect any health anomalies;
 - control of drone brood in the hive;
 - monitoring the level of *Varroa destructor* in hives, and efficacy of any treatments used;
 - cleaning and sanitising of materials and equipment at regular intervals;
 - destruction of contaminated materials or sources;
 - regular brood comb replacement and renewal of beeswax;
 - sufficient reserves of pollen and honey in hives;
 - use of entrance reducers during robbing season(s) to minimise potential spread of disease; and
 - moving diseased hives to isolated areas/quarantine apiaries, if necessary.

- (3) Where preventive measures are insufficient and the colonies become sick or infested, they must be treated immediately.
- (4) Non-synthetic remedies must be used in preference, provided that their therapeutic effect is effective for the condition for which the treatment is intended.
- (5) If non-synthetic remedies are not effective, veterinary medicines may be used, as follows:
 - a) for restricted veterinary medicines: by authorisation of a veterinarian; and
 - b) for unrestricted veterinary medicines: under the supervision of a veterinarian or a qualified person.
- (6) Hives treated with veterinary medicines must:
 - a) be placed in quarantine apiaries; and

- b) be reconverted following the conditions outlined in clause 3.5.2.
- (7) Any of the following substances may be used in cases of infestation with *Varroa destructor*:
 - a) acetic acid;
 - b) formic acid;
 - c) lactic acid;
 - d) oxalic acid;
 - e) natural oils (menthol, thymol, eucalyptol or camphor); or
 - f) organic icing sugar.
- (8) Organic icing sugar for the control of *Varroa destructor* must not be used between the start of the nectar or honeydew flow period and the end of the active production season.
- (9) The practice of destroying the drone brood is permitted only to reduce the infestation of *Varroa destructor*.

3.5.8 Husbandry practices

- (1) Mutilation, such as clipping the wings of queen bees, is not permitted.
- (2) The replacement of the queen bees by killing of the old queen is permitted.

3.5.9 Honey harvesting and extraction

- (1) The use of synthetic repellents is not permitted during honey extraction operations.
- (2) The destruction of bees in the combs as a method associated with the harvesting of bee products is not permitted.
- (3) Combs containing brood must not be used for honey extraction.

3.6 Aquaculture production

Guidance

- This section covers:
 - growing Greenshell™ Mussels (*Perna canaliculus*) and Pacific Oysters (*Crassostrea gigas*) in coastal marine areas; and
 - breeding and growing bivalve molluscan shellfish spat in land-based aquaculture facilities.
- This section does not cover:
 - cultivation and collection of algae in coastal marine areas, refer to section 3.7.

3.6.1 General

- (1) The environmental conditions of the operation and its surrounds must be monitored before, during and after production activities.
- (2) Operators must take verifiable and effective measures to minimise the release of excess nutrients and waste into the aquatic ecosystem.
- (3) Biofouling should be managed in such a way as to reduce risks to the surrounding environment. Exclusion and physical removal methods are preferred. Products referred to in Schedule 6 may be used only when exclusion or physical removal measures are not practicable.

Guidance

- Use of polyculture production techniques is encouraged.
- Where possible, the use of any external energy should be limited to energy from renewable sources (thermal, wind, solar, wave, etc.).
- Consideration should be given to the impact on any local species of conservation interest.

3.6.2 Location of aquaculture production units

- (1) Aquaculture production units must not be sited in areas that are potential sources of contamination with substances not permitted in OER: OPR.

Guidance

- Aquaculture in compliance with OER: OPR may not be practicable in some areas if the risk of contamination with substances not permitted in OER: OPR is assessed to be too high.

3.6.3 Characteristics of facilities

- (1) Construction materials and production equipment must not contain compounds that could detrimentally affect the surrounding environment or compromise the organic integrity of the organic product.
- (2) Facilities, structures, and equipment must be designed and constructed in a way to minimise negative environmental impacts.
- (3) Facilities and equipment must be maintained in good condition and repaired or replaced when necessary.
- (4) Only substances for cleaning and disinfection of equipment and facilities that are fit for purpose, will not result in detectable residues in organic products, and will not detrimentally impact the wider aquatic environment are allowed.

3.6.4 Split production

- (1) Operators may run organic and non-organic aquaculture production units in the same operation, provided that:
 - a) the requirements in clauses 2.3.6(2) and 2.4.6 are met; and
 - b) organic and non-organic aquaculture production units must be easily and obviously distinguishable; and
 - c) a suitable buffer zone is maintained between organic and non-organic operations.

Guidance

- For coastal marine water-based operations, the topographical location including the influence of water currents and tidal cycles should be taken into consideration, to ensure suitable separation between the organic and non-organic production sites.

3.6.5 Conversion

- (1) The conversion period starts when the recognised agency first approves the operator's OMP showing how OER: OPR will be met.
- (2) To be eligible for official organic assurances, aquaculture animals must be managed in accordance with OER: OPR for at least:
 - a) one production cycle for aquaculture animals whose production cycle is less than one year; or
 - b) 12 months, or at least three quarters of the production cycle, for aquaculture animals whose production cycle is longer than one year; or

- c) at least two thirds of the production cycle or 90 % of the biomass for brought in breeding stock, juveniles or spat.

3.6.6 Origin of aquaculture animals

- (1) The choice of breeds must take into account the capacity of animals to adapt to local conditions and the production system, their vitality, and their resistance to disease.
- (2) When introducing non-native species, special care must be taken to avoid permanent disruption to natural ecosystems.

Guidance

- The recognised agency may require reasonable quarantine measures for all animals brought into the unit from units not complying with OER: OPR, to manage the risk of introducing pests.

3.6.7 Reproduction

- (1) Natural breeding methods which minimally interfere with the natural behaviour of the cultivated species must be used, as far as these are practicable.

3.6.8 Health management

- (1) Operators must have preventative measures in place to minimise the occurrence of diseases.

Guidance

- Note that the operator's biosecurity risk management plan will include assessment and management of pathways for disease incursion, including risks associated with people, stock, equipment, trucks and vessels, wildlife, water and feed.
- Disease prevention is based on the following principles:
 - using hardy breeds and strains that are resistant to disease;
 - good location and design of the operations; and
 - application of good husbandry and management practices.

3.6.9 Stocking densities

- (1) Stocking densities should be reflective of the natural behaviour of the species.

3.6.10 Specific rules for bivalve molluscan shellfish (BMS) in coastal marine waters

- (1) Specific rules concerning characteristics of aquaculture production units:
 - a) organic production units must be delimited by posts, floats or other clear markers; and
 - b) BMS may be treated once during the production cycle with a lime solution to control competing biofouling organisms; and
 - c) operators may use long-lines, rafts, bottom culture, net bags, cages, trays, lantern nets, bouchet poles and other containment systems; and
 - d) BMS cultivation in bags on trestles is permitted; and
 - e) BMS cultivation structures must not form a continuous barrier along the shoreline for more than 500 m.
- (2) Specific rules concerning the origin of spat:
 - a) BMS will preferably be raised organically from hatching; and
 - b) wild spat, including from outside of the growing area, may be seeded onto ropes if organically produced spat is not available, provided the following conditions are met:
 - i) spat has settled on spat collectors or seaweed which is washed up onto beaches; and
 - ii) the conditions of any permit for collection of the spat are met; and

- iii) there is no significant damage to the environment; and
 - c) spat that has settled naturally on collectors such as sticks, may be used.
- (3) Specific rules concerning feed:
 - a) BMS must feed on natural planktons.
- (4) Specific rules concerning conversion:
 - a) the conversion period will be three months for facilities in aquaculture production units in coastal marine waters.

Guidance

- The recognised agency may, in consultation with MPI, extend the conversion period in certain cases. For example, where there is a risk that residues of substances not in conformance with OER: OPR may be detected in organic products, as a result of historical activities in or around the production environment.

- (5) Specific rules concerning harvest, relay, sorting, storage and transport:
 - a) the integrity of the organic product must be maintained throughout the production process, including harvesting, relaying, sorting, storage and transport activities; and
 - b) operators may harvest, relay, sort, store and transport organic and non-organic products in the same operation, provided that the following requirements are met:
 - i) the requirements in clauses 2.3.5(2) and 2.4.6; and
 - ii) organic products must be separated by place or time from similar activities performed on non-organic products; and
 - iii) organic products are stored separately in space or time from non-organic products before and after these activities; and
 - iv) necessary measures are taken to ensure traceability and to segregate organic and non-organic products at all times; and
 - v) preparation or handling of organic products is carried out only after suitable cleaning of the production equipment.

3.6.11 Specific rules for finfish

- (1) Reserved.

3.6.12 Specific rules for land-based aquaculture facilities

- (1) Land-based aquaculture facilities may only be used for the purposes of breeding and growing BMS spat, or for relay of BMS.
- (2) Specific rules concerning conversion of land-based aquaculture facilities:
 - a) for facilities which have been drained, or fallowed, the conversion period is 12 months; or
 - b) for facilities which have been drained, cleaned and disinfected, the conversion period is six months.

Guidance

- The recognised agency may, in consultation with MPI, extend the conversion period in certain cases. For example, where there is a risk that residues of substances not in conformance with OER: OPR may be detected in organic products, as a result of historical activities in or around the production environment.

- (3) Specific rules concerning the breeding and growing of BMS spat:
 - a) gametes and seed must come from, in order of preference:

- i) organic breeding stock; then
 - ii) breeding stock that has been managed in accordance with this Requirement for at least three months before harvest; then
 - iii) wild spat collected as in 3.6.10(2).
 - b) the following reproductive techniques are prohibited in products that are to be eligible for an official organic assurance:
 - i) synthetic hormones and growth promoters; and
 - ii) sexually reversed organisms; and
 - iii) chemically induced polyploidy; and
 - iv) artificial hybridisation; and
 - v) cloning; and
 - vi) mono-sex strains, except when hand sorted; and
 - vii) artificially sterilized populations.
- (4) Health of spat must be managed by:
- a) taking appropriate remedial action where ill-health or injury is identified. Professional advice must be sought where there is any significant injury or disease, or if a problem persists;
 - b) not withholding treatment where it will result in unnecessary pain and, even if this will result in the animal losing its organic status;
 - c) using non-synthetic remedies as a preferred treatment, provided that their therapeutic effect is effective for the species of animal, and the condition for which the treatment is intended;
 - d) using veterinary medicines, including antibiotics, under the responsibility of a veterinarian where non-synthetic remedies are not effective;
 - e) administering mandatory veterinary medicines when a disease risk has been identified as present in a specific area in which the production unit is located;
 - f) clearly identifying batches of treated spat;
 - g) applying a withholding period of twice the label withholding period or, where this period is nil or is not specified, 48 hours;
 - h) removing eligibility for official organic assurances from spat that receive more than two courses of treatment with registered veterinary medicines, excluding parasite treatments, based on production cycle;
 - i) the following treatments are excluded from the number of treatments counted in subclause 3.6.12(4)h):
 - i) mandatory vaccinations;
 - ii) treatments under compulsory eradication schemes.
- (5) Husbandry practises may include any of the following:
- a) mechanical aeration;
 - b) artificially prolonged light periods. The operator must apply to the recognised agency for approval. This approval is subject to the following conditions:
 - i) this is appropriate for the species and geographical location; and
 - ii) day length will not be artificially prolonged beyond 16 hours per day; and
 - iii) abrupt changes in light intensity will be avoided;
 - c) ultraviolet light and ozone;
 - d) natural bore water to heat or cool facilities at any stage of production;
 - e) artificial heating or cooling;
 - f) oxygen only for animal health requirements, during critical periods of production and transport, and in the following cases:
 - i) exceptional cases of temperature rise or drop in atmospheric pressure or accidental pollution; or
 - ii) occasional stock management procedures such as sampling and sorting; or
 - iii) in order for the survival of the stock;

- g) land-based aquaculture facilities for the production of spat may use closed recirculation systems; and
 - h) harvesting and transport of live spat must meet all the relevant Animal Products (Regulated Control Scheme- Bivalve Molluscan Shellfish) Regulations 2006 requirements for handling and transporting live BMS.
- (6) Specific rules for the use of land-based aquaculture facilities for relaying BMS include:
- a) the integrity of the organic product must be maintained throughout the relaying process; and
 - b) operators may relay organic and non-organic products in the same land-based aquaculture facility, provided that the following requirements are met:
 - i) the requirements in clauses 2.3.6(2) and 2.4.6; and
 - ii) organic products must be separated by place or time from relay activities performed on non-organic products; and
 - iii) organic products are stored separately in space or time from non-organic products before and after these activities; and
 - iv) necessary measures are taken to ensure traceability and to segregate organic and non-organic products at all times; and
 - v) relaying or handling of organic BMS is carried out only after suitable cleaning of the facility and equipment.

3.7 Algae production

Guidance

- This section covers:
 - active cultivation of algae and seaweed in coastal marine areas; and
 - collection of algae and seaweed growing naturally in unmanaged coastal marine areas.
- This section does not cover:
 - the collection of beach cast seaweed.
- Active cultivation of algae means the deliberate growing and controlled harvesting of algae on manmade structures (ropes and other equipment) in the water.
- Collecting naturally growing algae means picking or cutting or otherwise harvesting algae from non-made structures, where the algae is naturally growing and not being actively managed in any way.
- Requirements for the following specific uses of beach cast seaweed can be found in clauses elsewhere in OER: OPR:
 - for use as a fertiliser or soil conditioners, refer to clause 3.2 Plant production.
 - for use as a supplementary feed, refer to clause 3.4.7(8) Feed.
 - for use in disease prevention and management, refer to clause 3.4.8(2) Health management.
 - for spat for aquaculture, refer to clause 3.6 Aquaculture production.

- (1) Location of operations and activities in the operation must meet relevant regulations and requirements under New Zealand law.

Guidance

- Operations should be sited at appropriate distance from contamination sources.
- Consideration should be given to such contamination sources as: historical use, sediments, water currents, etc.
- Algae production in compliance with OER: OPR may not be practicable in some areas.
- Use of polyculture production techniques is encouraged.

- (2) Specific rules for operations actively cultivating algae in coastal marine areas:

- a) the conversion period starts when the recognised agency first approves the operator's OMP showing how OER: OPR will be met; and

Guidance

- The recognised agency may, in consultation with MPI, extend the conversion period in certain cases where the production environment has been contaminated with products that do not comply with OER: OPR.

- b) sustainable practices must be used in all stages of production, from the collection of juvenile algae to harvesting; and
 - c) the collection method must prevent by-catches of unintended species; and
 - d) a biomass estimate must be carried out at the start of organic operations; and
 - e) the density of algae cultivated must not impact negatively on the environment; and
 - f) ropes and other equipment must be re-used or recycled where possible. They must be collected and disposed of responsibly when they can no longer be reused; and
 - g) split production holdings are allowed provided that the requirements of 2.3.7 and 2.4.7 are met; and
 - h) the application of supplementary fertiliser is prohibited; and
 - i) biofouling organisms must be managed in such a way as to reduce risks to the surrounding environment, through physical removal, exclusion, or through approved organic treatment.
- (3) Specific rules for operations collecting algae naturally growing in unmanaged coastal marine areas:
- a) sustainable practices must be used in all stages of collection, from the collection of juvenile algae to harvesting; and
 - b) a biomass estimate is to be carried out at the start of organic operations; and
 - c) the collection method should take into account minimum sizes, ages, reproductive cycles or size of remaining algae to:
 - i) ensure that algae can regenerate; and
 - ii) prevent by-catches of unintended species; and
 - iii) not impact negatively on the environment;
 - d) the application of supplementary fertiliser is prohibited.

3.8 Mushroom production

- (1) The conversion period starts when the recognised agency approves the operator's OMP showing how OER: OPR will be met.
- (2) For existing mushroom production facilities, a conversion period of twelve months or two complete production cycles, whichever is greater, is required.
- (3) For new mushroom production facilities, where new equipment and new substrate is used, a conversion period of three months or two complete production cycles, whichever is lesser, is required.
- (4) Trays and other equipment that comes in contact with mushrooms and substrate must not be constructed from chemically treated timber.
- (5) Operators may manage split production holdings provided that:
 - a) the requirements in clauses 2.3.2(2) and 2.4.2 are met; and
 - b) different species or varieties of mushrooms which are easily and obviously distinguishable are involved; and
 - c) the organic and non-organic units are managed separately; and
 - d) non-organic activities are separated in space or time from organic activities; and
 - e) handling and harvesting activities are carried out only after suitable cleaning of the equipment.
- (6) Only substrates composed of any of the following components may be used:

- a) farmyard manure and animal excrements from:
 - i) holdings operating an OMP, including those in their final year of conversion; or
 - ii) operations not in compliance with OER: OPR, where it can be shown that the animals have not been fed feed containing GMO or antibiotics or kept in caged farming systems. This material must not exceed 25 % by weight (excluding the covering material and any added water);
 - b) non-animal products from:
 - i) holdings operating an OMP, including those in their final year of conversion; or
 - ii) operations not in compliance with OER: OPR, where it can be shown that the products have not been treated with prohibited substances;
 - c) peat (not chemically treated);
 - d) wood and wood products (not chemically treated);
 - e) mineral products listed in Schedule 1; or
 - f) water and soil.
- (7) Pests and diseases must be controlled through removal of diseased or infested materials.

Guidance

- Diseased material should be burned or disposed of as recommended by good management practices.

- (8) Fungal spawn or cultures must come from operations that are in compliance with OER: OPR.
- (9) Non-organic spawn/culture may be used if material produced in compliance with OER: OPR is not available. Operators must request recognised agency approval to use this material. Operators must demonstrate to the recognised agency that organic spawn/culture is not available.

3.9 Processing and handling

3.9.1 Compositional requirements

- (1) The composition of organic processed products must meet the following criteria:
- a) at least 95 % of the ingredients of agricultural origin by weight, excluding water and salt, must be produced in compliance with OER: OPR unless otherwise set in relevant OER: OMARs; and
 - b) only legally permitted additives, processing aids, minerals (including trace elements), vitamins, amino acids and other nitrogen compounds can be used; and
 - c) water and salt (with sodium chloride or potassium chloride as basic components) may be used.

Guidance

- Salt should be free of anti-caking agents.

- (2) Non-organic ingredients of agricultural origin may be used. The operator must apply to the recognised agency for approval to use these ingredients. This approval is subject to:
- a) the operator demonstrating that the ingredient is not available in organic form; and
 - b) annual reassessment of availability of the ingredient; and
 - c) the total weight of these ingredients not exceeding 5 % of all ingredients of agricultural origin by weight, excluding water and salt; and
 - d) maximum time period of 36 months from the date the first application is approved by the recognised agency.
- (3) Any single ingredient must not be present in both organic and non-organic or in-conversion forms.

3.9.2 Processing requirements

- (1) The integrity of the organic product must be maintained throughout the processing chain including reception, packaging, labelling, storage and transport activities.
- (2) The food must be processed using biological, mechanical or physical methods.
- (3) Substances and techniques that reconstitute properties that are lost in the processing and storage of organic food, that correct the results of negligence in the processing of these products or that otherwise may be misleading as to the true nature of these products must not be used.

3.9.3 Split production

- (1) Operators may process and store organic and non-organic products in the same business, provided that the following requirements are met:
 - a) the requirements in clauses 2.3.9(2) and 2.4.9; and
 - b) organic processing is carried out continuously until the production run is complete; and
 - c) organic processing must be separated by place or time from similar activities performed on non-organic products; and
 - d) before and after processing operations, organic products are stored separately in space or time from non-organic products; and
 - e) necessary measures are taken to ensure traceability and to segregate organic and non-organic products at all times; and
 - f) preparation or handling of organic products is carried out only after suitable cleaning of the production equipment.

3.9.4 Specific rules for food processing

- (1) Processing of organic food must comply with the following requirements, in addition to the requirements in 3.9.1 to 3.9.3.
- (2) Only the following food additives, micronutrients, micro-organisms, and processing aids may be allowed where there is an essential technological need or for a particular nutritional reason:
 - a) agricultural additives listed in Schedule 4, Table 4.1; and
 - b) non-agricultural additives listed in Schedule 4, Table 4.2; and
 - c) micro-organisms and enzymes listed in Schedule 4, Table 4.3; or
 - d) processing aids listed in Schedule 4, Table 4.4.

Guidance

- Before using any food additive, processing aid, vitamin or mineral in a particular food type, both the generic permissions in the Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code for the use of food additives, and the organic food additive permission (Schedule 4) should be checked.

- (3) Quantities of inputs listed in clause 3.9.4(2)a) must not exceed the minimum required to achieve the need or reason for using them.

3.9.5 Specific rules for yeast used as food or feed

- (1) Organic yeasts use as food and feed must be grown on organically produced substrates prepared on compliance with OER: OPR.
- (2) Up to 5 % non-organic yeast extract or autolysate may be added to the substrate (calculated in dry matter). The operator must apply to the recognised agency for approval to use this yeast extract or autolysate. The operator must demonstrate that yeast extract or autolysate from organic production is not available in sufficient quality or quantity.
- (3) Only the following additives and processing aids can be used:
 - a) natural flavourings listed in Schedule 4, Table 4.1; and

- b) micro-organisms and enzymes listed in Schedule 4, Table 4.3; and
- c) processing aids listed in Schedule 4, Table 4.5.

Guidance

- Salt should be free of anti-caking agents.

3.9.6 Specific rules for processing algae

- (1) For handling of unprocessed marine algae products, seawater must be used for flushing of algae.
- (2) For dehydrated algae products:
 - a) flushing may be done with any suitable water; and
 - b) salt may be used to aid moisture removal.

Guidance

- Salt should be free of anti-caking agents.

- (3) For dried algae products:
 - a) equipment used for drying algae products must not be treated with substances that may result in detectable residues of substances not compatible with OER: OPR; and
 - b) flames must not come in direct contact with the algae.

3.10 Alcoholic beverages**3.10.1 Grape wine**

- (1) The production of organic grape wine in compliance with OER: OPR must be based on the following principles:
 - a) only organic grapes produced in compliance with OER: OPR may be used to make organic grape wine; and
 - b) the use of food additives and processing aids must be kept to a minimum. Food additives and processing aids listed in Tables 4.6 and 4.7 of Schedule 4 may only be used where there is an essential oenological need; and
 - c) substances and processing methods that might be misleading as to the true nature of the product must not be used; and
 - d) substances and techniques that reconstitute properties that are lost in the processing and storage of organic wine, that correct the results of negligence in the processing of these products or that otherwise may be misleading as to the true nature of these products must not be used; and
 - e) the integrity of organic wine must be maintained throughout the winemaking process including grape reception, packaging, labelling, storage and transport activities.
- (2) Operators may add grape juice, concentrated grape must (juice), rectified concentrated grape must (juice), or sucrose (chaptalisation), for enrichment in the pre-fermentation stage of organic wine production, subject to compliance with relevant legislative requirements. These ingredients must be managed in accordance with OER: OPR.
- (3) Final total sulphur dioxide levels up to the maximum content listed in Table 4.6 of Schedule 4 plus an additional 30 mg/L, may be permitted. The operator must apply to the recognised agency, and the recognised agency must apply to MPI for authorisation for these final levels. The recognised agency must demonstrate to MPI that the following conditions are met:
 - a) exceptional climatic conditions in a specific geographical area have led to severe bacterial or fungal attacks causing a deterioration in the sanitary status of the organic grapes; and

- b) higher levels of total sulphur dioxide than in previous years are necessary to get a comparable final product.

3.10.2 Alcoholic beverages, not including grape wine

- (1) The production of organic alcoholic beverages in compliance with OER: OPR, not including grape wine, must be based on the following principles:
 - a) only organic agricultural ingredients produced in compliance with OER: OPR may be used to make organic alcoholic beverages; and
 - b) the use of food additives and processing aids must be kept to a minimum. Only the following food additives and processing aids may be used, and only where there is an essential technological need:
 - i) for fruit and vegetable wine, cider, perry and mead: those listed in Tables 4.8 and 4.9 of Schedule 4; or
 - ii) for beer and beer related products: those listed in Table 4.10; and
 - c) substances and processing methods that might be misleading regarding the true nature of the product must not be used; and
 - d) substances and techniques that reconstitute properties that are lost in the processing and storage of organic alcoholic beverages not including grape wine, that correct the results of negligence in the processing of these products or that otherwise may be misleading as to the true nature of these products must not be used; and
 - e) the integrity of the organic alcoholic beverages must be maintained throughout the production process including reception, packaging, labelling, storage and transport activities.

3.10.3 Split production

- (1) Operators may process and store organic and non-organic grape wine and alcoholic beverage products in the same business, provided that the following requirements are met:
 - a) the requirements in clauses 2.3.10(2) and 2.4.10; and
 - b) organic processing is carried out continuously until the production run is complete; and
 - c) organic processing must be separated by place or time from similar activities performed on non-organic grape wine and alcoholic beverages; and
 - d) before and after processing operations, organic grape wine and alcoholic beverages are stored separately in space or time from non-organic grape wine and alcoholic beverages; and
 - e) necessary measures are taken to ensure traceability and to segregate organic and non-organic grape wine and alcoholic beverages at all times; and
 - f) preparation or handling of organic grape wine and alcoholic beverages are carried out only after suitable cleaning of the production equipment.

Schedule 1: Fertilisers and soil conditioners

Guidance

- Only use agricultural compounds that are registered for use in New Zealand under the ACVM Act 1997 or are exempt from registration.

Material	Specific conditions, and additional information
Aluminium calcium phosphate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cadmium content less than or equal to 60 mg/kg of Phosphorus oxide (P_2O_5). Use limited to basic soils ($pH > 7.5$).
Animal excrements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not from animals fed feed containing GMO or antibiotics. If liquid, must undergo controlled fermentation and/or appropriate dilution. If solid, must be adequately dried, dehydrated or composted. Operators must have a plan for managing microbiological risk where farmyard manure is to be used on crops for human consumption. May include a mixture of animal excrements, and vegetable matter from animal bedding.
Animal products or by-products	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Operators must have a plan for managing microbiological risk where animal products or by-products are to be used on crops for human consumption. If fish or fish by-products - must be from sustainable fishing.
Basic slag	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thomas phosphates. Thomas slag.
Biodynamic preparations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If animal products are part of the mix, the operator must have a plan for managing microbiological risk where biodynamic preparations are to be used on crops for human consumption.
Calcium carbonate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Only of natural origin.
Calcium chloride solution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Foliar treatment to treat physiological disorders associated with calcium uptake.
Calcium sulphate (gypsum)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Only of natural origin.
Chitin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Polysaccharide obtained from the shell of crustaceans. Only if obtained from sustainable fisheries.
Clays	
Crude potassium salt	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For example: kainit, sylvinit, etc. Obtained by physical procedures, but not enriched by chemical processes to increase its solubility.
Egg shells	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Only from poultry farms meeting the recommended best practise in the Layer Hens Code of Welfare
Elemental sulphur	
Guano	
Household waste	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vegetable and animal household waste which has been submitted to composting or to anaerobic fermentation. Only when produced in closed and monitored collection system. If animal products are part of the mix, operators must have a plan for managing microbiological risk where household waste is to be used on crops for human consumption.
Humates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For example: leonardite.

Material	Specific conditions, and additional information
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Also known as 'mined carbon-based products'. Only if obtained as a by-product of mining activities.
Humic and fulvic acids	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Only if obtained by inorganic salts/solutions excluding ammonium salts; or obtained from drinking water purification.
Industrial lime	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> By-product of sugar production or from vacuum salt production.
Magnesium and calcium carbonate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Only of natural origin. E.g. magnesium chalk, ground magnesium, limestone.
Magnesium sulphate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Only of natural origin. E.g. kieserite.
Mollusc waste	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> From organic aquaculture or sustainably managed mollusc productions.
Mushroom culture wastes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The initial composition of the substrate must be limited to products listed in clause 3.8(6).
Naturally occurring organisms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> E.g. rhizobium bacteria, mycorrhiza fungi, yeasts, worms etc.
Peat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For plant propagation only.
Plant products and by-products	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not treated with synthetic additives.
Potassium sulphate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Product derived from crude potassium salt by a physical extraction process, and possibly also containing magnesium salts.
Seaweed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seaweed collected from open waters and beach cast seaweed must have been collected in compliance with relevant legislation under the Fisheries Act 1996.
Seaweed products	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Must be obtained by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> physical processes including dehydration, freezing and grinding; extraction with water or aqueous acid and/or alkaline solution; and fermentation. Beach cast seaweed used to make seaweed products must be fit for purpose.
Sodium chloride	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mined salt or solar salt obtained from seawater by non-synthetic process.
Soft ground rock phosphate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cadmium content less than or equal to 60 mg/kg of Phosphorus oxide (P₂O₅).
Stillage and stillage extract	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ammonium stillage excluded.
Stone meal	
Trace elements / micronutrients	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sulphates, carbonates, oxides, or silicates of cobalt, copper, iron, manganese, selenium, molybdenum, or zinc. Soluble boron products. Trace elements & natural chelates (not synthetically chelated elements). <p>For soil fertility and foliar application only:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lignosulphonate, excluding ammonium lignosulphonate is allowed.
Lignosulphonate	<p>For soil stability and dust suppression:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lignosulphonic acid, calcium lignosulphonate, magnesium lignosulphonate, sodium lignin and sodium lignosulphonate are permitted. Ammonium lignosulphonate is not allowed. Preferably produced using a non-chemical extraction process, if available and fit for purpose. Must not be synthetically enriched.
Vermicast	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Composted animal manure not from animals fed feed containing GMO or antibiotics.

Material	Specific conditions, and additional information
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• If animal products are part of the mix, operators must have a plan for managing microbiological risk where vermicast is to be used on crops for human consumption.
Wood: sawdust, chips, ash and barks	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Not from wood treated with synthetic chemicals.

Schedule 2: Substances for crop protection

Guidance

- Only use agricultural compounds that are registered for use in New Zealand under the ACVM Act 1997 or are exempt from registration.

Name	Specific conditions, and additional information
Aluminium silicate (Kaolin)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Repellent.
Azadirachtin extracted from <i>Azadirachta indica</i> (Neem oil)	
Beeswax	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pruning agent / wound protectant.
Bentonite	
Biodynamic preparations	
Biological control	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Insects, bacteria, viruses, fungi, nematodes etc. e.g. <i>Bacillus thuringensis</i>, Granulosis virus, etc.
Calcium hydroxide	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plant disease control.
Carbon dioxide	
Chitin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nematode control: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> of natural origin; not processed by acid hydrolysis.
Chlorella (Spirulina) extracts	
Copper compounds in the form of copper hydroxide, copper oxychloride, copper oxide, (tribasic) copper sulphate, copper octanoate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fungicide. Bactericide only for <i>Pseudomonas syringae</i> pv. <i>actinidiae</i> (Psa). Up to 4 kg copper per ha per year. Risk mitigation measures must be taken to protect water and non-target organisms.
Diatomaceous earth (kieselgur)	
Diammonium phosphate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attractant; only in traps.
Ethylene	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Only to be used in enclosed spaces as a plant growth regulator by authorised users. Degreening of citrus fruit only as part of a strategy for the prevention of fruit fly damage in citrus. Degreening bananas, kiwifruit and kakis (persimmons). Flower induction of pineapple. Sprouting inhibition in potatoes and onions.
Fat from animals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Repellent. Must not be applied to parts of the crop intended for human consumption. Must not be applied to crops that are to be eaten by animals.
Fatty acid potassium salts	
Ferric phosphate (iron (III) orthophosphate)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Molluscicide – must only be surface-spread between cultivated plants.
Horticultural oils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Narrow range oils as dormant, suffocating, and summer oils.
Hydrolysed proteins	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Excluding gelatine. Attractant. Only in combination with other appropriate products in this Table.

Name	Specific conditions, and additional information
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Only in traps and dispensers. The traps must be collected after use and disposed of safely.
Laminarin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Derived from organic raw material, if available. If not available must be harvested sustainably.
Lecithin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> From organic raw material, if available. Substances not to be used as an herbicide.
Lime sulphur (calcium polysulphide)	
Maltodextrin	
Mineral powders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stone meal and silicates.
Natural acids	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For example: vinegar, citric acid fermented from <i>Aspergillus</i>.
Pheromones	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attractant, sexual behaviour disrupter. Only in traps and dispensers. The traps and/or dispensers must prevent dispersal of the substances in the environment and prevent contact of the substances with the crops under cultivation. The traps must be collected after use and disposed of safely.
Plant oils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Insecticide, acaricide, fungicide, sprout inhibitor. Foliage suppressant: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> targeted application, spot spraying only; does not include band or strip spraying of boundaries, walkways etc.
Plant preparations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Excluding preparations from tobacco, other than tea prepared from tobacco leaves.
Potassium bicarbonate (Potassium hydrogen carbonate)	
Potassium permanganate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fungicide and bactericide. Only in fruit trees, olive trees and vines.
Pyrethrins	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Extracted from <i>Chrysanthemum cinerariaefolium</i>. Insecticide. Use of piperonyl butoxide as a synergist is prohibited.
Quartz sand	
Quassia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Extracted from <i>Quassia amara</i>. Insecticide, repellent.
Ryania	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Extracted from <i>Ryania speciosa</i>.
Sabadilla	
Sea water	
Sodium bicarbonate	
Spinosad	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Insecticide. Only where measures are taken to minimize the risk to key parasitoids and to minimise the risk of development of resistance.
Sulphur	
Sugar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sucrose, fructose. Preferably organic if available. Not to be used as a herbicide.
Whey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preferably organic if available. Not to be used as a herbicide.

Schedule 3: Feed materials and feed additives

Guidance

- Only use feed materials and additives that are registered for use in New Zealand under the ACVM Act 1997 or are exempt from registration.

Table 3.1 Feed materials

Table 3.1.1 Feed materials of mineral origin

Name	Specific conditions, and additional information
Calcareous marine shells	
Calcium carbonate	
Calcium-magnesium phosphate	
Calcium-sodium phosphate	
Magnesium carbonate	
Magnesium chloride	
Magnesium oxide (anhydrous magnesia)	
Magnesium phosphate	
Magnesium sulphate	
Monocalcium phosphate	
Monosodium phosphate	
Potassium chloride	
Sodium bicarbonate	
Sodium chloride	
Sodium sulphate	

Table 3.1.2 Other feed materials

Name	Specific conditions, and additional information
<i>Saccharomyces cerevisiae</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (By)-product of fermentation. Microorganisms must have been inactivated or killed.
Beach cast seaweed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Microbiological and chemical hazards at the point of harvesting and processing must be identified and managed; and Beach cast seaweed used to make livestock feed materials must be fit for purpose.

Table 3.2 Feed additives - technological additives

Table 3.2.1 Preservatives

Name	Specific conditions, and additional information
Acetic acid	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preferably produced via natural fermentation.

Name	Specific conditions, and additional information
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For silage: only when weather conditions do not allow for adequate fermentation.
Citric acid	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preferably produced via natural fermentation.
Formic acid	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For silage: only when weather conditions do not allow for adequate fermentation.
Lactic acid	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preferably produced via natural fermentation. For silage: only when weather conditions do not allow for adequate fermentation.
Propionic acid	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For silage: only when weather conditions do not allow for adequate fermentation.
Sodium formate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For silage: only when weather conditions do not allow for adequate fermentation.
Sorbic acid	

Table 3.2.2 Acidity Regulators

Name	Specific conditions, and additional information
Calcium lactate	
Dicalcium phosphate	
Magnesium carbonate	
Sodium bicarbonate	

Table 3.2.3 Antioxidants

Name	Specific conditions, and additional information
Tocopherol-rich extracts of natural origin	

Table 3.2.4 Emulsifiers, stabilisers, thickeners and gelling agents

Name	Specific conditions, and additional information
Guar gum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preferably from organic production.
Monosodium phosphate	
Natural mixtures of stearates and chlorite	
Potassium chloride	

Table 3.2.5 Binders and anti-caking agents

Name	Specific conditions, and additional information
Bentonite	
Calcium carbonate	
Diatomaceous earth (Kieselgur)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Purified.
Kaolinitic clays	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Must be asbestos free.

Name	Specific conditions, and additional information
Magnesium carbonate	
Magnesium oxide (anhydrous magnesia)	
Natural mixtures of stearites and chlorite	
Sodium aluminosilicate (Zeolite)	
Sodium bicarbonate	
Sodium sulphate	
Vermiculite	

Table 3.2.6 Silage additives

Name	Specific conditions, and additional information
Bacteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Only when weather conditions do not allow for adequate fermentation.
Enzymes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Only when weather conditions do not allow for adequate fermentation.
Microorganisms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Only when weather conditions do not allow for adequate fermentation.
Yeasts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Only when weather conditions do not allow for adequate fermentation.

Table 3.3 Feed additives - sensory additives

Table 3.3.1 Flavouring compounds

Name	Specific conditions, and additional information
Flavouring compounds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Only extracts from agricultural products.

Table 3.3.2 Nutritional additives

Name	Specific conditions, and additional information
Vitamins and provitamins	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Derived from agricultural products. If derived synthetically, then only in accordance with 3.4.7 (10).

Table 3.3.4 Compounds of trace elements

Element	Substance	Specific conditions, and additional information
Calcium	Calcareous marine shells Calcium carbonate	
Cobalt	Cobalt (II) carbonate, monohydrate Cobalt (II) sulphate monohydrate and/or heptahydrate	
Copper	Copper (II) sulphate, pentahydrate	
Iodine	Calcium iodate, anhydrous Potassium iodide Sodium iodide	
Iron	Iron oxide (ferric (III) oxide)	

Element	Substance	Specific conditions, and additional information
	Iron (Ferrous (II)) sulphate monohydrate and/or heptahydrate	
Magnesium	Magnesium carbonate Magnesium chloride Magnesium oxide (anhydrous magnesia) Magnesium phosphate Magnesium sulphate	
Manganese	Manganese (II) oxide Manganese (II) sulphate, monohydrate Manganese (II) carbonate	
Molybdenum	Sodium molybdate	
Phosphorus	Calcium-magnesium phosphate Calcium-sodium phosphate Monosodium phosphate	
Potassium	Potassium chloride	
Selenium	Sodium selenate Sodium selenite	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allowed. • May be applied to pasture for the purpose of addressing selenium deficiency in livestock due to lack of selenium in New Zealand soils.
Sodium	Sodium bicarbonate	
Zinc	Zinc oxide Zinc sulphate mono- and/or heptahydrate	

Table 3.3.5 Gut flora stabilisers

Name	Specific conditions, and additional information
Enzymes and microorganisms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cannot be used for therapeutic purpose. • For example: Probiotics.

Schedule 4: Food additives and processing aids

Guidance

- Permissions and prohibitions under the Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code must be followed.

Table 4.1 Agricultural additives for foods other than wine and yeast

INS Code	Name	Specific conditions, and additional information
160b	Annatto	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only as colours in cheese production.
414	Arabic gum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preferably organic if available.
160b	Bixin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only as colours in cheese production.
412	Guar gum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preferably organic if available.
322	Lecithins	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plant products and dairy products only. • Preferably organic if available.
410	Locust bean gum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preferably organic if available.
	Natural flavouring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must not be produced using synthetic solvents and carrier systems or any synthetic preservative. • Preferably organic if available.
160b	Norbixin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only as colours in cheese production.
440 (i)	Pectin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plant products and dairy products.
307B	Tocopherol - concentrate, mixed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Antioxidant in fats and oils.

Table 4.2: Non-agricultural additives for foods other than wine and yeast

INS Code	Name	Specific conditions, and additional information
406	Agar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plant products, dairy products and meat products only.
400	Alginic acid	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plant products and dairy products only.
503	Ammonium carbonates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plant products only.
300	Ascorbic acid (L-Ascorbic acid)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plant products and meat products only.
170	Calcium carbonates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must not be used for colouring or calcium enrichment of products.
509	Calcium chloride	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Milk coagulation.
333	Calcium citrates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plant products only.
516	Calcium sulphate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carrier. • Plant products only.
290	Carbon dioxide	
407	Carrageenan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plant products and dairy products only.
330	Citric acid	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plant products, dairy products and egg products only.
422	Glycerol	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only from plant origin and when derived from organic production. • For plant extracts.
464	Hydroxypropyl methyl cellulose	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encapsulation material for capsules.

INS Code	Name	Specific conditions, and additional information
416	Karaya gum	
270	Lactic acid	
504	Magnesium carbonates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plant products only.
296	Malic acid (DL- Malic acid)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plant products only.
341 (i)	Monocalcium phosphate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Raising agent for self-raising flour.
941	Nitrogen	
402	Potassium alginate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plant products and dairy products.
501	Potassium carbonates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plant products only.
224	Potassium metabisulphite	
336	Potassium tartrates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plant products only.
551	Silicon dioxide	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Anti-caking agent for herbs and spices Plant products only.
401	Sodium alginate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plant products and dairy products only.
500	Sodium carbonates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plant products and dairy products only
331	Sodium citrate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Animal products only.
524	Sodium hydroxide	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Surface treatment of Lugengebaeck (lye rolls) only.
325	Sodium lactate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Animal products only.
335	Sodium tartrates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plant products only.
220	Sulphur dioxide	
553b	Talc	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plant products and meat products only.
334	Tartaric acid (L(+)-)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plant products only.
413	Tragacanth gum	
153	Vegetable carbon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Colour in cheese production only.
415	Xanthan gum	

Table 4.3: Micro-organisms and enzymes for foods other than wine

Name	Specific conditions, and additional information
Enzymes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Normally used in food processing.
Micro-organisms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Excluding yeasts. Normally used in food processing.
Yeast	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Derived from organic raw material, if available and fit for purpose.

Table 4.4: Processing aids for foods other than wine and yeast

Name	Specific conditions, and additional information
Activated carbon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plant products only.
Ammonium hydroxide	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Only for the production of gelatine of animal origin.
Argon	

Name	Specific conditions, and additional information
Beeswax	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Releasing agent. Plant products only.
Bentonite	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In compliance with the specific purity criteria for food additive INS 558.
Calcium carbonate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plant products only.
Calcium chloride	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coagulation agent Plant products only.
Calcium hydroxide	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plant products only.
Calcium sulphate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coagulation agent. Plant products only.
Carbon dioxide	
Carnauba wax	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Releasing agent. Plant products only.
Casein	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plant products only.
Cellulose	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plant products and production of gelatine of animal origin.
Citric acid	
Diatomaceous earth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Animal products. Production of gelatine from plant origin.
Egg white albumen	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Derived from organic raw material, if available. Plant products only.
Ethanol	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Solvent.
Gelatine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Derived from organic raw material, if available. Plant products only.
Hydrochloric acid	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Production of gelatine from animal origin. For the regulation of the pH of the brine bath in the processing of cheeses.
Hydrogen peroxide	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Production of gelatine from animal origin.
Isinglass	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Derived from organic raw material, if available. Plant products only.
Kaolin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Animal products. Production of propolis. In compliance with the specific purity criteria for food additive E 559.
Lactic acid	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> pH regulation of salt bath for cheeses.
Magnesium chloride (Nigari)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coagulation agent. Plant products only.
Nitrogen	
Oxygen	
Perlite	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Production of gelatine from plant origin.
Potassium carbonate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Drying of grapes.
Rice meal (ground rice)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Derived from organic raw material, if available. For preparation of foodstuff of plant origin.
Silicon dioxide	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gel or colloidal solution. For preparation of foodstuff of plant origin.

Name	Specific conditions, and additional information
Sodium carbonate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sugar(s) production.
Sodium hydroxide	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For preparation of foodstuff of plant origin. Sugar production. Oil production, excluding olive oil production. Plant protein extracts.
Sulphuric acid	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sugar(s) production. Production of gelatine from animal origin.
Talc	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In compliance with the specific purity criteria for food additive E553b. For preparation of foodstuff of plant origin.
Tannic acid	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Filtration aid. Plant products only.
Vegetable oils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Greasing, releasing or anti-foaming agent. Derived from organic raw material, if available.

Table 4.5: Processing aids for yeast and yeast products

Name	Specific conditions, and additional information
Calcium chloride	
Carbon dioxide	
Citric acid	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For the regulation of pH in the production of primary yeast only.
Lactic acid	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For the regulation of pH in the production of primary yeast only.
Nitrogen	
Oxygen	
Potato starch	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For filtering. Only when derived from organic production.
Sodium carbonate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For the regulation of pH.
Vegetable oils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Greasing, releasing or anti-foaming agent. Only when derived from organic production.

Table 4.6: Food additives for organic grape wine

INS Code	Name	Specific conditions, and additional information
300	Ascorbic acid	
290	Carbon dioxide	
170	Calcium carbonates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> De-acidification.
330	Citric acid	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stabilisation.
342(ii)	Diammonium hydrogen phosphate (also known as diammonium phosphate)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Yeast nutrient.
296	Malic acid	
353	Metatartaric acid	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stabilisation.
228	Potassium bisulphite	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The maximum sulphur dioxide content in wines must not exceed:

INS Code	Name	Specific conditions, and additional information
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – 150 mg/L for white and rosé wines with a residual sugar of less than 5 g/L; – 200 mg/L for white and rosé wines with a residual sugar not less than 5 g/L and less than 35 g/L; – 100 mg/L for red wines with a residual sugar of less than 5 g/L; – 200 mg/L for red wines with a residual sugar not less than 5 g/L and less than 35 g/L; – 350 mg/L for sweet white wines with a residual sugar more than 35 g/L; – 100 mg/L for liqueur wines where the residual sugar is less than 5 g/L; – 150 mg/L for liqueur wines where the residual sugar is not less than 5 g/L; – 155 mg/L for all categories of quality sparkling wines; – 205 mg/L for other sparkling wines.
501(ii)	Potassium hydrogen carbonate (also known as potassium bicarbonate)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • De-acidification.
224	Potassium metabisulphite	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The maximum sulphur dioxide content of wines must not exceed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – 150 mg/L for white and rosé wines with a residual sugar of less than 5g/L; – 200 mg/L for white and rosé wines with a residual sugar not less than 5 g/L and less than 35 g/L; – 100 mg/L for red wines with a residual sugar of less than 5 g/L; – 200 mg/L for red wines with a residual sugar not less than 5 g/L and less than 35 g/L; – 350 mg/L for sweet white wines with a residual sugar more than 35 g/L; – 100 mg/L for liqueur wines where the residual sugar is less than 5 g/L; – 150 mg/L for liqueur wines where the residual sugar is not less than 5 g/L; – 155 mg/L for all categories of quality sparkling wines; – 205 mg/L for other sparkling wines.
336	Potassium tartrate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • De-acidification.
220	Sulphur dioxide	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The maximum sulphur dioxide content of wines must not exceed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – 150 mg/L for white and rosé wines with a residual sugar of less than 5g/L; – 200 mg/L for white and rosé wines with a residual sugar not less than 5 g/L and less than 35 g/L; – 100 mg/L for red wines with a residual sugar of less than 5 g/L; – 200 mg/L for red wines with a residual sugar not less than 5 g/L and less than 35 g/L; – 350 mg/L for sweet white wines with a residual sugar more than 35 g/L; – 100 mg/L for liqueur wines where the residual sugar is less than 5 g/L; – 150 mg/L for liqueur wines where the residual sugar is not less than 5 g/L; – 155 mg/L for all categories of quality sparkling wines; – 205 mg/L for other sparkling wines.

INS Code	Name	Specific conditions, and additional information
181	Tannins	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clarification. Derived from organic raw material, if available.
334	Tartaric acid	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Acidification or de-acidification. Natural (L) form only.

Table 4.7: Processing aids for organic grape wine

Name	Specific conditions, and additional information
Activated carbon / charcoal	
Air	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For aeration.
Aluminium silicate (Kaolin)	
Argon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To create an inert atmosphere.
Bentonite	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clarification, fining.
Chitosan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Derived from <i>Aspergillus Niger</i>.
Casein	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clarification, fining.
Cellulose	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Filtration.
Cupric citrate	
Cupric sulphate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approved for use until, and including, the 2021 vintage. May not be used from the 2022 vintage.
Diatomaceous earth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Centrifuging and filtration, fining.
Egg white (albumen)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clarification, fining. Derived from organic raw material, if available.
Gelatine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clarification, fining. Derived from organic raw material, if available.
Gum arabic (Acacia gum)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Derived from organic raw material, if available.
Isinglass	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clarification. Derived from organic raw material, if available.
Lactic acid	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Acidification.
Lactic acid bacteria / Malolactic bacteria	
Lysozyme (egg white lysozyme)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Derived from organic raw material, if available.
Nitrogen	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bubbling. To create an inert atmosphere.
Oak	
Oxygen	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Oxygenation.
Pectolytic Enzymes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clarification.
Perlite	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Centrifuging and filtration.
Plant proteins	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> From wheat, peas or potato only. Clarification. Derived from organic raw material, if available.
Potassium alginate	

Name	Specific conditions, and additional information
Potassium caseinate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clarification.
Silicon dioxide	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clarification, fining.
Skim milk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clarification. • Must be organic cow's milk.
Thiamin (Vitamin B1)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yeast nutrient.
Yeast preparations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Derived from organic raw material, if available. Includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – yeasts for wine production; – autolysed yeast; – inactivated yeast; – organic fresh lees; – preparations from yeast cell walls; and – yeast extracts.

Table 4.8: Food additives for alcoholic beverages not including grape wine or beer

INS Code	Name	Specific conditions, and additional information
503	Ammonium carbonates	
300	Ascorbic acid	
170	Calcium carbonates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shall not be used for colouring or calcium enrichment of products.
516	Calcium sulphate	
290	Carbon dioxide	
330	Citric acid	
270	Lactic acid	
296	Malic acid	
341(i)	Monocalcium phosphate	
501	Potassium carbonates	
224	Potassium metabisulphite	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The maximum sulphur dioxide content of non-grape wines must not exceed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – in non-grape wines without added sugar (including cider and perry): 50 mg/L; – for cider and perry prepared with addition of sugars or juice concentrate after fermentation: 100 mg/L.
336	Potassium tartrate	
500	Sodium carbonates	
220	Sulphur dioxide	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The maximum sulphur dioxide content of non-grape wines must not exceed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – in non-grape wines without added sugar (including cider and perry): 50 mg/L; – for cider and perry prepared with addition of sugars or juice concentrate after fermentation: 100 mg/L.
334	Tartaric acid (L+/-)	

Table 4.9: Processing aids for alcoholic beverages not including grape wine or beer

Name	Specific conditions, and additional information
Activated carbon	
Aluminium silicate (Kaolin)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In compliance with the specific purity criteria for food additive INS 559.
Argon	
Bentonite	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In compliance with the specific purity criteria for food additive INS 558.
Calcium sulphate	
Casein	
Cellulose	
Diatomaceous earth	
Egg white albumen	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Derived from organic raw material, if available.
Ethanol	
Hydrogen peroxide	
Isinglass	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Derived from organic raw material, if available.
Nitrogen	
Oxygen	
Silicon dioxide	
Tannic acid	

Table 4.10: Food additives for beer and related products

INS Code	Name	Specific conditions, and additional information
150	Caramel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Must be organic.
224	Potassium metabisulphite	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The maximum sulphur dioxide content must not exceed 25 mg/L.
220	Sulphur dioxide	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The maximum sulphur dioxide content must not exceed 25 mg/L.
270	Lactic acid	
290	Carbon dioxide	
300	Ascorbic acid	
330	Citric acid	
941	Nitrogen	
	Natural flavouring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Must not be produced using synthetic solvents and carrier systems or any synthetic preservative.

Schedule 5: Animal stocking density and housing space

Guidance

- The animal stocking densities listed in Table 5.1 are:
 - indicative recommendations only;
 - for production units where spreading of animal manure from animals' housing on to pasture is undertaken; and
 - a guide to help limit the amount of nitrogen applied to land annually.
- See clause 3.2.3(4)) for limit set for total loading of nitrogen per hectare per year.

Table 5.1: Recommended animal stocking density

Class or species	Maximum number of animals per ha
Equines over six months old	2
Calves for fattening	5
Other bovine animals less than one year old	5
Male bovine animals from one to less than two years old	3.3
Female bovine animals from one to less than two years old	3.3
Male bovine animals two years old or over	2
Breeding heifers	2.5
Heifers for fattening	2.5
Dairy cows	2
Cull dairy cows	2
Other cows	2.5
Sheep	13.3
Goats	13.3
Piglets	74
Breeding sows	6.5
Pigs for fattening	14
Other pigs	14
Meat chickens	580
Laying hens	230

Table 5.2: Housing space and characteristics for bovines, ovines and porcines

Class or species	Live weight minimum (kg)	Indoors area (net area available to animals) m ² / head	Outdoors area (exercise area, excluding grazing) m ² / head
Breeding and fattening bovine, equine	Up to 100	1.5	1.1
	Up to 200	2.5	1.9
	Up to 350	4.0	3
	Over 350	5 with a minimum of 1m ² / 100kg	3.7 with a minimum of 0.75m ² / 100kg

Class or species	Live weight minimum (kg)	Indoors area (net area available to animals) m ² / head	Outdoors area (exercise area, excluding grazing) m ² / head
Dairy cows		6	4.5
Bulls for breeding		10	30
Sheep and goats		1.5 sheep or goat	2.5 sheep or goat
		0.35 lamb or kid	0.5 lamb or kid
Farrowing sows with piglets up to 40 days		7.5	3.5
Fattening pigs	Up to 50	0.8	0.6
	More than 50 and up to 85	1.1	0.8
	More than 85 and up to 110	1.3	1.0
	More than 110	1.5	1.2
Piglets	Over 40 days and up to 30	0.6	0.4
Brood pigs		2.5 female	3
		6.0 male if pens are used for natural service: 10m ² / boar	8.0

Table 5.3: Stocking density for cervines

Class or species	Live weight minimum	Outdoors area (exercise area, excluding grazing)
Cervine	Up to 100	15 head / ha
	Over 100	15 head / ha

Table 5.4: Housing space and characteristics for poultry

Class or species	Indoors area (net area available to animals)			Outdoors area (m ²) #
	No animals / m ²	cm perch/animal	Nest	
Laying hens	6	18	7 laying hens per nest or in case of common best 120 cm ² / bird	4
Meat poultry (in fixed housing)	10 with a maximum of 21 kg live-weight / m ²	20 (for guinea fowl only)		4 broilers and guinea fowl 4.5 ducks 10 turkey 15 geese
Meat poultry (in mobile housing)	16# in mobile poultry houses with a maximum of 30kg live-weight / m ²			2.5

#based on area available in rotation/head, only in the case of mobile houses not exceeding 150 m² floor space

Schedule 6: Permitted inputs in aquaculture and algae production

Table 6.1: Inputs permitted in aquaculture production

Substance	Specific conditions, and additional information
Nil	Nil

Table 6.2: Inputs permitted in algae production

Material	Specific conditions, and additional information
Nil	Nil