

**FOURTH SECTION**  
**EXECUTIVE POWER**  
**SECRETARIAT OF AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK, RURAL**  
**DEVELOPMENT, FISHING AND FOOD**

**AGREEMENT through which the Guidelines for the Organic Operation of the agricultural and livestock activities are made public.**

On the margin, a seal with the national emblem that reads: United Mexican States.- Secretariat of Agriculture, Livestock, Rural Development, Fishing and Food.

ENRIQUE MARTÍNEZ Y MARTÍNEZ, Secretary of Agriculture, Livestock, Rural Development, Fishing and Food, in accordance with articles 35, section IV of the Organic Law of the Federal Public Administration; 4 of the Federal Law on Administrative Procedure; 1, section I, II, III, IV, VI y VII; 2, 6 sections VI, IX, X paragraphs A, B, y C, 8, 9, 10, 11, 19, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 32, 34, 35, 36 of the Organic Products Law; and 6, 14, 15, 17, 27, 29, 39, 40, 41, 44, 47 and 48 of its Regulations, and

**WHEREAS**

the National Development Plan 2013-2018 is aimed to obtain the maximum potential of Mexico through five national targets. One of them is "México Próspero" which purpose is to promote productivity growth in a climate of economic stability, generating equal opportunities, having the appropriate infrastructure and seeking favorable conditions for the economic development through regulations that allow a healthy competition, having as a strategic line the deregulation, reorientation and simplification of the normative framework of the agrifood sector.

The different Organic Agricultural and Livestock Production systems, among which the agriculture, livestock and beekeeping among others are the most important, are systems easily adopted by thousands of Mexican producers, who benefit from, among other favorable factors, an accessible technology; an open international and national market with an annual growth of 25 to 30%; a great climate diversity in Mexico, which allows the integral development of different production systems; an increase of conscious consumers worried for the environmental and human health; and the application of compatible practices in reserve areas or protected areas.

The Secretariat has detected the need in Mexico for a regulation and a national control system equivalent in terms of organic, biologic or ecologic production which enable the export of Mexican organic products to the European Union, United States and Japan markets, among others, as well as the quest for recognition of an equivalent regulation that allows the free flow of organic products between countries; consequently I hereby issue the following:

**AGREEMENT THROUGH WHICH THE GUIDELINES FOR THE ORGANIC OPERATION OF**  
**AGRICULTURAL AND LIVESTOCK ACTIVITIES ARE MADE PUBLIC**

**TITLE I**

**GENERAL PROVISIONS**

**CHAPTER I**

**PURPOSE AND NATURE**

**ARTICLE 1.-** In accordance with the provisions set forth in the Organic Products Law and its Regulations, this Agreement is aimed to regulate the organic operation developed by individual or legal entities in terms of agriculture and livestock; as well as the procedures for its certification and recognition.

**ARTICLE 2.-** This article shall apply to:

- I. Agricultural and livestock activities where fresh or living products, from plants or animals are produced and their products or byproducts, including plant reproductions materials, seeds, mycelium or spores;
- II. Products from agricultural and livestock activities of processed or transformed;

III. Feedstuffs or food material for animal production;

IV. Yeasts for food processing;

V. The production and marketing of materials, substances, products, consumables and ingredients prior positive assessment of the requirements and procedures to be included in the National list of allowed materials, substances, products, consumables and ingredients with or without restriction in the organic operation, as well as methods to be introduced in the organic operations, and

VI. National list of prohibited materials, substances, products, consumables, methods and ingredients.

**ARTICLE 3.-** The application, interpretation and surveillance of this Agreement shall correspond to the Secretariat of Agriculture, Livestock, Rural Development, Fisheries and Food (Secretaría de Agricultura, Ganadería, Desarrollo Rural, Pesca y Alimentación, SAGARPA), through the National Service of Animal and Plant Health, Quality and Food Safety (Servicio Nacional de Sanidad, Inocuidad y Calidad Agroalimentaria, SENASICA), and individual and legal entities who carry out organic operation or certify agricultural and livestock activities like organics, including producers or marketers of materials, substances, products, consumables and ingredients to be used in organic operations shall be obliged to comply with them.

**ARTICLE 4.-** For the purposes of this Agreement, besides those set forth in the Organic Products Law and its Regulations, the following terms shall be understood as follows:

**FERTILIZER:** Product derived from a process managed in such a way that the microorganisms decompose plant and/or animal material in the most appropriate way for its application to the soil or to the plant, including mineral fertilizers of natural origin excluding Chilean nitrate products composed by plant and/or animal material, animal waste and other organic materials free from prohibited materials according to the national list;

**CONVENTIONAL AGRICULTURAL AND LIVESTOCK ACTIVITY:** Any agricultural and livestock practice conducted using the different technologies, substances and with methods different from those regulated by the Organic Products Law, and its applicable provisions;

**PARTICIPATORY ORGANIC CERTIFICATION:** Document issued by the organizations of small producers organized or family production which guarantees that the product was produced and/or processed in accordance with the Organic Products Law and its regulatory provisions;

**MARKETING:** The possession or exhibit of organic products with marketing purposes, the selling or delivery or any other form of introduction in the trade;

**COMPOST:** Fertilizer or soil conditioner obtained by a biologic, aerobic and thermophilic process of biodegradable organic or composting material, which have an initial C/N (carbon/nitrogen) ratio of 25 to 40;

**CONVERSION:** Transition from conventional production to Organic Production during a certain time period in which the provisions related to the organic production shall be applied;

**DOCUMENT OF ORGANIC CONTROL OR ITS EQUIVALENT:** Document issued by the Secretariat or the approved organic certification body in which the amount of certified organic product in conditions of being placed in the market is stated, to contribute to a reliable exchange relationship between the Organic Operator and the buyer;

**DECLARATION OF INGREDIENTS:** List of ingredients contained in the product showed on the label with their common and regular names, in a descending order of predominance;

**EQUIVALENCE:** Description of the different control systems and similar regulations and measures implemented, capable of fulfilling the same objectives and principles that guarantee the same level of compliance;

**MANURE:** Any excrement or urine from animal production, with or without litter, without transformation;

**IDENTIFICATION (LABELING):** Identification of an organic product by means of labels, supporting documentation, parting line, among others;

**INGREDIENT:** Any substance, including food additives, used in the processing or preparation of an organic product and which is present in the final product, even in a modified manner;

**ORGANIC INSPECTION:** Mechanisms through which the evaluations in the operating site of the petitioners of organic certification are carried out, which are recorded in the relevant report;

**IRRADIATION (IONIZING RADIATION):** High-energy emissions from radionucleotides, capable of changing the molecular structure of food, with the purpose of controlling microbiological, pathogenic contaminants, parasites and pests in food;

**LAW:** Organic Products Law;

**NATIONAL LIST:** The list of substances, materials, products, consumables, methods and ingredients classified as allowed, restricted and prohibited which have been evaluated and assessed by the group of experts of the Council, set forth in the national regulations and published in the Official Journal of the Federation by the Secretariat;

**LOT:** The amount of one agricultural and livestock product produced, elaborated or integrated in the same cycle, identified with an specific code;

**ECOLOGICAL PEST AND DISEASE MANAGEMENT:** it includes the use of biological control agents such as: parasitoid, predator, entomopathogenic, sterile species, antagonist organism, used to control harmful organisms; pathogenic agents such as: microorganism capable of causing diseases to insects; preservation of entomophagous arthropods; physical; mechanical means; use of resistant varieties; consumables included in the national list, among others;

**FEEDSTUFFS:** Any edible material consumed by an animal for its nutritional value. It can be elaborated with grains or high fiber fodder like hay or dried, silage forage; and it includes any agricultural merchandise, including all plant material consumed by the animal during grazing;

**PROCESSING:** The activities of cooking, baking, maturing, heating, drying, mixing, milling, beating, separating, extract, slaughter animals, cutting, ferment, distill, gutting, head off, preserve, dehydrate, pre-cooling, cooling and freezing or manufacturing procedures equivalent to the aforementioned; including packaging, re-packaging, canning, bottling, or the containment of food in containers;

**ANIMAL PRODUCTION:** Husbandry of land domesticated animals, including insects, aquatic species from freshwater, brackish water or seawater;

**PLANT PRODUCTION:** Those soil plants cultivated, including collection of plant products with human use or consumption purposes, aquatic species produced in fresh, brackish or salt water;

**PROPAGATION:** Reproduction of plants or vegetables by sexual or asexual means;

**TRACEABILITY:** The capacity to follow the movement of an organic product through one or several specific stages of its production, transformation and distribution;

**REGULATIONS:** Regulations of the Organic Products Law;

**INTERNAL CONTROL SYSTEM (Sistema de Control Interno, SCI):** For groups of small producers, it is the documented control system of groups of producers and their units of agricultural and livestock Organic Production aimed to ensure that the organization satisfactorily complies with the organic regulations and allows an organic certification body or the Secretariat to assess the operation of the system applied;

**SURVEILLANCE:** Action conducted by the Secretariat to review and assess the operation of the organic certification bodies, organic operators and the products in order to verify the compliance with the requirements set forth in the Law, its Regulations and this Agreement through the minutes of surveillance;

**UNIT OF PRODUCTION OR EXPLOITATION:** Plot or set of plots and facilities where animals and/or vegetables and their products or byproducts are produced or handled, clearly identifiable in terms of physical space, documents, organization and administration. Processing or packaging facilities may be part of the unit, provided that these are limited to processing and bottling of the production of the same unit.

**ARTICLE 5.-** The following are general principles of organic production:

- I. To produce food of high nutritional quality;
- II. To interact in a constructive way with natural systems and cycles;
- III. To consider the social and ecological impact of the organic production and processing system;
- IV. To encourage and enhance biological cycles within the agricultural and livestock activity, involving microorganisms, soil flora and fauna, plants and animals;
- V. To develop a valuable aquatic ecosystem, promoting sustainability;
- VI. To maintain and increase long-term fertility of soils;
- VII. To maintain the genetic diversity of the productive system and its surroundings, including the protection of plant and wildlife habitats;
- VIII. To promote the rational and proper use of water, water resources and all life therein;
- IX. To use, as far as possible, renewable resources mostly using native and/or local resources in agricultural and animal production activities;
- X. To create a balance between animal and plant production;
- XI. To give all livestock, including aquaculture, conditions of life which consider the basic aspects of their innate behavior, adapted to the needs characteristic of each species, which respect the principle of sustainable exploitation;
- XII. To minimize, and as far as possible, prevent all forms of pollution;
- XIII. To progress towards an entire organic production chain, which is both socially just and ecologically responsible;
- XIV. To design and manage the agricultural and livestock operation in accordance with biological processes based on ecologic systems, and
- XV. The Organic Production shall be linked to the soil.

The basic principles of organic production shall be observed by all the operators and considered for the development of their organic plans, which purpose is to ensure the organic integrity of the products and to improve in a sustainable manner the social and economic conditions of the rural population dedicated to agricultural and livestock activities of organic production in accordance with the provisions set forth in the Law and its Regulations.

**ARTICLE 6.-** All the products and byproducts of animal and/or plant origin claimed as organic shall be traceable, for which these shall be identified and registered; the latter shall be kept during at least five years by the operators.

## TITLE II

### ORGANIC OPERATION AND ITS PROCESSES

#### CHAPTER I

##### CONVERSION IN GENERAL

**ARTICLE 7.-** The party interested in being Organic Operator shall have an Organic Plan from the beginning of the conversion or at the time of applying for certification, which shall be updated on a yearly basis and shall include at least the following aspects:

- I. The management background or history, including the consumables used in the agricultural and animal production of the last three years;
- II. Description of the activities currently performed in the unit or which continue in the operation: of plant production like fertilization or plant nutrition, pest management; of animal production, animal feed, among others, indicating the activities to be executed in the conversion period;

III. A program of activities including the aspects that should be changed during the conversion process, for example: rotation of crop, manure management, livestock management, fodder production plan, pest and disease management, environmental conditions, soil preservation, management of water, including time limits

IV. The tools and machinery used in the organic operation shall be different from the one used in the conventional agricultural and livestock activity and where this is not possible, the tools and machinery used shall be cleaned to prevent contamination before being used in organic operations.

**ARTICLE 8.-** Operations during conversion period shall have at least one organic inspection during said conversion period, prior the first organic harvest.

**ARTICLE 9.-** Those animals and/or vegetables, their products or byproducts, which are in conversion phase, cannot be labeled, showed or sold with the reference of Organic or ecological Production and/or the prefix bio, eco, neither use the national organic emblem.

**ARTICLE 10.-** Where the conversion of the productive unit is simultaneous for plants and animals or integral farms; animals, grazing areas and any plot used for animal feed; the total conversion period shall be in accordance with the provisions set forth in this guidelines, as the case may be, for each species and applies to the animals existing in the units, their progeny, grazing areas and plots used for animal feed, crops, collection products, aquaculture and non-wood products, provided that the animals are fed mainly with products from the production unit and the soils have not received the application of prohibited substances for a period of 3 years prior to the organic harvest.

#### **SUB-CHAPTER I**

##### **CONVERSION FOR PLANTS AND RELATED LANDS FOR THEIR PRODUCTION, THEIR DURATION**

**ARTICLE 11.-** The annual or perennial plants in conversion process shall be handled in an organic manner and the soil should not have received the application of prohibited substances for a period of 3 years prior the organic harvest.

**ARTICLE 12.-** Recognition with retroactive nature for the conversion period may be possible when:

I. Showing evidence by means of records or analyses conducted, that no prohibited material and/or substance was used in the plots or that these were not at risk of contamination due to drifting of prohibited materials and/or substances in accordance with this Agreement;

II. Plots were in a rest period and in this period any prohibited substance or material were applied in accordance with this Agreement, or

III. Plots are for conventional agriculture and there is evidence that demonstrates that any prohibited substance or material was applied in accordance with this Agreement.

For the retroactive recognition, the information, field history and/or analyses conducted to the soil and/or plants shall be provided, which should be reflected in the Organic Plan.

The aforementioned shall be performed in accordance with the proceeding stated in article 214 of this Agreement.

**ARTICLE 13.-** In case the product loses its integrity due to the application or treatment with prohibited materials or substances during any phase of its operation, it cannot be sold as organic.

**ARTICLE 14.-** Where operations in conversion process or organic are contaminated or treated with any material or substance not listed in this Agreement, due to activities as the following:

I. Sanitary campaigns or phytosanitary emergencies in case of pests or exotic diseases or not expected by the authority;

II. For the development of scientific research by an official institution or authorized by the official entity, or

III. For the incidental application or drifting due to conventional agricultural and livestock activity, including climate-related disasters.

Even when organic operators had taken all the precautions to prevent contamination, contaminated production cannot be sold as an organic product. The Secretariat shall give notice of such situation by means of an official letter to the approved organic certification body or body acknowledged by the Secretariat of the group of Experts of the Council to proceed to set a new period of conversion, observing elements such as, type of production or management unit, time from cultivation to harvest for short-cycle, annual or perennial crops, degradation of sanitary or phytosanitary consumable applied, of which at the end of the conversion period shall be at least an insignificant level of residues in the soil; or in case of perennial crop in the plant, in accordance with the legal provisions applicable issued to that effect. Based on the evaluation, the Secretariat may impose the sanction in terms of article 47 of the Law.

## **SUB-CHAPTER II**

### **CONVERSION FOR ANIMALS AND RELATED LANDS FOR THEIR PRODUCTION, THEIR DURATION**

#### **SECTION I**

##### **CONVERSION OF LAND ASSOCIATED WITH ANIMAL PRODUCTION**

**ARTICLE 15.-** In the case of plots for fodder and grain production, as well as grazing areas and any surface used for animal grazing, the conversion periods to be applied shall be those established for plant production.

**ARTICLE 16.-** The conversion period for open air areas and exercise areas in hog and poultry production, should be reduced to six months if the plot(s) in question were not treated during at least one year before with prohibited or different products to those included in tables 1 and 2 of Annex I, or to the provisions set forth in Title VI of this Agreement. This situation shall be set out in the operator records.

**ARTICLE 17.-** In the case of animals, the conversion time shall be in accordance with the following periods:

- I. At least twelve months in the case of bovine and equine animals intended for the production of meat and, in any case during three quarters of their lifetime;
- II. At least six months in the case of small livestock like ovine, caprine and porcine species;
- III. At least six months in the case of animals intended for milk production, like goats, bovine and ovine species;
- IV. At least ten weeks for poultry raised for meat production, introduced before the three days of life, or
- V. At least six weeks in the case of poultry rose for egg production.

During the conversion time, animals shall be operated in accordance with this guidelines.

**ARTICLE 18.-**In the case of collection or trapped animals, like animals from cultivation areas or from rest areas or natural vegetation; the zones or areas of collection, like agricultural fields; their habitat shall be free from the application of prohibited substances or materials in accordance with this Agreement during the last three years.

**ARTICLE 19.-** In the specific case of beekeeping; the production unit shall pass through a conversion period of at least one year under organic management before the first organic harvest of honey. Wax shall be replaced by apiculture wax free of prohibited substances or organic apiculture.

**CHAPTER II**  
**PLANT AND ANIMAL PRODUCTION, STORAGE AND TRANSPORTATION**  
**SUB-CHAPTER I**  
**PLANT PRODUCTION AND ITS GENERALITIES**

**SECTION I**  
**ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS**

**ARTICLE 20.-** In the plant production, operators shall use materials, substances, consumables, methods and ingredients authorized and included in the National List for the organic operation in accordance with ANNEX 1, or which comply with Title VI of this Agreement.

**ARTICLE 21.-** Organic operators shall implement the measures necessary to prevent contamination of their operations with prohibited substances originated outside their operation or by environmental factors.

Units subject to organic operations shall be identified with signs, in the main sites, which shall be set out in the registration system of the production unite to ease traceability.

**ARTICLE 22.-** In those cases where the inspector identifies in the Organic Production unit elements like the presence of agrochemicals bags or containers, no activity of beneficial organisms, among others, or suspected presence of prohibited substances, the organic producer shall be requested to conduct the analyses to determine pesticide residue to detect residues in crops, in the soil, water as well as where organic operations are near to contamination sources, which shall be stated in the Organic Plan.

**SECTION II**  
**SOIL AND WATER PRESERVATION**

**ARTICLE 23.-** Any Organic Operator shall be provided with a program of preservation practices and improvement of the soil to prevent their loss and protect it, which shall be set out in the Organic Program and shall be aimed to improve the fertility and the potential of soil use to maintain the organic matter content and the development of plants and in accordance with the production areas.

**ARTICLE 24.-** According to the conditions and environmental factors, as well as the particular aspects of each production unit, erosion of the soil shall be prevented or reduced by using adequate agroecological practices of preservations such as, but not limited to:

- I. Live or dead barriers;
- II. Contour planting;
- III. Cover crops, and
- IV. Conservation tillage.

Furthermore, techniques that proceed in accordance with the agroecological production regions shall be used, which shall adhere to these guidelines.

**ARTICLE 25.-** Organic operators shall cannot practice burning of vegetation or areas with vegetation, organic matter, farm byproducts or organic residues in general. Said activity is prohibited within the schemes of organic production.

**ARTICLE 26.-** In areas where original or native vegetation is constituted by woods or forests, the organic operation shall establish in cultivation areas, diversified systems with two or more plant layers of native species, particularly in perennial crops.

**ARTICLE 27.-** Organic operators shall apply agronomic practices in order to maintain the soil covered with a layer of plants most of the time, in accordance with agroecological conditions.

**ARTICLE 28.-** Animal organic production shall contribute to the balance of plant or forestry production, fulfilling the needs for nutrients of plant species. In this way, these may help to establish and maintain the soil-plants, plants-animals and animals-soil interdependence, the particular aspects of the use of fertilizers and manure are specified in ANNEX 1 of this Agreement.

**ARTICLE 29.-** The use of micronutrients included in ANNEX 1 is justified on the grounds of deficiency in the plant or soil and shall adhere to the criteria set out in said annex.

**ARTICLE 30.-** Hydroponics and aeroponics are strictly prohibited, therefore production without soil is not in accordance with organic production, according to the provisions set forth in the Law and its Regulations.

**ARTICLE 31.-** Only the use of fertilizers and consumables for plant nutrition is authorized for soil fertilization, accepted and included in the national list according to ANNEX 1, or which have been assessed in accordance with Title VI of this Agreement.

**ARTICLE 32.-** Organic Operator shall set out in the Organic Plan those activities executed in terms of water preservation, among which there may be rational and efficient use, practices to prevent its contamination, the strategies and actions to preserve the resource, prevent its loss or contamination.

**ARTICLE 33.-** Organic Operator shall pursue the existence or prevalence of local and regional equilibrium on the water resource in its agricultural and livestock practices, making a rational use thereof without affecting third parties or the organisms that depend on it, such as aquatic and soil flora and fauna.

**ARTICLE 34.-** Organic Operator shall set out in the Organic Plan all the actions performed to prevent contamination of the water used in the activities characteristic of the organic agricultural and livestock production either practical or technical actions applied to eliminate or reduce the deterioration of quality of the water used, if necessary, in the activities characteristic of organic agricultural and livestock production.

### SECTION III

#### SEEDS OR PROPAGATION MATERIAL

**ARTICLE 35.-** Organic Operator shall use seeds and/or organic plant material from native or creole, hybrid varieties; those better adapted to the environmental or cultural conditions of each region; and in the absence of their organic type, or the species or variety of interest in the market are not available or not in sufficient amount the following will be accepted:

I. To use seeds or plant material in conversion or from natural production without treatment or with treatment of substances included in the list of ANNEX 1, or which have been treated with substances assessed in accordance with Title VI of this Agreement. In both cases, such seeds or plant material shall be organically produced during a period of no less than one year. In no case the seeds or plant material for edible sprouts may be treated;

II. To use untreated seeds or plant material; or treated with substances not included in the national list and the phytosanitary treatment is a compulsory requirement; in this case the actions to eliminate or reduce the presence of such substances shall be carried out before cultivation or planting; plants from these materials shall be organically managed. This exception shall cease to have effect when a sufficient disposal of seeds or organic plant material is available in the market, or

III. The Secretariat shall give notice by means of an official letter to the approved organic certification body or body acknowledged by the Secretariat, prior favorable opinion of the Council, to temporarily authorize the use of conventional seeds for organic production, in extraordinary situations such as natural disasters or due to risk of extinction of crops of interest, which shall be organically managed during a period of not less than one year. The Secretariat shall give notice of the measure adopted, the concerned crops, as well as of the period of exception to the organic certification bodies, in accordance with the applicable legal provisions issued to that effect.



In all cases, the operator shall express its commitment in the Organic Plan to generate its own seeds or plant material. Plant propagation, seeds or plant material production as well as the substrates used shall comply with this Agreement for the organic production.

**ARTICLE 36.-** In accordance with articles 35 and 36 of the Organic Products Law, seeds and plant material from importation shall be treated with methods or treatments according to ANNEX 1, or which have been treated with substances assessed in accordance with Title VI of this Agreement, such as the use of hot water; pentahydrate copper sulfate or similar, *Trichodermaspp*, *Bacillus subtilis*, among others, in such cases, these shall not be from excluded methods; or the alternative practices or consumables suggested by the Group of Experts of the introduction of pests or phytosanitary pathogens and can be used in the organic production systems to protect the organic quality of the materials and collaborate with plant health in the national territory.

**ARTICLE 37.-** The use of seeds or plant material from methods excluded or from genetically modified organisms or transgenic or their derivative is prohibited.

#### SECTION IV

##### ROTATIONS

**ARTICLE 38.-** Crop rotations, associations and/or mixed crops and intercropping shall be a priority in organic plans, as a strategy to avoid depletion of soil nutrients, to help the development of natural resistance to pests and soil diseases.

**ARTICLE 39.-** Planning rotations, associations and/or mixed crops and intercropping shall be aimed to prevent erosion, to keep soil fertility, to reduce nutrients washing out or leaching and the problems caused by pests, diseases and unwanted weeds.

**ARTICLE 40.-** In the case rotation is not possible, diversification of species shall be promoted by means of associations and/or mixed crops and intercropping to improve soil fertility and biodiversity.

**ARTICLE 41.-** The operator shall set out in the Organic Plan, crop rotation, the nature of the species, the presence of weeds, local conditions and the production and consumption needs, among others and for the case of plots used for grazing, rotations shall include legumes, as well as the promotion of agro-silvopastoral systems.

#### SECTION V

##### FERTILIZATION PROGRAM, SOIL AND PLANT MANAGEMENT AND NUTRITION

**ARTICLE 42.-** Organic plant production shall be aimed to:

I. Develop practices of plant fertilization and nutrition to favor the granular or crumb structure of the soil, by developing beneficial microorganisms and the measures to keep or increase soil fertility and not only to directly provide or apply nutrients to the plant;

II. Encourage and implement tillage and cultivation practices that keep, improve or increase organic matter in the soil, which reinforce soil stability and biodiversity, prevent ground compaction and soil erosion;

III. Manage the crop requirements of nutrients and soil fertility by means of rotations, crop associations, cover crops or the application of plant, animal, microbiological or mineral material;

IV. Apply plant and/or animal material mainly composted to prevent the contribution to water, harvest or soil contamination;

V. Use plant or animal material transformed into compost or not composted, free from prohibited materials, substances and consumables or not included in the National List of permitted substances, and

VI. Other that, in accordance with the Secretariat opinion are compatible with the principles of organic production.

**ARTICLE 43.-** In the case of composting process, the following shall be considered:

- I. Establish a maximum initial proportion in the C/N (Carbon/Nitrogen) ratio between 25:1 and 40:1, of the materials used of animal or plant origin;
  - II. In composting using a vessel, stack or static ventilated pile system; that it has kept a temperature between 55° C and 77° C minimum during three days turning them, or
  - III. In the case of composting using a windrow composting system; this was kept at a temperature between 55° C and 77° C for a period of 15 days minimum and at least five turnings were applied.
- In biointensive composting, a minimum of turnings is not required.

**ARTICLE 44.-** Organic Operators may only use and/or apply raw manure or not composted in the following cases:

- I. When applied in a field with crops not for human consumption;
- II. When included into the soil within a period of no less than 120 days prior harvesting a product which edible part is in direct contact with the surface of the ground or particles of the soil, or
- III. When included inside the soil within a period of no less than 90 days prior harvesting a product which edible part is not in direct contact with the surface of the ground or particles of the soil.

**ARTICLE 45.-** The Organic Operator shall first observe the prior practices for plant fertilization and nutrition, in case these are not sufficient and the use of substances or materials included in Table 1 of ANNEX 1 of the national list, or which comply with Title VI of this Agreement is necessary, these shall be handled with precaution and shall be considered as supplements; therefore in any case these may replace recycling of materials or nutrients.

## SECTION VI

### INSECTS, FUNGI, BACTERIAE, VIRUSES AND ARVENSE MANAGEMENT

**ARTICLE 46.-** Native plant species or varieties adapted or resistant to local environments shall be used to reduce the impact of pest and/or diseases attack, besides the appropriate management of soils, rotations and crop associations to help with the development of natural resistance to pests and diseases of crops or the soil.

**ARTICLE 47.-** Organic operators who have in their production unit unwanted weeds shall preferably remove them by mechanic or manual means and shall use appropriate, padded tools, covers (against biotransmitters), cover crops such as: legumes and wild plants. Fire may be implemented as thermal control only with flames, flame-throwers and blow torches, in borders and boundary strips.

**ARTICLE 48.-** Organic operators shall conduct an ecologic management of pests and diseases by means of timely cultural works; with natural control; the use of traps and/or natural predators of plant, animal, mineral origin; biologic control; physical and/or mechanic control by means of color traps, among others.

**ARTICLE 49.-** Organic operators shall manage or favor the diversity in the ecosystems and thus propitiate the development of natural enemies of pests or diseases for their control or reduction of incidence; encourage an agroecological management of crops, the design of sustainable agroecosystems to contribute with the health of crops or plants.

**ARTICLE 50.-** If the application of all the prior measures and the ecological management of pests and diseases is not enough to maintain pests and diseases below the economic threshold, operators may use the substances and materials in Table 2 of ANNEX 1 of the National List or those that comply with the provisions set forth in Title VI of this Agreement according to the uses stated.

**SECTION VII****USE OF PLASTICS**

**ARTICLE 51.-** In the case of plastics used in crops such as soil covers, fibers, insect nets and anti-hailstone mesh, trays, wraps for silage, ducts and components for irrigation and the bags for nursery, these are only permitted if elaborated from polyethylene, polypropylene and other polycarbonate. The use of chlorinated plastics and PVC for the above mentioned purposes is not allowed, and their use will be permitted only when the nonexistence in the market of products alternative to these is justified. This situation shall be set out in the Organic Plan. The use of PVC is permitted in water pipeline for irrigation.

Plastics employed shall be removed from organic plots after usage; therefore these shall not be burned to prevent production of dioxins and furans, and organic operators shall try to send them to recycling sites.

**SECTION VIII****WILD PLANTS OR COLLECTION PRODUCTS**

**ARTICLE 52.-** In the case of wild plants or from collection, their collection area shall be free from contamination with prohibited substances or materials for a period of 36 months prior collection and/or shall be located and far from the conventional production and contamination areas or sites, at an adequate distance that ensures they are free from contamination. Operators shall manage or favor the diversity in the agroecosystem and thus propitiate the development of natural enemies.

**ARTICLE 53.-** Products collected or their parts shall come from a wild environment or shall naturally grow in natural areas, woods, or in a clearly defined collection area, which shall be subject to a procedure of annual organic inspection detailed in Title IV, Chapter V, Section II of this Agreement, either by the Secretariat itself, the organic certification body or the body acknowledged by the Secretariat to apply a participatory certification, as appropriate, in accordance with this Agreement.

**ARTICLE 54.-** Harvest and collection of final product of wild or collection plants shall not affect the stability of the natural habitat or the maintenance of the species in the area.

**ARTICLE 55.-** Organic Operator who manages harvest or collection of wild or collection plants and non-wood forestry species shall be familiarized with the defined areas of collection, and in its case, the management or processing that does not alter the ecosystem as a whole and meets the requirements of record and control.

**ARTICLE 56.-** The collection area shall be clearly identified with:

- I. Exploitation stands;
- II. Sketch map of location, and

III. The establishment of a protection strip of at least 25 meters, if there are asphalt roads and/or neighboring cultivation systems using prohibited substances and shall be set out in the management Organic Plan.

**ARTICLE 57.-** The operator shall ensure that the area of wild collection is free of sources of contamination with prohibited substances, therefore, in case there is history of usage of chemicals, the Organic Plan shall include the analysis of the soil or plant, showing it is free of prohibited substances. In case there is contamination with prohibited substances, it shall pass through the conversion process.

**ARTICLE 58.-** The operator shall attach to the Organic Plan the valid permit or registration of the Secretariat of Environment and Natural Resources, where applicable, which shall be presented before the Secretariat, the organic certification body or the body acknowledged by the Secretariat to apply a participatory certification, as the case may be.

**SECTION IX****HARVEST, STORAGE AND TRANSPORTATION OF FRESH OR RAW PLANT PRODUCTS**

**ARTÍCULO 59.-** In the case of harvest, storage and transportation of fresh or raw plant products in order to preserve the organic integrity of the product and develop harvest, storage and shipping procedures that preserve the greater freshness and nutritional quality of organic products such as appearance, hygiene, freshness and nutrition, the techniques and materials included in this Agreement shall be used; consequently, ionizing irradiation of certified food is prohibited.

**ARTICLE 60.-** The harvest of any organic product shall be performed by the Operator at the adequate ripeness level, immediate cooling shall be by refrigeration, working areas for packaging shall remain clean, free from any prohibited substance, likewise the containers for storage during cooling.

**ARTICLE 61.-** Harvest volumes of products to be certified shall be consistent with the crop management, cultivated surfaces, climate conditions and varieties, which shall be set out in the organic plan.

**ARTICLE 62.-** Organic operators shall keep a recording and control system of harvested organic products in the premises or community warehouses or storages to ease traceability, which shall be provided to the Secretariat, organic certification body or the body acknowledged by the Secretariat to apply a participatory certification, if required.

**ARTICLE 63.-** In case the Organic Operator requires water in post-harvest management, this shall be drinking water and once used efforts shall be made to perform treatment techniques to reuse or discharge it.

**ARTICLE 64.-** In order to maintain the organic integrity of the product, the storage, warehouses or premises where organic products are kept shall preferably be exclusive for organic products, completely clean and free of prohibited substances, preventing their contact with the ground or soil and platforms free of chemical treatment shall be used.

Organic Operator shall use clean containers and in good conditions, exclusive for organic products; according to the relevant product, containers of vegetal fiber, glass, wood, cardboard or food grade material that protect the integrity of the organic product shall be used.

When products other than organic ones are stored in storages or premises for organic products, a separation shall be used to protect the integrity of organic products.

**ARTICLE 65.-** Organic products shall have an identification system that ensures a clear separation of these products, which shall operate as a tool to ease the flow follow-up of the product or the traceability that may be performed in each stage until transformation or processing.

Operators shall avoid any possibility of mixture with non-organic products, including also plant products from collection.

**ARTICLE 66.-** In case operators identify pests in the storages and/or the facilities in general, intended for organic products, they shall develop or apply any of the following measures:

- I. Preventive measures, such as:
  - a) Eliminate the pest habitat or conditions that promote its development, sources of food and reproduction areas;
  - b) Prevent its access to handling facilities, and
  - c) Manage environmental factors such as temperature, lightning, moist, atmosphere and air circulation, to prevent the pest reproduction.

II. Management measures, such as:

- a) Mechanical or physical controls including, but not limited to traps, lightning or sound, or
- b) Attractants or repellents using non-synthetic or synthetic substances included in Table 2 of ANNEX 1 of the National List or which meet the provisions set forth in Title VI of this Agreement.

III. Control measures.

If any of the practices set out in sections I and II were effective, those included in table 2 of ANNEX 1 of the National List or the ones that comply with Title VI of this Agreement; or, recommended by the group of experts of the Council may be applied, provided that the Organic Operator states so and demonstrates to the organic certification body or the body acknowledged by the Secretariat to apply a participatory certification, through the Organic Plan or registration system and took all the necessary measures to prevent contact of the products or ingredients organically produced with the substance employed.

The prior practices shall be applied giving preference to the preventive and management measures, only in case pests prevail, control measures may be applied.

**ARTICLE 67.-** If despite the practices applied according to the prior articles the pests prevail in the processing or handling facilities, the Operator may use substances as required by the federal laws and regulations, provided that the measures to prevent contact of the substance used with organically produced products or ingredients are taken, prior notice to the Secretariat or the corresponding certification body.

**ARTICLE 68.-** The Organic Operator shall set out in the Organic Plan the application methods and use of such substances mentioned in the prior article; furthermore, the operator shall present in said Organic Plan all the measures taken to prevent contact of the substance applied with organically produced products or ingredients.

**ARTICLE 69.-** For organic products transfer, Organic Operators shall conduct all the measures required to prevent contamination of the product to be transported using, if that is the case, the use of canvas tops, containers or other means and keep a record of the actions performed, which shall be kept in case the Secretariat, the organic certification body or body acknowledged by the Secretariat to apply a participatory certification, requires so.

## **SUB-CHAPTER II**

### **ANIMAL PRODUCTION AND ITS GENERALITIES**

#### **SECTION I**

##### **BOVINE, EQUINE, PORCINE, OVINE, CAPRINE SPECIES, POULTRY AND RABBITS**

**ARTICLE 70.-** In order to keep the organic integrity in terms of animal production in mammals, reptiles, poultry, organic operators shall observe the following general principles:

I. Organic animal production shall contribute to the equilibrium of agricultural systems, fulfilling the needs of nutrients of crops and improving the organic matter of the soil; therefore, operators shall establish and maintain the soil-plant, plant-animal and animal-soil interdependence. If operator is not provided with surface area for farm production or a written cooperation agreement with another operator, the livestock production cannot be organic production;

II. Renewable natural resources such as manure, legume cultivation, fodder cultivation shall be used; the plant cultivation and animal breeding, and other grazing systems shall ensure the maintenance and improvement of soil fertility in the long term and shall contribute to the development of a sustainable agricultural and animal production;

III. The Organic animal production is linked to the soil; therefore, it shall be provided with grazing areas and handling corrals, except when an exception is authorized due to medical prescription, animal welfare, behavior problems, among others. And the number of animals per area unit shall be limited to ensure an integral management of animal and plant production in the production unit; thus minimizing any form of soil, surface water or groundwater contamination;

IV. The organic animal production shall contribute to the preservation of threatened plant or animal species in the region where this activity is performed. The stocking ratio should keep a close relationship with the hectares available or in accordance with Table 8 of ANNEX 1, to prevent problems derived from over-grazing and erosion, and to allow manure spreading in order to reduce to a minimum any negative impact to the environment;

V. In organic animal breeding, animals of the same production unit shall be bred in accordance with the provisions set forth in this Agreement, except for the provisions set forth in article 79 regarding the introduction of males from non-organic units, for reproduction;

VI. When in an organic far there are conventional breeding animals, these shall be from species or animal varieties other than the organic one and which breeding is to be conducted in units and in premises or plots clearly separated from the organic production units; and

VII. Organic grazing areas may be used for grazing of non-organic animals during a limited period of time each year, provided that they are animals of extensive livestock farming and that in said grazing areas organic or in conversion animals and non-organic animals are at the same time. The stocking ratio should be in accordance with table 8 of ANNEX 1 of the provisions set forth in this Agreement.

## SECTION II

### ANIMALS OF NATURAL ECOSYSTEMS OR NON-DOMESTIC

**ARTICLE 71.-** Animals of natural ecosystems or non-domestic animals, such as iguanas, deer, boars, among others, shall come from Wildlife Conservation, Management Units (UMAs), which shall be used in accordance with the regulations applicable in this area, allowing the protection of the habitat and the rational use without damaging plant and animal populations, therefore:

- I. Organic products derived from UMAs shall comply with all the principles of organic production, and
- II. The extraction and recovery rate cannot exceed the rate indicated in the Organic Plan.

## SECTION III

### ORIGIN OF THE ANIMALS

**ARTICLE 72.-** At the time of selecting the animals, organic operators shall take into account their capacity to adapt to the environmental conditions and resistance to diseases, in order to prevent and avoid specific zoonosanitary problems associated with determined species used in intensive livestock farming; consequently preference shall be given to creole breeds or those better adapted.

**ARTICLE 73.-** Animals shall come from Organic Production units in accordance with the different types of animal production. The above does not apply when the Organic Production of flock, pack, or herd is started and the sufficient amount of animals from the same species or the amount desired produced under the same Organic Production system is not available. Animals bred in non-organic system may be introduced under the following conditions:

- I. Young birds called pullets for egg production, as long as they are no more than 18 weeks of age.
- II. for meat production of less than three days of age;
- III. Calves for reproduction, provided that the handling method is in accordance with the provisions set forth in this Agreement, from the moment of weaning or in any case they are less than six months of age;
- IV. Lambs and young goats for reproduction, provided that the breeding method is in accordance with the provisions set forth in this Agreement, from the moment of weaning or in any case they are less than 60 days of age, or
- V. Piglets for reproduction, provided that the breeding method is in accordance with the provisions set forth in this Agreement, from the moment of weaning and weighting less than 35 kg.

**ARTICLE 74.-** In certified operations, renewal or reconstruction of the flock, pack, or herd when organic animals are not available may be conducted in the following cases:

- I. When the Secretariat applies zoosanitary measures involving the reduction of the animal population;
- II. Due to high mortality of animals caused by diseases or catastrophes;
- III. When young birds pullets for egg production are less than 18 weeks of age;
- IV. When for meat production of less than three days of age, or;
- V. In the case piglets for reproduction, from the time of weaning and weighting less than 35 kg.

The above cases shall pass through conversion and shall be set out in the operator records.

**ARTICLE 75.-** In specific cases of pigs, poultry raised for egg production and poultry raised for meat production that require greater time for renewal or reconstitution of the herd or flock, when organic animals are not available it shall be set out in the operator records as well as the technical elements that justify so and the animals shall pass through conversion.

**ARTICLE 76.-** In the case there are difficulties to obtain organic breeders due to the existence of a reduced genetic heritage, which limits the sector development, producers may introduce a limited number of non-organic adult male and nulliparous female mammals for renewal or reconstruction of herds or flocks or a pack, which shall be bred in accordance with this Agreement; and the number of females shall be subjected to the following annual restriction:

I. Non-organic females may represent only a maximum of 10% of adult equine or bovine, including bubalus and bison species and 20% of adult porcine, ovine and caprine, and

II. In units with less than ten animals of equine or bovine species, or less than five animals of porcine, ovine or caprine species, above mentioned renewal shall be limited to a maximum of one animal per year.

**ARTICLE 77.-** Percentages established in the prior article shall not be applied to production units with less than 10 animals from bovine species, or less than 5 animals from porcine ovine or caprine species. For these units, renewal or reconstitution of the herd or flock when organic animals are not available mentioned in article 73, shall be limited to a maximum of one animal per year.

**ARTICLE 78.-** Percentages mentioned in article 76 may increase until reaching 40% in the following special cases:

- I. When an important extension of the farm or exploitation is undertaken;
- II. When breed is changed;
- III. When new breeding specialization is started, and

IV. When there are breeds in danger of abandonment or extinction, in which case females of such breeds shall not necessarily be nulliparous.

In all case shall be organically bred at least during one year; further, these cases shall be set out in the operator records.

**ARTICLE 79.-** In the cases the introduction of non-organic males is required for reproduction purposes, animals once introduced in the unit shall be bred and fed according to the provisions set forth in this Agreement; therefore, the Secretariat, the organic certification body or body acknowledged by the Secretariat to apply a participatory certification shall observe their compliance by requesting to Organic Operators to state so in their Organic Plan.

**ARTICLE 80.-** In all the cases when non-organic animals are introduced for herd or flock renewal or reconstitution in accordance with the provisions set forth section III of this sub-chapter, addressing the measures established in the zoo-sanitary provisions, consequently a notice shall be given to the Secretariat when suspecting that any of the animals does not comply with the animal health provisions; the Secretariat shall order its immediate removal from the market and shall establish the corresponding zoo-sanitary measures in accordance with the provisions set forth in Article 88 of the Federal Law on Animal Health.

#### SECTION IV

##### FEEDING

**ARTICLE 81.-** Feeding of organic animal production shall be intended to guarantee the quality of its production; therefore nutritional requirements of livestock shall be met during its different developmental stages, being prohibited force-feeding such as the use of appetite stimulants; continuous feeding during the day and night; thus, neither synthetic growing factors or synthetic aminoacids shall be used.

**ARTICLE 82.-** Operators shall ensure that feeding of animals for Organic Production is by means of simple organic feedstuffs or the elaboration of composed portions or diets.

**ARTICLE 83.-** Handling of animals for organic production shall be conducted according to the provisions set forth in this Agreement, using food from the unit or, when possible, from other units or companies that observe the Organic Products Law, its Regulations and this Agreement.

Except for the period of each year in which animals practice transhumance, at least 50% of the food for herbivores shall come from the farm itself or, if this is not possible, shall be produced with other organic farms or ranches; evidence of this action shall be set out in the Organic Plan.

**ARTICLE 84.-** Up to a maximum of 30% of the formula of the dietary allowance as average, of food in conversion may be used. When said food in conversion comes from a unit of the same farm or ranch, the percentage may be increased to 60%. These figures shall be expressed in percentage of dried matter of the food of agricultural origin.

**ARTICLE 85.-** Young mammals feeding shall be based in organic milk, preferably breast milk. All mammals shall be fed based in organic milk during a minimum period, according to the relevant species, that shall be of 3 months for bovine, 45 days for equine, ovine, caprine and 40 days for porcine.

**ARTICLE 86.-** When necessary, due to lack of food, animals may be transferred to areas provided with the organic recognition by the Secretariat, the organic certification body or the body acknowledged by the Secretariat to apply a participatory certification for grazing purposes. This situation shall be set out in the Organic Plan.

**ARTICLE 87.-** In herbivores, breeding systems shall be based in the maximum use of pasture according its availability during the different seasons of the year. At least 60% of dried matter of the daily intake shall be composed by common, fresh, dried or fodder or silage. However, in the case of animals for milk production, operator may use up to 50% during a maximum period of 3 months at the beginning of breast feeding.

**ARTICLE 88.-** Notwithstanding the provisions set forth in article 83, in critical years of lack of food due to natural catastrophes determined by the Secretariat, by means of the corresponding declaration, the Organic Operator may use a limited proportion of food external to the production unit in accordance to the following order of preference: organic, in conversion to organic, extensive or traditional or natural agriculture and as a last resort, from conventional or intensive agriculture, in accordance with the legal provisions issued by the Secretariat to that effect. In the last three cases, breeders shall include in their Organic Plan evidence that proves the impossibility of obtaining Organic Production food and make it available for the Secretariat, the organic certification body or the body acknowledged by the Secretariat for verification and inspection purposes.



The percentage of conventional food for non-herbivore animals such as pigs and poultry, within a period of three years from the publication of this Agreement shall be deferred as follows:

In the case of natural catastrophes, the Secretariat shall give notice by means of an official letter to the approved organic certification body or the body acknowledged by the Secretariat of the terms in which the following shall be used:

10% of non-organic food of plant or animal origin calculated of dried matter of the annual diet, and

5% of non-organic food of plant or animal origin calculated of dried matter of the annual diet.

In both cases, the percentage cannot be over 25% of daily diet.

This situation shall be set out in the operators records and shall be verified and audited by the Secretariat, the approved organic certification body or the body acknowledged by the Secretariat, to apply a participatory certification.

**ARTICLE 89.-** In the case forage production is lost or restrictions are imposed derived from exceptional meteorological conditions, due to outbreak of infectious diseases, for contamination with prohibited substances, or due to fire, the Secretariat shall immediately give notice by means of an official letter to the approved organic certification body or the body acknowledged by the Secretariat that for a limited period of time and for an specific area, a greater percentage of foodstuffs or conventional food may be determined according to the procedure of the prior article.

**ARTICLE 90.-** Organic operators shall include fresh, dried forage resources available of the region or silage to daily diet of pigs or poultry, or other food resources available.

**ARTICLE 91.-** Only the products included in paragraphs 1.5 and 3 of table 6 of ANNEX 1 of this Agreement may be used as additives or processing aids, respectively, in fodder silage.

**ARTICLE 92.-** Raw material for animal feed may be used as follows:

I. Of conventional, agricultural origin may be used only if included in article 140, regarding raw material of plant origin for animal feed provided that they comply with the restrictions set forth in this Agreement, and

II. Of conventional, animal origin or organic, if included in article 141, regarding raw material of animal origin for animal feed and provided that they comply with the restrictions set forth in this Agreement.

**ARTICLE 93.-** In terms of raw material of plant origin for animal feed included in article 140 of this Agreement, those non-organically produced may be used provided that these same products does not exist under the organic system in the country, this shall be set out in their records, internal and shall be verified or inspected by the Secretariat, the approved organic certification body or the body acknowledged by the Secretariat to apply a participatory certification.

**ARTICLE 94.-** In order to fulfill the needs of the animals for nutrition requirements, only the products mentioned included in article 142, regarding raw material of mineral origin and in sections 1.1 (dietary elements) and 1.2 (vitamins, provitamins) of Table 6 of ANNEX 1 of this Agreement, shall be used.

**ARTICLE 95.-** Only the products included in Table 6 of ANNEX 1 of this Agreement may be used in animal feed with the purposes stated in connection with the categories mentioned in the previously mentioned normative precepts. No antibiotics, synthetic coccidiostat, drugs, growth promoters or any other substance used to stimulate growth or production shall be used or applied.

**ARTICLE 96.-** Animal feed, raw material for animal feed, additives and processing aids in animal feed and certain products used in animal feed shall not be produced with the use of methods excluded or from them, neither of genetically modified products derived thereof.

**SECTION V****ECOLOGICAL MANAGEMENT OF PESTS AND DISEASES AND DISEASE PREVENTION**

**ARTICLE 97.-** In order to control and prevent diseases, the Organic Operator shall observe the following:

- I. Select resistant or tolerant species, according to the agro-climatic or ecosystem conditions;
- II. The application of appropriate zoo-technical practices adjusted to the needs of each species and which favor the resistance to diseases;
- III. The use of high quality feeding, in combination with exercise and access to pastures on a regular basis to favor the development of natural immunological defenses of the animal, and
- IV. Maintenance of the adequate animal density in the production units, preventing overload and health problems that this could pose.

**ARTICLE 98.-** If despite all the preventive measures indicated any animal is sick or injured, it shall be immediately treated in isolation conditions when required and in adequate premises; therefore the use of veterinary medicinal products in organic farms or ranches shall meet the following:

- I. Fitotherapeutic products of extracts shall be preferably used, except for synthetic antibiotics; plant essences, homeopathic products such as plant, animal or mineral essences and dietary elements, as well as products listed in article 142, relative to raw material of mineral origin (food of mineral origin) of this Agreement, instead of chemically synthesized allopathic veterinary medicinal products;
- II. If the use of the products indicated is not effective, or not likely to be effective, to heal a disease or injury, and the administration of a treatment that prevents suffering or disorders to animals are essential, chemically synthesized allopathic veterinary medicinal products or antibiotics may be used under the responsibility of a veterinary;
- III. The use for preventive treatments, chemically synthesized allopathic veterinary medicinal products or antibiotics is prohibited, and
- IV. Besides the provisions set forth in sections I, II and III, veterinary treatments to animals or the treatment of equipment and facilities mandatory in virtue of the national law are authorized; particularly the use of veterinary immunological drugs, once the presence of diseases in the area where the production unit is, is detected.

**ARTICLE 99.-** Whenever veterinary medicinal products are to be used, the Organic Operator shall clearly enter in the record the type of product indicating the active drug substances contained, and include detailed information of the diagnosis, application doses, administration method, treatment duration and time of withdrawal or the clearance time required to eliminate substances or their residues in live animals or in their products.

Furthermore, animals treated shall be clearly identified; big animals, individually and poultry and small animals, individually or per lots.

If substance used is not included as permitted in the National List, the animals treated with it cannot be marketed as organic.

**ARTICLE 100.-** Waiting time between the last administration of the allopathic veterinary drug to the animal, under normal conditions according to the instructions on the label and the obtaining of organic feeding products from such animal shall be the double or shall be doubled to ensure the absence of drug residues; and for the case where there is no specific time, the waiting time shall be 72 hours.

**ARTICLE 101.-** Animals receiving more than three chemically synthesized allopathic veterinary treatments or antibiotics within one year, or if their reproductive life cycle is below one year and receive more than one treatment; animals, their products and byproducts thereof cannot be sold as organic and shall be subject to the conversion period established in this Agreement. Said situation shall be set out in the records and shall be notified to the Secretariat so this can evaluate if animals subjected to veterinary treatment can keep the organic condition.

The notice referred to in the prior paragraph shall be by means of a free writing addressed to the Secretariat, the approved organic certification body or the body acknowledged by the Secretariat to apply a participatory certification, complying with the formalities set forth in article 15 of the Federal Law on Administrative Procedure, and stating the reasons why it is necessary to apply the veterinary treatment. The Secretariat shall have 10 working days following the presentation of the notice to inform the particular on any missing information.

## SECTION VI

### ANIMAL HANDLING, TRANSPORTATION AND IDENTIFICATION OF ANIMAL PRODUCTS

#### SUBJECT I

##### ZOOTECHNICAL PRACTICES

**ARTICLE 102.-** Organic reproduction of animals shall be based on natural methods. The other forms of artificial or assisted reproduction, like cloning, embryo transfer, among others are not permitted.

However, artificial insemination may be conducted prior authorization of the Secretariat, the organic certification body or the body acknowledged by the Secretariat to apply a certification, by means of a free writing providing their identification number as Organic Operator and attaching the technical support justification, thus, these shall issue an answer to the Organic Operator request within a maximum term of five working days. In case the Organic Operator does not comply with the requested information referred to in this Agreement, the Secretariat, the body approved or authorized by the Secretariat shall prevent him within a maximum period of three working days. Therefore, the Organic Operator shall have three working days to amend the prevention made, if opposite, the request shall be dismissed.

The validity of the authorization shall be of three months from issuance.

**ARTICLE 103.-** In the animal handling practices it is prohibited the use or administration of substances aimed to stimulate animal growth or the production of hormones or similar substances for reproduction control, the introduction or synchronization of estrus with other purposes, antibiotics, coccidiostatic and those with similar effect are included.

**ARTICLE 104.-** In organic animal handling practices, operations such as the placement of rubber rings in the tail of sheep or male testicles, tail cutting or teeth cutting or beak trimming and horn removal as well as animal tethering cannot be performed.

However, the aforementioned practices may be performed due to safety reasons, such as horn removal in young animals or when aimed to improve welfare or hygiene of animals, provided that these are conducted by qualified personnel and the animal has an advanced age, prior authorization from the Secretariat, the approved organic certification body or the body acknowledged by the Secretariat to apply a participatory certification, by means of a free writing providing the identification number as Organic Operator attaching the technical justification and identification information of animals to which such practices shall be applied, thus these shall issue an answer to the Organic Operator request within a maximum period of five working days. In the case the Organic Operator does not comply with the requested information referred to in this Agreement, the Secretariat, the body approved or acknowledged by the Secretariat shall prevent the organic operator within a maximum period of three working days to amend the prevention made, if opposite the request shall be dismissed.

**ARTICLE 105.-** Physical castration shall be permitted in order to maintain the quality of the products and traditional practices of production, provided that this is performed by qualified personnel and the animal is at an adequate age for the handling practice, thus preventing animal stress.

**ARTICLE 106.-** According to that stated in the prior article, operators shall monitor animals exercise on a regular basis and the handling is conducted in compliance with the welfare requirements of animals in areas provided with appropriate beds and where they receive individual attention.

**ARTICLE 107.-** Only for individual units, animals may be kept tethered when they cannot be kept in appropriate groups, the Organic Operator shall monitor that they are capable of graze in an open area or an exercise area in the open. This situation shall be set out in the operator record.

**ARTICLE 108.-** In those cases where animals are bred in groups, the size of the groups shall be defined in terms of the development stage of the animals and the needs inherent to the behavior of the species concerned and animal welfare. It is prohibited to subject animals to certain conditions or to a diet that favors anemia appearance or practices that stimulate appetite and favor the appearance of metabolic problems.

**ARTICLE 109.-** As regards to poultry, the ages at the time of slaughter shall be as a minimum the following:

- I. 81 days for ducks;
- II. 49 days for chickens;
- III. 100 days for female turkeys;
- IV. 140 days for male turkeys and geese; and
- V. 150 days for capons (male fowl castrated).

## **SUBJECT II**

### **ANIMAL TRANSPORTATION**

**ARTICLE 110.-** Animal transportation shall be performed in such a way that the stress to which they are subjected to is reduced and animal welfare ensured. Cages and transportation means shall be in appropriate conditions of cleanliness and this, if necessary, shall be made with products permitted in this Agreement. Whenever possible, transportation time shall be reduced.

**ARTICLE 111.-** Load and unload shall be conducted with precaution, without using any electrical stimulation system in animals. The use of allopathic tranquilizers before and after transportation is prohibited.

During the phase leading to slaughter and at the time of it, animals shall be treated in such a way that the stress is reduced to a minimum and looking for animal welfare.

## **SUBJECT III**

### **IDENTIFICATION**

**ARTICLE 112.-** All organic animals shall be permanently identified using the appropriate techniques in each species; individually in the case of larger species and individually or per lot in the case of poultry and smaller species. Likewise, animals or animal products shall be identified throughout the entire production, preparation, transportation and marketing chain. The aforementioned to ease traceability.

**ARTICLE 113.-** In the slaughter area of organic animals, processing areas shall comply with the requirements stated in Chapter III processing and marketing of this Agreement.

**SUBJECT IV****MANURE**

**ARTICLE 114.-** In grazing areas and considering the time animals spend grazing, stocking density shall not exceed 500 Kg of Nitrogen per hectare per year (N/h/year) being the total manure and urine provided by different types of animals to the soil.

For different types of animals, stocking density shall be defined according to Table 8 of ANNEX 1 of this Agreement.

**ARTICLE 115.-** Based on the provisions set forth in the prior article, the amount of nitrogen introduced to the soil as product of the animal excrement could be less than 500/kg (N/ha/year) depending on the characteristics of the relevant area and the application of other sources of nitrogen such as fertilizers, legumes among others.

**ARTICLE 116.-** Farms and ranches of organic products that provide amounts under 500/kg (N/ha/year), could cooperate exclusively with other organic farms and companies, in order to spread the exceeding manure from organic production. The maximum limit of 500 kg of nitrogen of manure per hectare of agricultural and livestock surface used for a year, shall be calculated based on the total amount of farms of Organic Production involved in said cooperation.

**ARTICLE 117.-** The capacity of the manure storage facilities shall be such that the handling reduces contamination or prevents it, due to runoff or filtration to sources of water or to the ground.

**ARTICLE 118.-** In order to improve the adequate management of manure, the capacity of the facilities for its management shall be above the capacity of the required storage in the seasons of highest concentration. Concentration may be due to an inadequate season to apply manure to cultivation plots, the unit is located within the area classified as vulnerable to nitrates and where their application is prohibited, among others.

**SECTION VII****CORRALS, ACCOMMODATION AREAS AND IN THE OPEN FOR ANIMALS**

**ARTICLE 119.-** Operators shall observe the following as general principles for organic animals in corrals, areas in the open and for accommodation:

I. Accommodation conditions of animals shall answer to their biological and ethological needs, such as the appropriate liberty of movement and comfort; only in some cases shall be in the open, when climate conditions make possible the life of animals;

II. Accommodation areas shall allow sufficient and natural vent and entry of light, isolation, heating and ventilation of the areas shall ensure that air circulation, dust level, temperature, relative humidity and gas concentration are kept within limits that are not harmful for animals;

III. Animals shall have easy access to food and water;

IV. Animals shall have permanent access to areas in the open, in its case pastures, provided that the plant, soils and atmospheric conditions allow so, according to the provisions set forth in Table 8 of ANNEX 1 of this Agreement, and

V. Corrals, exercise area in the open and open areas shall offer welfare to animals and sufficient protection against rain, wind, the sun and extreme temperatures; according to local climate conditions, the species concerned and the conditions required, shall be provided according to the provisions set forth in Table 9 or 10 of ANNEX 1 in this Agreement.

**SUBJECT I****LIVESTOCK DENSITY, OVERGRAZING PREVENTION AND CLEANING**

**ARTICLE 120.-** Animal concentration in the open areas shall be compatible with the comfort and welfare of animals considering the following:

I. Organic Operator shall consider the needs inherent to the behavior of animals according to the group size, physiological status and sex, factors that will depend on the species, breeds and age of the animals. Optimal load cannot exceed the standards established in the following article, in order to ensure animal welfare, providing them with sufficient space to stand up in a natural way, to lay down easily, turn, clean themselves, to be in any normal position and make natural movements like stretching and wing flapping, and

II. In areas where climate conditions allow the life of animals outdoors, accommodation areas shall not be mandatory.

**ARTICLE 121.-** In terms of livestock density, the provisions set forth in Tables 8, 9 and 10 of ANNEX 1 of this Agreement where the minimum surfaces for stabling and exercise areas and other accommodation conditions are established, corresponding to the different species and types of animals, shall be observed.

**ARTICLE 122.-** Livestock density in the outdoors, pasture, other types of fields, scrub-land, wet areas and other natural or semi-natural habitats, shall be sufficiently low to prevent pasture, native vegetation destruction due to overgrazing, muddy places or soil erosion according to the provisions set forth in the prior article.

**ARTICLE 123.-** Accommodations, facilities and tools shall be suitably cleaned and sanitized in order to prevent multiple infections or the development of germ-carrier organisms. For this cleaning and sanitization of areas and facilities only the products listed in Table 7 of ANNEX 1 of the National List shall be used.

Manure, urine and spilled or not consumed food shall be removed regularly enough for a maximum reduction of smells, to prevent the attraction of insects, rodents and prevent infections. For the elimination of insects and other pests in spaces and other facilities for animals, only those listed in Table 2 of ANNEX 1 of the National List may be used.

**SUBJECT II****MAMMALS**

**ARTICLE 124.-** In correlation with the provisions set forth in this Agreement in Chapter II, mammals shall have access to pastures and open areas for exercise or open areas, that may be partially covered and shall be able to use those areas provided that the physiological conditions of animals, atmospheric conditions and the status of the ground allow so, unless regulations are opposed due to specific sanitary problems with animals by competent authorities. Herbivore animals shall have access to pastures, provided that the conditions allow so; likewise, bulls older than one year shall have access to pastures, open areas for exercise or areas in the open.

**ARTICLE 125.-** Regarding the provisions set forth in the above article, the final fattening phase of cattle, pigs and sheep for meat production may be carried out in a closed area, provided that it does not exceed a fifth part of their lifetime and in any case a maximum of three months.

**ARTICLE 126.-** When herbivore animals have access to pastures during the grazing period and when the accommodation system due to adverse climatological conditions allows free of movement to animals, the obligation to provide open areas for exercise and areas in the open may be suspended during adverse events due to events where the will of mankind does not intervene.

**ARTICLE 127.-** The floor of the facilities where animal breeding takes place shall be provided with an adequate drainage and shall not be slippery. As a minimum, half of the surface shall be sound floor with solid materials other than slats. In the case of sheep, pig and goat of humid areas, there can be an area(s) with slat(s).

**ARTICLE 128.-** Accommodation shall be provided with a comfortable, wide, clean and dry area to sleep or rest, built with the materials characteristic of each region. As part of animal welfare, rest areas shall have straw or other adequate natural materials and may be wet and/or enriched with any of the natural products included in Table 1 of ANNEX 1 of this Agreement.

**ARTICLE 129.-** Accommodation of calves in individual areas during the first week of life is prohibited, unless for prevention of diseases.

**ARTICLE 130.-** Adult female pigs may be kept in groups, except during breast feeding and in the last third of the gestation period, times in which they may remain in wide, individual corrals to ensure their welfare. Piglets cannot be kept in raised platforms or cages. Exercise areas shall allow animals to make their physiological needs and practice the habits characteristic of their species.

### **SUBJECT III**

#### **BIRDS**

**ARTICLE 131.-** Poultry shall be bred under open area conditions and in accordance with the requirements included in Tables 8 and 10 of ANNEX 1 of this Agreement.

Poultry houses shall be built in such a way that birds have easy access to an area in the open. An specific area to pile and compost excreta shall be provided, avoiding to the maximum any negative effect to the environment.

**ARTICLE 132.-** When meteorological conditions allow so, aquatic birds shall have access to watercourse, puddle or pond in order to respect the requirements of animal welfare or the hygiene conditions.

**ARTICLE 133.-** The premises for poultry shall comply with the following conditions:

I. At least one third of the floor shall be a sound construction, this is, not in the form of bars or slats, covered with straw, shaving, sand or peat bed;

II. Floor of poultry houses shall be covered with a bed of a dried material that can absorb moist form excreta. This bed shall be regularly turned and changed to reduce excessive humidity;

III. Poultry houses shall be provided with entry and exit traps with appropriate size for birds in a ratio of at least four meters of traps per each 100 square meters of the premises surface area available for poultry;

IV. In the case of laying hens, facilities shall be provided with a floor surface where animals can move and excrete allowing an easy cleaning;

V. These shall be provided with crossbeams used for birds to sleep, which number and sizes shall address the importance of the group and size of the birds in accordance with table 10 of ANNEX 1 of this Agreement;

VI. Each poultry house shall not have more than:

- a. 4800 chickens,
- b. 3000 laying hens,
- c. 5200 Guinea hens,
- d. 2500 capons, geese or turkeys, and

VII. Total surface area of poultry houses that can be used for meat production, of each production center shall not exceed 1,600 m<sup>2</sup>.

**ARTICLE 134.-** In the case of laying hens, organic operators may supplement natural light required with artificial means to obtain a maximum of 16 hours of light on a daily basis, with a period of continuous night rest without artificial light of at least 8 hours.

**ARTICLE 135.-** When birds are kept indoors due to restrictions or obligations due to official zoosanitary requirements, they shall have access at all times to enough amounts of fodder and other appropriate materials to meet their ethological needs.

**ARTICLE 136.-** When meteorological conditions allow so, organic operators shall provide access to poultry to areas in the open; said access shall be ensured at least during one third of poultry lifetime, provided that it is possible. Open areas shall be covered with vegetation for the most part and shall be provided with protections and allow animals to easily access to water dispensers and troughs.

**ARTICLE 137.-** Organic operators shall ensure that the areas are emptied after breeding each lot of poultry, to clean and sanitize buildings and material used in them. Besides, each time bred of one lot of poultry, corrals shall be evacuated so vegetation can grow and for sanitary reasons.

#### **SUBJECT IV**

#### **GENERAL EXCEPTION REGARDING ANIMAL ACCOMMODATION AND CATASTROPHIC CIRCUMSTANCES**

**ARTICLE 138.-** In accordance with the provisions set forth in articles 126, 133, 134 and the stocking density considered in Tables 8, 9 and 10 of ANNEX 1 of this Agreement, with reference to animal accommodation, at the time the interested party applies for organic certification, the latter may request a transitory exception to adapt the infrastructure of the productive unit.

The exception referred to in the above paragraph may be only applied to the production units with facilities built before December 31, 2008, which had been certified as organic under voluntary schemes before the date mentioned.

Producers to which this exception can be applied shall set it out in their application O-SQ-F-01, as well as in the organic plan, where the follow-up measures to the end of the exception shall be stated.

The Secretariat, approved organic certification body or the body acknowledged by the Secretariat, as the case may be, shall inform the interested party on the total or partial application of the exception through the document referred to in article 26 of the Regulations.

**ARTICLE 139.-** In the case catastrophic circumstances arise due to exceptional meteorological conditions, a pest or disease outbreak object of zoosanitary or phytosanitary campaigns, fire, and high mortality of animals is produced, the Secretariat shall give notice by means of an official letter to the approved organic certification body or body acknowledged by the Secretariat, as the case may be, and may be authorized to inform organic operators on the renewal or reconstitution of herds or packs with non-organic animals, in the case animals organically bred are not available.

In its case, the Operator shall have available for the Secretariat, the approved organic certification body or the body acknowledged by the Secretariat, as the case may be, the above as well as the supporting documentation of such exception for verification or inspection purposes.

The cases included in this article shall be applied in the case of fodder production loss for animal feed in organic production.



**SECTION VIII****RAW MATERIAL FOR ANIMAL FEED****SUBJECT I****RAW MATERIAL OF PLANT ORIGIN**

**ARTICLE 140.-** Raw material of plant origin are considered to be, including but not limited to the following:

I. Cereal grains, seeds and their products and/or byproducts. In this category are included as the case may be: grains, meals, skins, germ, proteins and bran, of species like oats; barley; rice; rye; millet, sorghum; wheat and corn or another gramineous;

II. Seeds and/or oleaginous fruits, their products and byproducts are included in this category, seeds, fruits and vegetable oils extracted by physical extraction and paste or cake obtained from the following species: soy; safflower, sunflower seed; cotton; flaxseed; sesame; palm, coconut, pumpkin and olive;

III. Legume seeds, their products and byproducts, are included in this category, seeds, meals, germ and skins from species like the following: chickpeas; lentils; graspea; pea (example *Lathyrussativus*, *Pisumsativum*); soy; peanut; beans; vetch, vicia (example *Vicia ervilia*); Nescafe bean (mucuna), dolichos (gallinita), gandul pea, canavalia, mesquite (example genus *Prosopis*), huizache (mimosas example *Acacias*) and beans;

IV. Tubers, roots and their products and byproducts, including in this category roots, tubers, pulps, starches, proteins and meal from the following species: potato, sweet potato, yam, malanga root, jicama, beet and yucca;

V. Other seeds and fruits, their products and byproducts, the following are included in this category, as appropriate: sheath, nuts and acorns of wild species such as; oaks, huizaches, mesquites; or cultivated species such as walnut trees; pulps and/or fruits of citric, tropical fruits such as: mangoes, sapota, soursop, custard apple, sweetsop, banana, watermelon, melon; fruits from mild climate, apples, pears, plumb; grapes, figs, among others. Locust beans, sheath and locust bean meals, pumpkin; apple, quince, pears, peaches, figs, grape pulp; chestnuts, pressure cakes or paste of nuts, hazelnuts; peelings and paste or cake of cacao; acorn; pistachio; jicama;

VI. Green, silage, fodder, hay, meal of foliage, straw, roots, stubble, in this category are included products and byproducts from the family of Gramienea or Poaceae such as; corn, sorghum, sugar cane, forage grasses among others; legumes such as; alfalfa, clover, lotus, gourd, huizache, cacahuananche, erythrit, mesquite, gliricidia (cocohite), among others; and the families of Moraceae such as browse (*Brosimummalicastrum*) and from cactacea such as prickly pear, among others, and

VII. Other vegetables, their products and byproducts, in this category are included among others: la molasses, algae meal on drying and algae milling and after washing to reduce iodine content, powders and plant extracts, vegetable protein extracts (provided only to offspring), spices and aromatic plants.

**SUBJECT II****RAW MATERIAL OF ANIMAL ORIGIN**

**ARTICLE 141.-** Raw material of animal origin are considered to be, including but not limited to the following:

I. Milk and dairy products, such as: raw milk, powdered milk obtained from thermal treatment, skimmed milk, powdered skimmed milk, cottage, milk whey, powdered milk whey, powdered milk whey low in sugar, powdered milk whey protein (by physical treatment), casein powder (powdered cheese) and lactose powder, curd and sour milk (sour), yogurt, dairy byproducts, and cream;

II. Fish and other marine animals, their products and byproducts, the following are included in this category: fish, unrefined fish oil and cod liver oil; autolysates, hydrolysates and proteolysates of fish, mollusks or crustaceans obtained by enzyme action, in soluble and non-soluble form, only for offspring; fish meal, and

III. Eggs and egg products to feed poultry, preferably obtained in the exploitation itself, as well as eggshell as calcium source, provided that it is subjected to a drying, cracking and roasting process.

### **SUBJECT III**

#### **RAW MATERIAL OF MINERAL ORIGIN**

ARTICLE 142.- Only the following are considered in this category as raw material of mineral origin:

I. SODIUM: Unrefined sea salt coarse rock salt sodium sulphate sodium carbonate sodium bicarbonate sodium chloride;

II. POTASSIUM: potassium chloride;

III. CALCIUM: shells of aquatic animals (including cuttlebone), calcium carbonate, calcium lactate, calcium gluconate;

IV. PHOSPHORUS: dicalcium phosphate fluoride, monocalcium phosphate fluoride, monosodium phosphate, calcium and magnesium phosphate, calcium and sodium phosphate;

V. MAGNESIUM: magnesium oxide (anhydrous magnesium), magnesium sulphate, magnesium chloride, magnesium carbonate, magnesium phosphate, and

VI. SULFUR: sodium sulphate.

### **SUB-CHAPTER III**

#### **ANIMAL PRODUCTION INSECT CLASS AND ITS GENERALITIES**

ARTICLE 143.- This Sub-chapter is aimed to regulate the specific production applicable to the following species: bees, collection, wild capture insects and others.

### **SECTION I**

#### **COLLECTION OR WILD CAPTURE ANIMALS AND NON-TRADITIONAL**

**ARTICLE 144.-** It is understood as collected animals or under cultivation system among others eggs, larvae, nymphs or adult insects such as maguey worms, cerambycids larvae, *Liometopum apiculatum* larvae (ant larvae or escamoles), ant's eggs, among others; those captured or cultivated such as grasshoppers, bedbugs, chichatanas or ants, among others, and may be certified as organic, provided that they comply with the following requirements:

I. These shall come from areas of Organic Production or an ecosystem with little or no human intervention and without any contact with prohibited substances;

II. When including evidence in the Organic Plan or attached document demonstrating that collection, cultivation, capture, confinement and processing does not alter or affect the ecosystem as a whole if the capture or extraction rate is not greater than the reproduction rate and the record and control requirements are met, and

III. That by means of the site history or the organic plan, during the last three years, said collection, cultivation or capture areas have not been subjected to any treatment with prohibited products or other than those included in ANNEX 1 of the National List, that jeopardize their organic integrity.

**ARTICLE 145.-** Collection, capture shall not have negative effects or consequences for the environment or for any animal or plant species at risk of extinction, where the capture and extraction rate is not greater than the reproduction rate, which shall be set out in the organic plan.

**ARTICLE 146.-** In the case of collection or capture of any animal species regulated by SEMARNAT, the registration, permit or authorization granted by SEMARNAT shall be attached to the certification application, according to the current regulations, and in the case of the species that require so.

**SECTION II****APICULTURAL PRODUCTION**

**ARTICLE 147.-** Apicultural species to be used in Organic Production shall be those adapted to the conditions of the area or region, with adaptability characteristics and resistance to pest and disease attack, observing at all times the use of local ecotypes or in its case *Apis mellifera*.

**ARTICLE 148.-** For the renovation of beehives, each year a maximum of 10% of queen bees and non-organic swarms may be included to organic beehives. Queen bees and swarms shall be placed in boxes with organic panels or sheets of wax. This shall be registered by beekeepers and shall continue to be recognized as organic.

**SUBJECT I****LOCATION OF APIARIES AND FORAGING AREAS**

**ARTICLE 149.-** Apiaries shall be places in sites and places provided with:

- I. Sufficient nectar and natural pollen sources for bees;
- II. Sources of clean water;
- III. That within a 3-kilometer radius around apiaries have nectar and pollen sources and are essentially organically produced crops, wild plants or forests of traditional cultivation or which have not been treated with prohibited substances, and
- IV. Areas free of prohibited substances affecting the organic integrity of apicultural production.

The requirements listed in this article shall not be applied to the areas when there is no flowering or when beehives are resting.

**ARTICLE 150.-** Apiaries shall be located at a sufficient distance from the sources that may contaminate apicultural products or damage bee health. It is prohibited to locate organic apiaries in areas where, within a radius under 3 kilometers there is:

- I. Landfill site.
- II. Sanitary landfills or another source of contamination;
- III. Cultivation in flowering stage which have been treated with pesticides or prohibited substances;
- IV. Cities or populations; places of heavy traffic and contamination;
- V. Market and treatment plants of sewage waters, and
- VI. Other places that jeopardize the organic integrity of apiaries and apicultural products.

**SUBJECT II****APICULTURAL PRACTICES AND ACCOMMODATION CONDITIONS**

**ARTICLE 151.-** Apicultural production shall observe the following:

- I. Beehives boxes shall be made of natural materials that do not carry risk of contamination for the bees, the environment or products from apiculture.
- II. Wax from new frames shall be free of prohibited substances or shall come from organic production units.
- III. In the case of new apiaries or beehives boxes, non-organic bee wax may be used only after demonstrating that it is free from contamination with prohibited substances;
- IV. Only natural products such as propolis, wax and plant oils shall be used in beehives.
- V. It is prohibited the use of synthetic chemical repellents during honey collection operations.

VI. Bee destruction in honeycombs is prohibited as a method associated with collection of beehives;

VII. Mutilations such as cutting the tip of the wings of queen bees are prohibited, and

VIII. Honey collection in combs with brood of bees is prohibited.

### **SUBJECT III**

#### **APICULTURAL FEEDING**

**ARTICLES 152.-** Feeding of organic beehives shall be based in the collection of nectar and pollen by the bees in the foraging area. At the end of the productive station, sufficiently abundant honey and pollen reserves shall be left in the beehives for the critical epoch of food shortage.

**ARTICLE 153.-** Artificial feeding of bee colonies shall be permitted only when survival of beehives is jeopardized due to climatological conditions and only between the last honey collection and the 15 days prior to the next period of nectar and honeydew period. Said feeding shall be made with organic honey, organic sugar syrup or organic sugar.

Apiaries where artificial feeding is used shall have their records available stating: type of consumable used; dates of provision; amounts used; beehives where artificial feeding was used.

### **SUBJECT IV**

#### **SPECIFIC MEASURES FOR PROFILAXIS AND VETERINARY TREATMENT IN APICULTURE**

**ARTICLE 154.-** For frames, beehives and combs protection, particularly from pests, only the use of substances permitted and the relevant products listed in Table 2 of ANNEX 1 of this Agreement called Agents for the ecologic management of insects, fungi, viruses, bacteriae and arvenses, listed in this Agreement shall be used

**ARTICLE 155.-** Operators shall take into account as veterinary measure and treatment in apiculture the following:

I. Physical treatments for disinfection of apiaries such as steam or direct flame are permitted

II. The practice of destroying the male brood is permitted only to isolate the infestation of *Varroa*.

III. If despite all preventive measures, the colonies become sick or infested, they shall be treated immediately and, if necessary, the colonies can be placed in isolation apiaries.

IV. Veterinary medicinal products may be used in organic apiculture inasmuch as the corresponding use is registered before the competent authority, in the applicable case and it is included in the national list as permitted.

V. Formic acid, lactic acid, acetic acid and oxalic acid as well as menthol, thymol, eucalyptol or camphor may be used in cases of infestation with *Varroa destructor*.

VI. If a treatment is applied with chemically synthesized allopathic products, during such a period, the colonies treated shall be places in isolation apiaries and all the wax shall be replaced with wax coming from organic apiculture. Subsequently, the conversion period of one year shall apply to those colonies.

VII. When veterinary medicinal products are used, this shall be stated to the Secretariat, the approved organic certification body or the body acknowledged by the Secretariat to apply a participatory certification, as the case may be, according to the provisions set forth in article 99 of this Agreement, before beehives or their products are marketed as organic. And shall be clearly identified per beehives or lots, as applicable, in the operator records.

**SUBJECT V****CATASTROPHIC CIRCUMSTANCES**

**ARTICLE 156.-** In the case of high bee mortality caused by a catastrophe or a disease, the Secretariat shall, taking into account the opinion of the group of experts of the Council, notify by means of an official letter the approved organic certification body or the body acknowledged by the Secretariat, as applicable, that procedures for reconstitution of organic beehives with or non-organic beehives can be authorized.

Organic operator shall make available for the Secretariat, the approved organic certification body, or the acknowledged body the corresponding evidence for inspection or verification purposes.

**ARTICLE 157.-** In the case where exceptional meteorological conditions arise during a long period of time or a catastrophe that prevents nectar or honeydew production, and bees are fed with organic honey, organic sugar or organic sugar syrup; the operator shall make available for the Secretariat, the approved organic certification body or body acknowledged by the Secretariat, as the case may be, the supporting documentation of the practices mentioned for verification and inspection purposes.

**SUB-CHAPTER IV****PRODUCTION OF FUNGI CLASS AND ITS GENERALITIES**

**ARTICLE 158.-** For the case of fungus and mushrooms production, raw material shall be tree trunks or any other material useful for their cultivation, including those of specialty.

From production and/or handling, raw material shall be free from substances, materials, consumables among others prohibited according to this Agreement; therefore, the use of additives such as synthetic fertilizers or pesticides shall not be permitted.

For specialty fungus, covers for mycelium sites and trunks used to prevent the loss of humidity shall be paraffin-based with food quality, wax for cheese, mineral oil or bee wax. Recycled wax may be used for the same purposes, provided that its origin can be defined by the operator.

In the case any of the fungus species require coverage, organic material and/or plastic material with food grade shall be used. Tree covers, petroleum products such as oil-based paints and latex are prohibited.

**ARTICLE 159.-** Mycelium and suppliers selection is the choice of the operator. When insufficient offer of organic mycelium, the one from natural production, free of prohibited substances, materials, consumables shall be selected.

**ARTICLE 160.-** The production unit and/or production areas where raw material is located, operators shall observe that air flow is appropriate and shall eliminate blocks affected by pests or diseases. The use of mechanic controls such as traps and physical barriers, biological controls such as natural predators and parasites and other sprayed or powders like diatomaceous earth, soap with permitted substances, as well as diluted bleach used for disinfection are pest controls permitted.

The use of substances, materials, consumables not permitted according to this Agreement is prohibited for the management of pests and weeds.

**ARTICLE 161.-** Location of the production unit or wood lots for the production of specialty fungus produced in the open in natural trunks shall be provided with a buffer strip of 35 m of agricultural fields to prevent slippage of contaminants from crops. The use of weed-killers for weed and bushes control is prohibited.

**ARTICLE 162.-** Well water, stream or pond used to wet trunks or blocks, operator shall analyze it to determine if the concentration of nitrates and coliform is within the acceptable level for production. In urban areas it is acceptable to use chlorinated water permitted by the competent authorities. The use of water treated or contaminated with substances, materials, consumables, among others, prohibited according to this Agreement or products from urban, industrial procedures or from waste treatment is prohibited.

**ARTICLE 163.-** Handling during harvest, storage and shipping of organic products shall be in such a way to ensure utmost freshness and nutritional quality.

**CHAPTER III**

**PROCESSING AND MARKETING**

**SECTION I**

**RAW MATERIAL**

**ARTICLE 164.-** Any raw material intended for processing organic products shall be certified or at least shall comply with the provisions set forth in article 166 in the last article of this section.

**ARTICLE 165.-** The characteristics of raw material shall be:

I. Its quality same as its nature and amount shall be documented using the registration and documentation systems that support so,

II. The use of the same treated or fumigated with prohibited products is not permitted, and

III. The use of irradiated raw material is not permitted.

**ARTICLE 166.-** Raw material ingredients shall be:

I. At least 95% of the ingredients of agricultural origin shall be produced in accordance with this Agreement; and

II. When ingredients of non-agricultural origin are used, these shall be substances or products listed in Table 3 and/or 4 of ANNEX 1 of this Agreement.

**SECTION II**

**HYGIENE AND HEALTH IN PROCESSING PLANTS**

**ARTICLE 167.-** A firmly established health program shall be developed in the processing plant, including by way of illustration but not limitation:

I. The outside establishments and areas: dumps, waste collection center, machinery and old equipment storage, gardens and parking areas;

II. Inside facilities and areas including processing, packaging, bottling and storage areas;

III. Processing, bottling and packaging equipment. Programs for insects, bacteriae, fungus and yeast prevention among other unwanted ones;

IV. Employees hygiene, including health in canteens, rest areas and restrooms; and

V. Establish measures necessary to prevent personnel from jeopardizing the organic integrity of the products.

**ARTICLE 168.-** Instruments and substances used to clean are considered aids in the process; their usage shall be clearly identified and shall not have residues of prohibited materials or substances. Cleaning instruments shall be cleaned after being used to ensure the absence of prohibited residues in the equipment, likewise primary and secondary surfaces used to prepare or elaborate final organic products.

**ARTICLE 169.-** Cleaning and health records indicated in this section shall exist, which shall be available during organic inspection.

**SECTION III****ECOLOGIC MANAGEMENT OF INSECTS, FUNGUS, BACTERIAE, VIRUSES AND ARVENSES IN PROCESSING FACILITIES**

**ARTICLE 170.-** Management and control of pests and harmful fauna shall be conducted following a firmly structured plan, empathizing the restriction of pests habitat and good sanitation for their elimination, which shall be set out in the organic plan.

**ARTICLE 171.-** Regular inspections shall be carried out in the process plant to determine the presence and in its case, the level of damage caused by pests or harmful fauna.

**ARTICLE 172.-** The following is permitted for pest control:

I. The use of mechanic, electric and adhesive traps, attractants such as traps with pheromones, physical barriers and repellent mechanisms based in illumination and sound systems;

II. Biological control;

III. Storage methods that offer additional protection to products in terms of adulteration due to harmful animals; and

IV. In the case the practices listed in sections I, II, III are not effective, the use of substances listed in ANNEX 1 of the National List of permitted substances for agricultural and livestock organic operation may be used.

**ARTICLE 173.-** In the case preventive measures and the practices established in the prior article are not sufficient for pest control and materials or substances permitted are not available; one material or one substance provided with the registration in the Federal Commission for the Protection Against Sanitary Risks may be used for the same purpose to be applied in the processing facilities, and shall be limited to urgent circumstances when the organic certified product is at imminent risk of adulteration due to the presence of pests.

The application shall be performed by trained personnel and there shall not be organic product in the area or site to be treated.

**ARTICLE 174.-** Prior to the application of prohibited materials in the processing facilities, the operator shall notify the Secretariat, the approved organic certification body or the body acknowledged by the Secretariat, as applicable, providing the identification number of Organic Operator including supporting technical justification, with information indicating the specific areas where the application shall take place and the pests to be controlled; and this shall be registered or documented for the organic inspection process. In the case the Organic Operator does not comply with the requested information referred to in this Agreement, the Secretariat, the body approved or authorized by the Secretariat shall immediately inform the organic operator; thus, the Organic Operator shall amend the prevention made, if opposite the request shall be dismissed.

**ARTICLE 175.-** Fumigation with methyl bromide, aluminum phosphide or any other fumigant not included in Table 2 of ANNEX 1 of the National List in the processing facilities is prohibited.

**ARTICLE 176.-** The use of pesticides in the form of fogging in facilities where organic products can be contaminated is prohibited.

**SECTION IV****PACKAGING AND BOTTLING**

**ARTICLE 177.-** All the packaging and bottling materials shall be of food degree and shall be appropriately designed to protect the organic integrity of the processed product, they shall be free from substances and/or materials prohibited that jeopardize the organic integrity of the product.

**ARTICLE 178.-** The use of packaging and bottling materials used which had contained conventional agricultural products, or coming from methods excluded, as well as the use of bottles that contain lead solder is prohibited. Welding and sheet made from 95% tin and welding with food degree free from cadmium are permitted.

**ARTICLE 179.-** All packaging and bottling materials shall protect the organic integrity of the product. The outside print or label of the product or outside packaging shall use non-toxic inks and adhesives and shall not be in contact with the organic product.

**ARTICLE 180.-** For packaging and bottling, materials that in their manufacture, use or discard reduce to the minimum the negative effects on the environment or which have been manufactured with renewable, biodegradable materials or in its case for the packaging of recyclables, shall be preferably used.

## SECTION V

### PRODUCT FLOW REGISTRATION

**ARTICLE 181.-** In the processing plan there shall be records of the entry of raw material in the most detailed manner according to the form established by the operator, as well as the inventory in storages, amounts of processed product per working day and per lots and exit records of the processed product.

**ARTICLE 182.-** Each process plan shall be provided with the registration forms or logs designed by the operators and where they shall indicate the movements of raw material, the use of equipment and materials used in the plant.

**ARTICLE 183.-** All type of records, including accounting records related with products certified as organic, shall be organized in such a way that they allow to clearly know the product flow from the raw material operator to the distribution system of the organic processed product.

**ARTICLE 184.-** All the records for product tracking shall be available during the organic inspection or audit process, which shall be attached to the Organic Plan.

## SECTION VI

### PARALLEL PROCESSING

**ARTICLE 185.-** Operators who process organic and conventional product (parallel processing) shall submit to the body that monitors the organic certification, a reliable separation system of the product, aiming at the exclusive processing of organic products. Processing organic ingredient can be carried out only after cleaning, in its case purge, of production equipment. The efficacy of cleaning measures applied shall be controlled and reflected.

**ARTICLE 186.-** Separation of organic product from the conventional product shall be ensured during all the process stages: raw material entry, storage, process times, storage of final or processed product.

**ARTICLE 187.-** All the records and documents that state the separation of organic from conventional product shall be available for organic inspection, which shall be attached to the Organic Plan.

**ARTICLE 188.-** If parallel processing is occasional, before starting the processing of organic product, a notice shall be given 72 hours in advance to the Secretariat, the approved organic certification body or the body acknowledged by the Secretariat to apply a participatory certification, as the case may be, including the identification number of Organic Operator and indicating the product to be processed. In case the Organic Operator does not comply with the requested information referred to in this Agreement, the Secretariat, the body approved or acknowledged by the Secretariat shall immediately inform the Organic Operator. Consequently, the Organic Operator shall amend the prevention made, if opposite, the request shall be dismissed.

**ARTICLE 189.-** All the measures to ensure the identification of lots, to protect the integrity of organic products and to prevent mixture with non-organic product shall be taken.



**SECTION VII**  
**STORAGE AND TRANSPORTATION**

**ARTICLE 190.-** The storage and transportation of the organic products must be made without affecting its organic integrity and the organic products must be identified clearly and unmistakably both in storage and transportation.

**ARTICLE 191.-** The operators whose activity is being wholesale and/or retailer must guarantee that the bulk organic products are transported in suitable containers, closed vessels or vehicles that make it impossible to substitute its contents, avoid every possible mix or interchange with non-organic products or organic product deterioration; in turn they must be provided with a label or identification and/or documentation where the following data are stated:

- I. The operator's name and address, and if it were different, that of the owner or seller of the product;
- II. The name of the product, its description, along with the reference that it is an organic product;
- III. The name or code number of the approved organic certification body or body acknowledged by the Secretariat to apply a participatory certification, person in charge of the operator's certification, and
- IV. If applicable, the lot identification code or that convened with the body that follows up the organic certification and that allows to link the lot with the documentary accounts.

The information referred to on previous fractions can also be presented on an organic control document or its equivalent accompanying the shipment, provided that said document can be related so that it presents no doubt with the product's transportation container, vessel or vehicle. This control document should include information related to the supplier or carrier, or both where appropriate, when requested.

**ARTICLE 192.-** Closing the containers, vessels or vehicles will not be required when:

- I. The transportation is made by two retail operators subjected to the organic control system, and
- II. The products are accompanied by a document containing the information demanded on the previous article.

The sender and recipient operator must maintain documentary records on such transportation operations, same that should be available to approve or acknowledged organic certification bodies approved, or to the Secretariat.

**ARTICLE 193.-** When receiving finished products from other processing or transformation units, the closing of the packaging or container and their compliance with article 191 of this Agreement must be checked and verify that the information on the label or identification and documents accompanying the product correspond. The information must be recorded to comply with this Agreement, which could be checked during organic audit or inspection.

**SECTION VIII**  
**MARKETING**

**ARTICLE 194.-**For those natural or legal persons or operators whose activity is marketing organic products, they should be subjected to a control system and prove that the organic integrity is maintained, according to this Agreement.

**ARTICLE 195.-** The trader must make sure that the used storage rooms are available during organic inspection or supervision. When such facilities are outside of Mexico, these should be subjected to control from a body approved by the Secretariat or by the country of origin when an equivalence agreement exists.

**ARTICLE 196.-** The trader must implement records that allow the organic inspection to verify the traceability of the organic product, as well as develop the flow of every marketed, exported or imported organic product lot and, other aspects mentioned herein.

**ARTICLE 197.-** the trader must show, during organic inspection, the trader's documentation as well as all the storage facilities included those where the operator hires a third party and in this case, the organic inspector can select no less than 70% of the facilities for a full physical inspection to confirm that the organic integrity of the products certified as organic is kept.

**ARTICLE 198.-** The finished organic products must be marketed in suitable containers or vessels and that impede its contents substitution. The containers must show the trader's identification and some numeric or code system that allows to recognize or identify said lot with its control documentation or equivalent.

### TITLE III

#### REFERENCES ON THE LABELING AND PROPERTIES DECLARATION

**ARTICLE 199.-** According to what is established on articles 6 fraction X subsection B and C; 30 and 32 of the Organic Products Law, the general aspects and specifications for the use of the Organic term or its synonyms on the labeling of the organic products are established.

**ARTICLE 200.-** For fresh or unprocessed products, the labeling or advertisement of marketed products with organic denomination must comply with the following aspects:

I. "Organic" or "100% Organic" product must contain at least 95% of organically produced ingredients according to the regulation on organics, except water and salt, and

II. Have been elaborated or produced by a controlled and certified operator.

**ARTICLE 201.-** The operator must state on the organic products label, the organic operator identification number, identification of the Body that certifies the product and mention that the product is free of genetically modified organisms, thus complying with article 44 of the Organic Products Law Regulation.

**ARTICLE 202.-** The distinctive use will be made according the General Usage Rules that the Secretariat issues by means of applicable dispositions.

**ARTICLE 203.-** The organic products must have an identification system through labels, books, records and/or indications that show a clear separation and that avoid every possible mix with other products than organic and allow traceability of the product.

**ARTICLE 204.-** For processed and packaged products, the operator must declare the following in their labels:

To declare that the product is:	<b>"Organic"</b> or <b>"100% organic"</b> (or a similar declaration)
The product	Must contain at least 95 percent of the ingredients produced organically, except water and salt.  It may contain up to 5% of the ingredients included on Table 5 of ANNEX 1, when they are organically unavailable in the market. They must be free of prohibited substances.  They must not have added sulfites.
The label MUST:	Show an ingredient declaration.  Show the list of organic ingredients, when they come from duly identified organic products.  Water and salt, as ingredients, cannot be identified as organic.

	<p>Indicate in the lower part, the manufacturer's name and address (packaging plant, distributor, importer, processor, etc.) of the finished product and preceded by the declaration:</p> <p>"Certified as organic by...", or a similar phrase, followed by the name of the Secretariat, the approved organic certification body or body acknowledged by the Secretariat to apply a participatory certification. The seals of the certification entities cannot be used to fulfill this requirement.</p>
The label CAN:	<p>Show the term "organic"</p> <p>Have the national symbol and/or the seal(s) of the Secretariat, the approved organic certification body or body acknowledged by the Secretariat to apply a participatory certification.</p> <p>Show the commercial domicile, Internet address or telephone number of the Secretariat, the approved organic certification body or body acknowledged by the Secretariat to apply a participatory certification.</p>
When it wants to declare:	<b>"Made with Organic Ingredients"</b> (or a similar declaration)
The product	<p>Shall contain at least 70 percent of the ingredients produced organically, except water and salt.</p> <p>Must not have added sulfites, except, wine (it may contain sulphur dioxide) and may contain up to 30% of:</p> <p>Agricultural and livestock ingredients produced non-organically or other substances, including yeast, allowed on the annexes in this Agreement.</p>
The label CAN show:	<p>The term <b>"Made with... organic"</b> (ingredients specified or food groups).</p> <p>"X% organic" or "X% organic ingredients" The commercial domicile, Internet address or telephone number of the Secretariat, the approved organic certification body or body acknowledged by the Secretariat to apply a participatory certification.</p>
To declare:	That its product contains some organic ingredients
The product	<p>Can contain less than 70% organic ingredients, except water and salt.</p> <p>Can contain over 30%:</p> <p>Agricultural and livestock ingredients produced non-organically or other substances, including yeast, allowed on the annexes in this Agreement.</p>
The label MUST:	<p>Demonstrate an ingredient declaration when using the word organic.</p> <p>Identify organic ingredients as "organic" in the ingredient declaration when presenting the organic %. Water and salt, as ingredients, cannot be identified as organic.</p>
The label CAN demonstrate:	<p>The organic status of the ingredients on the ingredient declaration. Water and salt, as ingredients, cannot be identified as organic.</p> <p>"X% of organic ingredients" when identifying ingredients produced organically in the ingredient declaration.</p>

**ARTICLE 205.-** The general labeling specifications of agricultural and livestock food and drinks, general systems of measurement units, commercial information and amount declaration, distribution and generic content of the information on labels, will adjust to what is established by the current Mexican Official Standard.

#### TITLE IV

### ORGANIC CERTIFICATION

#### CHAPTER I

### ORGANIC CERTIFICATION PRINCIPLES

**ARTICLE 206.-** It will be the responsibility of the body approved or acknowledged by the Secretariat to apply a participatory certification, the issuing, maintenance, broadening, suspension of the granted organic certification, and cannot delegate said responsibility to persons or entities external to the bodies.

**ARTICLE 207.-** The operations that comply with this Agreement will be eligible for organic certification, for which the operator must demonstrate to have control over all the activities developing on the producer unit and that the organic integrity of the products is maintained.

**ARTICLE 208.-** The decision to certify or not a product as organic, will be judged by the Secretariat, the approved organic certification body or the body acknowledged by the Secretariat to apply a participatory certification, based on the received information from the requesting operators and obtained during the organic inspection process which should be enough and pursuant of the Law, its Regulation and this Agreement. They should be backed up by every documentary record of the operator and provide or be objective evidence that support the evaluation and the decision made by the certification body.

**ARTICLE 209.-** The certification issued by the approved organic certification body or the body acknowledged by the Secretariat to apply a participatory certification will be according to the scope of its approval or acknowledgment and shall observe at all times the provisions on articles 26 and 27 on the Law Regulations.

**ARTICLE 210.-** The coordinator of the organic certification committee of the certification body shall be a professional with minimum experience of 3 years in organic matter and shall have the following responsibilities:

I. Check the files and coordinate the timely issuing of recommendations;

II. Coordinate that the issuing of recommendations are only in three ways; you can qualify to be certified with improvement recommendations; certification is denied by indicating the noncompliance and/or locate in conversion, or certification is granted without recommendations each shall contain the technical, resolvent and resulting aspects as minimum. In case of minor noncompliances, the certification may indicate conditions to fulfill in the certification renewal.

The granted certificate shall include the identification number as organic operator

III. Propose the participation of a Secretariat official, in case of requests of operators with complex, polemic and/or conflictive files, for support and where appropriate final opinion, or

IV. Coordinate so that the certification requests resolution is made under the following principles, as minimum:

a) Review that the certification requests are duly requested and signed by the applicant or its authorized representative;

b) Make sure that the scope of the requested certification is defined, and

c) Where applicable, propose to request the applicant to provide the necessary information for attending its request.

**ARTICLE 211.-** To apply a participatory certification, the Secretariat, the approved organic certification body or the body acknowledged by the Secretariat shall provide the operators with a certificate duly signed by the assigned responsible person for it; where, besides containing what is stated on article 26 and 17 of the Law Regulation, shall indicate the type of activity or subsection of this Agreement, with which it complies.

**ARTICLE 212.-** When dealing with the rectification of a foreign product made by another similar body, with which Mexico has no equivalence agreement, all the necessary measures must be taken to verify the scope, the validity of the previously issued certificate, and the applicability of the certification which confines it, as well as any other information regarding the competence of the body who made said certification.

The rectification shall only proceed when the certification requirements are met and previously verified, the correction of the conditions or established noncompliances in the prior certification.

The body must always document the noncompliances or the conditions under which they were certificated and their resolution.

**ARTICLE 213.-** The information of the operators' status as retired or in conversion certificates, must be available or accessible to the public.

## CHAPTER II

### CERTIFICATION PROCEDURE BY THE SECRETARIAT OR THE APPROVED CERTIFICATION BODY

#### SECTION I

##### ORGANIC CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

**ARTICLE 214.-** Every organic operator interested on:

- a) Certifying its organic operation, renovating or broadening their certification or begin the conversion period, must apply by means of form O-SQ-F-01 or that applied by the approved body.
- b) Rectification of its organic operation must apply by means of form O-SQ-F-02 or that applied by the approved body.
- c) Retroactive acknowledgment of the conversion period, must apply by means of form O-SQ-F-01 or that applied by the approved body, and also to annex the records or analysis applied to the soil and/or plants, and documentary evidence which may be accompanied by complementary information that is considered of interest for the request proceeding.

To the request forms referred to on subparagraphs a) and c), the Organic Plan must be attached additionally, adhering to what is prescribed by this Agreement, indicating the agricultural and livestock activity interested on certifying or reduction of the conversion period.

The cases contemplated previously should be requested to the Secretariat or the approved certification body.

**ARTICLE 215.-** The Secretariat, the Secretariat Approved Body, shall issue a response to the Organic Operator's request within a maximum period of thirty working days. In case the Organic Operator does not comply with the requested information referred to on this Agreement, the Secretariat, the Secretariat Approved Body shall prevent him within a maximum period of twenty working days. For it, the Organic Operator shall have a period of twenty working days to amend the made prevention, otherwise, the certification request shall be rejected or locate the operator in conversion period when in noncompliance with the certification requirements.

The validity of the procedures stated on the subparagraphs of the previous article shall have a maximum validity of a year from the date of issue.

**ARTICLE 216.-** The approved certification body or the Secretariat following up on the certification, may take samples for the detection of unauthorized supplies on the Organic Production or which are incompatible with the organic production.

**ARTICLE 217.-** The operator shall present along with the request, the organic plan, adhering to what is prescribed on this Agreement, accordingly, or the form applied by the Secretariat approved or acknowledged body, which shall contain at least the following:

I. Description of practices under organic methods and procedures to make and maintain, including the frequency with which it will be done;

II. The list and systematic record of used substances and materials, indicating their composition, source, place of usage and available commercial documentation and supply label;

III. Description of continuous practices of preservation established on the units, to verify that the Organic Plan is being implemented effectively, as well as the future intentions and about the improvements in every production area;

IV. Full description of the implemented record system;

V. Description of administrative practices and physical barriers established by the operator to maintain the products' organic integrity and prevent the mix of organic and non-organic products in a parallel operation; and

VI. Other information that according to forms on organic plans, is required to comply with this Agreement, of the organic operation activities.

**ARTICLE 218.-** For any modification of the granted certification, the Secretariat or the certification body shall have the corresponding evaluation procedures.

**ARTICLE 219.-** The certification applicant operator who outsources any of the organic operation activities to a third party, the third party shall perform the conformity operations with this Agreement and the outsourced activities shall be subjected to the same certification and control system.

## SECTION II

### CERTIFIED OPERATIONS.

**ARTICLE 220.-** The Secretariat, the approved organic certification body or the body acknowledged by the Secretariat to apply a participatory certification, shall maintain the list updated, with names and addresses of the certified operators.

**ARTICLE 221.-** The Secretariat, the approved organic certification body or the body acknowledged by the Secretariat to apply a participatory certification, can effect random organic inspection control visits, preferably without previous notice, based on a general evaluation of the risk of noncompliance with this Agreement, taking into account the results from previous certifications, the amount of affected products, the product substitution risks or third party complaints; at least once a year. For the case of a trader he can include a full physical inspection of the facilities and the trader's documentation and, if applicable, of a selection of other facilities and storage used by the trader.

**ARTICLE 222.-** The Organic Operator records shall serve so that the certification body or control authority can, respectively, identify and prove the following:

I. The organic product supplier and, if different, the seller, exporter or importer;

II. The nature and amounts of the organic products entered into the unit and, if applicable, of all the acquired materials or supplies, as well as their usage, and, if applicable, their formulation or that of the food;

III. The nature and amount of stored organic products in the storage facilities;

IV. The nature, amounts and receivers of buyers, except final consumers;

V. The product conditions at the moment of reception of the organic products and demonstrate the balance between incoming and out coming organic products, and

VI. In case of the operators who do not store or physically handle the organic products, they should record the nature and amounts of the purchased and sold organic products, indicate their suppliers and buyers, except final consumers

**ARTICLE 223.-** The Secretariat, the approved organic certification body or the body acknowledged by the Secretariat to apply a participatory certification shall inspect or, where appropriate, monitor the operators according to what is established on article 39 of the Organic Products Law Regulation, who shall dispose the records of their organic operation during no less than 5 years, after their creation; having access to them during normal working hours, for their revision, supplying a copy of those determining compliance with this Agreement.

**ARTICLE 224.-** The performance of activities not allowed according to this Agreement, or any action indicated on CHAPTER III of TITLE VI shall be considered as serious noncompliance, and the operations shall go through a conversion period.

**ARTICLE 225.-** The certification applicant operator should:

I. Allow the Secretariat approved or acknowledged certification body, access to every part of the unit and every premises, as well as records and their pertinent backups;

II. Facilitate the Secretariat approved or acknowledged certification body with all the information considered reasonably necessary for organic inspection;

III. Present, at the request of the Secretariat approved or acknowledged certification body, the results of quality guarantee or quality control programs, and

IV. When dealing with vegetables or animals or imported products, the importers and first receivers shall present the backup information and documentation.

### CHAPTER III

#### PARTICIPATORY CERTIFICATION

**ARTICLE 226.-** In terms of the provisions in article 24 of the Law and the diverse 14 of its Regulation, the Secretariat can acknowledge the participatory certification system, the family production producers and/or small producers that comply with the following in an organized manner:

I. Be directly involved in a production and offer initiative, through one of these mechanisms: markets, marketplace, direct deliveries to consumers or another who seeks to apply this system;

II. Constitute an organization that allows them to operate the organic participatory certification system;

III. Form a minimal human resources and documentation structure to guarantee their processes and consumers' trust, and

IV. Own a space to offer their products as long as they sell and/or deliver said products directly to the final consumer or user, as long as they are not produced, prepared or stored if not in connexion with the final point of sale and are not imported.

**ARTICLE 227.-** For the operation of participatory certification system, the group of producers will form a Participatory Organic Certification Committee that shall act based on the principles of: transparency, decentralization, horizontality, participation, trust, learning, food sovereignty, adaptability and simplification. The Committee can integrate the participation of consumers, technicians and civil society with knowledge of the organic products theme.

The Participatory Organic Certification Committee shall be integrated by at least three people and will have the responsibility to guarantee and ensure the compliance pursuant this Agreement.

**ARTICLE 228.-** The Participatory Organic Certification Committee's duties shall be the following:

- I. Define the concrete procedures of the participatory organic certification, according to the regional social and agroecological characteristics;
- II. Make the questionnaire that must contain at least the following information: history of cultivation and activities made in the agriculture production unit and/or precessing unit; organic management Plan; social data determined by each Committee; and sketch and/or map of the production and/or precessing unit;
- III. Make accompaniment visit;
- IV. Guarantee the compliance of the participatory certification principles, and
- V. Other duties that may be developed such as participating in the experience interchange at national or international level, offer training and/or support for the Participatory Organic Certification to other Committees without enough experience, share technical information, among others.

**ARTICLE 229.-** The Committee shall review the documentation delivered by the interested party. This revision shall be made by at least a member of the Committee.

- I. In case of compliance, according to the type of product to certify, with this Agreement, an accompaniment visit shall be scheduled.
- II. In case of noncompliance, the Committee shall notify the interested party in writing pointing out the noncompliances.

**ARTICLE 230.-** The Committee can suggest an in situ inspection visit to the production unit that shall comprehend to:

- I. Make a verification tour around the production unit (field and/or process);
- II. Check the compliance with the guidelines for organic operation according to the applicable subsections;
- III. Verify the basic points of organic and hygiene control in the production unit;
- IV. Verify the use of supplies, additives, among others;
- V. Verify the correct product identification and labeling;
- VI. If required, share experiences and knowledge between the operator and the Committee members for improving the operation. The visits to the production units are not conceived as inspections, but like learning opportunities through the exchange of experiences and knowledge among the actors who are part of a constant learning process among operators, technicians and operators, and operators and consumers, to ensure the maximum organic integrity of the production units as well as the development of trust relationships between them, and
- VII. The committee shall fill the accompaniment visit report where the compliances and noncompliances are written down and shall have at most a month after the visit to deliver the final opinion.

**ARTICLE 231.-** The Committee shall evaluate the requests in their periodic meeting along with the visit report and shall issue the opinion to the applicants as: certified operator; operator with minor noncompliances and the operators with major noncompliances who will be given a certification denial letter indicating the noncompliances. The Committee shall qualify the noncompliances and may offer guided counseling and training to accomplish a production oriented toward organic production.

The participatory certification body shall issue a participatory organic certificate as stated in this Agreement once it has been determined that the operator meets the requirements indicated herein.



**CHAPTER IV**  
**SPECIAL SITUATIONS**

**ARTICLE 232.-** The producers who carry out organic production practices, can market their products without holding themselves as organic or equivalent denominations in terms of this Agreement.

**ARTICLE 233.-** According to what is established on this Agreement, the Secretariat or the approved bodies may allow the performance of exceptional activities headed to counteract the effects derived from catastrophic circumstances, because of exceptional meteorological conditions, a plague or phytozoosanitary disease outbreak or presence of pollutants, fires, or any other stated in this Agreement.

The continuity of the products' organic condition will be determined by previous evaluation from the Secretariat or the approved bodies; in any case, the authorized exceptional activities shall only have as purpose to reestablish the organic condition of the products and/or productive units as soon as possible.

**ARTICLE 234.-** The Secretariat, the approved organic certification body or the body acknowledged by the Secretariat to apply a participatory certification, must consider the following control aspects:

I. In addition to what is established on the Law, its Regulation and this Agreement the Secretariat, the approved organic certification body or body acknowledged by the Secretariat to apply a participatory certification, must guarantee that the precautionary and control measures that appear on this chapter are applied to the operators subjected to organic certification. Likewise the appropriate confidentiality concerning information and data obtained in the exercise of their organic inspection and organic certification to people different from the operators and the surveillance of the control instance responsible in the Secretariat, must be kept;

II. The Secretariat, the approved organic certification body or the body acknowledged by the Secretariat to apply a participatory certification may apply corrective measures in cases of noncompliance with this Agreement as established in fraction VI of article 18 of the Law Regulation;

III. The Secretariat, the approved organic certification body or the body acknowledged by the Secretariat to apply a participatory certification, has the responsibility to supervise the retirement of the organic term or its synonyms of a determined product, lot, or all the production affected by the irregularity in the application of this Agreement, and

IV. It can establish corrective measures in cases where a certified operator is marketing products denominated as organic without the respective certification, such as retirement of the organic term or its synonyms of a determined product, lot, or all the production affected, for a period subjected to the judgment of the Secretariat, the approved organic certification body or the body acknowledged by the Secretariat to apply a participatory certification.

**CHAPTER V**

**MINIMUM ORGANIC INSPECTION REQUIREMENTS AND CONTROL SYSTEM PREVENTIVE MEASURES**

**SECTION I**

**CONCERNING VEGETABLES AND/OR ANIMALS AND THEIR PRODUCTS, INCLUDING VEGETABLES AND ANIMALS OF RECOLLECTION OR CAPTURE WITHOUT PROCESSING**

**ARTICLE 235.-** The organic inspection shall be made by the Secretariat, the approved organic certification body or the body acknowledged by the Secretariat, who will be identified henceforth as "the inspector" making the inspection activity in: the production or exploit unit, including their plots; pastures, exercise and fresh air access zones for animals; livestock facilities; premises for storage of vegetable/animal products, raw material, supplies, manure storage, as the case may be, verifying records, proof documents, clear animal identification and every necessary information for the development of the organic inspection.

**ARTICLE 236.-** The inspector shall verify that the operator who processes, packs and/or markets in the same unit, maintains total control of his production.

**ARTICLE 237.-** The inspector shall verify that within the Organic Production units the operator does not produce, conventionally, vegetables or animals of the same variety, species or breed that those produced organically.

**ARTICLE 238.-** The inspector shall verify the application of agronomic practices for soil protection and that the vegetable recollection are free of prohibited substances contamination sources, and that the operator makes evident in his record system the guarantees or records of the producers, or third parties if surrounding owners according to what is established on the subsection corresponding wild recollection.

**ARTICLE 239.-** The inspector shall verify on the field that the information contained on the Organic Plan corresponds to what is stated in it and that the obtained products comply with what is established on this Agreement.

**ARTICLE 240.-** The inspector shall verify that the Internal Control System applied by the Group of Producers and that make at least an internal inspection a year to each producer, or during planting season, with field visits. During the external inspection at least 10% of the applicant operators shall be verified.

Likewise, he shall verify through the applied or handled or in process organic techniques records, as well as the control applied at harvest, collection, storing, packaging or selling, accordingly.

**ARTICLE 241.-** The inspector shall verify that on the operator's records is a list of the substances, materials, supplies among others, used in the organic operation.

**ARTICLE 242.-** The inspector shall verify that there is no raw material storage different from those whose use is compatible with this Agreement.

**ARTICLE 243.-** When so established by the Secretariat or the approved or acknowledged certification body, the inspector can make random inspections to an operator, especially in situation where may exist specific risks or product substitution of the Organic Production by those of conventional origin.

**ARTICLE 244.-** The inspector, according to his capacity and need, may take samples to send them to a laboratory for prohibited substances residue determination when certain elements are detected, such as agrochemical bags or containers, null activity of beneficial organisms that indicates the possible use of substances, ingredient materials and supplies that are not included on the National List of permitted substances.

**ARTICLE 245.-** The inspector shall verify any change in description or concrete measures adopted by the operator on the production or organic management, during its activity or when registering it on the Organic Plan.

## SECTION II

### VEGETABLE AND ANIMAL PRODUCT PROCESSING

**ARTICLE 246.-** The organic inspection should be made according to the Organic Plan presented by the applicant operator, where is contemplated a full revision of the facilities used for processing, packaging, storage and transportation accordingly, and where appropriate, a selection of the other storage facilities used, of the organic products before and after the transformation or processing; the necessary measures adopted by the operator to guarantee the compliance of the dispositions of this Agreement.

Likewise he shall verify the records and all necessary documents to back up the product flow from its income, storage, processing, process performance and product exiting the plant for sale and the necessary information for the development of the organic inspection. In case the use of unauthorized substances or supplies according to this Agreement is detected, samples must be taken for their analysis in a laboratory.

**ARTICLE 247.-** During the inspection will be verified that on the information contained on the registry system there is origin, type, and amounts of the organic agricultural and livestock products entering the processing plant; the processed organic products and receivers to the processing plant; the ingredients, additives or processing aids that entered the plant and the composition of the processed products.

In case that at the plant conventional products are processed, packaged or stored, the organic inspector shall verify that it is on separate, conditioned, labeled premises or areas, for the storage of each type of product, before or after storage; and to confirm or verify that on the processing record system it is made by lots or full series physically separate or at different processing times, caring after the organic integrity of the processed products.

**ARTICLE 248.-** If the organic products processing is sporadic, the inspector will check the records or verify in person that the process complies with this Agreement regarding the organic processing activities.

**ARTICLE 249.-** The inspector shall confirm physically or by means of the record system, that all the measures for the identification of the processed organic product are met, that is has not been mixed with a different product and that its organic integrity is not compromised.

**ARTICLE 250.-** During the organic inspection will be confirmed physically or by means of the records that the organic products are transported on containers or vessels; clean or new, and that their closing impedes content substitution. The containers must have an identification system that shows that it is an organic product.

**ARTICLE 251.-** It will be verified that the identification system of the transported organic products contains at least; name and address of the processing responsible person and the receiver. The result of this investigation must be compared with the record described in this chapter.

**ARTICLE 252.-** If the made inspection concludes that it does not meet the requirements of this Agreement or there is evidence that the product comes from a non-organic operator, it will not be able to be marketed as organic, only as conventional.

### SECTION III

#### ORGANIC PRODUCTS TRADERS

**ARTICLE 253.-** The organic inspection should be made according to the Organic Plan presented by the applicant operator, where is contemplated a revision of the facilities it has, and where appropriate, a selection of the other storage facilities it uses, its marketing, export and import activities, indicating the destination of the exported products and the origin of the products imported as organic; the necessary measures adopted by the operator to guarantee the compliance of the dispositions of this Agreement.

Check that on the service hiring with third parties for services or facilities, exists the commitment to perform the hired activities, in compliance with this Agreement, which should be contemplated on the records.

**ARTICLE 254.-** The inspector shall verify the records and all necessary documents to back up the product flow, to know every lot of marketed, exported or imported organic product that includes origin, type of product, volume and lots; and the information about the conditions of product transportation, from the trader's storages to the buyer's storage to make sure that the organic integrity is taken care of; as well as the organic certificates of the product(s). In case the use of unauthorized substances or supplies according to this Agreement is detected, samples must be taken for their analysis in a laboratory.

**ARTICLE 255.-** The inspector shall make sure, where applicable that the trader has the control document or its equivalent of the organic products to be marketed or their shipment in international commerce.

The inspector shall verify that the organic products are separated from the conventional ones and that the operator has the necessary measures to guarantee the identification of each lot of organic product to market.

**ARTICLE 256.-** The inspector shall verify that the organic products that are marketed are in appropriate containers or vessels, guaranteeing that the closing of these containers impedes the contents substitution, same that should have an identification from the trader and a number or code system that allows to identify said lot with its control or transaction document, except they are organic products that have not gone through a transformation or processing process and that are directly sold to the final consumer.

**ARTICLE 257.-** Derived from the inspection activities of the organic operation according to what is established on this chapter, the inspector should make a report that portrays the result of compliance or noncompliance of what is indicated on this Agreement, which shall serve as reference for the purpose of organic certification or control system.

## TITLE V

### PRODUCT IMPORT THAT PRESENT EQUIVALENT GUARANTEES

**ARTICLE 258.-** The imported products can be marketed on national markets as organic and equivalent terms as long as they comply with the following:

- I. Have been obtained according to regulations equivalent to this Agreement;
- II. The operators have been subjected to control measures equivalent to those mentioned on this Agreement, and said control measures are applied permanently and effectively;
- III. In those cases where the operators' activities, in every stage of production, preparation and distribution carried out in the country of origin, have been subjected to a control regime in compliance with Chapter V of Title IV of this Agreement, and
- V. When the product is protected by an organic control document or its equivalent issued by the competent authority or body that is on the control lists which have the equivalence of the country of origin, in compliance with articles 33, 34, 35 and 36 of the Law, confirming that the product meets the conditions established on this subsection.

**ARTICLE 259.-** The control document shall accompany the merchandise until the premises of the first receiver; the importer shall keep the control document and certificate copy available to the authority or approved organic certification body or body acknowledged by the Secretariat to apply a participatory certification for the purpose of organic inspection.

**ARTICLE 260.-** The Secretariat can recognize the countries of origin whose production system complies with the production principles and rules established on this Agreement. In the equivalence evaluation the CAC/GL guidelines of the Codex Alimentarius shall be taken into account when examining the acknowledgment requests, the Secretariat shall request the interested country all the necessary information and shall be able to entrust the function of in situ examination of the regulations in terms of organic products or its equivalent and the applied control measures in said country of origin.

Where appropriate, the evaluation report shall contain information made about the documentary inspections, the audits at the office, including critical facilities, and the audits in person, according to the risk.

**ARTICLE 261.-** Before March 31 of every year, or within the term established on the equivalence agreement, the Secretariat shall request the acknowledged countries of origin a concise report, pertaining to the application and compliance with the established control dispositions in said countries.

Based on the information contained in said reports, the Secretariat shall watch over the timely supervision of the acknowledged countries, periodically reviewing their acknowledgement. The nature of the supervision shall be determined on the basis of a risk assessment of there being irregularities or infringements regarding the dispositions established on this Agreement.

**ARTICLE 262.-** The Secretariat shall examine all the acknowledgment requests presented by a control authority or body from the country of origin of the organic products.

**ARTICLE 263.-** During the process of acknowledgment requests re-evaluation, the control authority or body shall be subjected to in situ periodic evaluation. The Secretariat can entrust experts with the function of examining in situ the regulations on the subject of organic products or their equivalent and the control measures of those interested.

## TITLE VI

### LIST OF SUBSTANCES AND CRITERIA FOR SUBSTANCES AND MATERIALS EVALUATION FOR ORGANIC OPERATION

**ARTICLE 264.-** In compliance with the provisions on articles 28 of the Organic Products Law and 40 of its Regulation, the ANNEX 1 of this Agreement includes tables with the generic names of permitted substances, materials, ingredients and supplies, or permitted with restrictions, which make the National List of Permitted Substances for the Organic Agricultural and Livestock Operation. The specific names of the formulations for the commercial distribution of permitted products that will be a part of the National List mentioned above shall be evaluated and ruled on conformity with the criteria established on the following Chapter. For the inclusion to the list of new substances, materials, ingredients and supplies, an evaluation process shall be made and they must comply with what is established on the following chapter. When they do not appear on the National List, they shall be considered as prohibited, besides of those indicated on Chapter III of this Title.

## CHAPTER I

### EVALUATION CRITERIA TO CONFORM THE PERMITTED LIST UNDER ORGANIC METHODS

**ARTICLE 265.-** In compliance with articles 29 of the Organic Products Law and 41 of its Regulation, the generic names of the materials, substances, products, supplies and methods and ingredients to be included on tables 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and/or 7 of Annex 1; shall be subjected to an evaluation process, having to demonstrate that they comply with the following general criteria:

I. To be compatible with the Organic Production principals under the sustainability approach, which shall be enough to come from an organic production and/or processing;

II. To be necessary for their intended use and the base of the need may derive from factors such as crop yield, organic product quality, environmental security, ecological protection, landscape, and human and animal wellbeing;

III. That its use does not result on, or contribute with, producing harmful or unacceptable effects on the environment, on biological or chemical interaction on the agro-ecosystem, including physiological effects of the substance on crops, livestock, soil organisms, when applicable, in the soil solubility rate; unacceptable contamination of the superficial or groundwater, air or soil during the manufacture, use, inappropriate application or material disposal;

IV. That its application has no harmful effects on human or animal health and quality of life;

V. That there are no authorized available alternatives on the National List, in sufficient amount or quality, to use under organic methods;

VI. When dealing with vegetable raw materials, they should come from sustainable exploitations whose harvest or extraction must not exceed the sustainable yield of the ecosystem, not affect the environments stability or preservation of some species within the collection area, and

VII. The raw material from vegetable, animal, microbial or mineral origin can be subjected to the following processes:

- a) Physical, such as precipitation, thermal method;
- b) Mechanical, such as water, ethanol, vegetable or animal oils, vinegar, carbon dioxide, nitrogen or carboxylic acids extraction, and refinement without chemical treatment, and
- c) Biological/enzymatic, microbial such as fermentation, composting, among others.

The previous criteria should be applied altogether to protect the organic integrity of the productive unit and the product being treated.

**ARTICLE 266.-** The specific evaluation criteria shall be based on the specific uses or applications, as:

- I. Application to the soil or vegetables to maintain fertility or nutrition;
- II. For management or ecological control of plagues, diseases, unwanted herbs of crops or vegetables;
- III. For animal production, according to species and specific use or administration conditions;
- IV. Aquaculture
- V. Plants or processing facilities, and
- VI. For the processing of organic products as ingredients, additives, elaboration, preparation and preservation aids of the processed organic products.

**ARTICLE 267.-** In compliance with articles 29 of the Law and 41 of its Regulation the specific names of the commercial distribution formulations to be included on the National List shall be subjected to an evaluation process, having to demonstrate that they meet the following general criteria:

I. The generic name of the material, substance, product, supply and/or ingredient is included for the use intended on table 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 or 7 from Annex 1;

II. When dealing with sold and/or commercially distributed products or formulations to be used to fertilize, amend, condition, nutrition or as inoculum for soil, they must have the corresponding sanitary register as vegetable nutrient, only those that require it in conformity with the current regulation;

III. When dealing with sold and/or commercially distributed products to be used as agents for the ecological management of insects, fungus, virus, bacteriae and/or arvenses must have the corresponding sanitary register for plague control, only those that require it in conformity with the current regulation;

IV. If the soil or plant is used for nutrition purposes they must present the applicable information from TABLE 1 and TABLE 2 from ANNEX 1 of this Agreement. Their use in the organic production may be restricted to terms of use, application and/or weather, regions or specific products, among others;

V. If used with purpose of management or ecological control of diseases or vegetables plagues or unwanted herbs, they should present the applicable information from TABLE 1 and TABLE 6 from ANNEX 2 from this Agreement. Their use in the organic production may be restricted to terms of use, application and/or weather, regions or specific products, among others;

Their use may be restricted to terms of use, application and/or weather, regions or specific products, among others;

VI. If used as additives or elaboration aids in the preparation or preservation of food:

a) They can only be used if it has been demonstrated that, without them, it is impossible to produce or preserve the food, in case of additives, or produce the foot, in case of elaboration aids, and that there are no other technologies that satisfy with this Agreement;

b) When the aforementioned substances are not available in sufficient amounts through such methods and technologies, then the inclusion of those substances that have been chemically synthesized in exceptional circumstances can be considered, and

c) Their use maintains the authenticity of the product, for which the consumers will not be deceived concerning the nature, substance and quality of the food, for which additives and elaboration aids do not reduce general product quality. For which, they should present the applicable information according to ANNEX 2 of this Agreement.

VII. When they are importation substances, materials, supplies, they should demonstrate with documentation that supports their use in the country of origin, in Spanish; or

VIII. That they have been produced and formulated or extracted from sustainable uses, in the country or abroad, according to the dispositions applicable on the subject.

**ARTICLE 268.-** In every case, the group of experts from the Council, may recommend that terms of use are set and if so, the applicable limits for vegetables or their products or animals and their products, to which materials, substances, products, supplies and methods and ingredients can be applied; the form of use, the dosage or volume, the terms, application frequency, regions or ecosystems, specific finality, among others, or otherwise, recommend their removal from the organic production schemes.

In the case of specific substances or commercial distribution formulations used for the vegetable nutrition or plague ecological management, the terms of use and limits shall be in agreement with the applicable regulation, staying within authorized conditions.

**ARTICLE 269.-** The Secretariat will inform through its web page, the list of the materials, substances, products, supplies and methods and ingredients or their formulations, evaluated and ruled favorably by the group of experts from the Council, or the list of those prohibited for operations under organic methods, for consultation of those interested on organic production.

**ARTICLE 270.-** When materials, substances, products, supplies and ingredients ruled as permitted, are marketed, they can be labeled in their containers with the legend "to be used in organic operations" according to the corresponding use.

**ARTICLE 271.-** In the case of new substances, materials or ingredients that have been evaluated and ruled as approved or permitted for operations under organic methods, by the group of experts from the Council, the Secretariat may issue an expert opinion of substance, material or ingredient evaluation to the companies that so request it.

**ARTICLE 272.-** In case the materials, substances, products, supplies and the methods and ingredients included in ANNEX 1 entitled "National List of Permitted Substances by the Agriculture and Livestock Organic Operation", are made or formulated by organic operators for their own productive unit, they should gather the required quality of elaboration and/or production, same that must be stated on the operator records. These products will not be subjected to the evaluation process referred to on article 267 of this title, or Annex 2, but the products must meet the quality criteria established on the aforementioned annex, as well as with the conditions under which their use is permitted.

**ARTICLE 273.-** When some company makes formulations for commercial distribution, with one or more of the substances, materials or ingredients or generics included on the permitted or new ingredients list, they should request to the Secretariat the corresponding evaluation to its supply or formulation and from the result of the evaluation issued by the group of experts from the Council, the Secretariat may issue an evaluation ruling; to the companies that request it thus. The Secretariat shall have available the list of formulations through its web page for consultation of any interested person, and shall be part of the National List indicating its quality of permitted, restricted or prohibited.

**ARTICLE 274.-** The lists issued by the Secretariat shall be subjected to constant update including new additional substances, modifying the uses of the existing or excluding other present on the list (ANNEX 1).

The aforementioned shall be performed in accordance with what is established on article 275 of this Agreement.

**CHAPTER II**  
**EVALUATION REQUIREMENTS AND PROCEDURES**

**ARTICLE 275.-** According to articles 28 and 29 of the Law and 40 of the Regulation, when it is considered that the National List must be added to, eliminated, and/or modify the use specifications of a material, substance, product, supply and methods and ingredients, it may be done in the following way:

I. When dealing with specific products formulated for commercial distribution, the interested party must present the applicable technical information in accordance with article 267 for the evaluation from the group of experts from the Council, or

II. When dealing with materials, substances, products, supplies and methods and ingredients referred by their generic name on tables 1 to 7 from ANNEX 1 of this Agreement, proceed as follows:

a) If included in any international registration of organic products, the corresponding technical information must be provided, highlighting the importance of the inclusion, modification or elimination from ANNEX 1, or if not, and

b) The information related with each general criterion established on article 265 of this chapter whether to include, modify or eliminate substances from ANNEX 1.

For which the request should be presented before the SENASICA according to the following procedure:

I. Present a written request duly signed or electronic with scanned applicable original documentation;

II. A file number shall be assigned to every presented request at the time of admission, which shall be stated on the copy presented by the interested party to acknowledge receipt or electronic reception for the request;

III. Within the following five working days of the admission date of the request, the SENASICA shall forward the corresponding documentation to the Group of experts from the Council, so that, within the term of twenty five working days it is informed if it is necessary to warn the interested party so that he presents missing or complementary documentation or to clarify the information accompanying the request;

Once the term has passed without the Group of experts requesting the SENASICA to warn the interested party, it will be understood that they do not require further information or clarifications from the applicant to formulate their technical recommendation;

IV. Within the term of forty working days starting from the working day after the admission of the request, the SENASICA can warn the interested party, in writing or for once, to amend the omissions or make the clarifications of the corresponding information or documentation;

The interested party shall have an unextendable term of thirty working days for the submission of the prevention, starting from the date of reception of the requirement to take effect.

Once this term has elapsed without the submission of the prevention, the SENASICA will deem the request as not having been filed.

The procedure cannot be discarded for not submitting a prevention, when it was not notified under the terms of this Guideline.

V. If there were no prevention or no submission of it, the SENASICA shall communicate so within the following five working days to the group of experts of the Council, so that they issue their respective technical recommendation within the term of fifty-five working days. Where appropriate, said communication shall be accompanied by the documents the applicant has provided for the submission of the prevention;

VI. The received requests shall be published on the SENASICA web page in a term of fourteen to twenty working days, as well as when they are transferred to the Group of experts from the Council, as well as the final results on such applications, after the received technical recommendations.



VII. The SENASICA shall issue a resolution within the following eighty working days after the term to warn the interested party has expired. Once expired this term without the SENASICA having issued a resolution, the request shall be understood in a negative way, and

VIII. The Secretariat shall publish the inclusion, modification or exclusion, in case it is required, in the National List of permitted, prohibited and restricted.

### CHAPTER III LIST OF SUBSTANCES

**ARTICLE 276.-** In the production, preparation and/or processing, under organic methods, the use of the following is prohibited:

- I. Substances and natural or synthetic ingredients that are not on the permitted substances list;
- II. Biological products for livestock, except vaccines as long as they were evaluated by the corresponding authority of Animal Health;
- III. The irradiation derived from ionizing energy coming from radioactive materials or by accelerated electrons;
- IV. Wastewater coming from domestic, urban, industrial and conventional agriculture piping, including solid, semi-solid, biosolid or liquid wastes generated by the wastewater treatment;
- V. All materials, products and ingredients or supplies coming from or having been produced from excluded methods or genetically obtained or modified organisms, Nanotechnology as an extent of excluded methods;
- VI. The use of manufactured nanoparticles or nanostructures is prohibited. However, the use of nanoparticles appearing naturally, as when presented in biodinamic traditional practices, is permitted, and
- VII. Others determined by the Group of experts from the Council.

**ARTICLE 277.-** The materials, substances, products, supplies and methods and ingredients included in the National List of Permitted Substances for Agricultural and Livestock Organic Operation shall be permitted; it includes charts developed according to the uses, which are completely permitted or permitted with restrictions generically and specifically.

**ARTICLE 278.-** The list of the commercial formulations that have an approval letter for its use under organic methods, shall be available on the Secretariat web page through the Internet for consultation of any interested person, this guaranteeing the organic integrity of the organic products.

### TRANSITORY ARTICLES

**FIRST.-** This Agreement shall enter into force six months after its publication on the Official Journal of the Federation.

**SECOND.-** The operators who have a certification under voluntary schemes when this Agreement enters into force, must adjust within twelve months at most to what is established on this Agreement and obtain the respective organic certification.

**THIRD.-** The Secretariat shall perform annually the inspection and/or update of this Agreement from the effective date, taking into account the opinion of the Organic Production National Council. Without prejudice to the aforementioned and at the request of the productive sector, this instrument may be updated when needed.

**FOURTH.-** Any disposition opposing this Agreement is abrogated.

Mexico, Federal District, October 23, 2013.- The Secretary of Agriculture, Livestock, Rural Development, Fisheries and Food, **Enrique Martínez y Martínez**.- Rubric.

**ANNEX 1.- National List of Permitted Substances for the Agriculture and Livestock Organic Operation.**

Charts with generic names of permitted substances, materials, ingredients and supplies are included; nutriment, food additives, elaboration aids, products permitted for cleaning and disinfecting, livestock density, covered surfaces and other animal housing characteristics.

**TABLE 1.- Substances that may be used as soil fertilizer, amends, conditioning and inoculum:**

Designation	Description, composition requirements or terms of use
Stable and poultry farm manure (poultry manure)	Permitted Organic Production sources or extensive livestock free of prohibited substances. Other source of conventional agriculture and livestock activity, only if there is absence of chemical or microbiological pollutants established for conventional products and previous composting.
Liquid manure or animal urine	If it does not proceed from organic sources. Usage, after controlled fermentation of appropriate dilution. The products from anaerobic fermentation must be innocuous. The process of anaerobic fermentation must tend to the sequential phases (initial, transition, acid phase, methanogenic phase, and maturation).
Composted animal manure*	Sources of conventional agriculture and livestock activity are not permitted; only if there is absence of chemical or microbiological pollutants established for conventional products and previous composting.
Dehydrated stable and poultry manure	Sources of conventional agriculture and livestock activity are not permitted; only permitted if there is absence of chemical or microbiological pollutants established for conventional products and previous composting.
Fossilized guano	<b>Guano.</b> Marine birds manure, coming from accumulations occurring on the Pliocene and Pleistocene; composed by ammoniac, uric, phosphoric, oxalic and carbonic acids, mineral salts and impurities. <b>Bat guano.</b> Bat manure coming from accumulations occurring on the Pliocene and Pleistocene, rich in nutrients and microbial flora; rich in organo-mineral chelates. Excessive and prolonged unprotected exposure may cause histoplasmosis. Use of fresh bat guano will be restricted and conditioned to the demonstration that its management does not jeopardize the collectors, processors, distributors or other agents' health. And coming from a sustainable utilization.
Straw	
Substrates coming from cultivation of eatable and medicinal fungus	The initial composition of the substrate must be limited to the products produced according to these Guidelines.
Vegetable and/or animal domestic residues	Free of prohibited substances. Separated in function of their origin and subjected to an aerobic composting* process or an anaerobic fermentation. The maximum heavy metal concentrations permitted on the compost, in mg/kg dry weight, are: cadmium: 0,7; copper: 70; nickel: 25; lead: 45; zinc: 200; mercury: 0,4; chrome (total): 70; chrome (VI): 0.

Composts coming from vegetable residues	Free of prohibited substances.
Green fertilizers	Of plants or seeds produced free of prohibited substances.
Processed animal products coming from slaughterhouses and fishing industries	Maximum concentration in mg/kg of chrome (VI) dry matter: 0
Byproducts of food and textile industries	Not treated with synthetic additives. All residues coming from organic agriculture, livestock and agribusiness, as well as from traditional agriculture are permitted.
Seaweeds (from continental or marine bodies of water) and derivatives	.....
Sawdust, tree bark and wood wastes	Not treated with synthetic additives. Not coming from endangered species.
Water plants extract (not hydrolized)	They must be free of prohibited substances. The extraction is limited to the use of potassium hydroxide or sodium hydroxide.
Wood ashes	Free of prohibited substances. No clearing, lumbering and burning permitted.
Natural phosphate rock	Obtained by grinding mineral phosphates. Its cadmium content should be lower or equal to 90 mg/kg of P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> .
Basic slag	.....
Mineral potash, potassium salts from mineral extraction (e.g.: cainita, sylvinite)	Less than 60% of chlorine.
Potassium sulphate (e.g. patenkali)	Obtained by physical procedures but not enriched by means of chemical processes to increase solubility.
Calcium carbonate of natural origin (e.g.: chalk, marl, ground limestone, calcareous sand, phosphate chalk)	.....
Magnesium rock	.....
Magnesium calcareous rock	.....
Epsom salts (magnesium sulphate).	.....
Cast (Calcium sulphate)	.....
Vinasse and its extracts	Except ammonium vinasse.
Aluminum-calcium phosphate	Limited use of alkaline soils (pH > 7,5)  Obtained amorously, by means of thermal and grinding treatment, which contains, as essential components, calcium and aluminum phosphates.  Cadmium component lower than 90 mg/kg P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> .

Oligoelements (e.g.: boron, copper, iron, manganese, molybdenum, zinc)	....
Sulfur	....
Stone dust	....
Clay (e.g. bentonite, perlite, zeolite)	....
Natural biological organisms (e.g. nitrogen-fixing and phosphorous liberating microorganisms )	....
Vermiculite	....
Peat, leonardite	Except synthetic additives; permitted for seed, pot and modular compost. Other uses, as admitted by the Secretariat, the approved organic certification body or body acknowledged by the Secretariat to apply a participatory certification.  Peat: use limited to horticulture (vegetable cultivation, floriculture, arboriculture, nursery and vegetative material mobilization)
Worm humus (earthworm composts), vermicomposting	....
Zeolites	....
Charcoal	....
Calcium chloride	....
Human excrements	Previously composted. Non applicable for human consumption cultivations.
Composted byproducts of the sugar industry (e.g. sugar cane sludge)	....
Byproducts of industries that make ingredients that come from organic agriculture	....

**TABLE 2.- Agents for the ecological management of insects, fungi, virus, bacteriae and arvenses:**

Substance	Description; composition requirements; terms of use
<b>I. Vegetables and animals</b>	
Natural pyrethrins preparation	....
Natural rotenones preparation	....
<i>Quassiaamara</i> preparation	....
<i>Ryaniaspeciosa</i> preparation	....
Preparation based on Neem ( <i>Azadirachtina</i> ) obtained from <i>Azadirachta</i> indicatess	....

Preparation based on Cempasúchil (marigold) flowers	
Propolis	....
Vegetable and animal oils	....
Seaweed, their flour, extracts, sea salts and salt water. Extract of <i>Chlorella</i> (fresh water algae)	Not chemically treated.
Gelatin	....
Lecithin	....
Casein	....
Natural acids (e.g. vinegar)	....
Aspergillus fermentation product	....
Fungi extract (Shiitake mushroom)	....
Natural plant preparations	In case of wild species, they must come from sustainable production.
Tobacco infusion (except pure nicotine)	....
<b>II. Minerals</b>	
Inorganic compounds (mix of burgundy, copper hydroxide, copper hydroxychloride)	....
Burgundy mix	....
Copper salts	....
Sulfur	....
Mineral dusts (stone dust, silicates, kaolin)	....
Diatomaceous earth, paraffin oil (minerals)	....
Silicatos, clay (Bentonite)	....
Sodium silicate	....
Sodium bicarbonate	....
Potassium permanganate	....
Paraffin oil	....
<b>III. Microorganisms used for biological plague control</b>	
Microorganisms (bacteriae, virus, fungi), e.g. <i>Bacillus thuringiensis</i> , Granulosis virus, etc.	....
<b>IV. Macro-organisms</b>	
Predators	....
Parasitoids	....
Nematodes y protozoa	....

<b>V. Others</b>	
Carbon dioxide and nitrogen gas	....
Potassium soap (soft soap)	....
Ethyl alcohol	....
Homeopathic and ayurvedic preparations	....
Herbs and biodynamics preparations	....
Sterile male insects	....
<b>VI. Traps</b>	
Pheromone preparations	....
Preparations based on metaldehydes that contain repellent for the larger animal species, provided they are applied on tramps	....
Hydrolyzed protein	....
In the case of inerts and aids only from List 4 A or 4 B of Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)	....

**TABLE 3.- Ingredients of non-agriculture-and-livestock origin permitted on the processing of organic products**

**3.1.- Food additives, including the bearers:**

<b>*INS</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Terms of use</b>
170	Calcium Carbonates	All functions are authorized except coloring
270	Lactic acid	....
290	Carbon dioxide	....
296	Malic acid	....
300	Ascorbic acid	....
306	Extract rich on tocopherols	Antioxidant in fats and oils
322	Lecithines	....
330	Citric acid	....
333	Calcium citrates	....
334	Tartaric acid {L (+) -}	....
335	Sodium tartrate	....
336	Potassium tartrate	....
341	Monocalcium phosphate	Gas producer in self-fermentation flours
400	Alginic acid	....

401	Sodium alginate	....
402	Potassium alginate	....
406	Agar	....
407	Carrageenan	....
410	Locust bean gum	....
412	Guar gum	....
414	Gum arabic	....
415	Xanthan gum	....
422	Glycerine or Glicerol	Vegetable extracts
440	Pectins	....
500	Sodium carbonates	....
501	Potassium carbonates	....
503	Ammonium carbonates	....
504	Magnesium carbonates	....
516	Calcium sulphate	Acidulant, acidity regulator, anti-caking, anti-foaming, bulking agent. Support.
524	Sodium hydroxide	Laugengebäck superficial treatment
551	Silicon dioxide.	Anti-binding agent for herbs and spices
938	Argon	....
941	Nitrogen	....
948	Oxygen	....
	Coloring from vegetable origin	Obtained by physical procedures

INS: International Numbering System for Food Additives

### 3.2.- Flavoring agents

The substances and products labeled as flavoring agents or natural favoring preparations, such as defined on the general requirements for natural flavorings (CAC/GL 29-1987).

### 3.3.- Water and salts

Drinking water.

Salts (with sodium chloride or potassium chloride as basic components, generally used when making food).

### 3.4.- Microorganisms and enzymes preparations

Any preparation based on microorganisms and enzymes usually employed during food elaboration, except microorganisms obtained by excluded or genetically modified methods or enzymes derived from genetic engineering.

### 3.5.- Minerals (including oligoelements), vitamins, aminoacids, micronutrients and essential fatty and other nitrogen compounds.

Authorized only to the extent that the regulation of the Health Secretariat, makes obligatory its use in food to which they are added.

**3.6. - For livestock and apiculture products.**

For the purpose of only processing livestock and apiculture products:

153	Wood ash	Traditional cheese
170	Calcium Carbonates	Dairy products. Not as coloring
270	Lactic acid	Sausages casing (tripe)
290	Carbon dioxide	....
322	Lecithin	Obtained without using bleachers or organic solvents. Dairy products/ milk based children food/ fatty products/ mayonnaise
331	Sodium citrates	Sausages / egg whites pasteurization / dairy products
406	Agar	....
407	Carrageenan	Dairy products
410	Locust bean gum	Dairy products / meat products
412	Guar gum	Dairy products / canned meat / egg products
413	Tragacanth gum	....
414	Gum arabic	Dairy products / fatty products / confectionery products
440	Pectin (not modified)	Dairy products
509	Calcium chloride	Dairy products / meat products
938	Argon	....
941	Nitrogen	....
948	Oxygen	....

**TABLE 4.- Elaboration aids that can be used for the manufacturing/preparation of organic products from agricultural and livestock origin:**

Name	Specific conditions
Water	....
Calcium chloride	Clotting agent.
Calcium Carbonate	....
Calcium hydroxide	....
Calcium sulphate	Clotting agent.
Magnesium chloride (or "nigari")	Clotting agent.
Potassium carbonate	Dry grapes.
Sodium carbonate	Sugar production.
Citric acid	Oil production and starch hydrolysis
Sodium hydroxide	Sugar production. Rapeseed oil production ( <i>Brassicasp</i> ).



Carbon dioxide	....
Nitrogen	....
Ethanol	Solvent.
Tannic acid	Clarifying agent.
Ovalbumine	....
Casein	....
Gelatin	....
Isinglass or fishtail	....
Vegetable oils	Greasing, releasing or anti-foaming agents
Silica gel or colloidal silicon dioxide	....
Activated carbon	....
Talc	....
Bentonite	....
Caoline	....
Diatomaceous earth	....
Perlite	....
Hazelnut shells	....
Rice flour	....
Beeswax	Releasing agent.
Carnauba wax.	Releasing agent.

#### 4.1.- Microorganisms and enzymes preparations

Any preparation based on microorganisms and enzymes usually employed during food elaboration, except microorganisms and enzymes obtained by means of an obtained organism of excluded or genetically modified methods (OGM), from an OGM and/or the derivatives of them.

**TABLE 5.- Ingredients from non-organic vegetable or animal origin, permitted for the organic manufacturing or processing or existent in small amounts as organic:**

<b>1. Vegetable products without transportation and their derivative products</b>
1.1. Eatable fruits and dried fruits: <i>Acorn (Quercus spp)</i> <i>Cola nuts (Cola acuminata)</i> <i>Gooseberry fruit (Ribes uva-crispa)</i> <i>Passion fruit (Pasiflora edulis)</i> <i>Raspberries (dried) (Rubus idaeus)</i> <i>Red currants (Ribes rubrum)</i>

1.2.	Edible spices and aromatic plants: Pepper (from Peru) ( <i>Schinus molle</i> L) Horseradish seeds ( <i>Armoracia rusticana</i> ) Galanga ( <i>Alpinia officinarum</i> ) Safflower ( <i>Carthamus tinctorius</i> ) Cress ( <i>Nasturtium officinale</i> )
1.3.	Various: Algae, seaweed included, authorized in the preparation of conventional food products
<b>2.</b>	<b>Vegetable products transformed by means of the application of other processes aside from those stated on point 1 of this subsection, provided that they are not additive or flavoring.</b>
2.1	Fats and oils, refined or not, but not chemically modified and obtained from vegetables that are not: Cocoa ( <i>Theobroma cacao</i> ) Coconut ( <i>Cocos nucifera</i> ) Olive ( <i>Olea europaea</i> ) Sunflower ( <i>Helianthus annuus</i> ) Oil palm ( <i>Elaeis guineensis</i> ) Rape ( <i>Brassica napus, rapa</i> ) Safflower ( <i>Carthamus tinctorius</i> ) Sesame ( <i>Sesamum indicum</i> ) Soy ( <i>Glycine max</i> )
2.2	Sugars, starch and other cereal and tuber products: Beet sugar Fructose Rice paper Unleavened bread paper Rice and waxy maize starch, not chemically modified
2.3.	Sugars, starch and other cereal and tuber products: Beet sugar Fructose Rice paper Unleavened bread paper Rice and waxy maize starch, not chemically modified
2.4	Various: Pea protein ( <i>Pisum spp</i> ) Rum: exclusively obtained from sugar cane juice
<b>3. Products of animal origin</b>	
Water organisms, whose origin is not on aquaculture, authorized on the preparation of conventional food products Gelatin Whey powder "herasuola" Tripe	

**TABLE 6.- Additives for animal feed, determined products used in animal feed and technological auxiliaries used in animal feed:****1.- Additives for animal feed**

1.1. Oligoelements. The following substances are included in this category:

E1 Iron:

carbonate ferrous (II)

sulphate ferrous (II) monohydrate

ferric oxide (III)

E2 Iodine:

anhydrous calcium iodate

hexahydrate calcium iodide

sodium iodide

E3 Cobalt:

cobalt sulphate (II) monohydrate and/or heptahydrate, basic cobalt carbonate (II) monohydrate

E4 Copper:

copper oxide (II)

copper carbonate (II) basic monohydrate

copper sulphate (II) pentahydrate

E5 Manganese:

carbonate manganous (II)

manganous oxide (II) and manganic oxide (III)

manganous sulphate (II) monohydrate and/or tetrahydrate

E6 Zinc:

zinc carbonate

zinc oxide

zinc sulphate monohydrate and/or heptahydrate

E7 Molybdenum:

ammonium molybdate, sodium molybdate

E8 Selenium:

sodium selenate

sodium selenite

1.2. Vitamins, provitamins and substances with analogue effect, chemically well defined:

Preferably derived from raw materials that are naturally present in animal feed, or

Vitamins of identical synthesis to natural vitamins only for monogastric animals.

Notwithstanding what is stated on the first paragraph, the use of synthetic vitamins type A, B, and E shall be permitted, for ruminants, adhering at all times to the following conditions:

- Synthetic vitamins shall be used only during the strictly necessary period.

<p>- Synthetic vitamins should be identical to natural vitamins.</p> <p>- The producer must include in his internal records, evidence which proves that the use of synthetic vitamins is, or was, indispensable for the health and wellbeing of the animals, which shall be verified or inspected by the Secretariat, the approved organic certification body or the acknowledged body.</p>
<p>1.3. Enzymes. Need acknowledged by the Secretariat, the approved organic certification body or the acknowledged body.</p> <p>1.4. Microorganisms. Need acknowledged by the Secretariat, the approved organic certification body or the acknowledged body.</p> <p>1.5. Preservatives. The following substances are included in this category:</p> <p>E 200 Sorbic acid</p> <p>E 236 Formic acid</p> <p>E 260 Acetic acid</p> <p>E 270 Lactic acid</p> <p>E 280 Propionic acid</p> <p>E 330 Citric acid</p> <p>Only the use of lactic, formic, propionic and acetic acid shall be permitted for the silage production when the weather conditions do not allow a proper fermentation.</p>
<p>Binding, anti-caking and clotting agents. Only the following substances are included in this category:</p> <p>E 470 Calcium stearate of natural origin</p> <p>E 551b Coloidal silica</p> <p>E 551c Diatomaceous earth</p> <p>E 558 Bentonite</p> <p>E 559 Kaolinitic clay</p> <p>E 560 Natural mixtures of stearites and chlorite</p> <p>E 561 Vermiculite</p> <p>E 562 Sepiolite</p> <p>E 599 Perlite</p> <p>Zeolites</p>
<p>1.7. Antioxidant substances. Only the following substances are included in this category:</p> <p>E 306 Tocopherol-rich extracts of natural origin.</p>
<p>1.8. Silage additives. Need acknowledged by the Secretariat, the approved organic certification body or body acknowledged by the Secretariat to apply a participatory certification.</p>
<p><b>2.- Certain products used in animal feed.</b></p> <p>Only the following substances are included in this category:</p> <p>Beer yeast.</p>
<p><b>3. Technological auxiliaries used in animal feed.</b></p> <p>3.1 Technological auxiliaries used for silage. Only the following substances are included in this category: sea salt, salt mine, whey, sugar, sugar beet pulp, cereal flour and molasses.</p>

**TABLE 7.- Authorized products for cleaning irrigation equipment, premises and animal breed facilities disinfection (equipment and utensils), storage, transportation equipment:**

Potassium and sodium soap
Water and steam
Limestone slurry
Lime
Quicklime
Sodium hypochlorite (e.g. as liquid bleach)
Caustic soda
Caustic potash
Hydrogen peroxide
Plants natural essences
Citric, peracetic, formic, lactic, oxalic and acetic alcohol acid.
Nitric and phosphoric acid for dairy equipment
Formaldehyde
Cleaning and disinfection products for nipples and milking facilities
Sodium carbonate
<b>For the farms and irrigation equipment:</b>
Ethyl and isopropyl alcohol
Materials with chlorine: Calcium hypochlorite, chlorine dioxide, sodium hypochlorite
Hydrogen peroxide
Ozone gas
Peracetic acid
Vegetable oils
Soap
Sulfurous soap
Water and steam
<b>For the processing plants, storage and transportation equipment:</b>
Materials with chlorine: Calcium hypochlorite, chlorine dioxide, sodium hypochlorite
Hydrogen peroxide
Ozone
Peracetic acid/peroxygenic acid
Phosphoric acid

Water and steam

**TABLE 8.- Animal density for terrain surface and species, permitted in the Organic animal Production:**

Maximum number of animals by hectare, class or species.	Maximum number of animals by hectare equivalent to 500 kg *N/ha/year.
Equines over 6 months	2
Calves	5
Other bovine under a year	5
Male bovine between 1 and 2 years	3.3
Female bovine between 1 and 2 years	3.3
Male bovine over 2 years	2
Breeding calve	2.5
Growing calves	2.5
Milk cows	2
Replacement milk cows	2
Other cows	2.5
Breeding rabbits	100
Sheep	13.3
Goats	13.3
Piglets	74
Breeding sows	6.5
Growing sows with fodder	14
Other sows	14
Meat poultry	580
Laying hen	230

\*N: nitrogen.

**TABLE 9.- Minimum covered and fresh air surfaces and other organic animal housing characteristics of the following species and production type: Bovine, ovine and sows:**

	Covered zone (Available surface by animal)		Fresh air zone (Exercise surface except pastures in m <sup>2</sup> /head)
	Minimum live weight (kg)	m <sup>2</sup> /head	
Breeding and growing bovines	up to 100	1.5	1.1
	up to 200	2.5	1.9
	up to 350	4.0	3
	over 350	5 with at least 1 m <sup>2</sup> /100kg	3.7 with at least 0.75 m <sup>2</sup> /100kg
Milk cows		6	4.5

Breeding destined bulls		10	30
Sheep and goats		1.5 sheep/goat 0.35 lamb/kid	2.5 0.5 by lamb/kid
Farrowing sows with piglets up to 40 days		7.5 sow	2.5
Growing sows	up to 50 Up to 85 up to 110	0.8 1.1 1.3	0.6 0.8 1
Piglets	over 40 days and up to 30 kg	0.6	0.4
Breeding sows		2.5 female 6.0 male	1.9 8.0

**TABLE 10.- Minimum covered and fresh air surfaces and other organic animal housing characteristics of organic poultry and types of production:**

	Covered zone (available surface by animal)			Fresh air zone (m <sup>2</sup> of available area in rotation/head)
	Num. Animals /m <sup>2</sup>	cm of hook/animal	Nest	
Laying hens	6	18	8 laying hens by nest or, if it is a common nest 120 cm <sup>2</sup> by bird	4, provided the limit of 170kg/N/h/year is not exceeded
Growing poultry (in fix housing)	10, with maximum 21 kg live weight/m <sup>2</sup>	20 (only for guinea fowl)		4, meat poultry and guinea fowl 4.5, ducks 10, turkeys 15, geese the limit of 170/kg/h/year must not be exceeded for any of the aforementioned species
Fattening poultry in mobile housing	16 (*) mobile housing with maximum 30 kg. live weight /m <sup>2</sup>			2.5, provided the limit of 170kg/N/h/year is not exceeded

(\*) Only in the case of mobile houses not exceeding 150 m<sup>2</sup> floor space which remain open at night.

NOTE: In case this substances are used as micronutrients, their use should be supported

By previous analysis of soil, or plant, study that indicated the deficiency; or for visual nutrient deficiencies.

**ANNEX 2.- Tables with information requirements to present by the interested parties, for the evaluation of substances, materials, methods, ingredients and supplies or their formulations, that are made, manufactured or marketed, for the application in organic operations, according of the foreseen uses.**

**TABLE 1: General Information.**

Information Requirement.	Investigation guidelines
<p>Present a complete list of all the ingredients, raw materials and means used to make the material, substance, product, supply and methods and ingredients.</p> <p>The list of ingredients must include name (of the ingredients), source and function of every used substance for the elaboration of the form, as well as the percentage of each in the final product.</p> <p>The list must include the main ingredients and raw materials, the growing medium, the substrates, precursors, (vegetable) extracts, solvents, emulsifiers, reactants and stabilizers, as well as any other additive.</p>	<p>The list must be complete and be consistent with the category and description of the product (for example, a formulate of vegetable extract must list the extract(s); a microbial product must list a growing medium; and an organic fertilized must list the raw materials).</p> <p>The presented request must include at least a declared ingredient that constitutes more than 50% of the product for products that are not intended for plague and vegetable diseases control, as well as the active ingredients of products intended for that purpose.</p> <p>All ingredients used in products for the vegetable or animal production, must comply with the requirements of the National List of Permitted Substances for the Agricultural and Livestock Organic Operation.</p> <p>All the compounds of the products used for the elaboration of processed food should be raw materials produced organically or appear on the National List of Permitted Substances for the Agricultural and Livestock Organic Operation.</p>
<p>Present a complete declaration of the elaboration process for obtaining it or final formulate and for each of the ingredients, including amounts, sequence, event duration, temperature changes, reactions, each of the steps taken to guarantee that there are no prohibited substances present on the product unintentionally or accidentally, the methods to verify that the product has not been contaminated, where applicable, the description of the composting, digestion, fermentation, extraction and any other process.</p>	<p>The elaboration methods must comply with the specific requirements for every type of supply.</p>



process or method used to remove extracts or growing mediums from the final product.	
Present the label project or product label or documentation or product specifications, just as they are given to the buyer.	The information on the label or sales documents, must coincide with the information on the request delivered to SENASICA, including: company and name of the product, ingredient declaration and product uses. The label must comply with the generic official rules applied in labeling subject.
Present the declaration of the supplier(s) of every ingredient where is verified that the product or its ingredients have not been made or obtained by means of excluded methods or genetically modified organisms, ionizing radiation or waste water.	According to the Organic Products Law, its Regulation and this guidelines, the products obtained by excluded methods, ionizing radiation or waste water, are prohibited for its use on organic production.
For material, substance, product, supply and methods and ingredients or formulations that contain organic agricultural and livestock ingredients, present a copy of the current organic certificate.	For the organic certificate to be valid, it must be issued by an Approved Organic Certification Body or by the Secretariat and be in force.
For material substance, product, supply and methods and ingredients or formulations that contain live microorganisms and pretend to appear in the permitted microbial products category, they must present the documentation that identifies the species or subspecies, the scientific name (genus and species) of the living organisms and guarantee of the minimum content of microorganisms expressed in colony forming units, international units or polyhedrous inclusion bodies.	The count of live microorganisms should guarantee an amount larger than zero.
For material substance, product, supply and methods and ingredients or formulations that contain microorganisms or derivatives of microbial processes, should present a verifiable analysis from an independent laboratory that indicates the levels of fecal coliforms and salmonellas present on the final product.	The count should not exceed 1,000 NMP/g of fecal coliforms, nor more than 3 NMP/4g for Salmonella. In the case of products to be applied in crops, the noncompliance of these parameters shall result on the product being subjected to management under the same considerations applicable to fresh manure.
For material substance, product, supply and methods and ingredients or formulations that contain microorganisms or derivatives of microbial processes in which prohibited substances were used in the growing mediums; they should present the declaration that such	The material substance, product, supply and methods and final ingredients should not contain prohibited substances referred to on the organic products regulation

substances do not remain on the final product or documentation for the applied methods to eliminate them.	
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**TABLE 2: Specific information that the applicants shall present for the supplies evaluation for fertilizing, enhancers, amends, conditioning and inoculum for soil and crops nutrition.**

Information Requirement	Investigation guidelines
A. For crops nutrition and soil amendments:	
Verifiable analysis from an independent laboratory where is declared that all the nutrients declared on the supply or marketed materials label, such as N-P-K or element traces.	The results of the analysis must coincide with the declarations made on the label. The labels for synthetic micro-nutrients must declare (and the analysis must support) that at least one micro-nutrient complies with the minimal guarantee requirements according to table 4.
B. For supplies that contain water plants or animals:	
For the supplies that contain water plants or liquid fish; present a verifiable analysis from an independent laboratory of the pH level of the product.	Water vegetables products: The use of the alkaline solvent must not exceed the required minimum for extraction. Liquid fish products: final pH no lower than 3,5.
For the supplies that contain water plants or liquid fish; present a verifiable analysis from an independent laboratory of potassium content (potassium hydroxide) on the product.	The use of potassium (potassium hydroxide) as solvent must not exceed the required minimum for extraction.
C. For the supplies that contain compost:	
For the compost compounds, present a description of the method or process for pathogen reduction including extraction systems of any foreign material; methods and materials used for pathogen control, and the records made for temperature where dates, lot number, volume and turning frequency are indicated.	The composting in static or aerated piles or containers is supported on the use of ventilators to air and ventilate the materials subjected to the process; the piles are built over a forced aeration conduits system, which cools down the pile, eliminates water vapor, CO <sub>2</sub> and other gases produced by decomposition; here the temperature must be kept between 55°C and 77°C, during at least three days.  The composting in rows with turning consists on long and narrow piles, aired through regular turnings that consist on shaking materials; the turning mixes and combines the materials, homogenizes the materials on the row, frees gases and heat from within the row, distributes the water, nutrients and microorganisms in the row, interchanges the row outer material with the warmest, oxygen deficient material; here the material must reach between 55°C and 77°C at least for 15 days to guarantee the pathogen destruction; at least 5 turning must be provided
A laboratory verifiable analysis that indicates the dry weight of the total initial nitrogen contents and total initial carbon of the raw materials.	The initial proportion of C/N for lined, in containers, and static aerated piles composting must be between 25:1 y 40:1.  * Composting. Biological process for the stabilization of organic residues from animal and vegetable origin, with an initial relation C/N between 25:1 and 40:1, subjected to aerobic degradation with the participation of

	microorganisms, reaching temperatures between 55°C and 77°C, the process resulting on a soil fertilizer or conditioner, known as compost. The composting may be in: (a) row systems with turning; y (b) aerated static piles.
D. For products that contain compost, vermicompost, microbes, microorganisms or products from microbial processes, or animal products, including fish:	
Analysis in an independent laboratory that indicates the levels of fecal coliforms and salmonella, in the dry weight of the final product. This requirement shall be examined when the other related regulations have been met and a copy of the corresponding sanitary record is presented.	The product must not exceed over 1000 NMP/g of fecal coliform, by gram of the material sample. Must not contain over 3 NMP of Salmonella every four grams of the material sample. Or be negative or under 1cfu/g or cfu/4g. The noncompliance of these levels shall result in the rejection of the product to the same use restrictions applied to fresh manure or not converted into fertilized.  <i>cfu (Colony Forming Unit)</i>
E. For supplies that contain humic acid:	
For supplies that contain humic acid, present a verifiable analysis from an independent laboratory that documents the content of humic acid.	The product should contain at least 1% of humic acid.
For the supplies that contain humic acid, present a verifiable analysis from an independent laboratory of potassium content (potassium hydroxide) on the product.	If the content of humic acid is not at least 3 times the level of potash, the product shall be condired as a synthetic potassium fertilizer (potassium hydroxide) and not a humic acid.
For supplies that contain humic acid, present a verifiable analysis from an independent laboratory that documents the total content of nitrogen (TKN) an ammonium nitrogen.	The synthetic nitrogen cannot exceed 1% of the product; otherwise it shall be considered a synthetic nitrogen fertilizer and not humic acid.
F. For supplies that contain lignin sulfonate:	
For the supplies that contain lignin sulfonate, present a verifiable analysis from an independent laboratory that documents the total content of nitrogen (TKN) an ammonium nitrogen.	The synthetic nitrogen cannot exceed 1% of the product; otherwise the ammonium lignin sulfonate shall be considered a synthetic nitrogenous fertilizer and not dust suppressor.
G. For supplies that contain mined minerals:	
For the supplies that contain a mined mineral, present documentation that identifies the specific location off all the mined places where the minerals originated.	The documentation must show that the minerals are extracted from a real mine and are not synthesized.
H. For supplies with micro-nutrient declarations:	

For supplies with micro-nutrient declaration, present a verifiable analysis from an independent laboratory that documents the chloride and nitrate nitrogen content of the final product.	The analysis must show the levels of chloride and nitrate nitrogen and be under the established limits for the specific nutrient percentages according to Table 5.
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**TABLE 3: Maximum concentrations of pollutants by categories (ppm).**

Category	As- (C1)	As- (D2)	Cd- (C1)	Cd- (D2)	Pb- (C1)	Pb- (D2)
Compost, manure and mulch	10	149	20	40	90	290
Minerals and ashes	20	300	40	80	180	580
Other materials for crops nutrition and soil improver or amendments	40	600	80	160	360	1160

C= Level where a precaution declaration is issued for a determined product on the List, they are the long-term contamination risks based on the elemental pollutant contents.

D = Level where a product is not eligible for its inclusion on the List due to the soil contamination danger.

**TABLE 4: Minimum guarantees required for synthetic micro-nutrients.**

Nutrient	
Boron (B)	0.0200%
Cobalt (Co)	0.0005%
Copper (Cu)	0.0500%
Iron (Fe)	0.1000%
Manganese (Mn)	0.0500%
Molybdenum (Mo)	0.0005%
Zinc (Zn)	0.0500%

Source: American Association of Plant Food control Officials (AAPFCO)

**TABLE 5: Limits for the relation between chloride and nitrate with the micro-nutrients.**

Nutrient	Cl: Nutrient	NO3 - N: Nutrient
Cobalt	1.20	0.48
Copper	0.56	0.44
Iron	1.27	0.75
Manganese	1.29	0.51

Molybdenum	0.74	N/A
Selenium	0.45	N/A
Zinc	1.08	0.43

**TABLE 6: Specific information that the applicants should present for the evaluation of the substances, materials and supplies or their formulations, agents for ecological management of insects, fungi, virus, bacteriae, unwanted herbs in organic operations include processing facilities.**

Information Requirement	Investigation guidelines
When applicable, the declaration of the registered basic formula or in process subjected to evaluation before the competent authority; or other international regulations. For the base or basic formulation, all alternative formulation, and all registered active ingredients or complete disclosure of all the ingredients in all the formulations present on the product label.	The formulation ingredients must coincide with the total list of ingredients. The inactive or aid ingredients shall comprehend from list 4 of the Environment Protection Agency (EPA), which may be consulted on their page.
For <i>substances, materials and supplies</i> that contain petroleum derivatives as active ingredients, should present technical specifications information, including the boiling point at 50%.	The 50% of the boiling point shall be between 213 and 227° C.
State the country or countries where the <i>substances, materials and supplies</i> are sold, the authority or authorities that acknowledge it.  Hand over the document(s) that demonstrates that the product is registered or that its use is authorized for plague and diseases control.  This requirement shall be examined when the other related regulations have been met and a copy of the corresponding sanitary record obtained in Mexico is presented.	The product documentation shall show that its use is legal wherever it is sold.
The labels or label projects of the supplies shall clearly show the active ingredients and use instructions according to these Guidelines and in compliance with the applicable regulation.	The active ingredients present in the label shall be in the National List of Permitted Substances in any of the 2 categories: Permitted, Restricted.  The use instructions shall be according to the ingredient restrictions.  If the product is not subjected to independent evaluations, as the register from any government department, then, all ingredients, active and the rest of the compounds, shall be declared in the product label.
The biological control agents such as bacteriae, virus, fungi, protozoa and nematodes	The biological control agents such as bacteriae, virus, fungi, protozoa and nematodes

<p>entomopathogens that come from native Mexican strains, are exempt of evaluation, unless evaluation is requested only to obtain formulation approval support, for which the applicable information per Table 1 shall be presented.</p> <p>Other biological control agents that come from non-native strains shall present all required information.</p>	<p>entomopathogens coming from non-native Mexican strains, shall be subjected to full evaluation.</p>
<p>Scientific name (genus and species of the used microorganisms or vegetable), granting process description; minimum content of the extract(s) in mass-mass percentage and its equivalent g/kg or g/L; or minimum content of microorganisms expressed in colony forming units (CFU), international units or polyhedrous inclusion bodies.</p> <p>This requirement shall be examined when the other related regulations have been met and a copy of the corresponding sanitary record obtained in Mexico is presented.</p>	---
<p>For the case of microorganisms present microbiological purity study, identification and viability made by an acknowledged biological control center; species that the biological control agent attacks, degree of specificity, and optimal environmental factors for viability and virulence of the organism.</p> <p>This requirement shall be examined when the other related regulations have been met and a copy of the corresponding sanitary record obtained in Mexico is presented.</p> <p>Its inert ingredients should be from list 4 A or 4 B from the Environment Protection Agency (EPA) or present bibliographic information and/or technical scientists that justify that it has no adverse effects on the environment.</p>	---

**TABLE 7: Specific information that the applicants should present for the supplies or ingredients for animal feed evaluation.**

Information Requirement	Investigation guidelines
<p>A verifiable analysis from an independent laboratory that validates the nutritional declarations in the product label, such as vitamins or trace minerals.</p>	<p>The analysis result should confirm the declarations on the label.</p>
<p>For <i>supplies or ingredients</i> that contain</p>	<p>The results should show that it has no</p>

minerals, including trace mineral, a verifiable analysis from an independent laboratory should be presented for elemental pollutants: Arsenic, Cadmium, Lead, Mercury and Selenium.	pollutants or are under or at least on the acceptable levels. No evaluation requests that present minerals with pollutants exceeding the maximum acceptable levels in food shall be accepted.
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**TABLE 8: Maximum acceptable levels of mineral pollutants for animal feed.**

Mineral pollutant	ppm
Arsenic	30
Cadmium	10
Mercury	2
Lead	10 for non-ruminants, 100 for ruminants
Selenium	5 for nutritive minerals without selenium

**TABLE 9: Specific information that the applicants should present for the supplies for animal health evaluation.**

Information Requirement	Investigation guidelines
Identification the active ingredient(s).	The active ingredients that meet the identity standard of a synthetic, should be permitted according with the National List of Permitted Substances or is a non synthetic substance that is not prohibited on the List.
In the cases that are regulated, present copy of the register or the request presented before the competent authority, along with support information.	The shown documentation shall indicate that it has a registered use or is in process.
For vaccines or biological, verify that the product label identifies the disease to fight and if it is active or dimmed in the product. Present label.	Inspection of the organism used to manufacture the vaccine, as well as the target disease; it must show that the product complies with the requirements to identify it as vaccine.
For supplies that contain added minerals, present documentation that the mineral(s) comply with the official identity standards or according to some pharmacopoeia.	The minerals added to the product should comply with the official identity standards.

**TABLE 10: Information to be presented by the applicants for the evaluation of ingredients and additives or aids for the processing of organic products.**

Information Requirement	Investigation guidelines
For ingredients, additives or aids	Ingredients and additives from agricultural and livestock origin

agricultural and livestock ingredients that are not on the National List of Permitted Substances for the Agricultural and Livestock Organic Operation, present the corresponding certificate or documentation that shows that it is commercially unavailable as organic.	should have a current organic certificate issued by the Secretariat, the approved organic certification body or the body acknowledged by the Secretariat to apply a participatory certification, or documentation that proves the commercial unavailability as organic.
For ingredients, additives or aids of non-agricultural-and-livestock origin, documents should be presented that support that the product complies with the specifications on Codex Alimentarius about Chemical Food Products.	Comply with the specifications on the Codex Alimentarius of Chemical Food Products or another international regulation, or identity standard so that the material is present in the section of substances of non-agricultural-and-livestock origin permitted on the guidelines corresponding table.
For ingredients, additives or aids that contain enzymes, the genus and species of the source organisms must be presented.	Should be derivatives from eatable and non-toxic plants, or fungi or non-pathogen bacteriae or as specified on the Codex of Chemical Food Products.
For the ingredients, additives or aids that contain liquid or gas nitrogen, or oxygen as ingredient, a verifiable analysis from an independent laboratory should be presented of the hydrocarbons in the ingredients with nitrogen or oxygen.	The liquid or gas nitrogen, as well as the oxygen used on the processed products should be extracted oil free. The results from the analysis must be under detection limits.
For ingredients, additives or aids that contain tocopherols, technical specification should be presented.	The supplier should give technical specification of usage according to the organic processing methods.

**TABLE 11: Specific information that the applicants should present for the evaluation of cleaning and disinfection materials, with commercial brand, in organic processing facilities.**

Information Requirement	Investigation guidelines
For <i>cleaning and disinfection materials</i> that contain one or more ingredients that are no on the permitted substances List, the use instructions of the advertising material, that the users may use to avoid contamination in organic products with prohibited substances on organic foods should be presented.	The use instructions that should be provided to the product users. The use instructions should include the verifiable effective methods to prevent contact between organic products and prohibited substances.

**ANNEX 3. Forms that the control system shall apply and when applicable the Certification body of the Secretariat.**



- O-SQ-F-01.- REQUEST FOR ORGANIC PRODUCT INSPECTION AND CERTIFICATION/CONVERSION
- O-SQ-F-02.- REQUEST FOR DOCUMENTARY INSPECTION FOR RECERTIFICATION.
- O-SQ-F-03.- CONTROL DOCUMENT OR INTERNATIONAL TRANSACTION
- O-SQ-F-04.- ORGANIC CERTIFICATE
- O-SQ-F-05.- REQUEST OF ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF PARTICIPATORY CERTIFICATION

O-SQ-F-01 Request for organic product inspection and certification / Conversion		
Income number (DGIAAP exclusive use / Certification Body)	Date of Receipt (DGIAAP exclusive use / Certification Body)	
C: _____		
CERTIFICATION BODY		
I formally request the organic inspection and certification for the activity whose information is indicated hereafter:		
I OPERATOR GENERAL INFORMATION		
Name of the owner (natural person) or trade name (legal person)	RFC (Taxpayer's ID No.): CURP (Unique Population Registry Key) (Optional):	
Tax Domicile:		
Street, exterior, and interior number:	Colony	Delegation/Municipality
Location:	Martha Arredondo Urzúa,	Federal Entity
Telephone, fax:	Email:	

II. GENERAL INFORMATION		
<b>1. Type of operator (mark with an X the requested service)</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/> New Operator <input type="checkbox"/> Certification Renewal (indicate certificate number _____ )		
Product /Process: (Mark with X)	Certificate Coverage: _____	Number of products:
Production: <input type="checkbox"/> Vegetable <input type="checkbox"/> Animal <input type="checkbox"/> Recollection <input type="checkbox"/> Processing <input type="checkbox"/> Marketing Other (indicate):	Surface (ha): Installed capacity: Heads: Apiaries: Other:	Unprocessed production <input type="checkbox"/> Processed <input type="checkbox"/> Prepared food <input type="checkbox"/> Cattle food <input type="checkbox"/> Meat <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/>
Indicate the crops list and each surface: _____		

Indicate the animal list and amount: \_\_\_\_\_

Lots and/or plots address where the organic operations are made \_\_\_\_\_

Street, exterior and interior number, Colony, Delegation/Municipality, Zip Code and Federal Entity; for the plots, a location map must be annexed.

<b>O-SQ-F-01 Request for inspection and certification</b> <b>DGIAAP/SENASICA</b>		
ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTS TO ANNEX TO THE REQUEST, IN DIGITAL VERSION:  WORD FORMAT: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Organic plan according to the developed agricultural and livestock activity.</li> <li>Field history.</li> <li>Organic Production Internal Regulation for groups of producers in case of groups of producers complying with the minimum requirements established on this Agreement.</li> <li>Copy of the previous certificate, if it is a certification broadening,</li> <li>Letter of Commitment, from the Operator to perform the operations in compliance with the current established regulations</li> </ul> PDF FORMAT: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maps of all the plots and/or areas included on the production unit.</li> </ul>		
<b>2. Inspection scope</b>		
Number of Producers/Beekeepers/Collectors/Breeders	Product (s), Process(es) to certify	No. Hectares/ Hives/ Cattle heads to certify
<b>II. Production/recollection information:</b>		
1. Responsible person for inspection and certification follow-up:		
<b>II. Production/recollection information:</b>		

1. Responsible person for inspection and certification follow-up:
2. Mention the zone, region or municipalities where the crop, recollection, apiaries or paddock zones are (annex location sketch):
3. For GPP, GPA, GPG, GPR: Was the 100% of the organic product Producers internally inspected?  
 Yes/No \_\_\_\_\_ % Inspected  
 Has producers that request a conversion period reduction:  
 Yes/No \_\_\_\_\_  
 If Yes, do you have the following documents?
  - a. Written plot history
  - b. Letter of endorsement of no use of prohibited products in the last 3 years \_\_\_\_\_
  - c. Record system that proves the organic management of the crop \_\_\_\_\_
  - d. laboratory analysis \_\_\_\_\_
4. To market your product, does it need processing?:  
 Yes/No \_\_\_\_\_  
 The processing plant is property of the organization \_\_\_\_\_  
 If No, where is the organic product processed? \_\_\_\_\_  
 It this certification plant certified? Yes/No  
 Name of the certifier: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Indicate the certification that said processing plant has \_\_\_\_\_

**III. Processing and marketing information**  
 (Only applies for processing plants and traders who are not involved in the production)

1. Name of the responsible body to follow-up the organic inspection and certification of the raw materials or marketed products: \_\_\_\_\_
2. Name and address of the processing or marketing plant: \_\_\_\_\_
3. What products do you wish to certify as organic? \_\_\_\_\_
4. Period or epoch of processing, marketing: \_\_\_\_\_
5. Do the raw materials have organic certification?  
 Yes/No \_\_\_\_\_ Name \_\_\_\_\_
6. Which products do you market as organic?
7. The product(s) you marked are for sale:  
 National, Exportation, Both \_\_\_\_\_
8. In case of being exporter, indicate which are the countries of exportation:
9. Please indicate if in the last year there were any important changes in some of the processes managed by the operator, technological change on the field, processing, facilities, staff and other relevant.  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**IV. Exceptions referred to on article 168 of the Organic Operation Guidelines.** (Can only applied to the production units with facilities built before December 31, 2008, which had been certified as organic under voluntary schemes before the date mentioned)

Indicate if you request the authorization for an exception period for adjustments to animal density. Yes\_ No\_

Indicate the required period to adjust the production unit, the space conditions and animal density: \_\_ year(s), \_\_ month(s).

Briefly explain the characteristics that must be adjusted on the production unit:

Sincerely

---

Applicant's name, signature and seal

Information of the legal representatives (when applicable):

Full name	CURP (Unique Population Registry Key) (Optional):	E-Mail
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**Name of the certification body.**

Domicile, telephone, fax, page

**O-SQ-F-02 Request for documentary inspection for recertification.**

I request that a specific crop or product certified by another body is reviewed by this approved certification body is re-certificated. The document inspection request shall only apply to those lots that support the previously granted certification and cannot be referred to additional list, products, or producers.

The commercial activity will be made once the favorable opinion is made, to market or process it as organic.

Name of the certified operator (member): \_\_\_\_\_

Certified operator number: \_\_\_\_\_ Number of producers: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Crop or product: \_\_\_\_\_ Lot number. \_\_\_\_\_

Year of cultivation: \_\_\_\_ Surface \_\_\_\_\_ Amount \_\_\_\_\_

Name of the producer: \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Fax \_\_\_\_\_

Certified by (Name of the body) \_\_\_\_\_

Certificate number (annex copy of it). \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Fax \_\_\_\_\_

I understand that all required documentation must be provided to the certification body within 60 days after the request is made. Otherwise the request shall be discarded.

**Reevaluation**

I understand that if I am not in agreement with the documents exam result, I have 15 days from the date of the decision to supply additional documentation for its reevaluation. And the responsibility to provide additional documentation is only mine. Besides, the certification body shall perform a reevaluation, and the decision on the reevaluation only cannot be appealed.

**Required documentation for inspection**

1. Copy of the current certificate of the organic certification applicable to the crop or product.
2. Letter of previous certification or document with the requirements, recommendations and/or conditions.
3. Questionnaires pertinent to the certification of the crop or product.
4. In situ inspection report
5. Field history for the last 36 months from the date of the harvest collected from the site
6. Field maps for the last 36 months from the date of harvest and identify the production field for the lot at issue
7. Documentation that demonstrated the size of the buffer zone between Organic Production and non-organic production
8. If the buffer zones are harvested, sample of the documentation that proves the segregation of organic crops and the buffer zone.
9. The verification that the inspector is independent from the operation and does not have financial bindings with the applicant. (A sworn declaration is enough).
10. Amount of crop or product to be approved.
11. Documentary follow-up audit and verify how the product segregation is managed.
12. Documentation relative to the location of the place of storage of the crop or product.
13. If you are part of a group of operators:
  - a. Description of the Internal Control System and
  - b. The documentation of the internal regulations.

NOTE: If any documentation indicated above is not applicable to the request, provide a detailed explanation with support documentation that deals with the identified problematic.

O-SQ-F-02 Request of recertification page number 2

Date:

O-SQ-F-03 **Control document or international transaction**

Organic Certification Body or Authority (name, address, telephone, e-mail).	<b>Regulation</b>
<b>Organic Certificate Number:</b>	
Producer or processor (name, address, telephone, e-mail)	<b>Country of origin</b>
	<b>Country of destination</b>
<b>Exporter</b> (name, address, telephone, e-mail)	<b>First recipient</b> (name, address, telephone, e-mail)
<b>Importer</b> (name, address, telephone, e-mail)	
<b>Marks and numbers, number of containers, characteristics, product commercial denomination</b>	<b>Declared amount (kg)</b>
Name of the product.	Gross weight:
Year of harvest:	Net weight:
Origin:	Other units
Contract number	
Invoice number:	
Invoice date:	
Lot Number:	
Advice Shipping Number:	
Number of the container:	
Number of containers:	
<b>Declaration from the Organic Certification Body or Authority stated on point 1.</b>	
<b>Expedition place:</b>	
<b>Name and Signature of the Legal Representative</b>	
<b>Name and signature (or fingerprint) of the applicant:</b>	

O-SQ-F-03

Declaration of control/International transaction

Page number

Date:

O- SQ- F- 04

**ORGANIC CERTIFICATE**



Space for the logotype of  
OCO o SENASICA

**Name of the Organic Operator]**

Address of the Organic Operator]

**Legal Representative: [Name of the Representative of the Organic Operator]**

Organic Operator ID: [Number of Identification of Organic Operator

**[Number of Organic Certificate] XXX- 0000- Year- XXX [Certificate scope]**

**Products and/or activities covered:**

- 
- ...

Surface: [ ]

**Location: [Location of the area or facility where the organic production is made]**

By means of this document, and in accordance with the provisions on articles 17, 19, 22 and 23 of the Organic Products Law; 12, 15, 17 and 27 of the Regulation of the Organic Products Law; **[OCO or SENASICA]** certifies that the aforementioned Operator, products and activities, comply with the dispositions and procedures stated on the **Agreement by which are stated the Guidelines for the Organic Operation of the Agriculture and Livestock Activities**. It is the Operator's complete responsibility to comply permanently with the corresponding dispositions and procedures.

This certificate is not valid as guarantee for transactions. For each commercial transaction of the Organic product sheltered by this certificate, **[OCO or SENASICA]** issues a **Document of Control/Transaction** where is specified the amount of product to market.

This Organic Certificate is valid for **one** year from the date of issue.

**Place and Date of issue: [ ]**

**Validity: [ ]**

**[Responsible party of the Issuing of the Certificate]**

*[Position]*

[Name OCO or SENASICA]

[Address OCO or SENASICA]

O-SQ-F-04 ORGANIC CERTIFICATE



**O-SQ-F-05**

**Request of Acknowledgment Participatory System**

Date:

<b>SECRETARIAT OF AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FISHERIES AND FOOD</b> NATIONAL SERVICE OF ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH, QUALITY AND FOOD SAFETY O-SQ-F-05.- REQUEST OF ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF PARTICIPATORY CERTIFICATION		
Folio Number (day/month/year)		
Type of request	Acknowledgement:	Renovation:
1. Market or marketplace location: Name of the market or marketplace: Location address: Street, outside number, inside number, colony, zip code, Locality, Municipality/Delegation		
City, State, Telephone Fax E-Mail Web page		
Legal Representative Family names, Names:		
3. Delivered documents relation		
Market or marketplace curriculum		
Copy of current Constitutive Act		
Copy of Internal Regulation		
Organization chart (may be included in the operation manual)		
Relation of technical inspection team acknowledged by SENASICA		
Description of the operation infrastructure		
Description of the organic operations supervision and evaluation systems		
Operation Manuals		
List of addressed operations during the previous year and their status.		
*For renovation only the marked documents shall be presented		
I declare under the penalty of perjury:		
1. That the delivered information and documents are truthful		
2. That the body that it represents operated under principles of objectivity, impartiality and without conflict of interests		

\_\_\_\_\_