## OF&G ORGANIC STANDARDS AND CERTIFICATION MANUAL

# Section 1 Introduction

## 1.0 Contents Page

Welcome to the Organic Farmers & Growers Ltd's Organic Standards and Certification Manual.

This introduction is designed to give you a brief guide to the regulations covering organic farming, the food processing industry and to the contents of this Manual.

We have included the text of the relevant EU Regulations on organic food production for reference, although occasionally we have paraphrased the regulation for clarity. See Section 1.1.05 for an explanation of how to identify where this Manual is quoting the relevant EU Regulation.

Where this Manual states '834/2007' this is a reference to Council Regulation (EC) 834/2007. Where this Manual states '889/2008' this is a reference to Commission Regulation (EC) 889/2008. Where this Manual states '1235/2008' this is a reference to Commission Regulation (EC) 1235/2008.

Please take time to read this introduction before studying the rest of the Manual.

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## **Publication and Revision Details**

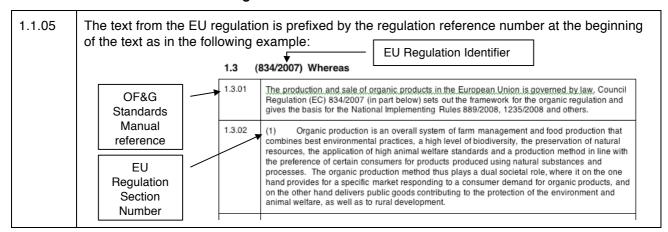
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## 1.1 Using this Manual

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1.1.01	Producers wishing to apply for registration with OF&G must ensure that they familiarise themselves with the contents of this Manual where relevant to their operation.
1.1.02	Operators must ensure that they keep this Manual up-to-date by incorporating amendments as they are issued by OF&G. Obsolete pages must be disposed of.
1.1.03	Each section has its own Contents Page, which lists the chapter headings within the section and the date of revision. When a revision to any of the pages is issued, a new Contents Page will also be issued which will show the date of the revision.
1.1.04	It is a condition of certification with OF&G that all operators must read the Technical Newsletters that we send out regularly. These newsletters will provide important information on any standards changes.
1.1.05	All information in this Manual was correct at time of going to press but is subject to change.

## Identification of the EU Regulation



## **Identification of OF&G Standards and Guidance Notes**

1.1.06	The OF&G Standards expand on areas of the EU Regulation where this is open to interpretation and for areas not covered by the EU Regulation. The OF&G Standards are identified by the use of the normal font style (this style) but without the reference number for the EU regulation as shown in the example above.
1.1.07	OF&G Guidance Notes explain the meaning of the preceding Standards and are indicated by the <i>italic</i> font style. Where the text requires that an operator 'should' carry out an operation, this indicates that the action is recommended as 'best practice' but not obligatory.
1.1.08	Where a practice or material is 'permitted' this may be carried out or used without any restriction.
1.1.09	Where a practice or material is indicated with 'Must be approved before use' or requires that approval be obtained, the operator must obtain permission from the OF&G office. Failure to do so before use may result in loss of certification for the livestock, products or area of land affected.
1.1.10	Where a material is not listed in this Manual as a permitted or restricted input or is specifically prohibited, any use may be considered to be a manifest infringement of these standards and may result in loss of certification for the livestock, products or area of land, depending upon the nature of the infringement.

### **Introduction to Organic Farming** 1.2

1.2.01	Organic farming is a sustainable farming system that combines modern science and technology with traditional farming practices to maintain the long-term fertility of the soil and use less of the Earth's finite resources whilst producing high quality, nutritious food.
1.2.02	Organic techniques have been developed from an understanding of and research into soil science, crop breeding, animal husbandry and ecology. The maintenance of soil fertility relies principally on the use of legumes, crop rotations, the application of composted animal manures and ground rock minerals. Pests, diseases and weeds are normally controlled by choice of appropriate species and varieties, appropriate rotations, mechanical cultivation, protection of natural pest enemies, physical barriers and thermal processes.
1.2.03	Artificial fertilisers, pesticides, growth regulators and livestock feed additives are generally prohibited although some specified materials can be used in severely restricted circumstances.
1.2.04	In July 2003, the role of the UK Competent Authority was taken over by the Rural Affairs Minister of the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) in consultation with the devolved regional administrations:
	Scottish Executive Environment and Rural Affairs Department (SEERAD)
	National Assembly of Wales Agricultural Department (NAWAD)
	Department of Agriculture and Rural Development Northern Ireland (DARDNI)

#### 1.3 (834/2007) Whereas

1.3.01	The production and sale of organic products in the European Union is governed by law; Council Regulation (EC) 834/2007 (in part below) sets out the framework for the organic regulation and gives the basis for the National Implementing Rules 889/2008, 1235/2008 and others.
1.3.02	(1) Organic production is an overall system of farm management and food production that combines best environmental practices, a high level of biodiversity, the preservation of natural resources, the application of high animal welfare standards and a production method in line with the preference of certain consumers for products produced using natural substances and processes. The organic production method thus plays a dual societal role, where it on the one hand provides for a specific market responding to a consumer demand for organic products, and on the other hand delivers public goods contributing to the protection of the environment and animal welfare, as well as to rural development.
1.3.03	(2) The share of the organic agricultural sector is on the increase in most Member States. Growth in consumer demand in recent years is particularly remarkable. Recent reforms of the common agricultural policy, with its emphasis on market-orientation and the supply of quality products to meet consumer demands, are likely to further stimulate the market in organic produce. Against this background the legislation on organic production plays an increasingly important role in the agricultural policy framework and is closely related to developments in the agricultural markets.
1.3.04	(3) The Community legal framework governing the sector of organic production should pursue the objective of ensuring fair competition and a proper functioning of the internal market in organic products, and of maintaining and justifying consumer confidence in products labelled as organic. It should further aim at providing conditions under which this sector can progress in line with production and market developments.

1.3.05	(4) The Communication from the Commission to the Council and the European Parliament on a European Action Plan for Organic Food and Farming proposes to improve and reinforce the Community's organic farming standards and import and inspection requirements. In its conclusions of 18 October 2004, the Council called on the Commission to review the Community legal framework in this field with a view to ensure simplification and overall coherence and in particular to establish principles encouraging harmonisation of standards and, where possible, to reduce the level of detail.
1.3.06	(5) It is therefore appropriate to define more explicitly the objectives, principles and rules applicable to organic production, in order to contribute to transparency and consumer confidence as well as to a harmonised perception of the concept of organic production.
1.3.07	(6) To that end, Council Regulation (EEC) No 2092/91 of 24 June 1991 on organic production of agricultural products and indications referring thereto on agricultural products and foodstuffs should be repealed and replaced by a new regulation.
1.3.08	(7) A general Community framework of organic production rules should be established with regard to plant, livestock, and aquaculture production, including rules for the collection of wild plants and seaweeds, rules on conversion, as well as rules on the production of processed food, including wine, and feed and organic yeast. The Commission should authorise the use of products and substances and decide on methods to be used in organic farming and in the processing of organic food.
1.3.09	(8) The development of organic production should be facilitated further, in particular, by fostering the use of new techniques and substances better suited to organic production.
1.3.10	(9) Genetically modified organisms (GMOs) and products produced from or by GMOs are incompatible with the concept of organic production and consumers' perception of organic products. They should therefore not be used in organic farming or in the processing of organic products.
1.3.11	(10) The aim is to have the lowest possible presence of GMOs in organic products. The existing labelling thresholds represent ceilings which are exclusively linked to the adventitious and technically unavoidable presence of GMOs.
1.3.12	(11) Organic farming should primarily rely on renewable resources within locally organised agricultural systems. In order to minimise the use of non-renewable resources, wastes and byproducts of plant and animal origin should be recycled to return nutrients to the land.
1.3.13	(12) Organic plant production should contribute to maintaining and enhancing soil fertility as well as to preventing soil erosion. Plants should preferably be fed through the soil ecosystem and not through soluble fertilisers added to the soil.
1.3.14	(13) The essential elements of the organic plant production management system are soil fertility management, choice of species and varieties, multi-annual crop rotation, recycling organic materials and cultivation techniques. Additional fertilisers, soil conditioners and plant protection products should only be used if they are compatible with the objectives and principles of organic production.
1.3.15	(14) Livestock production is fundamental to the organisation of agricultural production on organic holdings in so far as it provides the necessary organic matter and nutrients for cultivated land and accordingly contributes towards soil improvement and the development of sustainable agriculture.

1.3.16	(15) In order to avoid environmental pollution, in particular of natural resources such as the soil and water, organic production of livestock should in principle provide for a close relationship between such production and the land, suitable multi-annual rotation systems and the feeding of livestock with organic-farming crop products produced on the holding itself or on neighbouring organic holdings.
1.3.17	(16) As organic stock farming is a land-related activity animals should have, whenever possible, access to open air or grazing areas.
1.3.18	(17) Organic stock farming should respect high animal welfare standards and meet animals' species-specific behavioural needs while animal health management should be based on disease prevention. In this respect, particular attention should be paid to housing conditions, husbandry practices and stocking densities. Moreover, the choice of breeds should take account of their capacity to adapt to local conditions. The implementing rules for livestock production and aquaculture production should at least ensure compliance with the provisions of the European Convention for the Protection of Animals kept for Farming purposes and the subsequent recommendations by its standing committee (T-AP).
1.3.19	(18) The organic livestock production system should aim at completing the production cycles of the different livestock species with organically reared animals. It should therefore encourage the increase of the gene pool of organic animals, improve self reliance and thus ensure the development of the sector.
1.3.20	(19) Organic processed products should be produced by the use of processing methods which guarantee that the organic integrity and vital qualities of the product are maintained through all stages of the production chain.
1.3.21	(20) Processed food should be labelled as organic only where all or almost all the ingredients of agricultural origin are organic. However, special labelling provisions should be laid down for processed foods which include agricultural ingredients that cannot be obtained organically, as it is the case for products of hunting and fishing. Moreover, for the purpose of consumer information, transparency in the market and to stimulate the use of organic ingredients, it should also be made possible to refer to organic production in the ingredients list under certain conditions.
1.3.22	(21) It is appropriate to provide for flexibility as regards the application of production rules, so as to make it possible to adapt organic standards and requirements to local climatic or geographic conditions, specific husbandry practices and stages of development. This should allow for the application of exceptional rules, but only within the limits of specific conditions laid down in Community legislation.
1.3.23	(22) It is important to maintain consumer confidence in organic products. Exceptions from the requirements applicable to organic production should therefore be strictly limited to cases where the application of exceptional rules is deemed to be justified.
1.3.24	(23) For the sake of consumer protection and fair competition, the terms used to indicate organic products should be protected from being used on non-organic products throughout the Community and independently of the language used. The protection should also apply to the usual derivatives or diminutives of those terms, whether they are used alone or combined.
1.3.25	(24) In order to create clarity for consumers throughout the Community market, the EU logo should be made obligatory for all organic pre-packaged food produced within the Community. It should otherwise be possible to use the EU logo on a voluntary basis in the case of non pre-packaged organic products produced within the Community or any organic products imported from third countries.

1.3.26	(25) It is however considered appropriate to limit the use of the EU logo to products which contain only, or almost only, organic ingredients in order not to mislead consumers as to the organic nature of the entire product. It should therefore not be allowed to use it in the labelling of in-conversion products or processed foodstuffs of which less than 95 % of its ingredients of agricultural origin are organic.
1.3.27	(26) The EU logo should under no circumstances prevent the simultaneous use of national or private logos.
1.3.28	(27) Moreover, for the sake of avoiding deceptive practices and any possible confusion amongst consumers on the Community or non-Community origin of the product, whenever the EU logo is used, consumers should be informed about the place were the agricultural raw materials of which the product is composed have been farmed.
1.3.29	(28) The Community rules should promote a harmonised concept of organic production. The competent authorities, control authorities and control bodies should refrain from any conduct that might create obstacles to the free movement of compliant products that have been certified by an authority or body located in another Member State. They should in particular not impose any additional controls or financial burdens.
1.3.30	(29) For the sake of consistency with Community legislation in other fields, in the case of plant and livestock production, Member States should be allowed to apply within their own territories, national production rules which are stricter than the Community organic production rules, provided that these national rules also apply to non-organic production and are otherwise in conformity with Community law.
1.3.31	(30) The use of GMOs in organic production is prohibited. For the sake of clarity and coherence, it should not be possible to label a product as organic where it has to be labelled as containing GMOs, consisting of GMOs or produced from GMOs.
1.3.32	(31) In order to ensure that organic products are produced in accordance with the requirements laid down under the Community legal framework on organic production, activities performed by operators at all stages of production, preparation and distribution of organic products should be submitted to a control system set up and managed in conformity with the rules laid down in Regulation (EC) No 882/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 29 April 2004 on official controls performed to ensure the verification of compliance with feed and food law, animal health and animal welfare rules (1).
	(1) OJ L 165, 30.4.2004, p. 1. Corrected by OJ L 191, 28.5.2004, p. 1.
1.3.33	(32) It might in some cases appear disproportionate to apply notification and control requirements to certain types of retail operators, such as those who sell products directly to the final consumer or user. It is therefore appropriate to allow Member States to exempt such operators from these requirements. However, in order to avoid fraud it is necessary to exclude from the exemption those retail operators who produce, prepare or store products other than in connection with the point of sale, or who import organic products or who have contracted out the aforesaid activities to a third party.
1.3.34	(33) Organic products imported into the European Community should be allowed to be placed on the Community market as organic, where they have been produced in accordance with production rules and subject to control arrangements that are in compliance with or equivalent to those laid down in Community legislation. In addition, the products imported under an equivalent system should be covered by a certificate issued by the competent authority, or recognised control authority or body of the Third Country concerned.

1.3.35	(34) The assessment of equivalency with regard to imported products should take into account the international standards laid down in <i>Codex Alimentarius</i> .
1.3.36	(35) It is considered appropriate to maintain the list of Third Countries recognised by the Commission as having production standards and control arrangement which are equivalent to those provided for in Community legislation. For Third Countries which are not included in that list, the Commission should set up a list of control authorities and control bodies recognised as being competent for the task of ensuring controls and certification in Third Countries concerned.
1.3.37	(36) Relevant statistical information should be collected in order to obtain reliable data needed for the implementation and follow-up of this Regulation and as a tool for producers, market operators and policy makers. The statistical information needed should be defined within the context of the Community Statistical Programme.
1.3.38	(37) This Regulation should apply from a date which gives the Commission sufficient time to adopt the measures necessary for its implementation.
1.3.39	(38) The measures necessary for the implementation of this Regulation should be adopted in accordance with Council Decision 1999/468/EC of 28 June 1999 laying down the procedures for the exercise of implementing powers conferred on the Commission.
1.3.40	(39) The dynamic evolution of the organic sector, certain highly sensitive issues linked to the organic production method and the need to ensure a smooth functioning of the internal market and control system makes it appropriate to provide for a future review of the Community rules on organic farming, taking into account the experience gained from the application of these rules.
1.3.41	(40) Pending the adoption of detailed Community production rules for certain animal species and aquatic plants and micro-algae, Member States should have the possibility to provide for the application of national standards or, in the absence thereof, private standards accepted or recognised by the Member States,

# 1.4 Article 1 (834/2007) Aim and Scope

1.4.01	This Regulation provides the basis for the sustainable development of organic production while ensuring the effective functioning of the internal market, guaranteeing fair competition, ensuring consumer confidence and protecting consumer interests.
	It establishes common objectives and principles to underpin the rules set out under this Regulation concerning:
	(a) All stages of production, preparation and distribution of organic products and their control;
	(b) The use of indications referring to organic production in labelling and advertising.
1.4.02	2. This Regulation shall apply to the following products originating from agriculture, including aquaculture, where such products are placed on the market or are intended to be placed on the market:
	(a) Live or unprocessed agricultural products;
	(b) Processed agricultural products for use as food;
	(c) Feed;
	(d) Vegetative propagating material and seeds for cultivation.
	The products of hunting and fishing of wild animals shall not be considered as organic production.
	This Regulation shall also apply to yeasts used as food or feed.

1.4.03	3. This Regulation shall apply to any operator involved in activities, at any stage of production, preparation and distribution, relating to the products set out in Section 1.4.02.
	However, mass catering operations shall not be subject to this Regulation. Member States may apply national rules or, in the absence thereof, private standards, on labelling and control of products originating from mass catering operations, in so far as the said rules comply with Community Law.
1.4.04	4. This Regulation shall apply without prejudice to other community provisions or national provisions, in conformity with Community law concerning products specified in this Article, such as provisions governing the production, preparation, marketing, labelling and control, including legislation on foodstuffs and animal nutrition.

#### 1.5 Article 3 (834/2007) Objectives

- 1.5.01 Organic production shall pursue the following general objectives:
  - (a) Establish a sustainable management system for agriculture that:
    - Respects nature's systems and cycles and sustains and enhances the health of soil, water, plants and animals and the balance between them;
    - (ii) Contributes to a high level of biological diversity;
    - (iii) Makes responsible use of energy and the natural resources, such as water, soil, organic matter and air;
    - (iv) Respects high animal welfare standards and in particular meets animals' species specific behavioural needs;
  - (b) Aim at producing products of high quality:
  - (c) Aim at producing a wide variety of foods and other agricultural products that respond to the consumer's demand for goods produced by the use of processes that do not harm the environment, human health, plant health or animal health and welfare.

#### 1.6 Article 4 (834/2007) Overall principles

- 1.6.01 Organic products shall be based on the following principles:
  - (a) The appropriate design and management of biological processes based ecological systems using natural resources which are internal to the system by methods that:
    - (i) Use living organisms and mechanical production methods;
    - (ii) Practice land related crop and livestock production or practice aquaculture that complies with the principles of sustainable exploitation of fisheries;
    - (iii) Excludes the use of GMOs and products produced from or by GMOs with the exception of veterinary medicinal products;
    - (iv) Are based on risk assessment, and the use of precautionary and preventative measures, when appropriate.
  - (b) The restriction of the use of external inputs. Where external inputs are required or the appropriate management practices and methods referred to in paragraph (a) do not exist, these shall be limited to:
    - (i) Inputs from organic production;
    - (ii) Natural or naturally derived substances;
    - (iii) Low solubility mineral fertilisers.

## 1.6.01 cont.

- (c) The strict limitation of the use of chemically synthesised inputs to exceptional cases these
  - (i) Where the appropriate management practices do not exist; and
  - (ii) The external inputs referred to in paragraph (b) are not available on the Market; or
  - (iii) Where the use of external inputs referred to in paragraph (b) contributed to unacceptable environmental inputs.
- (d) The adaptation, where necessary, and within the framework of this regulation, of the rules of organic production taking account of sanitary status, regional differences in climate and local condition, stages of development and specific husbandry practices.

#### 1.7 Article 8 (834/2007) General requirements

1.7.01

Operators shall comply with the production rules set out in this Title and with the implementing rules provided for in Section 1.16.01 (a).

#### 1.8 Article 9 (834/2007) Prohibition on the use of GMOs

1.8.01

1. GMOs and products produced from or by GMOs shall not be used as food, feed, processing aids, plant protection products, fertilisers, soil conditioners, seeds, vegetative propagating material, micro-organisms and animals in organic production.

#### 1.9 Article 11 (834/2007) General farm production rules

1.9.01

The entire agricultural holding shall be managed in compliance with the requirements applicable to organic production. However, in accordance with specific conditions to be laid down in accordance with the procedure referred to in Section 1.15.02, a holding may be split up into clearly separated units or aquaculture production sites which are not all managed under organic production. As regards animals, different species shall be involved. As regards aquaculture the same species may be involved, provided that there is adequate separation between the production sites. As regards plants, different varieties that can be easily differentiated shall be involved. Where, in accordance with the second subparagraph, not all units of a holding are used for organic production, the operator shall keep the land, animals, and products used for, or produced by, the organic units separate from those used for, or produced by, the non-organic units and keep adequate records to show the separation

## 1.10 Article 16 (834/2007) Products and substances used in organic farming and criteria for their authorisation

1.10.01

- 1. The Commission shall, in accordance with the procedure referred to in Section 1.15.02, authorise for use in organic production and include in a restricted list the products and substances, which may be used in organic farming for the following purposes:
- (a) As plant protection products;
- (b) As fertilisers and soil conditioners;
- (c) As non-organic feed materials from plant origin, feed material from animal and mineral origin and certain substances used in animal nutrition;
- (d) As feed additives and processing aids;
- (e) As products for cleaning and disinfection of ponds, cages, buildings and installations for animal production;

## 1.10.01 cont.

As products for cleaning and disinfection of buildings and installations used for plant (f) production, including storage on an agricultural holding.

Products and substances contained in the restricted list may only be used in so far as the corresponding use is authorised in general agriculture in the Member States concerned in accordance with the relevant Community provisions or national provisions in conformity with Community law.

1.10.02

- 2. The authorisation of the products and substances referred to in Section 1.10.01 is subject to the objectives and principles laid down in Title II (Objectives and Principles of Organic Production) and the following general and specific criteria which shall be evaluated as a whole:
- Their use is necessary for sustained production and essential for its intended use; (a)
- L 189/12 EN Official Journal of the European Union 20.7.2007
- All products and substances shall be of plant, animal, microbial or mineral origin except (b) where products or substances from such sources are not available in sufficient quantities or qualities or if alternatives are not available:
- In the case of products referred to in Section 1.10.01(a), the following shall apply: (c)
  - Their use is essential for the control of a harmful organism or a particular disease for which other biological, physical or breeding alternatives or cultivation practices or other effective management practices are not available;
  - (ii) If products are not of plant, animal, microbial or mineral origin and are not identical to their natural form, they may be authorised only if their conditions for use preclude any direct contact with the edible parts of the crop.
- (d) In the case of products referred to in Section 1.10.01(b), their use is essential for obtaining or maintaining the fertility of the soil or to fulfil specific nutritional requirements of crops, or specific soil-conditioning purposes;
- (e) In the case of products referred to in Section 1.10.01(c) and (d), the following shall apply:
  - (i) They are necessary to maintain animal health, animal welfare and vitality and contribute to an appropriate diet fulfilling the physiological and behavioural needs of the species concerned or it would be impossible to produce or preserve such feed without having recourse to such substances;
  - (ii) Feed of mineral origin, trace elements, vitamins or provitamins shall be of natural origin. In case these substances are unavailable, chemically welldefined analogic substances may be authorised for use in organic production.

## 1.10.03

- 3. (a) The Commission may, in accordance with the procedure referred to in Section 1.15.02, lay down conditions and limits as regards the agricultural products to which the products and substances referred to in Section 1.10.01 can be applied to, the application method, the dosage, the time limits for use and the contact with agricultural products and, if necessary, decide on the withdrawal of these products and substances.
- (b) Where a Member State considers that a product or substance should be added to, or withdrawn from the list referred to in Section 1.10.01, or that the specifications of use mentioned in subparagraph (a) should be amended, Defra shall ensure that a dossier giving the reasons for the inclusion, withdrawal or amendments is sent officially to the Commission and to the Member States. Requests for amendment or withdrawal, as well as decisions thereon, shall be published.
- (c) Products and substances used before adoption of this Regulation for purposes corresponding to those laid down in Section 1.10.01, may continue to be used after said adoption. The Commission may in any case withdraw such products or substances in accordance with Section 1.15.02.

1.10.04	4. Member States may regulate, within their territory, the use of products and substances in organic farming for purposes different than those mentioned in Section 1.10.01 provided their use is subject to objectives and principles laid down in Title II and the general and specific criteria set out in Section 1.10.02, and in so far as it respects Community law. Defra shall inform other Member States and the Commission of such national rules.
1.10.05	5. The use of products and substances not covered under Sections 1.10.02 and 1.10.04, and subject to the objectives and principles laid down in Title II and the general criteria in this Article, shall be allowed in organic farming.

## 1.11 Article 22 (834/2007)

1.11.01	1. The Commission may, in accordance with the procedure referred to in Section 1.15.02 and the conditions set out in Section 1.11.02 and subject to the objectives and principles laid down in Title II, provide for the granting of exceptions from the production rules laid down in Chapters 1 to 4.	
1.11.02	2. Exceptions as referred to in Section 1.11.01 shall be kept to a minimum and, where appropriate, limited in time and may only be provided for in the following cases:	
	(a) Where they are necessary in order to ensure that organic production can be initiated or maintained on holdings confronted with climatic, geographical or structural constraints;	
	(b) Where it is necessary in order to ensure access to feed, seed and vegetative propagating material, live animals and other farm inputs, where such inputs are not available on the market in organic form;	
	(c) Where it is necessary in order to ensure access to ingredients of agricultural origin, where such ingredients are not available on the market in organic form;	
	(d) Where they are necessary in order to solve specific problems related to the management of organic livestock;	
	<ul> <li>(e) Where they are necessary with regard to the use of specific products and substances in the processing referred to in Section 11.1.05(2)(b) in order to ensure production of well established food products in organic form;</li> </ul>	
	(f) Where temporary measures are necessary in order to allow organic production to continue or recommence in the case of catastrophic circumstances;	
	(g) Where it is necessary to use food additives and other substances as set out in Section 11.1.05(2)(b) or feed additives and other substances as set out in Section 1.10.01(d) and such substances are not available on the market other than produced by GMOs;	
	(h) Where the use of food additives and other substances as set out in Section 11.1.05(2)(b) or feed additives as set out in Section 1.10.01(d) is required on the basis of Community law or national law.	
1.11.03	3. The Commission may in accordance with the procedure referred to in Section 1.15.02 lay down specific conditions for the application of exceptions provided for under Section 1.11.01.	

## 1.12 Article 34 (834/2007)

1.12.01 1. Competent authorities, control authorities and control bodies may not, on grounds relating to the method of production, to the labelling or to the presentation of that method, prohibit or restrict the marketing of organic products controlled by another control authority or control body located in another Member State, in so far as those products meet the requirements of this Regulation. In particular, no additional controls or financial burdens in addition to those foreseen in Title V of this Regulation may be imposed.

1.12.02

2. Member States may apply stricter rules within their territory to organic plant and livestock production, where these rules are also applicable to non-organic production and provided that they are in conformity with Community law and do not prohibit or restrict the marketing of organic products produced outside the territory of the Member State concerned.

#### 1.13 Article 35 (834/2007)

1.13.01 Member States shall regularly transmit the following information to the Commission:

- (a) The names and addresses of the competent authorities and where appropriate their code numbers and their marks of conformity;
- (b) Lists of control authorities and bodies and their code numbers and where appropriate their marks of conformity. The Commission shall publish regularly the list of the control authorities and bodies.

#### 1.14 Article 36 (834/2007)

1.14.01

Member States shall transmit to the Commission the statistical information necessary for the implementation and follow up of this Regulation. This statistical information shall be defined within the context of the Community Statistical Programme.

#### 1.15 Article 37 (834/2007)

1.15.01	The Commission shall be assisted by a regulatory Committee on organic production.
1.15.02	2. Where reference is made to this paragraph, Articles 5 and 7 of Decision 1999/468/EC shall apply.
	The period provided for in Article 5(6) of Decision 1999/468/EC shall be set at 3 months.

#### 1.16 Article 38 (834/2007)

1.16.01 The Commission shall, in accordance with the procedure referred to in Section 1.15.02, and subject to the objectives and principles laid down in Title II, adopt detailed rules for the application of this Regulation. These shall include in particular the following:

- Detailed rules as regards the production rules laid down in Title III, in particular as regards the specific requirements and conditions to be respected by operators;
- Detailed rules as regards the labelling rules laid down in Title IV; (b)
- Detailed rules as regards the control system established under Title V, in particular as (c) regards minimum control requirements, supervision and audit, the specific criteria for delegation of tasks to private control bodies the criteria for approval and withdrawal of such bodies and the documentary evidence referred to in Section 5.3.01;
- Detailed rules as regards the rules on imports from Third Countries laid down in Title VI, (d) in particular as regards the criteria and procedures to be followed with regard to the recognition under Sections 13.1.01 – 13.1.05 of Third Countries and control bodies, including the publication of lists of recognised Third Countries and control bodies, and as regards the certificate referred to in Section 13.1.03 (d) taking into account the advantages of electronic certification;
- Detailed rules as regards the free movement of organic products laid down in Sections (e) 1.12.01 and 1.12.02 and the transmission of information to the Commission in Section 1.13.01.

#### 1.17 Article 39 (834/2007)

1.17.01	1. Regulation (EEC) No 2092/91 is hereby repealed as from 1 January 2009.	
1.17.02	2. References to the repealed Regulation (EEC) No 2092/91 shall be construed as references to this Regulation.	

#### Article 40 (834/2007) 1.18

1.18.01	Where necessary, measures to facilitate the transition from the rules established by Regulation (EEC) No 2092/91 to this Regulation shall be adopted in accordance with the procedure referred to in Section 1.15.02.
1.18.02	(Article 64 (889/2008)) The operator responsible shall notify any change in the description or of the measures referred to in Section 5.7.01 and in the initial control arrangements set out in Articles 70, 74, 80, 82, 86 and 88 to the control authority or control body in due time.

### Organic Farmers & Growers Ltd (OF&G) 1.19

1.19.01	Organic Farmers & Growers Ltd was the first UK organic control body accredited by Defra to inspect and certify organic production and processing in the UK.	
1.19.02 The OF&G Inspection and		F&G Inspection and Certification Scheme inspects and certifies the following operations:
	(i)	Arable and livestock farms and horticultural units, both those entering conversion and fully converted organic units;
	(ii)	On farm processing;
	(iii)	Food processors, abattoirs, wholesalers and retailers;
	(iv)	Importers of organic products from EU member states and Third Countries;
	(v)	Animal feed compounders;
	(vi)	Other operations which involve non-organic products that are approved for use in organic production, such as approved fertilisers and composts;
	(vii)	Other non-food products such as organic pet foods, cosmetics and textiles (on request)

## **Legal Basis**

1.19.03	Organic Farmers & Growers Ltd was incorporated in March 1990 as a Limited Company under the Companies Act of 1985, as amended. The Company's Registration number is 1202852 and	
		the registered office is the OF&G business address.

## EN45011 and ISO65

1.19.04	The OF&G operating procedures comply with the international criteria for control bodies
	operating product certification and are assessed by Defra and the United Kingdom Accreditation
	Service (UKAS) to demonstrate equivalence. OF&G's organic certification programme is
	accredited with UKAS.

## **Certification Programmes**

#### 1.19.05 OF&G offers two certification programmes:

The OF&G/EU Regulation Certification Programme: (i)

> This programme is based on the EU Regulations 834/2007, 889/2008 and others. Additional interpretations and OF&G standards are included to expand on grey areas in the Regulation, to make the programme compatible with Farm Assurance Schemes and to include best processing practices. See also Section 1.3.

(ii) **Partnership Programme:** 

> This programme applies to those operators who supply products and ingredients to a producer or processor certified under the Soil Association Certification Ltd Symbol Scheme. Where there are additional requirements these are printed in a bold italic font preceded by the terms - Partnership Programme (Sections 4 to 8) or PP STD (Sections 10 to 14).