

Guidelines for all Operators in the Organic Food Supply Chain



Agriculture Directorate

Quality Policy Section

Organic Production and Labelling

1. Legal Basis

This document has been prepared with the scope to provide overview of the regulatory framework pertinent to the organic sector. These guidelines focus on compliance with the provisions which directly or indirectly regulate the organic sector.

2. Objective of these Guidelines

These Guidelines serve the purpose to assist operators throughout the food value chain in the organic sector to maintain compliance with the relevant rules and obligations. They are intended to highlight the most basic and essential criteria that are followed with regards to the certification procedures and use which carries the Organic label.

The main objective of the Agriculture Directorate being the Competent Authority for the Organic Production and Labelling regulations is that all organic operators must follow and be in line with the EU organic regulations 834/2007, 889/2008, 1235/2008 and the new Council regulation 848/2018.

3. Information for Organic Operators

Organic Operators are categorized into the following:

- i. Organic Retailers
- ii. Organic Trader (including Transport Operators)
- iii. Organic Wholesalers
- iv. Organic Producers
- v. Organic Processor
- vi. Organic Importers
- vii. Organic Exporters

The activities of an operator can fall under more than one category.

3.1 General Provisions for all Organic Operators

3.1.1 Application of Organic Certification

All operators who intend to grow and/or market and sell loose (by weight/ Kg) organic products, sell organic products through an online shop, intend to store organic produce in a separate premises, import or export organic products from or to third countries or distribute to other shops must be certified with a recognized [Control Authority](#).

Any operator within the food value chain mentioned in section 3 wishes to achieve certification as an organic operator may apply for the certificate of the organic control system by clicking [here](#).

3.1.2 Exemption of Organic Certification

Such exemption of organic certification can only be provided if in line with article 28(2) of Regulation (EC) No 834/2007, whereby such operators sole activity is to sell organic products directly to the final consumer or user, and ensure that such operators do not:

- (a) Produce/grow such products

- (b) Prepare such products in manner to make them 'kitchen ready',
- (c) store the products other than in connection with the point of sale,
- (d) import, or
- (e) do not contract out such activities (e.g. production, preparation including labelling, storage, import) to a third party.

Therefore, the exemption can be granted depending on specific operations which are to be in line with the obligations mentioned above.

In this regard upon a written request by the operator to the Competent Authority to be exempted from the certification, the following will take place:

- (a) an inspection will be carried out by the officers of this office to verify the activities of operations.
- (b) sign a written declaration provided by this office stating that operator is requesting such exemption and that the operator fulfils the obligations mentioned above.

4. Information on the different Categories of Operators

4.1 Exporting Organic Produce

Operators who intend to export to third (non-EU) countries are to apply as organic exporters with the Control Authority on the following [link](#).

Exporting organic products from EU to third countries requires that exporters comply with the countries import regimes except where reciprocal equivalence arrangements are in force. (Account on TRACES is not applicable since third countries won't have Access)

4.2 Importing Organic Produce

Operators who import from third (non-EU) countries are to apply as organic importers with the Control Authority. Once certified the operators are to create an EU login account on [here](#) and then register on [Trade Control and Expert System \(TRACES\)](#) for each import. A 'Certificate of Inspection' (COI) is to be issued by the relevant control authority or control body before the consignment leaves the country of export or origin using TRACES. Importers are to inform the

Control and Competent Authorities of the estimated date of arrival of each consignment, by sending an email with the COI, which may be subject to sampling by the Control Authority once it arrives in Malta as per Article 65 of Regulation (EC) No 889 of 2008. In case of potential infringements and irregularities affecting the organic status of products, the appropriate actions shall be applied by the control authority and/or body on the operators under their control as established in the published Catalogue of Measures.

The Competent Authority carries out documentary checks through TRACES and if sampled, once the result of the sample analysis confirms that its MRL values satisfy those set by the EU Organic Regulations, the import can be endorsed for release by an email to the Port Health in the EU by the Competent Authority. The Competent Authority will then release the consignment through TRACES.

Guidance notes for imports from Third Countries

Below you will find further guidance notes for imports of organic products according to Article 19 Regulation (EC) No. 1235/2008 from third countries into the European Union

All produce from third countries labelled as organic must conform to strict rules which cover all stages of production and processing. In the European Union (EU), the basic rules governing organic production, processing, export and import are laid down in Council Regulation (EC) No. 834/2007 as amended.

Organic products from within the EU can be circulated freely in all EU-member states, provided they were produced, processed or imported in conformity with Regulation (EEC) No. 834/2007 as amended.

The European Commission has recognised that a number of third countries operate production rules and inspection systems which are equivalent to those operating within the EU according to Article 32 (2) of Regulation (EC) No. 834/2007. These countries and products are listed in Annex III of Regulation (EC) 1235/2008. Approved products from these countries, provided they have been inspected and certified by one of the approved control bodies, may be brought freely into the EU and marketed as organic.

The European Commission will establish lists of approved control bodies operating in third countries according to Article 32 (2) and 33 (3) of Regulation (EC) No. 834/2007. The application and approval process were started on 1/1/2009. Control bodies operating in third countries which are currently approved by the European Commission can be found [here](#) as per Annex [III](#) and [IV](#) of regulation 1235/2008.

As a transitional rule, products from all other third countries except those being listed in Annex III of Regulation (EC) No. 1235/2007 can be brought into the EU and labelled as organic, provided prior authorisation of your competent authority according to article 19 of Regulation (EC) No. 1235/2007 has been obtained.

Import of Organic produce from third Countries in Malta – Step by Step Guide

Step 1: Registration and inspection of the Organic importer in Malta

If your organisation is located in Malta you need to be registered with an approved Maltese [Control Body or Control Authority](#) , the application process <https://www.mccaa.org.mt/Section/Content?contentId=1252> will require you to demonstrate your compliance with the conditions laid down in Regulation (EC) No. 834/2007 as amended.

Step 2: Import from a (a) third country listed on the third countries list [Annex III](#) of Regulation (EC) No. 1235/2007) or (b) from another third country

A: Third countries list: imports from third countries recognised by the European Commission for the export of organic produce

The European Commission has recognised that a few third countries operate production rules and inspection systems equivalent to those operating within the EU. These countries, their products, and their inspection bodies or inspection authorities issuing the certificates of inspection are listed in Annex III of Regulation (EC) 1235/2007 as amended.

Imports of the specified organic products into the EU are permitted without prior approval from the competent EU-authorities provided that each consignment of the imported product is accompanied by an Certificate of Inspection according to Annex V of Regulation (EC) No.

1235/2007 issued by one of the approved control bodies or control authorities from the third country listed in the Annex III of Regulation (EC) 1235/2007 as amended.

B: Import Authorizations: Imports from third countries which have NOT been recognised by the European Commission for the export of organic produce.

Until 1 January 2013, importers were able to market in the EU, organic products from a third country not listed in the Annex III of Regulation (EC) 1235/2008 as amended provided they have been authorised by the competent authority in the Member State. The rules for importing produce from these countries are set out in Article 19 of Commission Regulation (EC) 1235/2008.

Before authorisation is given, importers must demonstrate to the affiliated [Control body or Control Authority](#)

The product has been produced in accordance with production rules equivalent to those laid down in Title III and IV Council Regulation (EC) No. 834/2007 as amended; and

- The operators have been subject to control measures of equivalent effectiveness to those referred to in Title V of Council Regulation (EC) No. 834/2007 as amended and those control measures have been permanently and effectively applied.

Operators importing organic products from third countries which are not listed in [Annex IV](#) of regulation (EC) 1235/2008 will be asked by the Control Authority to present:

- Latest purchases certificated
- Sample of purchases invoices from suppliers
- Samples of sales invoices to client.
- A list of suppliers (organic) that includes.
- Suppliers Certificates and their certification bodies
- Certificate of inspection (COI)
- A Sample will be taken from the imported organic products if possible.

Step 3- Certificate of inspection (COI) for import of products from organic production (Annex V of Regulation (EC) No. 1235/2008) If you intend to create a COI on traces please follow [Tutorial](#).

Before any imported organic products from third countries may be cleared into free circulation in the EU, a Certificate of Inspection for import of products from organic production must be endorsed by the Maltese Customs Authority.

The certificate of inspection must be drawn up by the operator and the control body in the third country. It shall accompany the goods and it must be presented to both the Competent Authority ikeltakwalita.mafa@gov.mt and [Control Authority](#) before they can be cleared into free circulation.

The relevant control authority and competent authority will carry out a documentary check before they endorse the certificate. Once the control authority and control body give the necessary clearances, the Customs Department will be informed by the Competent Authority and Control Authority for the authorisation to import organic produce. It is therefore important that you apply for an authorisation to import produce in time.

How to complete the application form ' Certificate of Inspection' COI to import into the EU organic products from third Countries according to Article 19 of Regulation (EC) No. 1235/2008

Once account on TRACES has been created and activated you will be required to fill in the COI as per established procedure listed in [Annex V of \(EC\) No.1235/2008](#).

4.3 Organic Traders, Retailers and Wholesalers

Operators which identify themselves as traders, retailers and wholesalers, must be certified with the control authority/Control, body on the following link for the [Maltese Control Authority](#) and for the list of [Control Bodies and Control Authorities](#) recognized as per country Those certified will be able to trade organic products from European countries and sell through their shop or to other local shops according to their operations.

Once certification has been obtained operator will be subject to a control system established by the relevant authority.

4.4 Organic Processors

Operators which are interested of being identified as Organic processors must first apply with the [Control Authority](#) to attain organic certification. The production of organic food from organic agricultural ingredients, except where an ingredient is not available on the market in organic form. In addition to this, one must follow the overall principles of organic processing set out in [Article 4, 6 and 7 of 834/2007](#).

Organic production shall be based on the following principles:

(a) the appropriate design and management of biological processes based on 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 cultivation and livestock production or practice aquaculture which complies with the principle of sustainable exploitation of fisheries;

(iii) exclude 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 preventive 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;

(c) the strict limitation of the use of chemically synthesized inputs to exceptional cases these being:

(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) contributes to unacceptable environmental impacts;

(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 conditions, stages of development and specific husbandry practices.

Specific principles applicable to processing of organic food:

In addition to the overall principles set out in Article 4, the production of processed organic food shall be based on the following specific principles:

- (a) the production of organic food from organic agricultural ingredients, except where an ingredient is not available on the market in organic form;
- (b) the restriction of the use of food additives, of non-organic ingredients with mainly technological and sensory functions and of micronutrients and processing aids, so that they are used to a minimum extent and only in case of essential technological need or for particular nutritional purposes;
- (c) the exclusion of substances and processing methods that might be misleading regarding the true nature of the product;
- (d) the processing of food with care, preferably with the use of biological, mechanical and physical methods.

In addition to the overall principles set out in Article 4, the production of processed organic feed shall be based on the following specific principles:

- (a) the production of organic feed from organic feed materials, except where a feed material is not available on the market in organic form;
- (b) the restriction of the use of feed additives and processing aids to a minimum extent and only in case of essential technological or zootechnical needs or for particular nutritional purposes;
- (c) the exclusion of substances and processing methods that might be misleading as to the true nature of the product;
- (d) the processing of feed with care, preferably with the use of biological, mechanical and physical methods.

Activities such as packaging, labelling and/or alterations made to the labelling concerning the organic production method are alone not intended as processing unless they are done in combination with any other processing activity.

4.5 Organic Producers

1. Organic producers can be relative to the crop and animal husbandry sector. Producers must first apply with the [Control Authority](#) to initiate the certification process.
2. Once the operator has notified his activity to the control authorities and subjected his holding to the control system, the conversion period shall start immediately. During the conversion period all rules established by the mentioned regulations shall apply, whereby conversion periods specific to the type of crop or animal production shall be defined as indicate in article 17 of regulation 834 /2007.
3. The operator shall keep any certified organically produced and in conversion products separate, and the animals separate or readily separable and keep adequate records (Refer to Annex I) to show the separation. Animals and animal products produced during the conversion period shall not be marketed with the indications referred to in Articles 23 and 24 of 834/2007 used in the labelling and advertising of product. The records that are required by the control authority are:
 - Crop Rotation Sheet
 - Equipment and Cleaning Schedule
 - Parcel Record Sheet
 - Purchasing Record Sheet
 - Annual Production report
 - Sales record sheet.

- The entire agricultural holding must be managed in compliance with the requirements applicable to organic production.
- However, under **specific conditions** Article 37(2) 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 must 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.
- Separation of land is done through buffer zones. Estimated and actual yields are calculated, and records are maintained by the operator. These records are provided to the Control Authority during the annual inspections.
- The above-mentioned specific conditions are always changing by time. But the current conditions are buffer zones which may vary from 5 to 10 meters depending about the type of buffer e.g. rubble walls, tress, the location and the prevailing wind, the surrounding activities such as intensive farming and quarries. Then a risk assessment is conducted on site and is recorded on the inspection report.
- Where, not all units of a holding are used for organic production, the operator must 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.

In-Conversion

The following rules shall apply to a farm on which organic production is started:

- (a) the conversion period shall start at the earliest when the operator has notified his activity to the [Competent Authorities](#) and subjected his holding to the control system pertinent to that Control Authority in accordance with Article 28(1);
- (b) conversion periods specific to the type of crop or animal production shall be defined; (Permanent Trees/Crops 3 years, Others 2 years)

(c) on a holding or unit partly under organic production and partly in conversion to organic production, the operator shall keep the organically produced and in-conversion products separate, and the animals separate or readily separable and keep adequate records to show the separation;

(d) in order to determine the conversion period referred to above, a period immediately preceding the date of the start of the conversion period, may be taken into account, in so far as certain conditions concur;

(f) animals and animal products produced during the conversion period referred to in subparagraph (c) shall not be marketed with the indications referred to in Articles 23 and 24 used in the labelling and advertising of products.

Prohibition on the use of GMOs

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.

Prohibition on the use of ionising radiation

The use of ionising radiation for the treatment of organic food or feed, or of raw materials used in organic food or feed is prohibited.

Plant production rules

In addition to the general farm production rules, the following rules shall apply to organic plant production:

(a) organic plant production shall use tillage and cultivation practices that maintain or increase soil organic matter, enhance soil stability and soil biodiversity, and prevent soil compaction and soil erosion;

(b) the fertility and biological activity of the soil shall be maintained and increased by multiannual crop rotation including legumes and other green manure crops, and by the application of livestock manure or organic material, both preferably composted, from organic production;

- (c) the use of biodynamic preparations is allowed;
- (d) in addition, fertilisers and soil conditioners may only be used if they have been authorised for use in organic production under Article 16;
- (e) mineral nitrogen fertilisers shall not be used;
- (f) all plant production techniques used shall prevent or minimise any contribution to the contamination of the environment;
- (g) the prevention of damage caused by pests, diseases and weeds shall rely primarily on the protection by natural enemies, the choice of species and varieties, crop rotation, cultivation techniques and thermal processes;
- (h) in the case of an established threat to a crop, plant protection products may only be used if they have been authorised for use in organic production under Article 16;
- (i) for the production of products other than seed and vegetative propagating material only organically produced seed and propagating material shall be used. To this end, the mother plant in the case of seeds and the parent plant in the case of vegetative propagating material shall have been produced in accordance with the rules laid down in this Regulation for at least one generation, or, in the case of perennial crops, two growing seasons;
- (j) products for cleaning and disinfection in plant production shall be used only if they have been authorised for use in organic production under Article 16.

The collection of wild plants and parts thereof, growing naturally in natural areas, forests and agricultural areas is considered an organic production method provided that:

- (a) those areas have not, for a period of at least three years before the collection, received treatment with products,
- (b) the collection does not affect the stability of the natural habitat or the maintenance of the species in the collection area.

Livestock production rules

In addition to the general farm production rules, the following rules shall apply to livestock production:

(a) with regard to the origin of the animals:

(i) organic livestock shall be born and raised on organic holdings;

(ii) for breeding purposes, non-organically raised animals may be brought onto a holding under specific conditions. Such animals and their products may be deemed organic after compliance with the conversion period referred to in Article 17(1)(c);

(iii) animals existing on the holding at the beginning of the conversion period and their products may be deemed organic after compliance with the conversion period

(b) with regard to husbandry practices and housing conditions:

(i) personnel keeping animals shall possess the necessary basic knowledge and skills as regards the health and the welfare needs of the animals;

(ii) husbandry practices, including stocking densities, and housing conditions shall ensure that the developmental, physiological and ethological needs of animals are met;

(iii) tethering or isolation of livestock shall be prohibited, unless for individual animals for a limited period of time, and in so far as this is justified for safety, welfare or veterinary reasons;

(iv) duration of transport of livestock shall be minimised;

(v) any suffering, including mutilation, shall be kept to a minimum during the entire life of the animal, including at the time of slaughter;

(vi) apiaries shall be placed in areas which ensure nectar and pollen sources consisting essentially of organically produced crops or, as appropriate, of spontaneous vegetation or non-organically managed forests or crops that are only treated with low environmental impact methods. Apiaries shall be kept at sufficient distance from

sources that may lead to the contamination of beekeeping products or to the poor health of the bees;

(vii) hives and materials used in beekeeping shall be mainly made of natural materials;

(viii) the destruction of bees in the combs as a method associated with the harvesting of beekeeping products is prohibited;

(c) with regard to breeding:

(i) reproduction shall use natural methods. Artificial insemination is however allowed;

(ii) reproduction shall not be induced by treatment with hormones or similar substances, unless as a form of veterinary therapeutic treatment in case of an individual animal;

(iii) other forms of artificial reproduction, such as cloning and embryo transfer, shall not be used;

(iv) appropriate breeds shall be chosen. The choice of breeds shall also contribute to the prevention of any suffering and to avoiding the need for the mutilation of animals;

(d) with regard to feed:

(i) primarily obtaining feed for livestock from the holding where the animals are kept or from other organic holdings in the same region;

(ii) livestock shall be fed with organic feed that meets the animal's nutritional requirements at the various stages of its development. A part of the ration may contain feed from holdings which are in conversion to organic farming;

iii) with the exception of bees, livestock shall have permanent access to pasture or roughage;

(iv) non organic feed materials from plant origin, feed materials from animal and mineral origin, feed additives, certain products used in animal nutrition and processing aids shall be used only if they have been authorised for use in organic production under Article 16;

(v) growth promoters and synthetic amino-acids shall not be used;

- (vi) suckling mammals shall be fed with natural, preferably maternal, milk;
- (e) with regard to disease prevention and veterinary treatment:
 - (i) disease prevention shall be based on breed and strain selection, husbandry management practices, high quality feed and exercise, appropriate stocking density and adequate and appropriate housing maintained in hygienic conditions;
 - (ii) disease shall be treated immediately to avoid suffering to the animal; chemically synthesised allopathic veterinary medicinal products including antibiotics may be used where necessary and under strict conditions, when the use of phytotherapeutic, homeopathic and other products is inappropriate. In particular restrictions with respect to courses of treatment and withdrawal periods shall be defined;
 - (iii) the use of immunological veterinary medicines is allowed;
 - (iv) treatments related to the protection of human and animal health imposed on the basis of Community legislation shall be allowed;
- (f) with regard to cleaning and disinfection, products for cleaning and disinfection in livestock buildings and installations, shall be used only if they have been authorised for use in organic production.

Production rules for aquaculture animals

In addition to the general farm production rules laid down, the following rules shall apply to aquaculture animal production:

- (a) with regard to the origin of the aquaculture animals:
 - (i) organic aquaculture shall be based on the rearing of young stock originating from organic brood stock and organic holdings;
 - (ii) when young stock from organic broodstock or holdings are not available, non-organically produced animals may be brought onto a holding under specific conditions;
- (b) with regard to husbandry practices:

(i) personnel keeping animals shall possess the necessary basic knowledge and skills as regards the health and the welfare needs of the animals;

(ii) husbandry practices, including feeding, design of installations, stocking densities and water quality shall ensure that the developmental, physiological and behavioural needs of animals are met;

(iii) husbandry practices shall minimise negative environmental impact from the holding, including the escape of farmed stock;

(iv) organic animals shall be kept separate from other aquaculture animals;

(v) transport shall ensure that the welfare of animals is maintained;

(vi) any suffering of the animals including the time of slaughtering shall be kept to a minimum;

(c) with regard to breeding:

(i) artificial induction of polyploidy, artificial hybridisation, cloning and production of monosex strains, except by hand sorting, shall not be used;

(ii) the appropriate strains shall be chosen;

(iii) species-specific conditions for broodstock management, breeding and juvenile production shall be established;

(d) with regard to feed for fish and crustaceans:

(i) animals shall be fed with feed that meets the animal's nutritional requirements at the various stages of its development;

(ii) the plant fraction of feed shall originate from organic production and the feed fraction derived from aquatic animals shall originate from sustainable exploitation of fisheries;

(iii) in the case of non-organic feed materials from plant origin, feed materials from animal and mineral origin, feed additives, certain products used in animal nutrition and processing aids shall be used only if they have been authorised for use in organic production under Article 16;

(iv) growth promoters and synthetic amino-acids shall not be used;

(e) with regard to bivalve molluscs and other species which are not fed by man but feed on natural plankton:

(i) such filter-feeding animals shall receive all their nutritional requirements from nature except in the case of juveniles reared in hatcheries and nurseries;

(ii) they shall be grown in waters which meet the criteria for Class A or Class B areas as defined in Annex II of Regulation (EC) No 854/2004;

(iii) the growing areas shall be of high ecological quality as defined by Directive 2000/60/EC and, pending its implementation of a quality equivalent to designated waters under Directive 2006/113/EC;

(f) with regard to disease prevention and veterinary treatment:

(i) disease prevention shall be based on keeping the animals in optimal conditions by appropriate siting, optimal design of the holdings, the application of good husbandry and management practices, including regular cleaning and disinfection of premises, high quality feed, appropriate stocking density, and breed and strain selection;

(ii) disease shall be treated immediately to avoid suffering to the animal; chemically synthesised allopathic veterinary medicinal products including antibiotics may be used where necessary and under strict conditions, when the use of phytotherapeutic, homeopathic and other products is inappropriate. In particular restrictions with respect to courses of treatment and withdrawal periods shall be defined;

(iii) the use of immunological veterinary medicines is allowed;

(iv) treatments related to the protection of human and animal health imposed on the basis of Community legislation shall be allowed.

(g) With regard to cleaning and disinfection, products for cleaning and disinfection in ponds, cages, buildings and installations, shall be used only if they have been authorised for use in organic production.

Products and substances used in farming and criteria for their authorisation

The Commission will, 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;

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

Products and substances contained in the [restricted list](#) as per [Annex I, II, V, VI, VII, VIII of Regulation 889 of 2008](#) to may only be used in so far as the corresponding use is authorised in general agriculture in the Malta through the MCCAAC concerned in accordance with the relevant Community provisions or national provisions in conformity with Community law.

Market surveillance

The Competent Authority which is responsible for the Organic production and labelling regulations in Malta receives reports and performs on-site inspections to verify if that particular operator is in line with the EU Regulations. Every year the Competent Authority conducts monitoring controls through market surveillance to ensure that there is no production and marketing of organic produce which do not comply with the EU Regulations.

Rural Development Plan 2014-2020

Rural development plan 2014-2020 offers measures to encourage farmers to convert their farming practices and methods to organic and also to maintain organic farming practices and methods.

Under measure 11, Malta will be programming sub-measures:

- 11.1 – Payment to convert to organic farming practices and methods.
- 11.2 – Payment to maintain organic farming practices and methods.

For more information regarding these measures one can click on this [link](#) or contact Front office located in Ta'Qali on 22926163.

Annex I: Records of Separation.

Plant Protection Records	Livestock Records
<u>As regards the use of fertiliser:</u> date of application, type and amount of fertiliser, parcels concerned.	<u>As regards animals arriving at the holding:</u> origin and date of arrival, conversion period, identification mark and veterinary record.
<u>As regards the use of plant protection products:</u> reason and date of treatment, type of product, method of treatment.	<u>As regards livestock leaving the holding:</u> age, number of heads, weight in case of slaughter, identification mark and destination.
<u>As regards purchase of farm inputs:</u> date, type and amount of purchased product;	Details of any animals lost and reasons thereof.
<u>As regards harvest:</u> date, type and amount of organic or in conversion crop production	<u>As regards feed:</u> type, including feed supplements, proportions of various ingredients of rations and periods of access to free-range areas, periods of transhumance where restrictions apply;
	<u>As regards disease prevention and treatment and veterinary care:</u> date of treatment, details of the diagnosis, the posology; type of treatment product, the indication of the active pharmacological substances involved method of treatment and veterinary prescription for veterinary care with reasons and withdrawal periods applying before livestock products can be marketed labelled as organic.

