



Economy of Love

Economy of Love Standard

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Audit Version

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This document was composed by the Egyptian Biodynamic Association.

Please note that certification according to the Economy of Love Certification Criteria can only be assured through the involvement of an accredited auditor

The following document details the criteria on which the Economy of Love certification is granted. The following criteria are divided into four sections representing the Economy of Love wheel of balance that aims to create a balanced economic system and society that equally cares for the environment, the society, the economy and the culture, benefiting each to protect the people and the environment involved in any economic or business activity.

The below tables serve as the inspector's guide which can be used during announced and unannounced audits aligned with ISO 17065. The inspector should write all findings and observations down as documentation of the inspection. Additionally to this document, the inspector should collect all required documentation and information from the producer. A checklist of all necessary documentation required will be shared with both the producer and the auditor.

It is important to note that this document does not provide legal advice and should not be used as a substitute for professional advice. It is the responsibility of the recognized auditor and the inspector to ensure that the inspection is conducted in accordance with the relevant laws and regulations. The document should be used as a guide to ensure that all necessary steps are taken during the inspection.

***This criteria can be applied with or without the carbon component.**

Certification Guide

Even though Economy of Love expects all licensees to comply with all the criteria listed below, some criteria have higher importance than others. Therefore, the criteria are categorized into three levels: "Must", "Major", and "Minor". Compliance with 100% of the "Must Criteria" is mandatory, with no non-compliance permitted, as failure to meet any of these criteria results in ineligibility for certification. The "Major Criteria" require compliance with at least 90%, allowing a maximum of one non-compliance; exceeding this threshold results in the need for corrective actions prior to reapplication for Economy of Love Certification. The "Minor Criteria" require a minimum compliance of 80%, allowing up to two non-compliances, provided that corrective actions are implemented within one year in cases where non-compliance exceeds this limit. The following guide for licensing requirements and compliance levels is directed to:

Level 1: Economy of Love Certified Members

The member of the first level is EoL certified and complies with the EoL values and criteria, and thus has the right to print the EoL trademark, and use the EoL impacTrace tool.

Requirement:

1. Fulfilling **100% of 'Must Criteria'**, with no non-compliance permitted.
2. Fulfilling **at least 90% of all 'Major Criteria'**, allowing a **maximum of one non-compliance**.
3. Fulfilling a **minimum of 80% of 'Minor Criteria'**, allowing a **maximum of two non-compliances**.
4. In case of non-compliance with more than two *Minor Criteria*, corrective actions must be implemented within one year to restore compliant status.
5. In case of non-compliance with any *Must Criteria* and/or more than one *Major Criteria*, the licensee must implement corrective actions before reapplying for Economy of Love Certification.

Level 2: Economy of Love 'In Transition Member'

This level includes producers and processors that are currently undergoing changes to comply with the EoL standards; this applies when they are in their initial year of the certification process or renewing the certificate. 'In Transition Members' are not granted the rights to use the EoL trademark. Nevertheless, they are allowed to use the impacTrace Tool.

Conversion to Economy of Love

The conversion of a farm to a biodynamic farm involves setting developmental goals and creating a conversion plan detailing how the farm will meet Economy of Love standards.

The entire farm, including livestock, must be converted to biodynamic methods in one step. Larger structures like cooperatives can define partial areas as farm organisms, based on regional specifics and clear, controllable rules. The farm manager cannot simultaneously manage both an Economy of Love farm and a conventional farm.

Conversion periods for certain areas or animal husbandry may be extended under specific conditions

- Minimum of three years for perennials and ornamental plants, which must be managed applying the Economy of Love standard.
- Up to three years for conventional animal husbandry, which must be abandoned afterward.

The entire enterprise must achieve Economy of Love certification within a **minimum period of three years** from the start of the conversion process, depending on the specific conditions and readiness of each farm, ensuring that full compliance with all certification criteria is attained before certification is granted.

Trademark usage timeline

12 months: Products can be labeled “In conversion to Economy of Love.”

24 months: Products sown 24 months after conversion can be marketed as “Economy of Love” once certified. Perennials harvested from this point can carry the “In conversion to Economy of Love” certification.

36 months and longer: Perennial crop products can carry the “Economy of Love” certification.

These periods may be extended in exceptional cases, such as intensive conventional farming, which may require a zero year before conversion starts.

Shortened time periods are possible if

- Certified organic (including conversion time) for at least one year, “Economy of Love in conversion” certification can be granted for the first harvest, with full certification in the second season. Perennials follow one season later.
- Certified Demeter (including conversion time) for at least two years, full Economy of Love certification can be granted for the first harvest.

Abbreviations

A/R Afforestation and Reforestation

CCC	Carbon Credits Certificate
CDM	Clean Development Mechanism
EoL	Economy of Love
EBDA	Egyptian Biodynamic Association
FSC	Forest Steward Council
GHG	Greenhouse Gases
GIS	Geographical Information System
GMOs	Genetically Modified Organisms
ILO	International Labor Organization
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization

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1. Introduction

With organic agriculture methods, the Economy of Love Standard is committed to actively increase carbon sequestration through **afforestation projects, compost production, soil carbon sequestration**, and the implementation of **renewable energy** on EoL licensee farms. The EoL carbon credits are valuing the high environmental service of our farmers and provide an additional income through selling CO2 certificates.

Holistic Approach

Economy of Love proves to be the most holistic carbon credit scheme.

The Economy of Love has defined holistic development and sustainability as the balance between the four dimensions of **society, economy, culture**, and **environment**. Thanks to our network of producers, buyers and certifiers, EoL is able to support organic farmers, deliver high quality products with a positive impact, while being carbon negative and enhancing farm biodiversity. EoL ensures that every carbon project validated and verified by the standard adheres to internationally acknowledged carbon credit integrity criteria, follows a true cost accounting approach and covers living wages of the workers along the value chain.



Culture



Society



Environment



Economy

2. Environmental Production Criteria

Criterion	Specific Indicators	Inspector's Questions & Actions	Inspector's Findings	Criteria Level
1 The producer meets Natural or Organic or Regenerative, Biodynamic farming practices	Demeter Certified			Must
	Biodynamic Farming (see below)			
	Organic Certified			
	Living and fertile soils: The farm builds up organic matter			
	1.1. The farm's own fertility, manure and compost are valuable and treated with care.	1.1.1 Is manure and compost production documented? 1.1.2 Have photos been taken?		
1.2. All sources of fertility must be stored to avoid nutrient loss.	- 1.2.1 Have photos been taken? - 1.2.2 Was a description of storage provided?			Minor

<p>1.3. All soils should receive, at least once a year, an application of manure preparation (500, 500P) and biodynamic compost (or Fladen/ CPP).</p>	<p>1.3.1 Was the preparation application plan provided? 1.3.2 Was the spraying records provided? 1.3.3 Are photos taken of the record book?</p>		Must
<p>1.4. Soil-less growing and container crops are prohibited.</p>	<p>1.4.1 Are there any signs of soil less growing practices on the farm?</p>		Must
<p>A biodynamic farm strives for self-sufficiency in fertility</p>			
<p>1.5. Production from the farm should be balanced with the fertility produced by animals, green manures and/or fodder plants to ensure the fertility of the soil is sustained or increased.</p>	<p>1.5.1 How are fertility requirements met on the farm?</p>		Must
<p>1.6. If insufficient fertility is produced by the farm itself, other sources of fertility may be brought in, but they have to meet the requirements of Permitted/restricted fertilisers and soil conditioners (Appendix 1.)</p>	<p>1.6.1 Was soil testing results provided? 1.6.2 Was the nutrient balance results provided? 1.6.3 Were photos of the storage taken?</p>		Must

	<p>1.7. Nutrient management must suit local conditions and farm type, ensuring a balanced input and output. Nitrogen from green manure is excluded from the balance, but up to 170 kg N/ha/year may be allowed. For simplicity, only commercial organic fertilisers count toward phosphorus input. In arable farming, total N and P inputs must not exceed what livestock sustained by the farm’s fodder would produce—max 112 kg N/ha/year and ~43 kg P/ha/year. If own manure is insufficient, additional fertilisers are allowed with restrictions: commercial organic fertilisers must be under 40 kg N/ha/year and provide less nitrogen than other sources like farmyard or green manure.</p>	<p>1.7.1 Was the nitrogen balance results provided?</p>		<p>Must</p>
	<p>1.8. In market gardens 1/3 of the crop rotation should be green manure or fodder production.</p>	<p>1.8.1 Was the plan for crop rotation provided?</p>		<p>Minor</p>

Biodynamic Preparations: The biodynamic preparations support health and resilience in the soil and plants			
1.9. Every part of the farm must be sprayed with horn manure at least once per year (50g/ha)	1.9.1 Was the spraying records provided? 1.9.2 Were photos of the preparation storage taken?		Major
1.10. Every part of the farm must be sprayed with horn silica at least once per year (2.5g/ha)	1.10.1 Was the spraying records provided?	<input type="checkbox"/>	Major
1.11. Manures (stable and farmyard manure, compost materials) must be treated with the compost preparations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1.11.1 Was the Compost preparation records provided? 1.11.2 Was the manure records provided? 	<input type="checkbox"/>	Major
1.12. Areas that do not receive prepared manure, should be treated with a composite preparation (cow pat pit, barrel compost etc.)	1.12.1 Was the field treatment records provided?		Minor
Seed integrity and diversity: Everything brought into the farm is of biodynamic quality			
1.13. Seeds, seed potatoes, and propagation material should come from a biodynamic farm. Organic may	1.13.1 Was the source of seeds and related invoice provided? 1.13.2 Was the delivery notes provided?		Major

	be used if a biodynamic source is not available.			
	1.14. Seeds from genetic modification (including new breeding techniques) are prohibited.	1.14.1 Are there any signs of GMO seed use? 1.14.2 Are invoices provided to the inspector?		Must
	1.15. Seeds must not be treated with chemicals or radiation.	1.15.1 Was the records of fields and seed exchanges provided?		Must
	1.16. Hybrid cereal seeds are prohibited.	1.16.1 Are there signs of the Hybrid cereal seed used?		Minor
Healthy plants: The farm organism supports plants to express their health and vitality				
	1.17. Soils and potting mixes should be produced from a mixture of on-farm materials.	1.17.1 Are requirements applied? (if applicable)		Minor
	1.18. Crop rotation, soil cultivation and crop husbandry should be used to control weeds. Mulching is allowed, but industrial mulching materials are prohibited.	1.18.1 Have photos been taken?		Major

	1.19. Everything for plant protection and care must be listed in Appendix 2. (Allowed materials for plant care and protection)	1.19.1 Was the invoice provided?		Major
	1.20. Biodynamic cultivation in Greenhouses	1.20.1. Are biodynamic requirements applied? 1.20.2. Have photos been taken?		Minor
Animal husbandry: Animals are a vital part of a biodynamic farm				
	1.21. All Economy of Love certified farms above 5 acres must include livestock (preferably ruminants or equines). Organic animal production is prohibited for anyone who does not own agricultural land unless they have a signed contract with another organic farm stating cooperation in animal feed production.	1.21.1 Have photos been taken? 1.21.2 Was livestock records provided?		Must
	1.22. A minimum of 0.05 and a maximum of 1 livestock unit per acre are kept. Farms with fewer than 10	1.22.1 Was livestock records provided?		Major

	<p>cows/horses or sheep and fewer than 5 goats may add no more than one animal per year, with a possible increase up to 40%, subject to prior approval from the Administration in cases of major farm expansion, changes in breeding methods, introduction of new livestock types, or conservation of endangered breeds.</p>			
	<p>1.23. Cooperation is possible with another biodynamic or organic farm, exchanging fodder or manure when self-sufficiency is not possible.</p>	<p>1.23.1 Was a contract provided? 1.23.2 What other farms are cooperating with the licensee?</p>		Minor
	<p>1.24. Animals must be bred on the farm or brought in from other biodynamic sources (Species and breeds are selected taking into account the animals' vitality, adaptability to local conditions, and resistance to disease). Animals of organic farms may be brought in if biodynamic are not</p>	<p>1.24.1 Was the livestock management records provided?</p>		Minor

	<p>available. (exemptions are possible upon requesting the approval from the administration in case of insufficient biodynamic or organic animal resources provided the following conditions are met:</p> <p>Calves, foals, and camels must not exceed six months of age.</p> <p>Sheep, ewes, and goats must be less than 60 days old.</p> <p>When mixing varieties, raised according to organic production rules, the number of registered females introduced from non-organic sources must not exceed the following ratios: A maximum depth of 10% of the benefit for horses, cattle, buffalo, and camels and 20% of the benefit for sheep, ewes, and goats (Livestock obtained from non-organic units are subject to special inspections and quarantine periods, depending on the surrounding conditions).</p>			
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	1.25. Records must be kept of all animals on the farm (including breeding, veterinary treatments). Large animals must be identifiable individually, small animals (such as poultry) can be identified as a group. Any organic animal products used on this land with non-organic animals may not be considered organic unless there is evidence of sufficient separation from non-organic livestock.	1.25.1 Was the livestock management records provided?		Major
	1.26. Male sires should be kept on the farm. For every 100 hens, two roosters must be kept.	1.26.1 Was the livestock management records provided?		Minor
	1.27. No genetic manipulation of animals is allowed (includes insemination with sexed semen and embryo transfer).	1.27.1 Was the livestock management records provided?		Must
Animals are allowed to express their natural behaviour				
	1.28. All animals must be allowed to express their natural behavior, this	1.28.1 Have photos been taken?		Minor

	includes social behavior. Cattle must be kept in groups except during the final stages of pregnancy and during the lactation period.	1.28.2 Have maps for animal spaces been provided?		
	1.29. Animals must have free access to their natural surroundings (sun, rain and earth under foot) whenever possible.	1.29.1 Have photos been taken?		Must
	1.30. Animals must have access to pasture, for ruminants at least during the grass-growing season (minimum six months).	1.30.1 Was the requirement fulfilled?		Major
	1.31. Indoor housing is not required if the climate, soils, landscape and breed allow livestock to live outdoors all year round. Natural shelter must be available.	1.31.1 Have photos been taken?		Major
	1.32. Where indoor housing is needed, it should be organised so that animals can move safely and freely, can lie	1.32.1 Have photos been taken? 1.32.2 Did the farm tour provide the needed verification?		Major

	<p>down, stand up and feed. Animals must not be tied up. Dust levels, temperature, relative humidity, and gas concentrations must be maintained within limits that do not harm the animals. The floor of the animal buildings must be smooth and non-slip, and at least half of the land area must be level. Natural ventilation, light and access to fresh air must be available all year round.</p>			
	<p>1.33. Bedding must be provided for indoor housing. The land must not be cracked and covered with a bedding of straw, sawdust, or sand. The bedding may be improved by adding some of the minerals permitted. More than 50% slatted floors are prohibited.</p>	<p>1.33.1 Are requirements applied on a producer's farm?</p>		<p>Major</p>
	<p>1.34. For poultry that perch, perches must be provided. Waterfowl must have access to water. Cages are prohibited.</p>	<p>1.34.1 Are requirements applied on a producer's farm?</p>		<p>Minor</p>

	Poultry houses must cease production between each flock. Poultry houses must be cleaned and disinfected during the indicated break period. During this period, the pasture is allowed to regrow. The farm manager must keep all farm documents and records.			
Animals are fed fodder from the farm in accordance with their nature				
	1.35. Food for animals must be suited to their species.	1.35.1 Are requirements applied on a producer's farm?		Minor
	1.36. Animals must have 60% of their food from the farm (or as a part of a manure/fodder exchange). The rest can be brought in.	1.36.1 Were the Fodder calculation/grazing plan provided?		Major
	1.37 Animals must have 70% of their food from biodynamic, EoL farm sources. The remaining must be from an organic producer. An average of 30% of feed components can be sourced from outside the farm	1.37.1 Were receipts provided for anything brought in?		Major

	<p>during the conversion stage. For feed produced on the farm itself, the percentage increases to 100% (Upon approval from the administration).</p> <p>*Inorganic herbs, spices, and molasses may be used if:</p> <p>They are used at a rate of 1% of the feed ingredients, calculated annually as a percentage of the dry matter of plant origin.</p> <p>The use of feed materials of mineral origin is permitted.</p> <p>Organic feed of animal origin and feed of mineral origin may be used in organic production. Fisheries products and their by-products may be used in organic production, provided that:</p> <p>-Hydrolyzed fish protein is used only for small animals</p>			
	<p>1.38 Ruminants must be fed a high content of roughage all year round (at</p>	<p>1.38.1 Was the grazing/feeding plan provided?</p>		<p>Minor</p>

	least 75% dry matter from pasture, hay and silage).			
	1.39 When kept indoors, ruminants must be fed as much hay as possible (3kg/cow/day minimum with smaller animals getting a similar proportion).	1.39.1 Was the grazing/feeding plan provided?		Major
	1.40 Young ruminants should be fed milk (calves for 90 days, lambs and kids for 45 days) and have access to roughage (Calves must not be housed in individual rooms after one week of age). Force-feeding is prohibited during animal fattening operations at any stage.	1.40.1 Was the grazing/feeding plan provided?		Major
	1.41 Pigs must be offered a daily ration of roughage.	1.41.1 Was the feeding plan provided?		Minor
	1.42 Poultry must be allowed to forage, at least 5% dry matter must be fed in the open air. Fowl must have 20% of their	1.42.1 have photos been taken?		Major

	fodder as whole grains. All poultry must get some grit.			
	1.43 All food must be GM free.	1.43.1 Were GM free declarations provided for anything brought in?		Must
The animal is treated respectfully so it can live its life with dignity				
	1.44 Dehorning and other mutilations are prohibited (this includes tail and ear docking, nose rings, tooth cutting, beak trimming etc.). Castration is allowed in calves, other ruminants and piglets only to improve the health or welfare of the animals, suffering must be reduced to a minimum.	1.44.1 Are requirements applied on a producer's farm? (if applicable)		Must
	1.45 Only horned cows are allowed for the production of milk. Hornless (historic, land race and heritage) breeds are allowed only for the production of meat.	1.45.1 Are requirements applied on a producer's farm? (if applicable)		Major

	1.46 Health management with natural remedies such as herbal medicine, homeopathy etc. is prioritised.	1.46.1 Are requirements applied on a producer's farm? (if applicable)		Minor
	<p>1.47 Preventive and routine allopathic medicines (including antibiotics and anthelmintics) are prohibited. Antibiotics are only allowed with a vet's prescription.</p> <p>With the exception of vaccines and parasite treatments, if a group of animals has suffered more than three courses of treatment with veterinary chemicals or antibiotics within 12 months, or more within the animal's lifetime of less than one year, the animal or the animal product derived from it is considered non-organic. In the case of livestock, they must pass the prescribed transition periods.</p>	1.47.1 Are requirements applied on a producer's farm? (if applicable)		Must
	1.48 Hormonal treatments are prohibited.	1.48.1 Are requirements applied on a producer's farm?		Must

	1.49 Records of all treatments (natural or allopathic) must be kept.	1.49.1 Are all records kept? (if applicable)		Minor
	1.50 Animals with a life of less than one year, may only be treated once with allopathic medicines.	1.50.1 Are requirements applied on a producer's farm? (if applicable)		Minor
	1.51 All other animals may only be treated three times per year with allopathic medicines. Despite preventive measures to ensure animal health, if animals become infected or sick, they must be treated immediately. If necessary, these animals can be isolated in separate enclosures.	1.51.1 Are requirements applied on a producer's farm? (if applicable)		Minor
	1.52 If treated with allopathic medicines, double the recommended withdrawal period applies. If the methods indicated are ineffective in treating the disease or injury, and chemical treatment is necessary to avoid further animal suffering, any	1.52.1 Are requirements applied on a producer's farm? (if applicable)		Minor

	chemical treatment must be used under the supervision of a veterinarian (upon approval from the administration).			
	1.53 Any transport of animals must be carried out with care, minimizing distance, fear, anxiety and suffering. Livestock pens, houses, equipment, and utensils must be cleaned and disinfected to prevent the transmission of infection and the accumulation of disease-carrying organisms. Animal remains, such as feces and urine, must be disposed of to avoid odors and attract insects and rodents.	1.53.1 Are all transportations of animals handled with care? Can proof be provided? 1.53.2 Are all pens, houses, equipment, and utensils clean and disinfected? Can proof be provided?		Major
	1.54 Slaughter must be carried out consciously and with the utmost respect for the animal.	1.54.1 Describe the slaughtering process. (if applicable)		Major
Bees: Bees hives are kept in the most natural way possible to support vitality.				

	1.55 The biodynamic preparations should be applied each year to at least the immediate surroundings of the overwintering location.	1.55.1 Were application records provided?		Major
	1.56 Hives must be built of natural materials (wood, straw or clay). The inside of the hive may only be treated with beeswax and propolis obtained from biodynamic beekeepers.	1.56.1 Were application records provided?		Major
	1.57 Everything brought in for bees must be from a biodynamic source (bees themselves, feed, and wax). Organic may be used if biodynamic is not available. To renew apiaries, 10 queen bees and bee swarms from non-organic sources may be introduced annually, provided that the queen bees placed in the combs within the hives are organically/biodynamically raised	1.57.1 Were Invoices Provided?		Minor

	(Upon the approval from the administration).			
	1.58 Colonies must be allowed to build natural honeycomb (on fixed or movable frames).	1.58.1 Have photos been taken?		Minor
	1.59 Cleaning and disinfection of hives may only be done using heat (flame or hot water) or mechanically.	1.59.1 Have proof of the procedures been provided?		Minor
	1.60 Supplementary winter feed must contain at least 10% honey by weight. At the end of the honey production season, bee colonies must have sufficient honey and pollen to feed them during the winter. Beehives at risk due to climatic conditions must be fed organic honey or organic sugar syrup and organic sugar only during the period between honey harvest and 15 days before the start of the nectar season and the beginning of honey production.	1.60.1 have feed records been provided?		Minor

	<p>1.61 The following are prohibited:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Systematic queen replacement - Wing clipping of queens - Artificial queen breeding - Use of queen excluders - Instrumental insemination - The use of genetically modified bees - Any form of stimulative feeding - Multiple and routine uniting of colonies 	1.61.1 Are requirements applied on a producer's farm? (if applicable)		Must
	1.62 Any treatments must be listed in Appendix 3	1.62.1 Were treatment records provided?		Major
	1.63 Identification of hive products is only permitted if the products come from a biodynamic beekeeping operation.	1.63.1 Are requirements applied on a producer's farm? (if applicable)		Minor
	1.64 Honey must not be heated above 35° from extraction through to bottling. Pressurised filtration is prohibited.	1.64.1 Were extraction records provided?		Major

	1.65 If the products of a hive are to be labelled as Economy of Love (for example 'honey from an Economy of Love farm') there must be a sentence that explains that the products are from bees that have been managed to biodynamic and Economy of Love standards.	1.65.1 Have the Labels been viewed?		Minor
Biodiversity: The farm preserves, promotes, and works collaboratively with its natural environment				
	1.66 10% of the land area of the farm must be left wild	1.66.1 Was the Map of the farm with areas marked provided?		Major
	1.67 Virgin rainforests must not be cleared for agricultural purposes.	1.67.1 Was the Map of the farm with areas marked provided? (if applicable)		Must
	1.68 Conservation areas must be protected.	1.68.1 Was the Map of the farm with areas marked provided?		Must
Biodynamic Textiles				
	1.69 Agricultural products that are textile raw materials (wool, cotton, linen, silk, flax, etc.) comply with the principles of	1.69.1 Does the producer comply with the economy of Love and biodynamic methods of production?		Must

	<p>the Economy of Love and biodynamic methods of production.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -The harvest of cotton products must be handpicked. The use of machine harvest is permitted only in the case that chemical use is excluded. -Animal fibres are to be shorn or combed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - If not specify non-compliances. 		
	<p>1.70 Specific toxic products are excluded based on the Economy of Love production standards. During harvesting, steps must be taken to avoid contamination from neighboring conventional fields, equipment, or storage.</p>	<p>1.70.1 Is the auditor provided with evidence that the EoL products always meet the minimum standards for organic textile products?</p>		Must
	<p>1.71 EoL-certified textile products Textile raw materials (wool, cotton, linen, silk, flax, etc.) are agricultural products for which all the principles of the biodynamic method of production</p>	<p>1.71.1 Is there proof of the ingredient content (e.g. an ingredient list)?</p>		Minor

		<p>apply always meet the minimum the standards of the International Association of Natural Textiles (IVN) or Got's textile products by supplying proof of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Minimum organic ingredient content of 50% of the agricultural ingredients. - Only biodynamic Non-agricultural ingredients. - No GMO - No nanoparticles 			
2	Sustainable water management is in place to reduce wastewater and protect the local environment	2.1 Water usage is annually monitored.	<p>2.1.1 Are the water usage records made available to the inspector on site?</p> <p>2.1.2 Is there an estimation of projected water usage for the next year/season for irrigation?</p>		Major
		2.2 All ground or river water abstraction must have the required governmental approval and certificate. If the source is in a critical situation (e.g. being depleted	<p>2.2.1 Is a licence of water abstraction available?</p> <p>-</p>		Minor

	or under excessive pressure), it is being cooperated with local authorities/initiatives.			
	2.3 Irrigation systems appropriate to the local climate and the irrigation needs are in place to increase efficiency.	2.2.1 What irrigation systems are used?		Major
	2.4 High efficiency of the irrigation system through regular maintenance and repair is ensured to reduce water loss and water consumption.	2.4.1 What actions are taken to improve efficiency?		Minor
	2.5 No harmful or polluting substances are discharged into the groundwater or freshwater sources. ¹	2.5.1 Are there no harmful or polluting substances discharged into the groundwater or freshwater sources? 2.5.2 What substances are discharged?		Must
	2.6 Waste water from housing or farm processing is properly disposed of or cleaned and reused without harming the environment.	2.6.1 How is the housing waste water disposed of?		Minor
		2.7.1 Is the environment negatively affected		Minor

¹ This can be shown by providing the auditors with proof of responsible waste management.

		by the producer? 2.7.2 Can a visual inspection verify that the producer is not destroying or damaging natural ecosystems in or around the farm?		
	2.8. Use of fossil water is permitted only if a plan detailing the sustainable and responsible management and usage, is approved by a third party expert.	2.8.1 Was a plan submitted to the CB?		Minor
3	Climate change mitigation and adaptation	Biodiversity		
	3.1 At least 10% of the certified EoL area should be identified to protect or enhance the biological diversity of the native ecosystem.	3.1.1 What percentage of the land is dedicated to biodiversity? 3.1.2 What are the actions taken to preserve biodiversity?		Must
	3.2 Existing patches of trees or single solitary stems of native tree species shall always be identified and managed to protect or enhance the	3.2.1 What are the local tree varieties? 3.2.2 Share of non-local varieties?		Minor

	biological diversity			
	3.3 Climate Change Adaptation	3.3.1 What measures are taken to adapt to climate change .	<input type="checkbox"/> Selection of crop variety, <input type="checkbox"/> Adaptation to less water for irrigation <input type="checkbox"/> Cover cropping <input type="checkbox"/> Use of mulch <input type="checkbox"/> Intercropping <input type="checkbox"/> Low, no-tillage	Minor
4 Ecological awareness trainings		4.1.1 Was a representative of the farm attending any ecological awareness training? 4.1.2 Does the farmer have a solid understanding about the ecological awareness program of EoL? 4.1.3 Was knowledge shown for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Soil health and fertility ● Climate change and its impact on agriculture ● Ecological balance on the farm 	<input type="checkbox"/> The importance of soil health and fertility <input type="checkbox"/> The impact of climate change on agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> Understanding the importance of ecological balance on the farm.	Minor

3. Economic Production Criteria

Criterion	Specific Indicators	Inspector's Questions & Actions	Inspector's Findings	Criteria Level
1 Required data for full cost accounting	1.1 Detailed data on production costs are communicated transparently.	1.1.1 Is the necessary data about production cost of the products provided to the auditor	<input type="checkbox"/> Labour _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Machinery _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Farminputs _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Material _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Taxes _____	Major
2 Production employees receive a salary that allows for a decent standard of living	2.1 Permanent employees receive a living wage or at least national minimum wage.	2.1.1 Is the proof of salaries submitted to the auditor?		Must
	2.2 Wages must be paid in legal tender and on time.	2.2.1 Are there occasions where wages were not paid on time, over the last year?		Minor
	2.3 The producer does not discriminate between its employees by ensuring that people doing the same work get paid equal salaries.	2.3.1 Are minorities or other groups disadvantaged in terms of their wage? - E.g. Are women paid less salary or the same as men?		Minor

3	Transparency in the disclosure of documents and stakeholder relationships	3.1 The website and published information corresponds to the truth (if applicable).	<p>3.1.1 Storage and transport containers must be clearly labeled as organic/EoL (Organic and non-organic products are separated in packaging, storing, processing and transporting to avoid co-mingling).</p> <p>3.1.2 The product must be traceable back to the certified organic field it came from.</p> <p>3.1.3 The inspector should briefly check the website and verify the information on the company website (if applicable).</p> <p>3.1.4 Processing including packaging and storage/transportation containers don't contaminate the organic products they contain.</p>		Minor
4	Sustainable economic awareness is fostered through a minimum of 15 training hours per year		<p>4.1.1 Did a representative of the farm attend the economical awareness training?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Please give a brief description of the training content. 		Minor

4. Social Production Criteria

* The EoL standard is in compliance with the ILO core and basic labour standards.*

Criterium	Specific Indicators	Inspector's Questions & Actions	Inspector's Findings	Criteria Level
1 Fair and dignified working conditions for all production employees are created and enforced	Forced Labour			
	1.1 No form of forced labour, slave labour or involuntary labour including the confiscation of workers' identity cards, passports, or any other personal documents is taking place.	1.1.1 Are there any indications of forced labour, or unfree and involuntary employment?		Must
	1.2 Freedom for spouses.	1.2.1 Are the spouses of employees required to work for the same producer?		Major
	1.3 Employees are not required to pay a deposit to the employer.	1.3.1 Are there any cases of employees paying money to the employer?		Major

1.4 Freedom of association and the right to join unions or elect workers' representatives guaranteed without any restrictions or pressure.	1.4.1 Are farmers free to elect workers' representatives or to join any farmer unions?		Major
1.5 A written policy on social responsibility and human rights within the farm is in place.	1.5.1 Is there a written policy on social responsibility and human rights within the farm? 1.5.2 Are workers informed of their rights and obligations in accordance with labor law and established social standards?		Major
Discrimination and Sexual Harassment			
1.6 Measures are established to protect employees from sexually intrusive, threatening, insulting or exploitative behavior.	1.6.1 What measures are taken to protect employees from sexually intrusive, threatening, insulting or exploitative behavior? 1.6.2 What measures are in		Major

	<p>place to raise awareness of these issues?</p> <p>1.6.3 How are sexually intrusive, threatening, bullying, insulting or exploitative behavior dealt with in the organization?</p>		
<p>1.7 Discrimination in working life and hiring process based on ethnicity, religion, age, disability, gender, marital status, sexual orientation, trade union membership, nationality, race, colour of skin, disease, social background, caste, political affiliation promotion, origin of recruitment, access to training, remuneration, allocation of work, termination of employment retirement or other activities is prohibited.</p>	<p>1.7.1 Are any kinds of discrimination in the work environment visible?</p> <p>1.7.2 What measures are in place to raise awareness of these issues?</p>		Must

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Employees with a similar skill set, level of experience and competency, performing similar work must be at the same salary level in the organisation. - The termination of employment on unjustifiable grounds, is prohibited (e.g. marriage, pregnancy, parenthood or HIV status). - During recruitment it is not tested for pregnancy, HIV or genetic disorders. 			
<p>1.8 A written policy prohibiting all forms of discrimination in employment (including discrimination based on sex, religion, origin, opinion, or any other social status) is in place.</p>	<p>1.8.1 Is there a written policy prohibiting all forms of discrimination in employment?</p>		Minor
<p>Gender Equality</p>			

	<p>2.1 Within the context of the mitigation activity or project, a comprehensive gender equality understanding must be ensured. This should aim for promoting gender equality, addressing various aspects related to policy development, capacity building, gender mainstreaming, equal opportunities, reporting and monitoring, consultation and participation, prevention of gender-based violence, community engagement, regular assessment, and compliance with relevant laws and agreements.</p>	<p>2.1.1 Are measures in place to ensure a comprehensive gender equality and understanding that encompasses a wide range of measures to promote gender equality within the farm?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>	<p>Major</p>
Employment Conditions				
	<p>3.1 Periodic employment or labour is only used in exceptional circumstances (e.g. harvesting or</p>	<p>3.1.1 What measures are in place to ensure that the hiring and working conditions of</p>		<p>Major</p>

	<p>seeding season, weather changes, sudden demand peaks).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Periodic employees work under 30 hours per week for a period less than 120 days, if an employee works more than the indicated hours they should be provided with a full-time/part-time contract. - The working and hiring conditions of subcontracted employees comply with the EoL standard. OR Subcontracted employees are hired and work under the same conditions as full or part-time employees. 	<p>subcontracted employees comply with the EoL standard?</p>		
Working hours				
3.2 Working hours conform with	3.2.1 Are the ILO working hours		Major	

<p>national legislation and the ILO conventions and are reflecting the following points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Working hours do not exceed 48 hours per week and eight hours per day. - In no case is a worker working more than 18 days in a row without having a free day. - Workers have at least one day of rest after 6 working days. - A minimum of 30 minutes break is given after 6 working hours. 	<p>applied?</p> <p>3.2.2 Are employees allowed a break?</p> <p>3.2.3 Are field workers required to work a minimum of 520 hours per year (e.g., 20 hours per week for 6 months or 40 hours per week for 3 months)?</p>		
<p>3.3 Overtime of employees is voluntary, and must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Comply with local legislation and the ILO conventions. - Not be requested on a regular basis. 	<p>3.3.1 How are employees being compensated for the overtime?</p>		<p>Minor</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Be paid according to national law or collective bargaining agreements. 			
Child Labour			
<p>3.4 The employment of young people should comply with the following requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The minimum age of employees is 15 or higher, depending on national legislation. - Employees between 15 and 18 years. - Are not assigned to night shifts. - Are not engaged in work that puts their physical health or moral well-being at risk. - Do not engage in labour that may be detrimental to their education. 	<p>3.4.1 Are there any signs of child labour?</p> <p>3.4.2 Are all field workers at least fifteen (15) years of age or older?</p>		Must

- Are only working 8 hours per day and a maximum of 6 days in a row.
- If the criteria regarding child labour have been infringed in the past, the children are protected from entering worse forms of labour.
- In case of family labour involving children, the following criteria are followed:
 - Parents are allowed to take children to work, in order to perform their supervisory duties.
 - The work does not expose the children to violence or abuse.
 - There is no conflict between the

children' s education and their work.			
Work Safety & Health of Employees			
<p>3.5 The following measures are taken to ensure work safety and health of employees:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All hazardous machines are marked. - Activities of high risk are only undertaken by employees that received adequate training and are aware of the potential risks to their health, the environment and what to do in case of an accident. - For potentially hazardous work, all information, safety instructions and hygiene recommendations are clearly visible and depicted/written 	<p>3.5.1 Are there any safety measures in place?</p> <p>3.5.2 Are hazardous machinery marked and easily identifiable by employees?</p> <p>3.5.3 Is there evidence of a violation of the EoL guidelines?</p>		Minor



<p>in a way that is understandable to all employees.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- The working environment is safe and conducive to good health.- Workplaces and working equipment are safe and subject to regular safety inspections, and employees are trained on their safe usage.- General safety instructions are given to all factory employees.- At least two employees, per farm receive a certificate of completion of a First-Aid Training.²- Emergency equipment is in place and at least two			
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² Not necessary for small scale farms.

<p>employees, per farm, are trained on their use.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Safety clothes and equipment are provided complimentary to all workers when undertaking potentially harmful activities. They are used and replaced when worn out. - In case of occupational injuries employees are compensated in accordance with national legislation. 			
<p>3.6 Drinking water is provided to all employees during working hours.</p>	<p>3.6.1 Do all employees have access to clean drinking water?</p>		<p>Minor</p>
<p>3.7 Access to toilets and handwashing facilities are provided to all employees.</p>	<p>3.7.1 Are toilets and handwashing facilities close by for employees?</p>		<p>Minor</p>
<p>Housing Safety and Hygiene</p>			

	<p>3.8 The following measures are taken to ensure housing safety and hygiene:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Accommodation of workers offers enough space with a maximum of 8 persons per bedroom. - The living space has no safety deficiencies that could endanger the safety of people. - There is access to clean drinking water. - Well provided sanitary facilities are accessible at any time and are separated by gender. 	<p>3.8.1 Are EoL housing, safety and hygiene criteria applied?</p> <p>3.8.2 Does the housing facility have access to clean drinking water?</p>		Major
<p>4 Actively engage with different stakeholders through round tables³</p>	<p>4.1 Monthly roundtable meetings between producers, processors, distributors and, end-consumers should be conducted to</p>	<p>4.1.1 In case the licensee is a large-scale producer, are round table meetings, according to EoL Criteria,</p>		Major

³ Regular dialogues and reflection meetings with producers, other processors, distributors and consumers.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Discuss challenges and needs of the different parties. - Formulate protocols and agreements to implement resulting suggestions and improvement. - They should be documented with meeting minutes including attendees, agenda, meeting transcript and the resulting action plan. 	being followed?		
5	Measures are taken to ensure a sustainable impact on, and an engagement with the local community	5.1 Individual and collective rights of local communities and people to land as well as indigenous people and other resources based on common custom or tradition shall be respected, including in cases where such rights have not been formally registered.	<p>5.1.1 Is the producer aware of the local marginalised population?</p> <p>5.1.2 Is the producer aware of the local community and indigenous people and their culture?</p>		Minor

	<p>5.2 The producer engages in a two-way communication to include the local community on issues/challenges/matters that directly or indirectly affect them.</p>	<p>5.2.1 What actions is the producer taking to engage in conversations about challenges and farm-related topics on a local level?</p>		<p>Minor</p>
	<p>5.3 The producer does not contribute to the destruction of the resource and income base for marginalised population groups, for example by laying claim to large land areas or other natural resources upon which such population groups depend.</p>	<p>5.3.1 Is there evidence of destruction or pollution of the natural environment in the local community?</p>		<p>Major</p>
	<p>5.4 The producer supports the employment or training of local people whenever possible.</p>	<p>5.4.1 Does the producer support the local community in terms of employment?</p>		<p>Minor</p>
<p>6 Production employees receive awareness training of a minimum of 15 hours per year</p>		<p>6.1.1 Does the licensee and employees receive training on EoL relevant material? 6.1.2 Did they complete the training hours?</p>		<p>Minor</p>

5. Cultural Production Criteria

Criterium	Specific Indicator	Inspector's Questions & Actions	Inspector's Findings	Criteria Level
1 Local traditions/cultures of the employees are respected and opportunities are provided for them		1.1.1 Are there any designated places for prayer? 1.1.2 Are employees allowed to practise their religious activities when they need to? 1.1.3 Are vacations given for employees on local, religious celebrations and holidays?		Major

2	Space and time are provided for learning of individual well-being, self-development and creative expression	2.1 A plan is in place for these activities, with a person responsible for organising, announcing these activities and motivating the employees to take part.	2.1.1 What types of activities are allowed within the space and time provided for individual well-being?		Minor
3	Cooperation with local initiatives (schools, research institutes, NGOs) through regular cultural activities	3.1 The producer has set a plan for activities that benefit and meet the needs of the local community.	3.1.1 Does the licensee engage in local cooperation?		Minor

6. Environmental Processing Criteria

	Criterion Specific Indicators	Specific Indicators	Inspector's Questions & Actions	Inspector's Findings	Criteria Level
1	Energy Use & Efficiency	1.1 Total energy consumption is systematically recorded and monitored	1.1.1 Are energy records available, updated, and accurate?		Must
		1.2 A significant share of the	1.2.1 What percentage of total energy		Major

		energy used is sourced from renewable origins	consumption is renewable?		
		1.3 Active measures and modern equipment are implemented to maximize energy efficiency	1.3.1 Inspect equipment (motors, cooling) for energy-saving features		Minor
2	Greenhouse Gas Emissions	2.1 Total CO ₂ emissions are calculated and documented annually	2.1.1 Is there a documented carbon footprint report?		Must
		2.2 A formal carbon reduction plan with defined targets is in place	2.2.1 Are specific reduction targets defined and tracked?		Must
		2.3 The organization participates in verified carbon reduction or credit initiatives	2.3.1 Verify methodology used (e.g., FAO Next Tool, EoL Credits)		Must
3	Water Management	3.1 Water consumption is monitored and recorded across all operations	3.1.1 Are water usage records maintained and analyzed?		Must
		3.2 Water-saving technologies (e.g., drip irrigation, recycling) are actively	3.2.1 Inspect water-saving systems and infrastructure		Major

		applied			
		3.3 A functional wastewater treatment system ensures discharge meets safety standards	3.3.1 Check wastewater discharge quality and treatment documentation		Major
4	Waste Management	4.1 A waste separation system is implemented and followed on-site	4.1.1 Observe waste segregation practices during the site tour		Must
		4.2 A high percentage of waste is diverted from landfills through recycling or composting	4.2.1 Are disposal and recycling records available?		Must
		4.3 Hazardous waste is handled, stored, and disposed according to safety protocols	4.3.1 Check storage conditions and disposal of hazardous materials		Must
5	Packaging Sustainability	5.1 Use of recyclable or biodegradable materials is prioritized for all packaging	5.1.1 Review packaging material specifications and certifications.		Major
		5.2 Measures are taken to reduce the overall volume	5.2.1 Are alternative, low-impact packaging options explored?		Minor

		and weight of packaging			
		5.3 Packaging is free from substances harmful to humans or the environment	5.3.1 Check supplier specifications for toxic chemical bans		Must
6	Raw Material Sourcing	6.1 A high percentage of inputs are certified organic or EoL-compliant.	6.1.1 Review supplier lists and verify compliance certificates		Must
		6.2 Sourcing policies prioritize local suppliers to reduce environmental impact	6.2.1 Are sourcing policies documented to favor local procurement?		Minor
		6.3 Suppliers are vetted for their own environmental compliance and traceability	6.3.1 Verify traceability records for raw materials		Major
7	Air Pollution Control	7.1 Emission control systems are installed and regularly maintained	7.1.1 Inspect filters and systems 7.1.2 Are emissions regularly measured?		Major
		7.2 Monitoring of pollutants (dust, VOCs, etc.)	7.2.1 Check compliance with local laws		Major
8	Chemical Use & Management	8.1 A complete inventory of all chemicals used on-site is maintained	8.1.1 Inspect chemical storage areas and inventory logs		Must

		8.2 Safe storage and handling procedures are strictly followed	8.2.1 Are MSDS/SDS sheets available and accessible to workers?		Must
9	Biodiversity Impact	9.1 Measures are in place to minimize the facility's ecological footprint	9.1.1 Is the facility impacting nearby protected ecosystems or habitats?		Minor
		9.2 Operations ensure zero harmful discharge of pollutants or waste into surrounding natural ecosystems	9.2.1 Are there documented biodiversity protection projects or efforts supported?		Must
		9.3 The company actively supports biodiversity initiatives and maintains its immediate surroundings	9.3.1 Conduct a site inspection of the surroundings to check for ecological health		Must
10	Transportation & Logistics	10.1 Transport routes and logistics planning are optimized to minimize fuel consumption and carbon impact	10.1.1 Review logistics planning and route optimization data		Major
		10.2 The fleet utilizes	10.2.1 Are total emissions from		Minor

		low-emission vehicles or alternative transport methods where feasible	transport calculated and recorded?		
		10.3 A monitoring system for transport emissions is active, paired with a formal reduction strategy	10.3.1 Is there a clear strategy to reduce transport-related emissions over time?		Major
11	Resource Efficiency	11.1 Material efficiency measures are implemented to reduce raw material waste during production	11.1.1 Are production losses tracked and analyzed for improvement?		Major
		11.2 Processing systems are designed to reduce losses and incorporate reuse or recycling loops	11.2.1 Identify and verify any active reuse or closed-loop recycling systems		Major
		11.3 Circular economy practices are integrated into the business model through a formal improvement plan	11.3.1 Is there a long-term plan to improve resource circularity?		Minor
12	Environmental Management System (EMS)	12.1 A comprehensive environmental policy and	12.1.1 Is there a documented EMS (e.g., ISO 14001 or equivalent)?		Must

		documented EMS are implemented and updated			
		12.2 A specific person or team is officially assigned and trained to be responsible for environmental management	12.2.1 Who is the designated responsible person for environmental compliance?		Minor
		12.3 Environmental performance is subject to regular monitoring, reporting, and internal/external audits	12.3.1 Are environmental audits conducted on a regular, scheduled basis?		Major
13	Compliance with Regulations	13.1 All necessary environmental permits and licenses are valid and readily available for inspection	13.1.1 Verify all legal permits, water rights, and discharge licenses		Must
		13.2 The organization demonstrates full compliance with all applicable national and local environmental laws	13.2.1 Are there any documented past violations or legal disputes?		Must
		13.3 There are no current	13.3.1 Cross-check compliance status		Major

		<p>environmental violations or outstanding non-compliance notices from authorities</p>	<p>with local environmental authorities if necessary</p>		
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7. Economic Processing Criteria

Criterion	Specific Indicators	Inspector's Questions & Actions	Inspector's Findings	Criteria Level
<p>1 Required data for calculating the natural capital and full cost of processing operations is made accessible to EoL⁴</p>	<p>1.1 Detailed data on costs of processing are made transparent to record the true price including externalized costs.</p>	<p>1.1.1 Is all necessary data about the natural capital and the full cost provided to the CB or the authorized third party?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Labour _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Machinery _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Farminputs _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Material _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Taxes _____</p>	<p>Major</p>

⁴ Full cost reflects the cost of the products if the external damage cost on the environment is taken into account.

2	A long-term and sustainable trading relationship is maintained between trading parties	<p>2.1 The trading parties (producer, processor, distributor, and consumers) openly, transparently and fairly negotiate prices, and are willing to diverge from market price to come to a fair and solidaric agreement that ensures all costs/needs are covered in order to continue doing business in a sustainable manner.</p> <p>- The prices must be documented.</p>	<p>2.1.1 How are prices negotiated with suppliers?</p> <p>2.1.2 How are the price, quantity and quality of the product agreed upon and why?</p> <p>2.1.3 Are the documents with the agreed prices provided?</p> <p>2.1.4 Is a sample of written contracts shown to the inspector?</p>		Major
		2.2 Products (or services) are delivered on time and to the agreed upon quality and specification.	2.2.1 How is the quality of delivered products being checked?		Minor
		2.3 Problems are communicated in a timely manner with trade parties and worked out as far as possible.	2.3.1 Give an example of a situation where there was a problem that needed communication with the		Minor

		<p>trading party.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - When was the problem communicated? - What measures were taken to address this problem? 		
	<p>2.4 A written agreement is established to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ensure compensation for the producer in case of cancellation or rejection of orders for a reason that is not the fault of the producer. <p>Likewise, the compensation of the processor in case delivered quantities and qualities do not match those invoiced.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Prohibit the termination of trading relations or cessation of buying 	<p>2.4.1 Is the written agreement viewed by the inspector? - Does it meet the criteria of compensation and termination?</p> <p>2.4.2 Give an example of a situation where cancellation or rejection occurred.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What was the compensation scheme? - What was the reason? <p>2.4.3 Did the processor/producer terminate any trading relations this year ?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - If yes, how many? And what 		Minor

	without appropriate notice and reason.	were the reasons?		
	2.5 Payment is happening on receipt or within an agreed short period of time which allows for quality checks.	2.5.1 Are payments happening upon receipt/shortly after or is there a delay?		Minor
	2.6 The collaboration of different trading parties is encouraged in the purchasing of machinery, or services that create common benefit, or through pre-finance agreements based on binding contracts.	<p>2.6.1 Are there any forms of pre-finance, or collaboration in purchasing of machinery or services that serve the benefit of both parties, occurring?</p> <p>- If yes, please present the pre-finance agreements to the inspector.</p> <p>2.6.2 Have trading partners actively approached the company for pre-finance affairs?</p> <p>- If yes, what was the number of partners requested?</p>		Minor

			- If yes, what was the number of partners that benefited from pre-finance?	
3	Factory employees receive a salary that allows for a decent standard of living.	3.1 It is prohibited to use wage deductions as a disciplinary measure, unless in extreme cases.	3.1.1 Were wage deductions used as a disciplinary measure over the last year? - If yes, then what is the justification? 3.1.2 Were other disciplinary measures such as written warnings, appraisals, deduction of profit sharing or incentives utilized first?	Minor
4	Transparency in the disclosure of documents and stakeholder relationships	4.1 The website and published information corresponds to the truth.	4.1.1 The inspector should briefly check the website and verify the information on the company website.	Minor
		4.2 An annual report or bylaw is published and available online. The document	4.2.1 The inspector should check the report, and comment on whether it reflects his	Minor

	contains a vision and mission statement, details about suppliers and producers, and describes objectives about all four EoL dimensions (ecological criteria, economic criteria, social criteria and cultural criteria).	observations in the company. 4.2.2 Is the report including all four dimensions of EoL?		
5 Sustainable economic awareness is fostered through a minimum of 10 training hours per year.		5.1.1 Was an attendance sheet and agenda of training submitted to the CB?		Minor

8. Social Processing Criteria

Criterion	Specific Indicators	Inspector's Questions & Actions	Inspector's Findings	Criteria Level
1 Fair and dignified working conditions for all processing employees are created and enforced	Forced Labour			
	1.1 No form of forced labour, slave labour or involuntary labour including the confiscation of workers' identity cards, passports, or any other personal documents is taking place.	1.1.1 Are there any indications of forced labour, or unfree and involuntary employment?		Must
	1.2 Freedom for spouses.	1.2.1 Are the spouses of employees required to work for the same processor?		Major
	1.3 Employees are not required to pay a deposit to the employer.	1.3.1 Are there any cases of employees paying money to the employer?		Major

<p>1.4 Freedom of association and the right to join unions or elect workers' representatives guaranteed without any restrictions or pressure.</p>	<p>1.4.1 Are employees free to elect workers' representatives or to join any worker unions?</p>		<p>Major</p>
<p>1.5 A written policy on social responsibility and human rights within the farm is in place.</p>	<p>1.5.1 Is there a written policy on social responsibility and human rights within the farm? 1.5.2 Are workers informed of their rights and obligations in accordance with labor law and established social standards?</p>		<p>Major</p>
<p>Discrimination and Sexual Harassment</p>			
<p>1.6 Measures are established to protect employees from sexually intrusive, threatening, insulting or exploitative behavior.</p>	<p>1.6.1 What measures are taken to protect employees from sexually intrusive, threatening, insulting or exploitative behavior? 1.6.2 What measures are in</p>		<p>Major</p>

	<p>place to raise awareness of these issues?</p> <p>1.6.3 How are sexually intrusive, threatening, bullying, insulting or exploitative behavior dealt with in the organization?</p>		
1.7 Products (or services) are delivered on time and to the agreed upon quality and specification.	1.7.1 How is the quality of delivered products being checked?		Minor
1.8 Problems are communicated in a timely manner with trade parties and worked out as far as possible.	<p>1.8.1 Give an example of a situation where there was a problem that needed communication with the trading party.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - When was the problem communicated? - What measures were taken to address this problem? 		Minor

	<p>1.9 Discrimination in working life and hiring process based on ethnicity, religion, age, disability, gender, marital status, sexual orientation, trade union membership, nationality, race, colour of skin, disease, social background, caste, political affiliation promotion, origin of recruitment, access to training, remuneration, allocation of work, termination of employment retirement or other activities is prohibited.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Employees with a similar skill set, level of experience and competency, performing similar work must be at the same salary level in the organisation. - The termination of employment on unjustifiable 	<p>1.9.1 Are any kinds of discrimination in the work environment visible?</p> <p>1.9.2 What measures are in place to raise awareness of these issues?</p>		Must
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	<p>grounds, is prohibited (e.g. marriage, pregnancy, parenthood or HIV status).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - During recruitment it is not tested for pregnancy, HIV or genetic disorders. 			
	<p>1.10 Measures are established to protect employees from sexually intrusive, threatening, bullying, insulting or exploitative behaviour.</p>	<p>1.10.1 What measures are in place to raise awareness of these issues?</p>		Major
	<p>1.11 A written policy prohibiting all forms of discrimination in employment (including discrimination based on sex, religion, origin, opinion, or any other social status) is in place.</p>	<p>1.11.1 Is there a written policy prohibiting all forms of discrimination in employment?</p>		Minor
	<p>1.12 A written agreement is established to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ensure compensation for the producer in case of 	<p>1.12.1 Is the written agreement viewed by the inspector? - Does it meet the criteria of compensation and</p>		Minor

	<p>cancellation or rejection of orders for a reason that is not the fault of the producer. Likewise, the compensation of the processor in case delivered quantities and qualities do not match those invoiced.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Prohibit the termination of trading relations or cessation of buying without appropriate notice and reason. 	<p>termination?</p> <p>1.12.2 Give an example of a situation where cancellation or rejection occurred.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What was the compensation scheme? - What was the reason? <p>1.12.3 Did the processor/producer terminate any trading relations this year ?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - If yes, how many? And what were the reasons? 		
	<p>1.13 Payment is happening on receipt or within an agreed short period of time which allows for quality checks.</p>	<p>1.13.1 Are payments happening upon receipt/shortly after or is there a delay?</p>		<p>Minor</p>
	<p>1.14 The collaboration of different trading parties is encouraged in the purchasing of</p>	<p>1.14.1 Are there any forms of pre-finance, or collaboration in purchasing of machinery or</p>		<p>Minor</p>

	<p>machinery, or services that create common benefit, or through pre-finance agreements based on binding contracts.</p>	<p>services that serve the benefit of both parties, occurring?</p> <p>- If yes, please present the pre-finance agreements to the inspector.</p> <p>1.14.2 Have trading partners actively approached the company for pre-finance affairs?</p> <p>- If yes, what was the number of partners requested?</p> <p>- If yes, what was the number of partners that benefited from pre-finance?</p>		
	<p>1.15 Within the context of the mitigation activity or project, a comprehensive gender equality understanding must be ensured. This should aim for promoting</p>	<p>1.15.1 Are measures in place to ensure a comprehensive gender equality and understanding that encompasses a wide range</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No</p>	<p>Major</p>

	<p>gender equality, addressing various aspects related to policy development, capacity building, gender mainstreaming, equal opportunities, reporting and monitoring, consultation and participation, prevention of gender-based violence, community engagement, regular assessment, and compliance with relevant laws and agreements.</p>	<p>of measures to promote gender equality within the farm?</p>		
	<p>1.16 All disciplinary measures taken, are appropriate and reflect the extent of the cause. All measures should be transparent and documented. Physical punishment, verbal insult or psychological or physical coercion are neither exercised nor supported or</p>	<p>1.16.1 What kind of disciplinary measures are taken and when/why? 1.16.2 Are they appropriate? - Was there physical violence? - Was there psychological violence such as</p>		<p>Major</p>

	tolerated by the organization.	<p>humiliation and threatening, or bullying used as a measure to enforce organization rules?</p> <p>- Was there salary deduction taken as a disciplinary measure?</p> <p>1.16.3 How are employees being informed about potential disciplinary measures?</p> <p>1.16.4 How are the cases for disciplinary measures monitored and documented and who has access to these records?</p>		
2	Factory employees receive a salary that allows for a decent standard of living.	Employment Conditions		
	2.1 Full and part time employees have a written contract of employment, in a language that	2.1.1 Does the contract include statements of:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Major

	<p>is comprehensible by the employees. The contract is presented to employees before work begins, and contains all relevant information on job conditions; such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Position, rights and duties, and responsibilities of the employee. - Wages, as well as the modalities of how and when wages are to be paid. - Working hours. - A yearly paid vacation of a minimum length of three working weeks. - Unpaid vacation conditions. - Four months of paid maternity leave. - Disciplinary measures. <p>Employees have prior information about disciplinary measures.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Rights and duties - Responsibilities - Salary - Working hours - Amount of vacation days - Maternity leave (if applies) - Disciplinary measures - What other conditions are included? 		
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	<p>2.2 Regulations of international conventions and/or national legislation and regulations concerning regular employment are not avoided by using short-term contracts (such as contract labour, casual labour or day labour), subcontractors or other labour relationships.</p>	<p>2.2.1 What is the producer's justification to use short-term contracts?</p>		<p>Major</p>
	<p>2.3 Periodic employment or labour is only used in exceptional circumstances (e.g. harvesting or seeding season, weather changes, sudden demand peaks).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Periodic employees work under 30 hours per week for a period less than 120 days, if an employee works more than the indicated hours they should be provided with a full-time/part-time 	<p>2.3.1 What measures are in place to ensure that the hiring and working conditions of subcontracted employees comply with the EoL standard?</p>		<p>Major</p>

<p>contract.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The working and hiring conditions of subcontracted employees comply with the EoL standard. OR Subcontracted employees are hired and work under the same conditions as full or part-time employees. 			
<p>2.4 It is prohibited to use wage deductions as a disciplinary measure, unless in extreme cases.</p>	<p>2.4.1 Were wage deductions used as a disciplinary measure over the last year?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - If yes, then what is the justification? <p>2.4.2 Were other disciplinary measures such as written warnings, appraisals, deduction of profit sharing or incentives utilized first?</p>		<p>Major</p>
<p>Working hours</p>			

<p>2.5 Working hours conform with national legislation and the ILO⁵ conventions and are reflecting the following points⁶:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Working hours do not exceed 48 hours per week and eight hours per day. - In no case is a worker working more than 18 days in a row without having a free day. - Workers have at least one day of rest after 6 working days. - A minimum of 30 minutes break is given after 6 working hours. 	<p>2.5.1 Are the ILO working hours applied?</p> <p>2.5.2 Are employees allowed a break?</p> <p>2.5.3 Are field workers required to work a minimum of 520 hours per year (e.g., 20 hours per week for 6 months or 40 hours per week for 3 months)?</p>		Major
<p>2.6 Overtime of employees is voluntary, and must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Comply with local legislation 	<p>2.6.1 How are employees being compensated for the overtime?</p>		Minor

⁵ ILO: International Labor Organization; www.ilo.org

⁶ Only exceptional circumstances like seasonal harvests or processing allow for an exception on the above mentioned points.

<p>and the ILO conventions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Not be requested on a regular basis. - Be paid according to national law or collective bargaining agreements. 			
Child Labour			
<p>2.7 The employment of young people should comply with the following requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The minimum age of employees is 15 or higher, depending on national legislation. - Employees between 15 and 18 years. - Are not assigned to night shifts. - Are not engaged in work that puts their physical health or moral well-being at risk. 	<p>2.7.1 Are there any signs of child labour?</p> <p>2.7.2 Are all field workers at least fifteen (15) years of age or older?</p>		Must

- Do not engage in labour that may be detrimental to their education.
- Are only working 8 hours per day and a maximum of 6 days in a row.
- If the criteria regarding child labour have been infringed in the past, the children are protected from entering worse forms of labour.
- In case of family labour involving children, the following criteria are followed:
 - Parents are allowed to take children to work, in order to perform their supervisory duties.
 - The work does not expose the children

<p>to violence or abuse.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There is no conflict between the children' s education and their work. 			
<p>Work Safety & Health of Employees</p>			
<p>2.8 The following measures are taken to ensure work safety and health of employees:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All hazardous machines are marked. - Activities of high risk are only undertaken by employees that received adequate training and are aware of the potential risks to their health, the environment and what to do in case of an accident. - For potentially hazardous work, all information, safety 	<p>2.8.1 Are there any safety measures in place?</p> <p>2.8.2 Are hazardous machinery marked and easily identifiable by employees?</p> <p>2.8.3 Is there evidence of a violation of the EoL guidelines?</p>		<p>Minor</p>



<p>instructions and hygiene recommendations are clearly visible and depicted/written in a way that is understandable to all employees.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- The working environment is safe and conducive to good health.- Workplaces and working equipment are safe and subject to regular safety inspections, and employees are trained on their safe usage.- General safety instructions are given to all factory employees.- At least two employees, per farm receive a certificate of completion of a First-Aid Training.			
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Emergency equipment is in place and at least two employees, per farm, are trained on their use. - Safety clothes and equipment are provided complimentary to all workers when undertaking potentially harmful activities. They are used and replaced when worn out. - In case of occupational injuries employees are compensated in accordance with national legislation. 			
<p>2.9 Drinking water is provided to all employees during working hours.</p>	<p>2.9.1 Do all employees have access to clean drinking water?</p>		<p>Minor</p>
<p>2.10 Access to toilets and handwashing facilities are provided to all employees.</p>	<p>2.10.1 Are toilets and handwashing facilities close by for employees?</p>		<p>Minor</p>

Housing Safety and Hygiene				
	<p>2.11 The following measures are taken to ensure housing safety and hygiene:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Accommodation of workers offers enough space with a maximum of 8 persons per bedroom. - The living space has no safety deficiencies that could endanger the safety of people. - There is access to clean drinking water. - Well provided sanitary facilities are accessible at any time and are separated by gender. 	<p>2.11.1 Are EoL housing, safety and hygiene criteria applied?</p> <p>2.11.2 Does the housing facility have access to clean drinking water?</p>		Major
3	All permanent employees have health & social insurances	3.1.1 Are all employees provided with health and social insurance?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Must

4	Actively engage with different stakeholders through round tables ⁷	<p>4.1 Monthly roundtable meetings between producers, processors, distributors and, end-consumers should be conducted to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Discuss challenges and needs of the different parties. - Formulate protocols and agreements to implement resulting suggestions and improvement. - They should be documented with meeting minutes including attendees, agenda, meeting transcript and the resulting action plan. 	<p>4.1.1 In case the licensee is a large-scale producer, are round table meetings, according to EoL Criteria, being followed?</p>		Major
5	Measures are taken to ensure a sustainable impact on, and an engagement with the local community	<p>5.1 Individual and collective rights of local communities and people to land as well as indigenous people and other resources based on common custom or</p>	<p>5.1.1 Is the producer aware of the local marginalised population?</p> <p>5.1.2 Is the producer aware of the local community and</p>		Minor

⁷ Regular dialogues and reflection meetings with producers, other processors, distributors and consumers.

	tradition shall be respected, including in cases where such rights have not been formally registered.	indigenous people and their culture?		
	5.2 The company engages in a two-way communication to include the local community on issues/challenges/matters that directly or indirectly affect them.	5.2.1 What actions is the company taking to engage in conversations about challenges and company-related topics on a local level? 5.2.2 Are there documentation of communication efforts with local communities?		Minor
	5.3 The company does not contribute to the destruction of the resource and income base for marginalized population groups, for example by laying claim to large land areas or other natural resources upon which such population groups depend on.	5.3.1 Is there evidence of destruction or pollution of the natural environment in the local community? 5.3.2 What resources do local communities rely on? - Is the company using these resources also in their		Major

		<p>operations?</p> <p>5.3.3 How does the company ensure that local communities are not harmed by the company's activities?</p>		
	<p>5.4 The company supports the employment or training of local people whenever possible.</p>	<p>5.4.1 How does the company support the local community in terms of employment?</p> <p>6.4.2 If training is given to promote local employment, please briefly describe this training.</p>		Major
6	<p>Company employees receive awareness training of a minimum of 15 hours per year</p>	<p>6.1.1 Are the training agenda and participants list submitted to the CB?</p> <p>- Please give a brief description of the training content.</p>		Minor

9. Cultural Processing Criteria

1	Company supervisors and managers receive training twice a year on coordinating and creating space for cultural events.		<p>1.1.1 What proof of training was provided to the inspector?</p> <p>- Please give a brief description of the training content.</p>		Minor
2	Cultural training and collective creative activities are regularly taking place with employees of processing entities.		<p>2.1.1 Please give a brief description of the training content.</p> <p>2.1.2 Is there a plan for the cultural activities and training the company aims to conduct for the coming year?</p> <p>2.1.3 Is there a schedule or plan for the training as proof of their regularity?</p>		Minor

3	Local traditions/cultures of the employees are respected and opportunities are provided for them to follow their individual and diverse religious or spiritual practices.		<p>3.1.1 Are there any designated places for prayer?</p> <p>3.1.2 Are employees allowed to practice their religious activities when they need to?</p> <p>3.1.3 Are vacations given for employees on local, religious celebrations and holidays?</p>		Major
4	Space and time is provided for learning about and encouragement of individual well-being, self-development and creative expression. The minimum is 1 hour a month for each employee.	4.1 A plan is in place for these activities, with a person responsible for organizing, announcing these activities and motivating the employees to take part.	<p>Please give a brief description of the content of the activities.</p> <p>4.1.1 Who is responsible for creating a plan for such activities?</p> <p>4.1.2 What is the company's plan?</p> <p>4.1.3 Are employees motivated to attend such activities? - If not, then what are the reasons?</p>		Major

5	A cooperation with local initiatives (schools, kindergarten, research- & environmental institutes, NGO's) is built up in regular and longer-term cultural activities.	5.1 The processing company has a set budget and plan for CSR activities that benefit and meet the needs of the local community.	<p>5.1.1 What is the CSR plan of the company? and - How does it impact the local community? - Is there a set budget for this plan?</p> <p>5.1.2 Was the CSR plan of the previous year successfully conducted?</p> <p>5.1.3 Give a brief description of the company's CSR activities and how it impacts the local community?</p> <p>5.1.4 Is there any feedback from the local community on CSR activities conducted by the company? - If yes, is there evidence of this feedback?</p>		Minor
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Appendix 1: Permitted/restricted fertilisers and soil conditioners

Introduction

In principle, the producer is to aim for self-sufficiency in its manures and fertilisers. Bringing in substrates, fertilisers, and soil conditioners listed below may only be as demand dictates. The use of brought-in materials requires particular care with respect to their effects on the quality of biodynamic products. The biodynamic preparations are to be used if possible. Brought-in materials are to be declared in the annual certification procedure. In some cases, the results of a residue test are to be supplied (e.g. for compost from green material). New fertilisers may be trialed only with the agreement of the EBDA, or the respective certifying organisation.

Appropriate systems must be applied to prevent the contamination of certified land by residues of veterinary remedies, feed additives such as antibiotics, natural feed contaminants such as mercury in fish meal and other residues such as herbicides in litter.

Any use of a material not permitted by this Standard leads to decertification of the farm, or at least of the treated crops and areas.

1. Fertilisers and Soil Conditioners brought in from biodynamic or organic sources

Permitted	Additional requirements
Compost	Please note the use of inputs follows the general regime (Origin of raw material) and the principle of availability (Availability of Organic raw material). In principle, every input from a certified biodynamic farm can be used. Organic inputs follow the above-mentioned principles and may be further restricted in the following.
Farmyard manure, liquid and semi liquid manures from animals	
Liquid manures from plants	

Organic wastes (harvest residues etc.)	
Straw	
Spent mushroom compost	
Residues from biogas extraction only if substrates are listed in this section (biodynamic or organic sources)	

Not Permitted

In general, the standard is designed as a positive list, what is not allowed is prohibited. Nonetheless, a number of prohibited means are mentioned in order to provide the necessary clarity. In cases of doubt, please contact your certifying organisation. In principle, every input from a certified Economy of Love farm can be used. Organic certified inputs from a farm follow the above-mentioned principles of the general regime and availability. Fertilisers and soil conditioners from organic sources in the sense of "certified for organic farming"; i.e. commercial inputs are described below and, where appropriate, restricted.

2. Fertilisers and Soil Conditioners brought in from non-certified sources or sources outside of the scope of organic regulations

Commercial organic nitrogen fertilisers:

- fertilisers with a non-mineral nitrogen source, that do not fall under the categories farmyard manure, imported farmyard manure, green manure or recycled manure
- which are based on by-products of animal slaughter shall be composted with the preparations before they are applied to the fields wherever national legislation on fertiliser law allows this
- of non-organic origin are permitted until the end of the certification campaign 2028. After this, these fertilisers must be made solely from products derived from organic certified sources.

Permitted	Additional requirements
Farmyard manures from extensive livestock	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • as far as possible prepared at the place of origin or on the farm itself • extensive: livestock less than 2.5 stock units / ha and permanent daily access to outdoor areas
Manure from nomadic livestock	as far as possible prepared at the place of origin or on the farm itself
Straw and other plant materials	Please note the use of inputs follows the EoL standard and the principle of availability

Extracts and preparations from plants	
Fish	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Composted or fermented with the preparations • Testing for heavy metals may be required
Seaweed products	to be used sparingly for reasons of resource depletion
Water soluble seaweed extracts	
Vegetable carbon	
Eggshells	
Fresh wood products and wooden ash from untreated wood	Saw dust, bark, and wood wastes - as long as they are not contaminated with fungicides and insecticides.
Peat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • without synthetic additives • for growing seedlings, • in as far as no alternatives are available; • to be used sparingly for reasons of resource depletion

Bruised castor seeds	
Composted municipal green waste	Acceptable residue levels assumed, orientation Regulation (EC) 889/2008 for composted household waste
Microbial or plant-based compost activators	
Humic and fulvic acids	
Soil inoculates	For example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • grain ferments, • N-fixing bacteria, • Mycorrhiza, • Rhizobia bacteria
Farmyard manures as dried chicken manure	
by-products of animal slaughter, such as <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – horn meal, – bone meal, – meat-bone meal, – dried blood, – hair and feather and other similar products 	In as far as it meets the requirements of the EC Regulation 1069/2009 for Category 3
Plant or fungi residues or by-products of plant or fungi processing, such as vinasse and	

melasse or other similar products	
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Not Permitted

In general, this standard is designed as a positive list, what is not allowed is prohibited. Nonetheless, a number of prohibited means are mentioned in order to provide the necessary clarity. In cases of doubt, please contact your certifying organisation.

Not Permitted	Additional requirements
Semi-liquid or liquid manures	
Factory fishmeal or fish wastes from fish farming	
Guano	From bats and seabirds
Animal manures from animals fed with genetically modified fodder	If proof that the manure is free from GMOs cannot be given or GMO free manure is not available, the respective certifying organisation can give an exemption.
Compost from general municipal waste	Non-green waste or household waste, solid waste from gastronomy or processing
Sewage sludge	

3. Fertilisers and Soil Conditioners of (natural) mineral origin

Permitted	Additional requirements
Rock dusts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Including those containing phosphate and soils • Composition must be known.
Pulverised clays (e.g. bentonite)	
Calcium chloride	CaCl ₂ ; Foliar treatment of apple trees, after identification of deficit of calcium
Lime fertiliser	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Slow release types to be used • Dolomite, Calcium Carbonate, seashells, • Calcified seaweed - only from dead marine deposits or fossil forms on land.
Natural phosphate rock, low in heavy metals	Only if the results of soil testing, tissue/leaf analysis or other deficiency symptoms demonstrate the need
Ground basic slag	Only if the results of soil testing, tissue/leaf

	analysis or other deficiency symptoms demonstrate the need
Potassium salts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only if the results of soil testing, tissue/leaf analysis or other deficiency symptoms demonstrate the need. In the production of bananas potassium can be applied in relation to the yield, without a demonstrated need, up to 4,0 kg K / t respectively 9,1 kg K₂SO₄ / t • Chloride content max 3%, • Only minerals from natural sources • Only physical separation of the salts.
Potassium magnesium sulphate	
Potassium sulphate	
Magnesium sulphate	Only if the results of soil testing, tissue/leaf analysis or other deficiency symptoms demonstrate the need
Sulphur	
Trace elements	

Not Permitted

In general, this standard is designed as a positive list, what is not allowed is prohibited. Nonetheless, a number of prohibited means are mentioned in order to provide the necessary clarity. In cases of doubt, please contact your certifying organisation.

Not Permitted	Additional requirements
Synthetic nitrogen sources	
Chile saltpetre	
Water soluble phosphatic fertilisers	
Pure potassium salts	with a chloride content of greater than 3%
Quicklime	Fast release, is permitted for disinfection purpose only

4. Substrates, soils, pots, and technical aid material

Permitted	Additional requirements
Seed aids	For example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rock flour, • Compost, peat, cocopeat, vermicompost, wood fiber, sawdust,

	straw, rice husk, leaf mold, <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Naturally occurring polymers
Substrate additives	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Vermiculite,• Lava rock,• Perlite

Appendix 2: Allowed materials and methods for plant care and protection

Introduction

The material listed here, especially under 3. and 4., may only be used in cases of proven need, and only if the biodynamic measures (e.g. rhythmical use of horn silica for insect control, peppering) cannot bring the problem under control. It should be kept in mind that the use of some materials (e.g. Microfine sulphur, pyrethrum) could possibly endanger predator insect populations. New materials and methods may be tried only with the agreement of the EBDA. If commercial preparations are bought in, care must be taken that they are free from constituents prohibited in this standard and are not produced by transgenic methods.

1. Biological agents and technologies

- Encouragement and use of biocontrol agents for plant pests (predator populations of mites, parasitic wasps etc.)
- Beneficial fungi and bacteria to outcompete pathogens
- Sterilised male insects
- Plant Strengtheners & Immune Boosters (Seaweed extracts, Silica-based compounds, Plant-based ferments (e.g., nettle tea))
- Botanical Extracts: Neem oil, Garlic extract, Chili extract
- Insect traps (Coloured boards, sticky traps, and attractants)
- Mineral-Based Products: Sulfur (for fungi, mites), Copper compounds (limited use due to accumulation risk), Diatomaceous earth (for insect control), Kaolin clay (for insect repellents and sunburn protection)
- Pheromones (Sex-attractants; attractants in traps and dispensers)
- Mechanical repellents (Mechanical traps, slug and snail fences, and such methods)

- Repellents (non-synthetic agents to deter and expel pests). Application only on plant parts not for consumption by humans and animals
- Painting (e.g. insect lime)
- Manual removal of pests or infected plants

2. Adhesion aids and materials to promote plant health

Preparations that promote plant disease resistance, and inhibit pest and diseases e.g.:

- Plant preparations (Stinging nettle liquid manure, equisetum tea, wormwood tea etc.), propolis, milk and milk products, homoeopathic preparations
- Waterglass* (sodium silicate, potassium silicate)
- Quartz sand, aluminium silicate
- Chitosan
- Additives: Adhesion aids, wetting aids, emulsifiers, oil
- Additional products approved and published by the BFDI Standards Committee

3. Agents for use against fungal attack

- Wettable sulphur and flowers of sulphur
- Biological control agents: Trichoderma spp., Rhizoctonia, Pseudomonas fluorescens, Beauveria bassiana, etc.
- Waterglass* (sodium silicate, potassium silicate)
- Potassium bicarbonate*
- Essential oils from plants Production

- Plant extracts, if extraction method complies with this standard and the product does not contain any other aids like carriers or preservatives.
- Microorganisms / bacterial preparations
- Sodium bicarbonate*
- Sodium Chloride
- Sulfur (must be natural and finely ground)
- Neem oil
- Horsetail extract
- Hot water seed treatment
- Cerevisane

4. Agents for pest control

- Microorganisms, Virus, fungal and bacterial preparations (e.g. Bacillus thuringiensis, Granulosis virus)
- Spinosad with an exemption by the respective certifying organisation
- Pyrethrum extracts and powder under the following circumstances:
 - no synthetic pyrethroids;
 - not for mushroom production;
 - as pest control in storage only if no chemical synergists are included in the formulation;
 - in agricultural production permitted if no chemical synergists are included in the formulation and with an exemption by the respective certifying organisation.
- Botanical extracts (e.g. Garlic, chili, and onion extracts)
- Quassia tea

- Oil emulsions (without synthetic chemical insecticides) based on vegetables (all crops).
- Oil emulsions (without synthetic chemical insecticides) based on mineral oil in the case of perennial crops only before flowering (Plants that flower all year are exempt) and only if effective plant oils are not available.
- Potassium soaps (Soft soap)*, fatty acids
- Gelatine* hydrolysed proteins
- Mineral based agents (e.g. Diatomaceous earth, Kaolin clay, sulfur)
- Fe(III) Orthophosphate (Molluscicide)*
- Azadirachtin (Neem - insecticide)*
- Anticoagulant rodenticide for use in stables or other housing. (only in bait-boxes or similar such that predators are not jeopardised)
- Rock flour*, coffee*
- Agents for use in stables and on animals: Diatomaceous earth, sticky fly-tapes, etheric oils
- Maltodextrin
- Terpene (Eugenol, Geraniol, and Thymol)
- Sticky traps, pheromone traps, light traps
- Netting, row covers, manual removal
- Barrier plants (trap cropping)
- Flame weeders (for pest eggs on the ground)

5. Allowable aids on specialised crops, perennial crops, and ornamental plants

- Diatomaceous earth*
- Calcium hydroxide

- In cases of need, copper may be used such that the average amount used over 7 years shall not exceed 3 kg/ha/year, preferably with a maximum of 500g/ha/spray. In wine- and hop- growing regions with high fungal pressure the respective certifying organisation may grant an exemption for the use of an average amount of up to 4 kg/ha/year over 5 years. This is restricted to grapes and hops only.
- For specialized Crops (e.g., Mushrooms, Medicinal Herbs, Aromatic Plants): Sterile, organic-certified substrates (for mushrooms), Essential oils and botanical extracts for pest/disease management, Controlled environmental conditions (e.g., humidity and temperature) using non-chemical means, Natural growth stimulants like seaweed extract or compost tea, Herbal plant tonics made from stinging nettle, horsetail, garlic, etc.
- For Perennial Crops (e.g., Grapes, Citrus, Olive, Banana): Compost, well-rotted organic manure, green manure for soil health, Biological pest control (e.g., predatory insects, *Bacillus thuringiensis*), Mulching to control weeds and conserve moisture, Pruning paste made from clay or herbal mixtures (no synthetic fungicides), Allowed fungicides and insect repellents like sulfur, neem oil, kaolin clay, Copper compounds (restricted use under specific conditions). Grafting using certified organic or untreated rootstock.
- For Ornamental Plants: Organic compost and vermicompost as growing media, Natural color enhancers from plant extracts (for cut flowers, where applicable), Biopesticides for controlling pests without chemical residues, Biodegradable pots and peat alternatives (like coconut coir), Drip irrigation and humidity control with no chemical additives, Natural leaf shine products (no silicones or petrochemical-based sprays)
- Sulphur preparations such as Hepar Sulphuris, lime sulphur (fungicide, insecticide, acaricide)
- Ethylene for flower induction in pineapples. (In as far as it meets the requirements of [Annex II, EC regulation 834/2007](#) and [889/2008](#).)

Appendix 3: Allowed Treatments and Permitted Substances

*Must be natural or derived from natural sources.

*Must not contain GMOs, synthetic chemicals, or toxic residues.

Approved methods and inputs for the regulation of parasite or pest pressures encompass the following measures:

- **For Soil and Plants:**

- Composting (plant and animal residues)
- Crop rotation
- Mulching
- Green manure
- Solarization (using heat to sterilize soil)
- Steam treatment for disinfecting soil or tools
- Hot water seed treatment to prevent seed-borne disease

- **For Pest and Disease Management:**

- Biological control (e.g., *Bacillus thuringiensis*, *Trichoderma*, beneficial insects)
- Botanical sprays (e.g., neem oil, garlic, chili)
- Mechanical traps (pheromone traps, sticky traps)
- Physical barriers (nets, row covers)

3. Permitted Substances:

- **Fertilizers and Soil Conditioners:**

- Compost (from organic material at least)
- Animal manure (from organic sources or composted)
- Rock phosphate

- Potassium sulfate (natural origin)
- Dolomite, lime, elemental sulfur
- Seaweed extracts
- Biofertilizers (non-GMO)
- **Pest and Disease Control Agents:**
 - Biopesticides: *Beauveria bassiana*, *Bacillus subtilis*
 - Botanicals: neem oil, pyrethrum (natural origin), plant-based ferments
 - Minerals: sulfur, kaolin clay, diatomaceous earth, copper compounds (restricted)
- **Plant Strengtheners:**
 - Seaweed extracts
 - Silica
 - Natural amino acids and humic acids (from organic sources)
- **Seed and Propagation Material:**
 - Must be organic certified.
 - Untreated or treated only with approved natural substances (e.g., hot water, plant extracts).
- **Beekeeping methods and permitted substances:**
 - Warmth treatment
 - Removal of brood
 - Herbal teas
 - Use of formic acid, acetic acid, lactic acid, oxalic acid
 - Utilisation of non-transgenic *Bacillus thuringiensis*
 - Utilisation of sodium carbonate to disinfect against 'American Foulbrood'
 - Absconding

- complete separation of the colonies from the honeycomb and the brood (to build up a new unencumbered comb)
- Queen caging and queen banning
- Icing sugar or powdered starch to powder the bees
- Salt

Colonies requiring emergency treatment must have their harvest removed beforehand. Products originating from treated colonies cannot be marketed using the trademark during the same season.