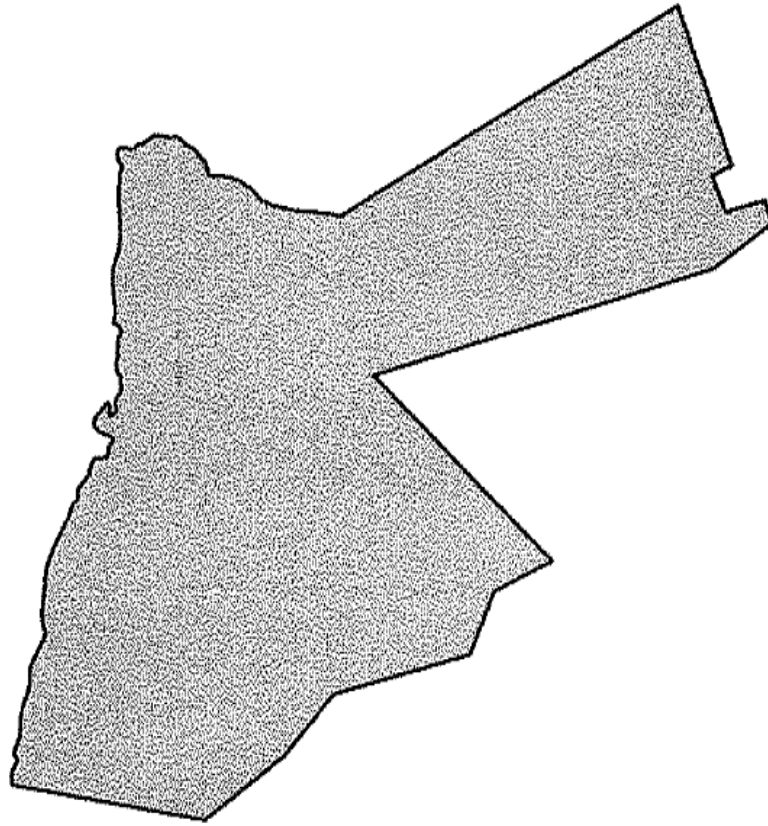


**Official Gazette**  
**of**  
**The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan**



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We, **Abdullah II bin Al-Hussein**, King of The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan; In accordance with Article (31) of the Constitution, and pursuant to the decisions of the Cabinet issued on 7/9/2016, hereby ordain to enact the following bylaw:

**Bylaw No. (133) of 2016**

**Organic Agriculture bylaw**

**Issued pursuant to Articles (7) and (71) of Agriculture Law no. (13) of 2015**

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**Article (1):** This bylaw is called (Organic Agriculture bylaw of 2016), and shall come into force after its publication in the official gazette.

**Article (2):** The following words and expressions, wherever stated in this bylaw shall have the specified meanings hereinafter, unless otherwise the context requires the following:

**Ministry:** Ministry of Agriculture

**Minister:** Minister of Agriculture

**Committee:** National Committee of Organic Agriculture constituted in accordance with the provisions of this bylaw.

**Organic Agriculture:** An integrated agricultural system promotes organic agricultural production within economical, social, and environmental frameworks, without using manufactured chemical compounds.

**Label Card :** A card fixed on the organic agricultural products specifies the percentage of the organic ingredients therein.

**Standard metrology:** Accredited Jordanian Standard metrology related to the organic agricultural production.

**Operator:** a licensee authorized to the organic agricultural production, preparation, import or marketing thereof.

**Transitional period:** A period is required for the transition from a non-organic agricultural system to an organic agriculture system specified in accordance with the provisions of this bylaw.

**Preparation:** Processes of organic agricultural products' preservation manufacturing, grading, or packing thereof.

**Enterprise:** site prepared for the organic agricultural production, preparation or storage thereof.

**Certification Body:** Any public or private body accredited by national or international accreditation bodies to achieve the international standard metrology, and amendments thereof for issuing an organic agricultural production certificate.

**Organic fertilizers:** fertilizers are produced in accordance with rules of the organic production from animal and plant wastes.

**Farmyard Manure:** Fertilizers are resulted from the animal and plant wastes.

**Genetically modified organism:** Organisms produced whose genetic material has been altered, and shall not be naturally occurred by mating or natural recombination.

**Genetically modified derivatives:** a Substance produced by the genetically modified organisms, and it does not contain these organisms.

### **Article (3)**

**A.** The provisions of this bylaw shall be applicable to a manufactured or non-manufactured organic agricultural product, described on the label card, advertising materials, or commercial documents showing that it is an organic, biological, or ecological product; otherwise, abbreviated terms shall show the buyer that the product and ingredients thereof are obtained in accordance with the organic agriculture production rules.

**B.** To consider the agricultural products as organic products, it shall be subjected to the standard metrology.

#### **Article (4)**

**A.** The organic plant production is limited to the use of seeds and plant propagation materials produced in accordance with the organic agriculture method.

**B.** Subject to the provisions of Article (7) of this bylaw, and to the approval of the Ministry, seed and plant propagation materials that have not been obtained by organic agriculture method, may be used.

#### **Article (5)**

**A.** Raw materials that may be used in the organic agricultural production process in the enterprise may not be stored with any other materials not used in the organic agriculture.

**B.** The organic products shall be transported from one enterprise to another, or to the trading places in wrappings, containers, or packages are packed in a manner that prevents their contents from changing.

#### **Article (6)**

**A.** The preparation and storage of the organic agricultural products shall be performed in accordance with the following terms and conditions:

1. In places isolated from other products where organic agriculture rules are not applied.
2. The temporal and spatial sequences in the completion of these processes shall be separated from any other similar processes related to non-organic products.
3. Any non-organic product shall not be included in the production line of any organic agricultural product, grading, packing, or storage thereof.

**B.** If these processes failed to be complied with the provisions of para (A) of this Article, certification body shall be notified before the date of the process to be specified by agreement in order to regulate the control and inspection procedures.

### **Article (7)**

Genetically modified organism, any parts, or derivatives thereof may not be used in any product prepared in accordance with the organic agricultural rules.

**Article (8):** The operator shall abide by the following:

**A.** To notify the certification body, the operator deals annually with, in a detailed program, about operator's organic agricultural production.

**B.** To keep regular records that permits the issuing authority to follow up the production's source and inputs used in its production, nature and quantity thereof.

**C.** To keep original records that show the traded organic products, nature, quantity thereof, also person contracted with for such purpose.

**D.** certification body is allowed to inspect the enterprise, and samples may be taken for testing them pursuant to the standard metrology in an accredited laboratory for such purpose.

**E.** Certification body has the right to access to any information that it is deemed necessary, to ensure that the operator has complied with organic agricultural requirements.

### **Article (9)**

**A.** The operator, who desires to obtain an organic agricultural production certificate, shall register in the Ministry at the concerned directorate. All documents, records, and layouts shall be submitted to certification body for such purpose.

**B.** The operator, as the organic products are launched on the market, shall fasten a mark that demonstrates these products are organic products.

### **Article (10)**

**A.** The operator, who imports the organic products, shall undertake the following:

1. Notify the ministry on any consignment of organic products as per regulations that will be issued by the minister for this purpose.

2. A certificate issued by certification body, ensuring that the product is organic, shall be attached.

B- Procedures mentioned in para (A) above of this Article shall be subjected to the control of the concerned authority.

### **Article (11)**

**A.** The certification body shall provide the ministry with names of operators contracted, and it shall regularly provide statistics that show all cultivated area with an organic agricultural products, kinds, and quantities thereof determined by the ministry for this purpose.

**B.** Certification body may not be registered at the Ministry of Industry, Trade and Supply unless the prior written consent of the Minister.

### **Article (12)**

**A.** The Ministry shall establish a committee called "National Committee of Organic Agriculture" headed by the general secretary and members of:

1. General Director of the National Center for Agricultural Research and Extension / vice chairman.
2. Ministry of Environment's representative.
3. Agricultural Credit Corporation's representative.
4. Jordan Institution for Standards and Metrology's representative.
5. Jordan Food & Drug Administration's representative.
6. Jordan Custom's representative.

**B.** The Committee shall undertake the duties and powers, as follows:

1. Set general policies to develop the organic agriculture, plans and programs required to be implemented.
2. Study proposals for the development of the organic production sector, strength its frameworks, establish its controls, and adopt accordingly.
3. Approving the proposed executive procedures by the technical committee to apply the provisions of this bylaw.
4. Approving the lists of the certification body names.
5. Approving a logo which certification body shall put on the organic products.
6. Approving the annual report for the stages of organic agriculture application.
7. Any other relevant issues the minister may assign.

**C.** The committee shall be held by at least two thirds of its members, provided that the chairman or the vice-chairman shall be amongst them; committee decisions shall adopted by the majority of members present at the meeting. Should the votes be equal, the chairman of the meeting shall have the casting votes.

**D.** The Minister shall nominate the secretary of the committee from amongst the ministry's employees. A secretary shall organize the committee's agenda, write minutes of meeting, maintain records, and follow up the enforcement of its decisions.

**E.** The minister, if it is deemed necessary, may nominate two additional representatives for the committee from relevant sectors, and shall have the right to vote on committee's decisions.

### **Article (13)**

**A-** A Technical Committee shall be established as per a decision by the minister, headed by the Director of Plant Production Directorate at the ministry and its members are as follows:

1. A representative of Jordan Institution for Standards and Metrology.
2. A representative of Jordan Food & Drug Administration.
3. Animal production director.
4. Head of Horticulture & Stations or Head of Organic Agriculture Department upon its establishment.
5. One of Heads of Departments or Sections in Animal Production Directorate nominated by the minister.
6. Head of Organic Agriculture Section in the capacity of "Committee Reporter".
7. Two experts with experience and competence in the Organic Agriculture field, natural person or legal person selected by the ministry's general secretary.

**B.** Technical Committee shall undertake tasks and powers as follows:

1. Follow up the implementation of plans and programs required for developing the organic agriculture, in cooperation and coordination with the competent authorities.

2. Define performance indicators for the organic agricultural system, and work on the measurement of these indicators every six months, so as to evaluate the extent of the indicators accepted by society.
3. Participate with the competent bodies in drawing up the standard metrology or amendments thereof.
4. Verification of eligibility for the certification bodies in accordance with the provisions of this bylaw. Further, lists of names of authorities shall be submitted, and recommendation should be made for approval thereof.
5. Verify the operator's compliance with the license's terms and conditions as per the provisions of this bylaw. In the event that the operator violates the provisions of the license, a recommendation shall be submitted to the committee to withdraw license.
6. Recommend for the approval of the logo which the certification body will put on the organic products.
7. Prepare an annual report on implementation phases of the organic agriculture and such shall be submitted to the committee for approval.

#### **Article (14)**

**A.** Organic agricultural production, namely plants, shall be subject to a transitional period not less than two years prior to the plantation of any annual agriculture crops, and three years at least prior to the first harvest of the perennial crops other than pastures.

**B.** Upon the request of the certification body the technical committee may decide to extent or reduce the transitional period provided for in para (A) of this Article.

#### **Article (15)**

**A.** the operator, during the transitional period, shall comply with the organic plants production rules including but not limit to use of the plant production inputs, fertilizers, soil conditioners and chemical disinfections in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth in the standard metrology.

**B.** Any product obtained during the transitional period may be marketed under the name “transitional organic product”.

**Article (16)**

Seeds and organic plant propagation materials shall be produced, and be accredited after one season at least of planting “annuals crops” or after two seasons of planting “permanent crops”.

**Article (17)**

Subject to the provisions of this bylaw soil fertility and its biological activity shall be maintained through the following:

- A. An appropriate agricultural cycle shall be followed for several years for planting legumes, using green plants fertilizers or deep-rooted plants.
- B. Organic fertilizers may be added, and in case organic fertilizers are not available, farmyard manure shall be used for the soil so that it shall be fermented and produced by facilities that operate in organic production.
- C. Mineral fertilizers may be added as per terms and conditions set forth in the standard metrology, in event that the plant integrated nutrition is not available in accordance with the provisions of para (A) and (B) of this Article.

**Article (18)**

Upon preparation of the organic fertilizers, and to raise the activity of the fermented material, products may be used as follows:

- A. Products generated by biological and plant materials, or materials permitted by the certification body.
- B. Biodynamic products generated by natural stones powder, animal and plants organic wastes.

**Article (19)**

In addition to the use of the materials set forth in the standard metrology, in case of the of economic damages and losses, or in case of an immediate danger that threatens crops, preventive and curative measures to control pests without using chemical compounds manufactured for plant protection shall adopted as follows:

- A. To select disease-resistant varieties and kinds, and its adaptation to the environmental conditions.
- B. To apply the agricultural cycle that ends the life cycle of the different harmful pests that destroys the agricultural crops.
- C. To comply with the agricultural techniques that depend on mechanical control measures.
- D. To protect natural enemies of the pests by using suitable means and methods.
- E. Mechanical and thermal weed control and alike in consistent with terms and conditions of organic agriculture.
- F. Other means permitted by certification body may be used.

### **Article (20)**

A. A native wild plants in forests and agricultural areas shall be deemed as an organic product, provided that:

- 1- Such areas shall not be exposed to any substances not provided for in the standard metrology for three years before harvest.
- 2- Such areas shall not be exposed to non-licensed substances during the transitional period specified in the conditions of plants production, and in accordance with organic agriculture rules.
- 3- Harvesting of wild plants shall not negatively affect the normal balance of the plants and environment; and shall not adversely affect the biodiversity and sustainability thereof in the harvesting area.

### **Article (21)**

The operator, who desires to collect the native wild plants in the natural, forests, and agricultural areas, shall comply with the provisions of relevant legislations. In addition, the operator shall notify the certification body about the wild plant collection so as to take the necessary procedures relating to issue the organic product certificate for all plants collected.

## **Article (22)**

**A.** In case of any breach of the provisions of this bylaw made by the certification body, the minister upon the recommendations of the ministry's general secretary, and concerned directorate, shall apply the following penalties:

1. Issue a warning notice
2. Cancel the registration, if the breaching body fails to correct its status, the relevant authorities shall be notified of such a breach and suspend the licensing.

**B .** In case of any breach of the provisions of this bylaw made by the operator, the minister, upon the recommendations of the ministry's general secretary and concerned directorate, shall apply the penalties as follows:

1. Issue a warning notice
2. License is cancelled; relevant authorities and the certification body shall be notified.
3. Prevent trading of organic products until the cessation of the cause of the breach.

## **Article (23)**

**A.** The provisions, procedures, terms and conditions necessary to license the certification body shall be determined in accordance with minister's regulations, upon the recommendations of the committee, provided that such regulations are published in the official Gazette.

**B.** Any allowance obtained by the ministry shall be determined by the minister upon the recommendations of the committee.

## **Article (24)**

Upon the recommendation of the committee, the minister issues any regulations for the implementation of such bylaw

## **Article (25)**

Organic Agriculture regulation No. (29) of 2011 shall be cancelled.

7/9/2016

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| Minister of Water and Irrigation<br>Dr. Hazem Kamal Alnasser   | Minister of Interior<br>Salama Hammad   | Vice of Prime Minister<br>And Minister of Foreign Affairs & Expatriates Affairs<br>Mohammad Nasser Sami Jouda | Prime Minister and Minister of Defense<br>Dr. Hani Fawzi Al-Mulqi                             |
| Minister of Planning and International Cooperation<br>Emad Najeeb Fakhouri                                       | Minister of Political and Parliamentary Affairs and Minister of State<br>Eng. Mousa Habis Al-Muaita | Minister of Culture<br>Dr. Adel Eisa Altaowaisi   |   |
| Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research<br>Deputy of Minister of Education<br>Dr. Wajeh Mousa Owais | Minister of Health<br>Dr. Mahmoud Yaseen Al-Shayyab   | Minister of Labor<br>Ali Thaher Al-Ghazzawi   |   |
| Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources<br>Dr. Ibrahim Hassan Saif  | Minister of Municipal Affairs<br>Eng. Waleed Mohi Aldeen Almasri                                    | Minister of Environment<br>Dr. Yasseen Muhaib Khaiat  |   |
| Minister of Information and Communications Technology<br>Majd Mohammad Showaika                                  | Minister of Public Works & Housing Deputy Minister of Transport<br>Eng. Sami Jarees Halsa           | Minister of State for Media Affairs<br>Dr. Mohammad Hassain Al-Mumni  |   |
| Minister of State for Prime Minister Affairs<br>Fawwaz Najeeb Ershada  | Minister of Youth<br>Rami Saleh Wareekat  | Minister of Agriculture<br>Dr. Riza Al-Khawalda   | Minister of Finance<br>Deputy Minister of Industry, Commerce and Supply<br>Omar Zuhair Malhas |

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