



**THAI AGRICULTURAL STANDARD**

**TAS 9000-2005**

**ORGANIC AGRICULTURE**

**PART 2: ORGANIC LIVESTOCK**

**National Bureau of Agricultural Commodity and Food Standards**

**Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives**

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**Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives**

**50 Phaholyothin Road, Ladyao, Chatuchak, Bangkok 10900**

**Telephone (662) 561 2277 [www.acfs.go.th](http://www.acfs.go.th)**

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**Working Group on the Elaboration of Standard for Organic Livestock  
(The Department of Livestock Development)**

1. Mr.Tawatchai Intaratun	Bureau of Livestock Development and Technology Transfer
2. Mr.Komjak Pichainarongsongkarm	Regional Bureau of Animal Health and Sanitation 3
3. Mr.Jeerawat Khemsawat	Animal Nutrition Division
4. Mr.Wirot Wanasittachaiwat	Animal Nutrition Division
5. Mrs.Kieatsurak Pokasawat	Animal Nutrition Division
6. Mrs.Sirikarn Choprasatintara	Bureau of Disease Control and Veterinary Services
7. Mrs.Ratiwan Weerapong	Animal Foreign Division
8. Ms.Parnwadee Suntararachun	Planning Division
9. Mr. Worawut Wisetso	Regional Bureau of Animal Health and Sanitation 6
10. Mr Weera Ingsaard	Bureau of Livestock Standard and Certification
11. Mrs.Patchari Thongkamkun	National Institute of Animal Health
12. Mrs.Jintana Intaramongkon	Animal Husbandry Division
13. Ms.Wanida Kamneadpet	Animal Husbandry Division
14. Mr.Wichai Chanatinat	Northeastern Bull Center
15. Mr.Chalee Leelasiri	Bureau of Biotechnology in Livestock Production
16. Mrs. Laddawalaya Rattananakorn	Bureau of Disease Control and Veterinary Services
17. Ms. Katchapornt Temyood	Bureau of Livestock Standard and Certification
18. Mr.Pakdee Sudtipankun	Regional Bureau of Animal Health and Sanitation 2
19. Mr.Thanee Parkuthai	Bureau of Livestock Development and Technology Transfer
20. Mr.Decha Prempracha	Bureau of Livestock Development and Technology Transfer

(2)

Currently, consumers require more organic produces and products because they pay more attention to the safety and sanitary of food consumption and conservation of the environment. Therefore, it is deemed to necessary to establish organic livestock production standard to be used as guidelines for organic livestock farming in order to get domestic as well as international acceptance.

This standard was drafted by the Organic Livestock Draft Panel of The Department of Livestock Development and it was revised by the Sub - Committee of Animal Sanitary Standards and approved by the National Committee on Agricultural Commodity and Food Standards.

The establishment of this standard is based on the information of the following documents:

Regulation of Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives no.21 for Animal Epidemic Act B.E.2499 (1956)

Notification of Ministry of Industry. Thai Industrial Standards (TIS). 7001- 2540 (1997) for Requirements for Control of the Use of Veterinary Drugs.

Thai Agricultural Standard (TAS). 8200-2546 (2003). Good Agricultural Practices for Bee Farm.

Thai Agricultural Standard (TAS). 9000-2546 (2003). Organic Agriculture part 1: The Production, Processing, Labeling and Marketing of Organic Agriculture.

Codex Alimentarius Commission 1999.Guideline for the Production, Processing, Labeling and Marketing of Organically Produced Foods. FAO, Rome.

**Remark:**

The standard title has been revised from “Thai Agricultural Commodity and Food Standard (TACFS)” to “Thai Agricultural Standard (TAS)” in accordance with the enforcement of The Agricultural Standards Act B.E. 2551 (2008)



**NOTIFICATION OF THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE ON  
AGRICULTURAL COMMODITY AND FOOD STANDARDS  
SUBJECT: THAI AGRICULTURAL COMMODITY AND FOOD STANDARD:  
ORGANIC AGRICULTURE PART 2: ORGANIC LIVESTOCK  
B.E.2548 (2005)**

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The resolution of the 3/2547 session of the National Committee on Agricultural Commodity and Food Standards dated 3 November B.E.2547 (2004) endorsed the Thai Agricultural Commodity and Food Standard entitled Organic Agriculture: Part 2: Organic Livestock. This standard would be of benefits for quality improvement, facilitating trade and protecting consumers.

By virtue of the Cabinet Resolution on Appointment and Authorization of the National committee on Agricultural Commodity and Food Standards dated 19 November B.E.2545 (2002), the Notification on Thai Agricultural Commodity and Food Standard entitled Organic Agriculture: Part 2: Organic Livestock is hereby issued as voluntary standard, the details of which are attached herewith.

Notified on 8 February B.E.2548 (2005)

Mr. Nevin Chidchob

Minister of Agriculture and Cooperatives  
Chairperson of the National Committee on Agriculture Commodity and Food Standards

**THAI AGRICULTURAL STANDARD  
ORGANIC AGRICULTURE  
PART 2: ORGANIC LIVESTOCK**

**1. SCOPE**

1.1 Thai Agricultural Standard (TAS) on Organic Agriculture Part 2: Organic Livestock is a part of TAS 9000-2546 (2003), Organic Agriculture Part 1: The Production, Processing, Labeling and Marketing of Organic Agriculture.

1.2 This standard applies for organic livestock production system for farmers to produce the organic livestock products. The standard covers the farm practices, definitions, principles and requirements for organic livestock production.

**2. DEFINITIONS**

The terms used in this standard refer to the definitions described in the TAS: Organic Agriculture Part 1 including the following:

2.1 **Organic Livestock** means the livestock production system which is the management system based on appropriate and harmonious relationships of land, plants and livestock responding to physiological and behavioral needs of animals to minimize stress, promote animal health and prevent diseases by good animal husbandry practices and avoid the use of veterinary drugs and chemical substances.

2.2 **Livestock commodity** means produce and product derived from livestock production for sale, for human consumption and non-food purposes.

2.3 **Farm** means whole agricultural areas including plant cultivation and animal production under the responsibility of a same person. (except beekeeping farm)

2.4 **Veterinary drugs** means any substance applied to any food producing animals and its products, whether used for therapeutic or diagnostic purposes or for modification of physiological functions and behaviors. They shall be permitted by the respective government authority.

**3. GENERAL PRINCIPLES**

The Organic Livestock Production shall be in compliance with the following principles.

3.1 The areas dedicated for organic livestock production shall be managed and maintained according to the Organic Agriculture Part 1: The Production, Processing, Labeling and Marketing of Organic Agriculture.

3.2 The organic livestock production shall improve and maintain soil fertility, enhance biodiversities and ecology and diversify the farming system.

3.3 Livestock production is an agriculture activities related to ecology whether physical and biological activity. Herbivores shall have access to pasture for grazing and all other animals shall have access to open-air exercise areas appropriate to their health, weather conditions, and geography, or to the traditional farming systems with access to pasture, providing an appropriate welfare for the animals.

3.4 Stock densities for livestock shall be appropriate to animal species, feeding, stock health, nutrients balance, and environmental impact.

3.5 Livestock breeding shall be natural breeding to minimize stress, prevent diseases, and avoided the use of chemicals or veterinary drugs and livestock by products except milk as raw materials for feedstuff, and maintain animal health and welfare.

#### 4. ORGANIC LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION REQUIREMENTS

**Table 1.** The Organic livestock Production Requirements

<b>Items</b>	<b>Requirements</b>	<b>Inspections</b>
1.Livestock sources	Stock born or from parents that are managed according to the organic production system.	Review record of animal birth or hatching and introduce to the farm (Annex B and C)
2. Conversion to organic production	2.1 The conversion period shall be complied with livestock species as defined in Annex A:Table 2 2.2 Animal ages which can be introduced for conversion status are defined in the Annex A paragraph 2.2.1	Audit the records (see Annex B-E)
3.Feedstuffs	3.1 Shall be produced according to the requirements of the Organic Agriculture Part 1 3.2 Shall not contain genetically modified organisms (GMOs) and products thereof. 3.3 Raw materials or substances shall be permitted according to national legislation on animal feeding and shall not be against the organic livestock principles.	Observation, audit of Feedstuff certificate, Visual inspection , inspect animal feedstuff certificate, review feedstuff receiving and feeding record (Annex D)
4.Livestock health management	4.1 The animal health management shall be applied according to animal species and breeds. 4.2 Medical herbs, indigenous technologies shall be applied for animal treatment. 4.3 If the management practices or permitted drugs cannot control the diseases, the use of other veterinary drugs can be applied if necessary with clear withdrawal period under supervision of a veterinarian.	Observation and audit of animal treatment records (Annex E)
5.Livestock management	5.1 Have an open-air exercise areas for animal. 5.2 Natural Breeding shall be applied. 5.3 Any surgical operation shall be practiced for the animal safety and welfare.	Visual inspection and record review
6. Recording	Livestock management, disease prevention and treatments shall be recorded.	Review of the record (Annex B-E)

Items	Requirements	Inspections
7.Environmental management	7.1 Waste from farm areas shall be appropriately managed and treated whether on farm or off farm.  7.2 Manure compost application rates shall be appropriate to avoid pollution.	Observation

## 5. ORGANIC LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION REQUIREMENTS

The details of organic livestock production for good and safe produces for consumption are described in the Annex A and Table 1

## ANNEX A

### THE REQUIREMENTS OF ORGANIC LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION

#### 1. LIVESTOCK SOURCES

1.1 The choice of breeds, strains and breeding technique shall be consistent with the principles of organic agriculture taking into account in particular:

1.1.1 Their adaptability to the local conditions

1.1.2 The capacity of vitality and resistance to diseases by selection of breeds which are resistant to diseases such as Tick-born disease etc.

1.2 Animals used for organic livestock production shall be:

1.2.1 Birth and hatching from the production units complied with this standard or

1.2.2 An offspring of parents raised under the production management of this standard.

1.3 If the provision of livestock specified in Section 1.2 is not available, the certification body of organic livestock production system may allow the use of animals from conventional livestock production under the following circumstances;

1.3.1 The expansion or changing the breed of production for supporting, the demand of market or improved a new breeding stock from natural methods.

1.3.2 A new herd is established in case of the high mortality of animals.

1.3.3 For using as a male for breeding.

1.3.4 The certification body of organic livestock production system shall set the specific conditions for allowing the use of livestock from uncertified sources, by introducing in animals as young as possible such as weaning.

1.4 Livestock produces or products according to Section 1.3 to be certified to organic if they are complied with the conversion period set in Section 2.3

#### 2. CONVERSION TO ORGANIC LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION

2.1 The conversion of the land intended for organic production system including crops and pasture cultivation shall be complied with the requirements of TAS part 1: The Production, Processing, Labeling and Marketing of Organic Agriculture.

2.2 If the other animal is introduced into the certified farm or area, the animal shall be managed with this standard before selling as organic.

2.2.1 Mammals: was introduced in as soon as they are weaned.

Poultry: was introduced in as soon as they are hatched or less than 3 days old.

2.2.2 Conversion period shall not be less than the time as defined in Table 2

**Table 2.** Conversion period to organic by livestock species.

<b>Species</b>	<b>Period</b>
<b>Cattle and buffalo</b>	
Meat products	12 months
Calves for meat production	6 months, shall be introduced in as soon as they are weaned and less than 6 months old
Milk products	The conversion period is 90 days, and 6 months and thereafter that milking product can be certified as organic.
<b>Ovine and Caprine</b>	
Meat products	6 months
Milk products	The conversion period is 90 days, and 6 months and thereafter that milking product can be certified as organic.
<b>Porcine</b>	
Meat products	4 months
<b>Poultry</b>	
Meat products	whole of life span
Eggs	6 weeks

2.3 The certification body of organic livestock production may define the conversion periods or conditions differed from that has been set in Section 2.1 for production area (land) and/or Section 2.2 for conversion from conventional to organic livestock production.

### **3. FEED**

3.1 All feedstuffs shall be produced and derived from materials produced in accordance with the requirements of TAS part 1: The Production, Processing, Labeling and Marketing of Organic Agriculture.

3.2 At the beginning of the conversion period, feedstuff shall be composed of at least 70% of organic sources for ruminants and 65% for non-ruminants, calculated on a dry matter basis.

3.3 If a producer can demonstrate that feedstuffs satisfying the requirement outlined above are not available, as a result of unforeseeable circumstances the certification body shall allow a restricted maximum percentage and conditions of the substituted feedstuffs to be fed for a limited time, provided that it does not contain GMOs or products thereof.

3.4 Livestock rations shall be taken into account the following issues:

3.4.1 The need of calves for natural feeding such as colostrum,

3.4.2 A substantial proportion of dry matter in the daily rations of herbivores shall be composed of roughage, fresh or dried fodder, or silage;

3.4.3 The need for cereals in the fattening phase of poultry.

3.4.4 For ruminants, feeding with silage alone throughout the life span is not permitted

3.5 Fresh water is accessible and available for livestock at all times.

3.6 Materials used as feedstuffs, feed additives and processing aids shall be complied with the following criteria:

3.6.1 Feeding materials are permitted according to national legislation on animal feeding quality control and shall not be against the principles of organic agriculture.

3.6.2 Feeding materials shall be essential to maintain animal vitality, health and welfare;

3.6.3 Feeding materials shall be essential to contribute the physiological and behavioral needs of the species concerned which obtained from plant materials, natural minerals or of animal origin.

3.7 Other feeding materials permitted for use (besides that defined in Section 3.6) shall be complied with the following criteria:

3.7.1 Feeding materials of plant origin from uncertified organic can only be used, under the conditions of Section 3.2 and 3.3 and they shall not be produced or prepared by using any chemical treatments;

3.7.2 Feeding materials used as mineral, vitamin, or provitamin sources can only be used if they are of natural origin. In case of shortage of these substances, or in exceptional circumstances, synthetic substances may be used with full details of their origin and production processes.

3.7.3 Uses of synthetic nitrogen or non-protein nitrogen compounds are prohibited.

3.7.4 The feeding of mammalian material to ruminants is not permitted, except milk.

3.8 Specific Criteria for other additives and processing aids (besides that defined in Section 3.6) which are permitted to use:

3.8.1 Binders, anti-caking agents, emulsifiers, stabilizers, thickeners, surfactants, coagulants: only natural sources.

3.8.2 Antioxidants, coloring agents, flavor agents, and appetite stimulants: only natural sources. Natural acids preservation;

3.8.3 Probiotics, enzymes and microorganisms

3.8.4 Antibiotics, coccidiostatics, medicines, growth promoters or any other substance intended to stimulate growth or production are prohibited.

3.8.5 Silage additives and processing aids shall not be derived from GMOs or products thereof. The substances permitted for use include sea salt, coarse rock salt, enzymes, yeasts, whey, sugar or sugar products such as molasses or honey etc.

3.8.6 Lactic, acetic, formic and propionic bacteria, or their natural acid product can be used when the weather conditions are unfavorable for adequate fermentation, but this shall be under the approval of the certification body.

#### **4. LIVESTOCK HEALTH MANAGEMENT**

4.1 Disease prevention shall be based on the following principles:

4.1.1 The selection of appropriate breeds or strains of animals as defined in Section 1.1 above.

4.1.2 The animal husbandry practices appropriate to the requirements of each species, encouraging healthy, strong, resistance to disease and prevention of infections.

4.1.3 The use of good quality organic feed, together with regular exercise and access to pasture and/or open-air runs in order to promote good animal health and their natural immunity.

4.1.4 The density of animal in house shall be appropriate to avoid overstocking which may cause animal health problems. .

4.2 Although the preventative measures as defined in Section 4.1 are placed, sick or injured animal required immediate treatment, if necessary, shall be isolated and kept in a suitable housing, even if the use of such medication will cause the animal losing its organic status.

4.3 The disease treatment shall be complied with the following principles:

4.3.1 Where the epidemic or suspicious disease, health problem occur and existing permitted treatment or management practice can not control or treat the diseases, in cases required by law, vaccination of livestock, use of parasiticides, or therapeutic use of necessary veterinary drugs are permitted and withdrawal period is strictly observed.

4.3.2 Medical herbs, indigenous technologies are permitted, according to condition and species of animals.

4.3.3 If the use of the products defined in Section 4.3.2 is ineffective, chemical allopathic veterinary drugs or antibiotics shall be used under supervision of a veterinarian; withdrawal periods shall be extended two folds of the manufacturer's instruction, in case of this information unavailable, a minimum withdrawal period of 48 hours shall be applied;

4.4 The use of chemical allopathic veterinary drugs for disease prevention is prohibited.

4.5 Hormonal treatment shall only be used under veterinary supervision.

4.6 Growth stimulants or substances used for the purpose of stimulating growth or production rate are prohibited.

#### **5. LIVESTOCK MANAGEMENT**

5.1 Maintenance of livestock with care and responsible manner.

5.2 Breeding methods shall be complied with the following principles:

5.2.1 The selection of appropriate breeds or strains of animals as defined in Section 1.1 above.

5.2.2 Use of natural breeding and reproduction. If necessary, artificial insemination technique may be allowed.

5.2.3 The embryo transfer techniques and the use of hormonal reproductive treatments are prohibited.

5.2.4 Using genetic engineering technique for altering genetic of the animal is prohibited.

5.3 Surgical operations and some management methods are prohibited in the organic livestock production except for attaching elastic bands to the tails of sheep, dehorning and castration.

5.4 The livestock housing and environmental conditions, shall be taken into the following principles:

5.4.1 Sufficiently free movement and providing opportunity to express natural behavior;

5.4.2 Appropriately herded with other animals, according to the type and species of the animal.

5.4.3 Prevention of animals from abnormal behavior, injury and diseases;

5.4.4 Reasonable arrangements are provided for accidents or emergency handling such in case of fire.

## **6. LIVESTOCK HOUSING AND FREE-RANGE FEEDING**

6.1 Livestock housing shall be suitable for climatic conditions.

6.2 Livestock housing conditions shall be suitable for the state and behavior of animal as the following principles:

6.2.1 Easy access to feeding and watering;

6.2.2 Insulation, rain protection, cleanliness, plentiful light and natural ventilation.

6.3 Livestock shall be temporarily confined in the housing during certain periods, for their health and safety or to prevent from destroying the water resources, environment, plant and soil.

6.4 The size of livestock buildings shall be taken into account the following issued:

6.4.1 Space is provided for the comfort and well being of the livestock according to the state, species, breed and the age of the livestock;

6.4.2 Suitable for size of the group and the sex of the livestock;

6.4.3 Adequate space for moving naturally.

6.5 Free-range, feeding, open-air areas shall be provided with suitable shelter and sufficient protection against sun, rain, and extreme weather conditions.

6.6 The outdoor stocking density of livestock kept on pasture or grassland shall be suitable to prevent degradation of the soil fertility and over-grazing of vegetation.

## **MAMMALS**

6.7 All mammals shall have access to an open-air exercise area with exception of parent stock or the livestock of final fattening phase.

6.8 Livestock housing shall be securely constructed with smooth floor surface, but not be slippery.

6.9 The housing and rest areas shall be provided with a dry, comfortable, clean and adequate space according to size of animal, with strong construction. Ample dry bedding strewn shall be suitable dry, sufficient and clean.

6.10 The housing of calves in individual boxes and the tethering of livestock are not permitted without the approval of the certification body of organic livestock production system.

## **POULTRY**

6.11 Poultry shall be reared in open-range conditions and have free access to open-air exercise area. The keeping of poultry in cages is not permitted.

6.12 Adequate water sources shall be provided for ducks or water fowl poultry,

6.13 Housing for all poultry shall have the strong construction covered with litter material such as straw, wood shavings or grass. A sufficiently large part of the floor area shall be provided for laying hens. Poultry sleeping bed shall have adequate size and appropriate placement according to species and poultry behavior. .

6.14 Artificial light used for product stimulation is prohibited

## **7. WASTE MANAGEMENT**

Waste management practices for livestock production shall be based on the following principles:

7.1 Do not cause soil and water degradation;

7.2 Do not cause to nitrates and pathogenic bacteria contamination of soil and water;

7.3 Optimize recycling of nutrients;

7.4 Avoid burning or any practices against the organic practices;

7.5 Manure application rates used in the pasture or farm land areas shall be at the appropriate levels that do not cause the problems on to ground and surface water quality.

## **8. BEEKEEPING AND BEE PRODUCTS**

### **8.1 General Principles**

8.1.1 Bee keeping is an important activity to produce bee products that contributes to the enhancement of the environment, agriculture and forestry through the pollination activity of bees.

8.1.2 The treatment and management of beekeeping shall comply with the principles of organic agriculture and good agricultural practices of TAS 8200-2546 beekeeping farm.

8.1.3 Beekeeping areas must have adequate nutrient and water.

8.1.4 The feed for beekeeping shall be from organic products or natural plant sources.

8.1.5 Pest and disease prevention shall emphasize mainly on breeding selection for resistant breed, balanced diets, and appropriate environmental management practices.

8.1.6 The hives shall be consisted basically of natural materials provided that there is no risk of contamination to the environment or the bee products.

8.1.7 When bees are placed in forest areas, consideration shall be given to the indigenous insect population.

8.2 Hives site shall be placed in a certified organic area or other areas without prohibited substances being used and no risk of GMOs.

### **8.3 Feed**

8.3.1 Harvesting shall be done in a manner that sufficient amount of feed is left for the colony to survive.

8.3.2 If the natural feed is under shortage due to unfavorable climatic circumstances, organically produced honey shall be used. However the certification body may permit the use of non-organically produced honey or sugar in a certain limit period of time.

#### 8.4 Conversion Period

8.4.1 Bee products can be sold as “Organic Products” when the production management has been complied with organic requirements for at least one year. During the conversion period the wax shall be replaced by organically produced. In case where all the wax cannot be replaced during a one-year period, the conversion period shall be extended. If the organically produced bees-wax is not available, wax from other sources with no historical use of prohibited substances may be used by the approval of the certification body

8.4.2 Where no prohibited substances have been previously used in the hive, replacement of wax is not necessary as per Section 8.4.1

#### 8.5 Origin of bees

8.5.1 In order for honey bee colonies to be converted to organic production, introduced bees shall be from organic production units.

8.5.2 For a selection of breed, consideration shall be taken based on the adaptability of bees to local conditions, their suitability to produce each product, their vitality and resistance to pest and disease.

#### 8.6 Health managements

8.6.1 Prevention of disease and pest shall be emphasized through breed selection and hive managements. This includes:

8.6.1.1 Effective control system shall be in place to prevent, control, eliminate and monitor pest and disease and there is a system for preventing accumulation of germs to ensure effective control in a timely manner.

8.6.1.2 If there is an outbreak of diseases according to Ministerial regulation No.21 empowered by the Animal Epidemics Act B.E.2499 (1956) particularly the American foulbrood, producer shall immediately inform the officer of the Department of Agricultural Extension or the Department of Livestock Development.

8.6.1.3 The disease treatment and pest control shall be complied with the recommendation practices of the Department of Agricultural Extension or the Department of Livestock Development.

8.6.1.4 If medical treatments are applied, they shall be complied with the requirements defined in the Industrial product standards No. 7001- 2540 (A.D.1997); Animal veterinary medicine control.

8.6.2 For pest and disease control, lactic, oxalic, acetic, formic acid, sulphur, natural etheric oils (e.g. Menthol, eucalyptol, camphor), *Bacillus thuringiensis*, steam and direct flame are allowed.

8.6.3 Where preventative measures failed, veterinary drugs, medical product shall be used provided that preference is given to medical herbs and indigenous technologies.

8.6.4 If allopathic/ synthetic chemicals are used, the bee products shall not be sold as organic products. Treated hives shall be isolated and undergone to regain conversion status for a period of one year.

## 8.7 General Management

8.7.1 The foundation comb shall be made from organically produced wax.

8.7.2 The destruction of bees as a method of harvesting of bee products is prohibited.

8.7.3 Clipping of the wings of queen bees are prohibited.

8.7.4 The use of chemical synthetic repellents is prohibited during honey extraction operation.

8.7.5 Smoking method shall be kept to minimum. Acceptable smoking materials shall be natural or from materials that meet the requirements of this standard.

8.7.6 It is recommended that the temperatures used for extraction and processing of bee products shall be maintained as low as possible.

8.7.7 The producer shall maintain detailed and up-to-date records and a clearly mapped out location of all hives, as set out by the certification body.

## 9. RECORDING

The producer shall maintain detailed and up-to-date records as set out by the certification body of organic production system.









