

Information Sheet

Medication application at the organic establishment

According to the EU-organic regulation, animal health must be ensured primarily through preventive measures. As soon as an animal is sick or injured, it must be treated immediately to reduce suffering. Natural healing methods are to be favored, for example homeopathy.

If the use of chemical and synthetically produced allopathic medicine is necessary, they must be prescribed by a veterinarian. For these procedures, accurate records must be kept and contain the following points:

- Date of treatment
- Details of the diagnosis
- Dosis
- What animal/which animals are to be treated (a definite identification of the treated animal/the treated animals must be possible at all times!)
- treatment used, including ingredients
- Method of treatment
- Legal waiting period as well as organic waiting period*
- Treatment carried out by:
- Prescribed by: signature/stamp
- Receipt-number (from your personal receipt collection)

Natural healing methods that do not require a prescription must also be recorded.

To ensure, that no points are missed, you can use the documentation journal of the Austria Bio Garantie.

* **Waiting period**

As mentioned, the waiting period must be observed for every treatment. Any waiting period legally required for a certain medicine must be doubled to meet organic standards. If no waiting period is specified, the organic waiting period must be at least 48 hours! This is especially important for egg laying hens and dairy animals! This means, that if a medicine without an indicated legal waiting period is used, the eggs or the milk of the animals may not be sold as organic product for two days. If the treatment must be repeated over several days, the products may not be sold as organic product during the treatment period and an additional 48 hours!

Exception: for homeopathic and phytotherapeutical medicine the legal waiting periods apply. Doubling the waiting period or adding 48 hours is not necessary.

Furthermore it must be observed, that any animal may not receive more than three chemical or synthetic treatments within a year. Animals that are no older than one year may only receive one chemical or synthetic treatment. One treatment contains all therapeutic procedures until the animal is healed. If the animals must be treated more often than three times or once a year, it must undergo the appropriate conversion period to be sold as organic product. It must be determined case by case under consideration of the conversion period, if this is the right thing to do.

The most important aspects for treatment with allopathic medicine:

- Prescription from a veterinarian is necessary
- Document the treatment
- For organic sale: double the waiting period, or, if no waiting period: add 48 hours (do not forget the duration of treatment)
- Loss of organic status, if more than three treatments a year, or more than one treatment per year for animals that are younger than 1 year.