

Information Sheet

Parallel production

834/2007, Article 11

General farm production rules

The entire agricultural holding shall be managed in compliance with the requirements applicable to organic production.

However, in accordance with specific conditions to be laid down in accordance with the procedure referred to in Article 37(2), a holding may be split up into clearly separated units or aquaculture production sites which are not all managed under organic production. As regards animals, different species shall be involved. As regards aquaculture the same species may be involved, provided that there is adequate separation between the production sites. As regards plants, different varieties that can be easily differentiated shall be involved.

Where, in accordance with the second subparagraph, not all units of a holding are used for organic production, the operator shall keep the land, animals, and products used for, or produced by, the organic units separate from those used for, or produced by, the non-organic units and keep adequate records to show the separation.

889/2008, Article 17

Simultaneous production of organic and non-organic livestock

Non organic livestock may be present on the holding provided they are reared on units where the buildings and parcels are separated clearly from the units producing in accordance with the organic production rules and a different species is involved.

889/2008, Article 40

Parallel production

1. Where the conditions laid down in Article 22(2)(a) of Regulation (EC) No 834/2007 apply, a producer may run organic and non-organic production units in the same area:

(a) in the case of the production of perennial crops, which require a cultivation period of at least three years, where varieties cannot be easily differentiated, provided the following conditions are met:

(i) the production in question forms part of a conversion plan in respect of which the producer gives a firm undertaking and which provides for the beginning of the conversion of the last part of the area concerned to organic production in the shortest possible period which may not in any event exceed a maximum of five years.

(ii) appropriate measures have been taken to ensure the permanent separation of the products obtained from each unit concerned.

(iii) the control authority or control body is notified of the harvest of each of the products concerned at least 48 hours in advance.

(iv) upon completion of the harvest, the producer informs the control authority or control body of the exact quantities harvested on the units concerned and of the measures applied to separate the products.

(v) the conversion plan and the control measures referred to in Chapter 1 and 2 of Title IV have been approved by the competent authority; this approval shall be confirmed each year after the start of the conversion plan.

(b) in the case of areas intended for agricultural research or formal education agreed by the Member States' competent authorities and provided the conditions set out in point (a)(ii)(iii)(iv) and the relevant part of point (v) are met.

(c) in the case of production of seed, vegetative propagating material and transplants and provided the conditions set out in point (a)(ii)(iii)(iv) and the relevant part of point (v) are met.

(d) in the case of grassland exclusively used for grazing.

2. The competent authority may authorise holdings carrying out agricultural research or formal education to rear organic and non-organic livestock of the same species, where the following conditions are met:

(a) appropriate measures, notified in advance to the control authority or control body, have been taken in order to guarantee the permanent separation between livestock, livestock products, manure and feeding stuffs of each of the units.

(b) the producer informs the control authority or control body in advance of any delivery or selling of the livestock or livestock products.

(c) the operator informs the control authority or control body of the exact quantities produced in the units together with all characteristics permitting the identification of the products and confirms that the measures taken to separate the products have been applied.

889/2008, Article 41

Management of beekeeping units for the purpose of pollination

Where the conditions laid down in Article 22(2)(a) of Regulation (EC) No 834/2007 apply, for the purpose of pollination actions an operator may run organic and non-organic beekeeping units on the same holding, provided that all the requirements of the organic production rules are fulfilled, with the exception of the provisions for the siting of the apiaries. In that case the product cannot be sold as organic.

The operator shall keep documentary evidence of the use of this provision.

889/2008, Article 25c

Simultaneous production of organic and non-organic aquaculture animals

1. The competent authority may permit hatcheries and nurseries to rear both organic and non-organic juveniles in the same holding provided there is clear physical separation between the units and a separate water distribution system exists.

2. In case of grow-out production, the competent authority may permit organic and non-organic aquaculture animal production units on the same holding provided Article 6b(2) of this Regulation is complied with and where different production phases and different handling periods of the aquaculture animals are involved.

3. Operators shall keep documentary evidence of the use of provisions referred to in this Article.

Specific control requirements for plants and plant products from farm production or collection.

889/2008, Article 73

Several production units run by the same operator

Where an operator runs several production units in the same area, the units producing non-organic crops, together with storage premises for farm input products shall also be subject to the general and the specific control requirements laid down in Chapter 1 and this Chapter of this Title.

Control requirements for livestock and livestock products produced by animal husbandry.

889/2008, Article 79

Several production units run by the same operator

Where an operator manages several production units, as provided for in Articles 17(1), 40 and 41, the units which produce non-organic livestock or non-organic livestock products shall also be subject to the control system as laid down in Chapter 1 and this Chapter of this Title.

Specific control requirements for aquaculture animal production

889/2008, Article 79d

Several production units run by the same operator

When an operator manages several production units as provided for in Articles 25c, the units which produce non-organic aquaculture animals shall also be subject to the control system as laid down in Chapter 1 and this Chapter.

In practice, this means following for plant production:

Annual crops and those with a cultivation period of less than 3 years:

Overlap the same culture is permitted if:

- the land with the consent of the authority for agricultural research or formal education (schools)
- seed production, vegetative propagating material and transplants
- exclusively-used as pasture grassland

In permanent crops, the varieties must not overlap. That is for example the case of apples may not have Gala in the organic and the conventional part. Exceptions: conversion plan, for a maximum period of 5 years and only upon government approval.

Special cases: arable crops on the organic part, grassland on the conventional part; due to crop rotation fodder is cultivated on arable land. This overlap is tolerated, however, classified the conventional fodder.

Examples of unacceptable overlap:

winter wheat/summer wheat, winter barley/summer barley, winter oat/summer oat, chamomile autumn cultivation/spring cultivation, grain maize/silo maize, pasture/fodder, yellow oat/black oat.

Examples of permitted cases:

Fodder/alfalfa, fodder/red clover, intensive fruit/orchard - if they are different varieties.