

INDICATIONS ON HOW TO FILL IN THE MODEL OF CERTIFICATE FOR ORGANIC PRODUCTION

This document has been conceived as a working document of the DG AGRI Services. It has been elaborated in co-operation with the Member States. It does not intend to produce legally binding effects and by its nature it does not prejudice any measure taken by the Commission or by a Member State within the implementation of Regulation (EU) No 2018/848, nor any case law developed with regard to these provisions.

The purpose of this document is to provide a common approach for competent authorities, or where appropriate, the control authorities or control bodies to fill in the certificate of organic operators or group of operators laid down Annex VI to Regulation (EU) 2018/848¹.

Indications to fill in the mandatory and optional parts of the model of certificate laid down in Annex VI to Regulation (EU) 2018/848 and referred to in Article 35 of Regulation (EU) 2018/848.

Part I

This part is mandatory. Competent authorities or, where appropriate, control authorities or control bodies shall fill in the information in each box of the part I of the certificate.

Box 1: Document number: a unique code of the certificate.

Box 2: Choose as appropriate if the certificate is issued to an operator or a group of operators.

Box 3: Name and address, including the country of the operator or group of operators.

Box 4: Name and address of the competent authority, or, where appropriate, control authority or control body of the operator or group of operators and code number in the case of control authority or control body pursuant to point 2 of Annex V of Regulation (EU) 2018/848.

Box 5: Activit(y)(ies) of the operator or group of operators: situations in which an activity shall be indicated:

¹ Regulation (EU) 2018/848 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 May 2018 on organic production and labelling of organic products and repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 834/2007 (OJ L 150, 14.6.2018, p. 1).

	Definitions	Situations in which the activity shall be indicated
Production	<p>Production on a “holding” as referred to in Article 3, point (8), of Regulation (EU) 2018/848 including production of mushrooms, algae and collection of wild plants, algae and mushrooms.</p> <p><i>‘holding’ means all the production units operated under single management for the purpose of producing live or unprocessed agricultural products, including products originating from aquaculture and beekeeping, referred to in point (a) of Article 2(1) or products listed in Annex I other than essential oils and yeast.</i></p>	Operator performs activity “production”.
Preparation	<p>Preparation as referred to in Article 3, point (44), of Regulation (EU) 2018/848 (this applies also for the production of essential oils and yeast)</p> <p><i>‘preparation’ means the operations of preserving or processing of organic or in-conversion products, or any other operation that is carried out on an unprocessed product without altering the initial product, such as slaughtering, cutting, cleaning or milling, as well as packaging, labelling or alterations made to the labelling relating to organic production.</i></p>	Operator performs activity “preparation”.
Distribution/ Placing on the market	<p>Distribution of organic or in-conversion products, including the collection and transport of such products and/or placing on the market as defined in Article 3, point (48), of Regulation (EU) 2018/848.</p> <p><i>‘placing on the market’ means the holding of food or feed for the purpose of sale, including offering for sale or any other form of transfer, whether free of charge or not, and the sale, distribution, and other forms of transfer themselves.</i></p> <p>N.B. The activity “placing on the market” of organic or in-conversion products includes wholesale, retail and online sale.</p>	Operator distributes and/or places organic or in conversion products on the market that are not produced or prepared by the operator.
Storing	Storing of organic or in-conversion products	Operator stores organic or in conversion products that are not produced or prepared by the operator ² .
Import	Import of organic or in-conversion products from a third country to the Union	Operator performs activity “import”.
Export	Export of organic or in-conversion products from the Union to a third country	Operator performs activity “export”.

² In the following situations, the activity storing does not need to be indicated: storing of inputs (e.g. fertilisers or plant protection products in case of plant production, or feed in case of animal production etc.) or storing of ingredients (e.g. flour, salt, yeast for bread production etc. in case of processing).

In addition to the previously mentioned situations in which the activity shall be indicated, in the situations described below the relevant activity shall also be indicated:

- The operator performs the activity as a subcontractor for another operator and assumes responsibility as regards organic production in accordance with Article 34 (3) of Regulation (EU) 2018/848.
- The operator has subcontracted the activity to a third party but remains responsible as regards organic production and has not transferred that responsibility to the third party in accordance with Article 34 (3) of Regulation (EU) 2018/848.

Box 6: This box indicates the categories of products as referred to in Article 35 (7) of Regulation (EU) 2018/848 and its production method. Multiple entries are possible.

- For categories of products (a), (b) and (c):

In case of activity “production”, indicate the relevant category of products and whether the operator performs on its holding:

- organic production excluding during the conversion period
- production during the conversion period
- organic production with non-organic production (pursuant to Article 9(7) of Regulation (EU) 2018/848)

In case of activities “preparation”, “distribution”, “storing”, “import”, “export” or “placing on the market” indicate the relevant category of products and whether the operator performs those activities on products that originate from:

- organic production excluding during the conversion period
 - production during the conversion period
 - organic production with non-organic production
- for categories of products (d), (e), (f) and (g):

In case of activity “production”, indicate the relevant category of products and whether the operator performs on its holding:

- production of organic products
- production of in-conversion products
- organic production with non-organic production (pursuant to Article 9(7) of Regulation (EU) 2018/848)

In case of activities “preparation”, “distribution”, “storing”, “import”, “export” or “placing on the market” indicate the relevant category of products and whether the operator performs those activities on products that originate from:

- production of organic products
- production of in-conversion products
- organic production with non-organic production

N.B. Although the title mentions “categories of products”, the box 6 only provides information on the production methods used on the categories of products. It does not give any guarantee that those categories of products can be placed on the market as organic or in-conversion. For example, products from “livestock and unprocessed livestock products” and “unprocessed aquaculture

products” with production method “production during the conversion period” cannot be labelled as “in-conversion” due to Article 10 (4) of Regulation (EU) 2018/848.

Article 10 (4) of Regulation (EU) 2018/848:

“Products produced during the conversion period shall not be marketed as organic products or as in-conversion products. However, the following products produced during the conversion period and in compliance with paragraph 1 may be marketed as in-conversion products:

- a) *plant reproductive material, provided that a conversion period of at least 12 months has been complied with;*
- b) *food products of plant origin and feed products of plant origin, provided that the product contains only one agricultural crop ingredient, and provided that a conversion period of at least 12 months before the harvest has been complied with.*

Box 7: Date, place, name and signature of the authorized person of the competent authority, or, where appropriate, control authority or control body of box 4, certifying that the operator or group of operators indicated in box 3 complies with Regulation (EU) 2018/848.

Box 8: Indicate the dates for the period of validity of the certificate.

Box 9: List of the members of the group of operators (only applies to group of operators): List of the members of the group of operators, which should be kept up to date and in line with the list of the members of groups of operators as established by the ICS manager in accordance with Article 36 of Regulation (EU) 2018/848. Indicate the name of the member and address or other form of member identification, which can be geolocation, unique code or any other reliable identification method.

Part II

This part is optional. Competent authorities or, where appropriate, control authorities or control bodies may fill in on voluntary basis the information in one or more of the boxes of part II of the certificate.

Box 1: Directory of products: for each product the name of the product and/or Combined Nomenclature (CN) code as referred to in Council Regulation (EEC) No 2658/87³ that includes the product concerned. Include only the products that may use the terms referring to organic production in accordance with Article 30 of Regulation (EU) 2018/848. For processed food and processed feed only the products complying with Articles 30(5), point a), and 30(6) of Regulation 2018/848 may be included.

Box 2: Quantity of products: indicate for each product the name of the product and/or Combined Nomenclature (CN) code as referred to in Council Regulation (EEC) No 2658/87¹ that includes the product concerned. Include only the products that may use the terms referring to organic production in accordance with Article 30 of Regulation (EU) 2018/848 and the quantity estimated expressed in appropriate units (kilogram, litre or number of units). For processed food and processed feed, only the products complying with Articles 30(5), point a), and 30(6) of Regulation 2018/848 may be included. The estimation of the quantity is made on the basis of the period of validity of certificate.

Box 3: Information on the land: the surface in hectares used for a product specifying if the product(s) is (are) organic, in conversion or non-organic.

³ Council Regulation (EEC) No 2658/87 of 23 July 1987 on the tariff and statistical nomenclature and on the Common Customs Tariff (OJ L 256, 7.9.1987, p. 1)

- Box 4:** List of premises or units: each of the premises or units of the operator or the group of operators specifying the address or geolocation and a description of the activity as referred to in point 5 of part I of this certificate.
- Box 5:** Description of the activity as referred to in point 5 of part I of the certificate in case of activities carried out by the operator and whether they are performed for their own purpose or as a subcontractor carrying out the activity for another operator, while the subcontractor remains responsible for the activity or activities performed.
- Box 6:** Description of the activity as referred to in point 5 of part I of the certificate in case of subcontracted activities specifying if the operator or group of operators of box 3 of part I remains responsible for the activity subcontracted or has transferred the responsibility to the subcontractor in accordance with Article 34(3) of Regulation (EU) 2018/848.
- Box 7:** Name, address and description of the activity provided by subcontractors to the operator or the group of operators indicated in box 3 of part I, in accordance with Article 34(3) of Regulation (EU) 2018/848, for which the operator or group of operator concerned remains responsible as regards organic production and for which it has not transferred that responsibility to the subcontractor.
- Box 8:** Information on the accreditation of the control body indicated in box 4 of part I including the name of the accreditation body and the website link of the accreditation certificate.
- Box 9:** Any other information considered relevant by the competent authority, or where appropriate control authority or control body that issues the certificate.