



# Changing organic feed regulations – principles or pragmatism?

The latest text proposal from the  
European Commission

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## Article 19



### Feed from own holding and other sources

1. The proposed requirement for **regional** feed for **herbivores** is confirmed as being a minimum of **60%**.
2. **Regional** feed for **monogastrics** is proposed as at least **20%** in order to recognise the difficulty of such provision at present. Where not from the farm itself the proposal is to work “in cooperation with” other “farms or feed business operators”. Reference to feed business may be amended to remove possibility of buying non-regional feed from a local business.



## Article 19

### Feed from own holding and other sources (2)

3 The proposal with regard to beekeeping removes the need to foresee the next nectar or honeydew period in advance.

## Article 22(a)

### Use of certain products and substances in feed

In addition to organic feed material this proposal is to amend those non-organic products that may be used:

- Under Art 43 (**5% protein**) and 47(c) (**catastrophic circumstances**) non-organic feed materials of plant or animal origin, or other feed materials that are listed in Section 2 of Annex V, provided that they are produced or prepared **without chemical solvents**.
- Comments on Annex V and chemical solvent point would be appreciated.

## Article 22

- Use of certain products and substances in feed (2)
- (b) **non-organic spices, herbs, and molasses** may be used up to **1%** of feed ration (calculated annually) and not subject to Art 43 and 47 restrictions, provided that:
- (i) their organic form is **not available**,
  - (ii) they are produced or prepared **without chemical solvents**.
  - Comments on availability of organic alternatives and chemical solvent point would be appreciated.

## Article 22

### Use of certain products and substances in feed (3)

- “(c) organic feed materials of animal origin” – these are referred to due to a specific requirement to do so in the Council Regulation (834/2007).
- (d) feed materials of mineral origin that are listed in Section 1 of Annex V;
  - Comments on mineral origin materials in Annex V would be appreciated.

## Article 22



Use of certain products and substances in feed (4)

(e) Allows use not subject to Art 43 and 47 **restrictions** of products from **sustainable fisheries** (fish, its meal, oil, and protein hydrolysate), provided that:

- (i) they are produced or prepared **without chemical solvents**,
- (ii) their use is restricted to **non-herbivores**, and
- (iii) the use of **fish protein hydrolysate** is restricted solely to **young animals** and **aquaculture animals**;



## Article 22

### Use of certain products and substances in feed (5)

- (f) salt as sea salt, coarse rock salt;
- (g) feed additives listed in Annex VI.
- Comments on Annex VI would be appreciated.



# Article 24

## Veterinary Treatment

- This refers to the proposed amendments to Annex V and Annex VI to create a new list of feed materials of mineral origin and to show vitamins and trace elements that can be added to feed for organic animals.



# Articles 25k and 25m

## Feed materials for organic aquaculture

References are amended to reflect changes to Annex V.



## Article 42

### Use of non-organic animals

- This extends the possibility of using non-organic **pullets** up to the age of **18 weeks** until **31 December 2014** in order to enable sufficient time to discuss proposals for specific rules on organic pullet production.

## Article 43



### Use of non-organic protein feed of plant and animal origin for livestock

- This proposes that there be an allowance to use **5% non-organic protein** inputs up to **31 December 2014** and is intended to reflect concerns raised by industry that there are insufficient organic protein inputs to enable a 100% organic diet (or 99% with the 1% herb, spices and molasses allowance).
- The Commission have made clear that they intend asking the Expert Group for Technical Advice on Organic Production (**EGTOP**) **to advise** on the move to 100% organic diets.



## Article 59

### Scope, use of trade marks and sales descriptions

- This provides for the **logo** and use of the term **organic** in the **sales description**.
- Use of these is limited by the proposed text to products with **95% dry matter** of **organic** plant or animal origin. This could affect feeds with high mineral content.

## Article 60



### Indications on processed feed

- Use of “**organic**” is intended to only be available as an indication on feed comprising at least **95% organic** agricultural ingredients as a percentage of total dry matter.
- Where this is **not the case**, but the feed complies with the relevant requirements of the regulations then “**may be used in organic production in accordance with Regulations (EC) No 834/2007 and (EC) No 889/2008**” is permitted as an indication.



## Entry into force of the regulation

- The regulation is expected to be voted on in February or March and will become effective the day after publication in the Official Journal of the EU.
- However, the amendments regarding the continued availability of **organic pullets** and a **percentage of non-organic protein feed** will **apply** as from **01 January 2012** in order to ensure that operators applying these levels are not in breach of the regulation.