**Poultry Annex**

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|  | **New Organic Regulation** | **Current Organic Regulation  Regs. (EC) No 834/2007 and (EC) No 889/2008** | | | | |
|  | **Article 3 Definitions** | **Article 2 (889) Definitions** | | | | |
| **1** | (6) ‘conversion’ means the transition from non-organic to organic production within a given period, during which the provisions of this Regulation concerning organic production apply; | (h) ‘conversion’ means the transition from non organic to organic farming within a given period of time, during which the provisions concerning the organic production have been applied; | | | | |
| **2** | (7) ‘in-conversion product’ means a product that is produced during the conversion period referred to in Article 10; | (i) ‘in-conversion feedingstuffs’ means feedingstuffs produced during the conversion period to organic production, with the exclusion of those harvested in the 12 months following the beginning of the conversion as referred to in Article 17(1)(a) of Regulation (EC) No 834/2007; | | | | |
| **3** | (8) ‘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; | (e) ‘holding’ means all the production units operated under a single management for the purpose of producing agricultural products; | | | | |
| **4** | (9) ‘production unit’ means all assets of a holding, such as primary production premises, land parcels, pasturages, open air areas, livestock buildings or parts thereof, hives, fish ponds, containment systems and sites for algae or aquaculture animals, rearing units, shore or seabed concessions, premises for the storage of crops, of crop products, of algae products, of animal products, of raw materials and of any other relevant inputs managed as described in point 10, point 11 or point 12; | (f) ‘production unit’ means all assets to be used for a production sector such as production premises, land parcels, pasturages, open air areas, livestock buildings, fish ponds, containment systems for seaweed or aquaculture animals, shore or seabed concessions, the premises for the storage of crops, crop products, seaweed products, animal products, raw materials and any other input relevant for this specific production sector; | | | | |
| **5** | (10) ‘organic production unit’ means a production unit, excluding during the conversion period referred to in Article 10, which is managed in compliance with the requirements applicable to organic production; |  | | | | |
| **6** | (11) ‘in-conversion production unit’ means a production unit, during the conversion period referred to in Article 10, which is managed in compliance with the requirements applicable to organic production; it may be constituted of land parcels or other assets for which the conversion period referred to in Article 10 starts at different moments in time; |  | | | | |
| **7** | (12) ‘non-organic production unit’ means a production unit which is not managed in compliance with the requirements applicable to organic production; |  | | | | |
| **8** | (28) ‘veranda’ means an additional, roofed, uninsulated, outdoor part of a building intended for poultry, the longest side usually being equipped with wire fencing or netting, with an outdoor climate, natural and, where necessary, artificial illumination, and a littered floor; |  | | | | |
| **9** | (29) ‘pullets’ means young animals of the Gallus gallus species that are of an age of less than 18 weeks; |  | | | | |
| **10** | (30) ‘laying hens’ means animals of the Gallus gallus species that are intended for the production of eggs for consumption and that are of an age of at least 18 weeks; |  | | | | |
| **11** | (31) ‘usable area’ means usable area as defined in point (d) of Article 2(2) of Council Directive 1999/74/EC; |  | | | | |
| **12** | (42) ‘veterinary treatment’ means all courses of a curative or preventive treatment against an occurrence of a specific disease; | (h) ‘veterinary treatment’ means all courses of a curative or preventive treatment against one occurrence of a specific disease; | | | | |
| **13** | (43) ‘veterinary medicinal product’ means a veterinary medicinal product as defined in point 2 of Article 1 of Directive 2001/82/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council; |  | | | | |
| **14** | (69) ‘poultry house’ means a fixed or mobile building for accommodating flocks of poultry, which includes all surfaces covered by roofs, including a veranda; the house may be subdivided into separate compartments, each accommodating a single flock. |  | | | | |
| **15** | (75) ‘pen’ means an enclosure that includes a part in which animals are provided with protection from adverse weather conditions. |  | | | | |
| **16** | **Article 5 General principles**  Organic production is a sustainable management system that is based on the following general principles:  (f) the appropriate design and management of biological processes, based on ecological systems and using natural resources which are internal to the management system, using methods that:  (ii) practice soil-related crop cultivation and land-related livestock production […]  (j) the observance of a high level of animal welfare respecting species-specific needs. | **Article 4 Overall principles**  Organic production shall be based on the following principles:  (a) the appropriate design and management of biological processes based on ecological systems using natural resources which are internal to the system by methods that:  (ii) practice land-related crop cultivation and livestock production or practice aquaculture which complies with the principle of sustainable exploitation of fisheries; | | | | |
| **17** | **Article 6 Specific principles applicable to agricultural activities and aquaculture**  As regards agricultural activities and aquaculture, organic production shall, in particular, be based on the following specific principles:  (j) in the choosing of animal breeds, having regard to a high degree of genetic diversity, the capacity of animals to adapt to local conditions, their breeding value, their longevity, their vitality and their resistance to disease or health problems;  (k) the practice of site-adapted and land-related livestock production;  (l) the application of animal husbandry practices which enhance the immune system and strengthen the natural defence against diseases, including regular exercise and access to open air areas and pastures;  (m) the feeding of livestock with organic feed composed of agricultural ingredients resulting from organic production and of natural non-agricultural substances;  (n) the production of organic livestock products derived from animals that have been raised on organic holdings throughout their lives since birth or hatching; | **Article 5 Specific principles applicable to farming**  In addition to the overall principles set out in Article 4, organic farming shall be based on the following specific principles:  (e) the maintenance of animal health by encouraging the natural immunological defence of the animal, as well as the selection of appropriate breeds and husbandry practices;  (g) the practice of site-adapted and land-related livestock production;  (h) the observance of a high level of animal welfare respecting species-specific needs;  (i) the production of products of organic livestock from animals that have been raised on organic holdings since birth or hatching and throughout their life;  (j) the choice of breeds having regard to the capacity of animals to adapt to local conditions, their vitality and their resistance to disease or health problems;  (k) the feeding of livestock with organic feed composed of agricultural ingredients from organic farming and of natural non-agricultural substances;  (l) the application of animal husbandry practices, which enhance the immune system and strengthen the natural defence against diseases, in particular including regular exercise and access to open air areas and pastureland where appropriate; | | | | |
| **18** | **Article 10**  **Conversion**  1. Farmers and operators that produce algae or aquaculture animals shall comply with a conversion period. During the whole conversion period they shall apply all rules on organic production laid down in this Regulation, in particular the applicable rules on conversion set out in this Article and in Annex II.  2. The conversion period shall start at the earliest when the farmer or the operator that produces algae or aquaculture animals has notified the activity to the competent authorities, in accordance with Article 34(1), in the Member State in which the activity is carried out and in which that farmer or operator’s holding is subject to the control system.  4. 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:  (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. | **Article 17  Conversion**  1.  The following rules shall apply to a farm on which organic production is started:  (a) the conversion period shall start at the earliest when the operator has notified his activity to the competent authorities and subjected his holding to the control system in accordance with Article 28(1);  (b) during the conversion period all rules established by this Regulation shall apply;  (c) conversion periods specific to the type of crop or animal production shall be defined;  (d) on a holding or unit partly under organic production and partly in conversion to organic production, the operator shall keep the organically produced and in-conversion products separate and the animals separate or readily separable and keep adequate records to show the separation;  (e) in order to determine the conversion period referred to above, a period immediately preceding the date of the start of the conversion period, may be taken into account, in so far as certain conditions concur;  (f) animals and animal products produced during the conversion period referred to in subparagraph (c) shall not be marketed with the indications referred to in Articles 23 and 24 used in the labelling and advertising of products. | | | | |
| **19** | **Article 14 Livestock production rules**  1. Livestock operators shall comply, in particular, with the detailed production rules set out in Part II of Annex II and in any implementing acts referred to in paragraph 3 of this Article.  2. The Commission is empowered to adopt **delegated acts** in accordance with Article 54 amending:  (a) points 1.3.4.2, 1.3.4.4.2 and 1.3.4.4.3 of Part II of Annex II by reducing the percentages as regards the origin of animals, once sufficient availability on the Union market of organic animals has been established;  (b) point 1.6.6 of Part II of Annex II as regards the limit on organic nitrogen linked to the total stocking density;  (c) point 1.9.6.2(b) of Part II of Annex II as regards the feeding of bee colonies;  (d) points 1.9.6.3(b) and (e) of Part II of Annex II as regards the acceptable treatments for the disinfection of apiaries and the methods and treatments to fight against Varroa destructor;  (e) Part II of Annex II by adding detailed rules on livestock production for species other than species regulated in that Part on … [the date of entry into force of this Regulation], or by amending those added rules, as regards:  (i) derogations as regards the origin of animals;  (ii) nutrition;  (iii) housing and husbandry practices;  (iv) health care;  (v) animal welfare.  3. The Commission shall, where appropriate, adopt **implementing acts** regarding Part II of Annex II providing rules on:  (a) the minimum period to be complied with for feeding of suckling animals with maternal milk, referred to in point 1.4.1(g);  (b) the stocking density and the minimum surface for indoor and outdoor areas that are to be complied with for specific livestock species to ensure that the developmental, physiological and ethological needs of animals are met in accordance with points 1.6.3, 1.6.4 and 1.7.2,  (c) the characteristics of and technical requirements for the minimum surface for indoor and outdoor areas;  (d) the characteristics of and technical requirements for buildings and pens for all livestock species other than bees, to ensure that the developmental, physiological and ethological needs of animals are met in accordance with point 1.7.2;  (e) requirements for vegetation and the characteristics of protected facilities and open air areas.  Those implementing acts shall be adopted in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 55(2). |  | | | | |
| **20** | **Article 26 Collection of data concerning the availability on the market of organic and in-conversion plant reproductive material, organic animals and organic aquaculture juveniles**  3. Member States may also set up systems which allow operators that market breeds and strains adapted to organic production in accordance with point 1.3.3 of Part II of Annex II or organic pullets, and that are able to supply those animals in sufficient quantities and within a reasonable period to make public the relevant information on a voluntary basis, free of charge, together with names and contact details.  4. Operators that opt to include information on plant reproductive material, animals or aquaculture juveniles in the systems referred to in paragraphs 2 and 3 shall ensure that the information is updated regularly, and shall ensure that the information is withdrawn from the lists once the plant reproductive material, animals or aquaculture juveniles are no longer available.  5. For the purpose of paragraphs 1, 2 and 3, Member States may continue to use relevant information systems that are already in existence.  6. The Commission shall make public the link to each of the national databases or systems on a dedicated website of the Commission, in order to allow users to have access to such databases or systems throughout the Union.  7. The Commission may adopt implementing acts providing:  (a) technical details for establishing and maintaining the databases referred to in paragraph 1 and the systems referred to in paragraph 2;  (b) specifications as regards the collection of information referred to in paragraph 1 and 2;  (c) specifications as regards the arrangements for participation in the databases referred to in paragraph 1 and in the systems referred to in paragraphs 2 and 3; and  (d) details as regards the information to be provided by Member States in accordance with Article 53(6).  Those implementing acts shall be adopted in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 55(2). |  | | | | |
| **21** | **Article 53 Derogations, authorisations and report**  1. The derogations from the use of organic plant reproductive material and from the use of organic animals provided in points 1.8.5 of Part I of Annex II and points 1.3.4.3 and 1.3.4.4 of Part II of Annex II, with the exception of point 1.3.4.4.2 of Part II of Annex II, shall expire on 31 December 2035.  2. From 1 January 2028, based on the conclusions as regards availability of organic plant reproductive material and animals presented in the report provided for in paragraph 7 of this Article, the Commission shall be empowered to adopt delegated acts in accordance with Article 54 amending this Regulation by:  (a) ending the derogations referred to in point 1.8.5 of Part I of Annex II and in points 1.3.4.3 and 1.3.4.4 of Part II of Annex II, with the exception of point 1.3.4.4.2 of Part II of Annex II, at an earlier date than 31 December 2035 or extending them beyond that date; or  (b) ending the derogation referred to in point 1.3.4.4.2 of Part II of Annex II.  3. From 1 January 2026, the Commission shall be empowered to adopt delegated acts in accordance with Article 54 amending point (b) of Article 26(2) to extend the scope of the information system referred to in Article 26(2) to pullets and point 1.3.4.3 of Part II of Annex II to base the derogations concerning pullets on the data collected in accordance with this system.  4. From 1 January 2025, the Commission shall be empowered to adopt delegated acts in accordance with Article 54, based on the information as regards availability of organic protein feed for poultry and porcine animals made available by Member States in accordance with paragraph 6 of this Article or presented in the report referred to in paragraph 7 of this Article, ending the authorisations to use non-organic protein feed in the nutrition of poultry and porcine animals referred to in points 1.9.3.1(c) and 1.9.4.2(c) of Part II of Annex II at an earlier date than 31 December 2025 or extending them beyond that date.  5. When extending the derogations or authorisations referred to in paragraphs 2, 3 and 4, the Commission shall do so only for as long as it has information, in particular information provided by Member States in accordance with paragraph 6, that confirms the unavailability on the Union market of the plant reproductive material, animal or feed concerned.  6. By 30 June of each year, Member States shall make available to the Commission and to the other Member States:  (a) information provided in the database referred to in Article 26(1) and in the systems referred to in Article 26(2) and, if relevant, in the systems referred to in Article 26(3);  (b) information on the derogations granted in accordance with point 1.8.5 of Part I of Annex II and points 1.3.4.3 and 1.3.4.4 of Part II of Annex II; and  (c) information on the availability on the Union market of organic protein feed for poultry and porcine animals and on the authorisations granted in accordance with points 1.9.3.1(c) and 1.9.4.2(c) of Part II of Annex II.  7. By 31 December 2025, the Commission shall present a report to the European Parliament and the Council on the availability on the Union market of and, if relevant, on the causes of limited access to:  (a) organic plant reproductive material,  (b) organic animals covered by the derogations referred to in points 1.3.4.3 and 1.3.4.4 of Part II of Annex II,  (c) organic protein feed intended for the nutrition of poultry and porcine animals subject to the authorisations referred to in points 1.9.3.1(c) and 1.9.4.2(c) of Part II of Annex II.  In drawing up that report, the Commission shall take into account, in particular, the data collected in accordance with Article 26 and the information relating to the derogations and the authorisations referred to in paragraph 6 of this Article***.*** |  | | | | |
| **22** | **Part II: Livestock production rules**  In addition to the production rules laid down in Articles 9, 10, 11 and 14, the rules laid down in this Part shall apply to organic livestock production.  1. General requirements  1.1 Except in the case of beekeeping, landless livestock production, where the farmer intending to produce organic livestock does not manage agricultural land and has not established a written cooperation agreement with a farmer as regards the use of organic production units or in-conversion production units for that livestock, shall be prohibited. | *Article 16*  **Prohibition of landless livestock production**  Landless livestock production, by which the operator of the livestock does not manage agricultural land and/or has not established a written cooperation agreement with another operator according to Article 3(3), is prohibited. | | | | |
| **23** | **1.2 Conversion**  1.2.1 In the case of simultaneous start of conversion of the production unit, including pasturage or any land used for animal feed, and of the animals existing on this production unit at the beginning of the conversion period of this production unit as referred to in points 1.7.1 and 1.7.5(b) of Part I, animals and animal products may be considered organic at the end of the conversion period of the production unit, even if the conversion period laid down in point 1.2.2 of this Part for the type of animal concerned is longer than the conversion period for the production unit.  By derogation from point 1.4.3.1, in the case of such simultaneous conversion and during the conversion period of the production unit, animals present in this production unit since the beginning of the conversion period may be fed with in-conversion feed produced on the in-conversion production unit during the first year of conversion and/or with feed in accordance with point 1.4.3.1 and/or with organic feed.  Non-organic animals may be introduced into an in-conversion production unit after the start of the conversion period in accordance with point 1.3.4.  1.2.2 Conversion periods specific to the type of animal production are set out as follows:  (c) 10 weeks for poultry for meat production, except for Peking ducks, brought in before they are three days old;  (d) seven weeks for Peking ducks brought in before they are three days old;  (e) six weeks in the case of poultry for egg production brought in before they are three days old;  **Annex II – Part I**  1.7.5 In the case of land associated with organic livestock production:  (a) the conversion rules shall apply to the whole area of the production unit on which animal feed is produced;  (b) notwithstanding point (a), the conversion period may be reduced to one year for pasturages and open air areas used by non-herbivore species. | Article 37 **Specific conversion rules for land associated with organic livestock production**  1.  The conversion rules as referred to in Article 36 of this Regulation shall apply to the whole area of the production unit on which animal feed is produced.  2.  Notwithstanding the provisions in paragraph 1, the conversion period may be reduced to one year for pasturages and open air areas used by non-herbivore species. This period may be reduced to six months where the land concerned has not during the last year, received treatments with products not authorised for organic production.  **Article 38 Livestock and livestock products**  1.  Where non-organic livestock has been brought onto a holding in accordance with Article 14(1)(a)(ii) of Regulation (EC) No 834/2007 and Article 9 and/or Article 42 of this Regulation and if livestock products are to be sold as organic products, the production rules as referred to in Articles 9, 10, 11 and 14 of Regulation (EC) No 834/2007 and in Chapter 2 of Title II and where applicable in Article 42 of this Regulation must have been applied for at least:  (c) 10 weeks for poultry for meat production, brought in before they are three days old;  (d) six weeks in the case of poultry for egg production.  2.  Where non-organic animals exist on a holding at the beginning of the conversion period in accordance with Article 14(1)(a)(iii) of Regulation (EC) No 834/2007 their products may be deemed organic if there is simultaneous conversion of the complete production unit, including livestock, pasturage and/or any land used for animal feed. The total combined conversion period for both existing animals and their offspring, pasturage and/or any land used for animal feed, may be reduced to 24 months, if the animals are mainly fed with products from the production unit. | | | | |
| **24** | **1.3 Origin of animals**  1.3.1 Without prejudice to the rules on conversion, organic livestock shall be born or hatched and raised on organic production units.  1.3.2 With regard to the breeding of organic animals:  (a) reproduction shall use natural methods; however, artificial insemination shall be allowed;  (b) reproduction shall not be induced or impeded by treatment with hormones or other substances with a similar effect, except as a form of veterinary therapeutic treatment in the case of an individual animal;  (c) other forms of artificial reproduction, such as cloning and embryo transfer, shall not be used;  (d) the choice of breeds shall be appropriate to the principles of organic production, shall ensure a high standard of animal welfare and shall contribute to the prevention of any suffering and to avoiding the need for the mutilation of animals.  1.3.3 When choosing breeds or strains, operators shall consider giving preference to breeds or strains with a high degree of genetic diversity, the capacity of animals to adapt to local conditions, their breeding value, their longevity, their vitality and their resistance to disease or health problems, all without impairment of their welfare. In addition, breeds or strains of animals shall be selected to avoid specific diseases or health problems associated with some breeds or strains used in intensive production, such as porcine stress syndrome, possibly leading to pale-soft-exudative (PSE) meat, sudden death, spontaneous abortion and difficult births requiring caesarean operations. Preference shall be given to indigenous breeds and strains.  To choose the breeds and strains in accordance with the first subparagraph, operators shall use the information available in the systems referred to in Article 26(3). | **Article 14 (834) Livestock production rules**  1. In addition to the general farm production rules laid down in Article 11, the following rules shall apply to livestock production:  (a) with regard to the origin of the animals:  (i) organic livestock shall be born and raised on organic holdings;  (ii) for breeding purposes, non-organically raised animals may be brought onto a holding under specific conditions. Such animals and their products may be deemed organic after compliance with the conversion period referred to in Article 17(1)(c);  (iii) animals existing on the holding at the beginning of the conversion period and their products may be deemed organic after compliance with the conversion period referred to in Article 17(1)(c);  (c) with regard to breeding:  (i) reproduction shall use natural methods. Artificial insemination is however allowed;  (ii) reproduction shall not be induced by treatment with hormones or similar substances, unless as a form of veterinary therapeutic treatment in case of an individual animal;  (iii) other forms of artificial reproduction, such as cloning and embryo transfer, shall not be used;  (iv) appropriate breeds shall be chosen. The choice of breeds shall also contribute to the prevention of any suffering and to avoiding the need for the mutilation of animals;  **Article 8 (889) Origin of organic animals**  1. In the choice of breeds or strains, account shall be taken of the capacity of animals to adapt to local conditions, their vitality and their resistance to disease. In addition, breeds or strains of animals shall be selected to avoid specific diseases or health problems associated with some breeds or strains used in intensive production, such as porcine stress syndrome, PSE Syndrome (pale-soft-exudative), sudden death, spontaneous abortion and difficult births requiring caesarean operations. Preference is to be given to indigenous breeds and strains. | | | | |
| **25** | **1.3.4 Use of non-organic animals**  1.3.4.1 By way of derogation from point 1.3.1, for breeding purposes, non-organically raised animals may be brought to an organic production unit when breeds are in danger of being lost to farming as referred to in point (b) of Article 28(10) of Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013 and acts adopted on the basis thereof. In such case, the animals of those breeds need not necessarily be nulliparous.  1.3.4.3 By way of derogation from point 1.3.1, where a flock is constituted for the first time, or is renewed or reconstituted, and where the qualitative and quantitative needs of farmers cannot be met, the competent authority may decide that non-organically reared poultry may be brought into an organic poultry production unit, provided that the pullets for the production of eggs and poultry for meat production are less than three days old. Products derived from them may only be considered as organic if the conversion period specified in point 1.2 of Part II of this Annex has been complied with.  Prior to requesting any such derogation, the farmer shall consult the data collected in the system referred to in point (b) of Article 26(2) in order to verify whether his or her request is justified.  For operators in third countries, control authorities and control bodies recognised in accordance with Article 46(1) may authorise the introduction of non-organic animals onto an organic production unit where organic animals are not available in sufficient quality or quantity in the territory of the country where the operator is located. | **Article 9 (889) Origin of non-organic animals**  [It applies only to mammals]  **Article 42 (889) Use of non-organic animals**  Where the conditions laid down in Article 22(2)(b) of Regulation (EC) No 834/2007 apply, and with prior authorisation of the competent authority,  (a) when a flock is constituted for the first time, renewed or reconstituted and organically reared poultry are not available in sufficient numbers, non-organically reared poultry may be brought into an organic poultry production unit, provided that the pullets for the production of eggs and poultry for meat production are less than three days old;  (b) non-organically reared pullets for egg production of not more than 18 weeks may be brought into an organic livestock unit until 31 December 2018, when organically reared pullets are not available and provided that the relevant provisions laid down in Section 3 and 4 of Chapter 2 are complied with. | | | | |
| **26** | **1.4 Nutrition**  1.4.1 General nutrition requirements  With regard to nutrition, the following rules shall apply:  (a) feed for livestock shall be obtained primarily from the agricultural holding where the animals are kept or shall be obtained from organic or in-conversion production units belonging to other holdings in the same region;  (b) livestock shall be fed with organic or in-conversion feed that meets the animal's nutritional requirements at the various stages of its development; restricted feeding shall not be permitted in livestock production unless justified for veterinary reasons;  (c) livestock shall not be kept in conditions or on a diet which may encourage anaemia;  (d) fattening practices shall always respect the normal nutritional patterns for each species and the animals' welfare at each stage of the rearing process; force-feeding is forbidden;  (e) with the exception of bees, porcine animals and poultry, livestock shall have permanent access to pasture whenever conditions allow or shall have permanent access to roughage;  (f) growth promoters and synthetic amino-acids shall not be used;  (g) suckling animals shall preferably be fed on maternal milk for a minimum period laid down by the Commission in accordance with point (a) of Article 14(3); milk replacers containing chemically synthesised components or components of plant origin shall not be used during that period;  (h) feed materials of plant, algae, animal or yeast origin shall be organic;  (i) non-organic feed materials of plant, algae, animal or yeast origin, feed materials of microbial or of mineral origin, feed additives and processing aids may be used only if they have been authorised pursuant to Article 24 for use in organic production. | **Article 14 (834) Livestock production rules**  1. In addition to the general farm production rules laid down in Article 11, the following rules shall apply to livestock production:  (d) with regard to feed:  (i) primarily obtaining feed for livestock from the holding where the animals are kept or from other organic holdings in the same region;  (ii) livestock shall be fed with organic feed that meets the animal's nutritional requirements at the various stages of its development. A part of the ration may contain feed from holdings which are in conversion to organic farming;  (iii) with the exception of bees, livestock shall have permanent access to pasture or roughage;  (iv) non organic feed materials from plant origin, feed materials from animal and mineral origin, feed additives, certain products used in animal nutrition and processing aids shall be used only if they have been authorised for use in organic production under Article 16;  (v) growth promoters and synthetic amino-acids shall not be used;  (vi) suckling mammals shall be fed with natural, preferably maternal, milk;  **Article 20 (889) Feed meeting animals' nutritional requirements**  1. All young mammals shall be fed on maternal milk in preference to natural milk, for a minimum period of three months for bovines including bubalus and bison species and equidae, 45 days for sheep and goats and 40 days for pigs.  2. Rearing systems for herbivores are to be based on maximum use of grazing pasturage according to the availability of pastures in the different periods of the year. At least 60 % of the dry matter in daily rations of herbivores shall consist of roughage, fresh or dried fodder, or silage. A reduction to 50 % for animals in dairy production for a maximum period of three months in early lactation is allowed.  3. Roughage, fresh or dried fodder, or silage shall be added to the daily ration for pigs and poultry.  4. The keeping of livestock in conditions, or on a diet, which may encourage anaemia, is prohibited.  5. Fattening practices shall be reversible at any stage of the rearing process. Force-feeding is forbidden. | | | | |
| **27** | **1.4.3 In-conversion feed**  1.4.3.1 For agricultural holdings that produce organic livestock:  (a) up to 25 % on average of the feed formula of rations may comprise in-conversion feed from the second year of conversion. This percentage may be increased to 100 % if this in-conversion feed comes from the holding where the livestock is kept; and  (b) up to 20 % of the total average amount of feed fed to livestock may originate from the grazing or harvesting of permanent pastures, perennial forage parcels or protein crops sown under organic management on lands in their first year of conversion, provided that those lands are part of the holding itself.  When both types of in-conversion feed referred to in points (a) and (b) are being used for feeding, the total combined percentage of such feed shall not exceed the percentage fixed in point (a).  1.4.3.2 The figures in point 1.4.3.1 shall be calculated annually as a percentage of the dry matter of feed of plant origin. | **Article 21 (889) In-conversion feed**  1.  Up to 30 % of the feed formula of rations on average may comprise in-conversion feedingstuffs. When the in-conversion feedingstuffs come from a unit of the holding itself, this percentage may be increased to 100 %.  2.  Up to 20 % of the total average amount of feedingstuffs fed to livestock may originate from the grazing or harvesting of permanent pastures, perennial forage parcels or protein crops, sown under organic management on lands in their first year of conversion, provided that they are part of the holding itself and have not been part of an organic production unit of that holding in the last five years. When both in-conversion feedingstuffs and feedingstuffs from parcels in their first year of conversion are being used, the total combined percentage of such feedingstuffs shall not exceed the maximum percentages fixed in paragraph 1.  3.  The figures in paragraph 1 and 2 shall be calculated annually as a percentage of the dry matter of feedingstuffs of plant origin. | | | | |
| **28** | **1.5 Health care**  1.5.1 Disease prevention  1.5.1.1 Disease prevention shall be based on breed and strain selection, husbandry management practices, high-quality feed, exercise, appropriate stocking density and adequate and appropriate housing maintained in hygienic conditions.  1.5.1.2 Immunological veterinary medicinal products may be used.  1.5.1.3 Chemically synthesised allopathic veterinary medicinal products, including antibiotics and boluses of synthesised allopathic chemical molecules, shall not be used for preventive treatment.  1.5.1.4 Substances to promote growth or production (including antibiotics, coccidiostatics and other artificial aids for growth promotion purposes) and hormones and similar substances for the purpose of controlling reproduction or for other purposes (e.g. induction or synchronisation of oestrus) shall not be used.  1.5.1.5 Where livestock is obtained from non-organic production units, special measures such as screening tests or quarantine periods shall apply, depending on local circumstances.  1.5.1.6 Only the products for cleaning and disinfection in livestock buildings and installations authorised pursuant to Article 24 for use in organic production shall be used for that purpose.  1.5.1.7 Housing, pens, equipment and utensils shall be properly cleaned and disinfected to prevent cross-infection and the build-up of disease carrying organisms. Faeces, urine and uneaten or spilt feed shall be removed as often as necessary to minimise smell and to avoid attracting insects or rodents. Rodenticides, to be used only in traps, and products and substances authorised pursuant to Articles 9 and 24 for use in organic production may be used for the elimination of insects and other pests in buildings and other installations where livestock are kept.  1.5.2 Veterinary treatment  1.5.2.1 Where animals become sick or injured despite preventive measures to ensure animal health, they shall be treated immediately.  1.5.2.2 Disease shall be treated immediately to avoid suffering of the animal. Chemically synthesised allopathic veterinary medicinal products, including antibiotics, may be used where necessary, under strict conditions and under the responsibility of a veterinarian, when the use of phytotherapeutic, homeopathic and other products is inappropriate. In particular, restrictions with respect to courses of treatment and withdrawal periods shall be defined.  1.5.2.3 Feed materials of mineral origin authorised pursuant to Article 24 for use in organic production, nutritional additives authorised pursuant to Article 24 for use in organic production, and phytotherapeutic and homeopathic products, shall be used in preference to treatment with chemically synthesised allopathic veterinary medicinal products, including antibiotics, provided that their therapeutic effect is effective for the species of animal and for the condition for which the treatment is intended.  1.5.2.4 With the exception of vaccinations, treatments for parasites and compulsory eradication schemes, where an animal or a group of animals receives more than three courses of treatments with chemically synthesised allopathic veterinary medicinal products, including antibiotics, within 12 months, or more than one course of treatment if their productive lifecycle is less than one year, neither the livestock concerned nor produce derived from such livestock shall be sold as organic products, and the livestock shall be subject to the conversion periods referred to in point 1.2.  1.5.2.5 The withdrawal period between the last administration to an animal of a chemically synthesised allopathic veterinary medicinal product, including of an antibiotic, under normal conditions of use, and the production of organically produced foodstuffs from that animal shall be twice the withdrawal period referred to in Article 11 of Directive 2001/82/EC, and shall be at least 48 hours.  1.5.2.6 Treatments related to the protection of human and animal health imposed on the basis of Union legislation shall be allowed. | **Article 14 (834) Livestock production rules**  1. In addition to the general farm production rules laid down in Article 11, the following rules shall apply to livestock production:  (e) with regard to disease prevention and veterinary treatment:  (i) disease prevention shall be based on breed and strain selection, husbandry management practices, high quality feed and exercise, appropriate stocking density and adequate and appropriate housing maintained in hygienic conditions;  (ii) disease shall be treated immediately to avoid suffering to the animal; chemically synthesised allopathic veterinary medicinal products including antibiotics may be used where necessary and under strict conditions, when the use of phytotherapeutic, homeopathic and other products is inappropriate. In particular restrictions with respect to courses of treatment and withdrawal periods shall be defined;  (iii) the use of immunological veterinary medicines is allowed;  (iv) treatments related to the protection of human and animal health imposed on the basis of Community legislation shall be allowed;  (f) with regard to cleaning and disinfection, products for cleaning and disinfection in livestock buildings and installations, shall be used only if they have been authorised for use in organic production under Article 16.  **Article 23 Disease prevention**  1.  The use of chemically synthesised allopathic veterinary medicinal products or antibiotics for preventive treatment is prohibited, without prejudice to Article 24(3).  2.  The use of substances to promote growth or production (including antibiotics, coccidiostatics and other artificial aids for growth promotion purposes) and the use of hormones or similar substances to control reproduction or for other purposes (e.g. induction or synchronisation of oestrus), is prohibited.  3.  Where livestock is obtained from non-organic units, special measures such as screening tests or quarantine periods may apply, depending on local circumstances.  4.  Housing, pens, equipment and utensils shall be properly cleaned and disinfected to prevent cross-infection and the build-up of disease carrying organisms. Faeces, urine and uneaten or spilt feed shall be removed as often as necessary to minimise smell and to avoid attracting insects or rodents.  For the purpose of Article 14(1)(f) of Regulation (EC) No 834/2007, only products listed in Annex VII may be used for cleaning and disinfection of livestock buildings installations and utensils. Rodenticides (to be used only in traps), and the products listed in Annex II, can be used for the elimination of insects and other pests in buildings and other installations where livestock is kept.  5.  Buildings shall be emptied of livestock between each batch of poultry reared. The buildings and fittings shall be cleaned and disinfected during this time. In addition, when the rearing of each batch of poultry has been completed, runs shall be left empty to allow vegetation to grow back. Member States shall establish the period for which runs must be empty. The operator shall keep documentary evidence of the application of this period. These requirements shall not apply where poultry is not reared in batches, is not kept in runs and is free to roam, throughout the day.  *Article 24*  **Veterinary treatment**  1.  Where despite preventive measures to ensure animal health as laid down in Article 14(1)(e)(i) of Regulation (EC) No 834/2007 animals become sick or injured they shall be treated immediately, if necessary in isolation and in suitable housing.  2.  Phytotherapeutic and homeopathic products, trace elements and products listed in Section 1 of Annex V and in Section 3 of Annex VI shall be used in preference to chemically-synthesised allopathic veterinary treatment or antibiotics, provided that their therapeutic effect is effective for the species of animal, and the condition for which the treatment is intended.  3.  If the use of measures referred to in paragraph 1 and 2 is not effective in combating illness or injury, and if treatment is essential to avoid suffering or distress of the animal, chemically-synthesised allopathic veterinary medicinal products or antibiotics may be used under the responsibility of a veterinarian.  4.  With the exception of vaccinations, treatments for parasites and compulsory eradication schemes where an animal or group of animals receive more than three courses of treatments with chemically-synthesised allopathic veterinary medicinal products or antibiotics within 12 months, or more than one course of treatment if their productive lifecycle is less than one year, the livestock concerned, or produce derived from them, may not be sold as organic products, and the livestock shall undergo the conversion periods laid down in Article 38(1).  Records of documented evidence of the occurrence of such circumstances shall be kept for the control body or control authority.  5.  The withdrawal period between the last administration of an allopathic veterinary medicinal product to an animal under normal conditions of use, and the production of organically produced foodstuffs from such animals, is to be twice the legal withdrawal period as referred to in Article 11 of Directive 2001/82/EC or, in a case in which this period is not specified, 48 hours. | | | | |
| **29** | **1.6 Housing and husbandry practices**  1.6.1 Insulation, heating and ventilation of the building shall ensure that air circulation, dust level, temperature, relative air humidity and gas concentration are kept within limits which ensure the well-being of the animals. The building shall permit plentiful natural ventilation and light to enter.  1.6.2 Housing for livestock shall not be mandatory in areas with appropriate climatic conditions enabling animals to live outdoors. In such cases, animals shall have access to shelters or shady areas to protect them from adverse weather conditions.  1.6.3 The stocking density in buildings shall provide for the comfort, well-being and species-specific needs of the animals, and shall depend in particular on the species, the breed and the age of the animals. It shall also take account of the behavioural needs of the animals, which depend in particular on the size of the group and the animals' sex. The density shall ensure the animals' welfare by providing them with sufficient space to stand naturally, to move, to lie down easily, to turn round, to groom themselves, to assume all natural postures and to make all natural movements, such as stretching and wing flapping.  1.6.4 The minimum surface for indoor and outdoor areas, and the technical details relating to housing, laid down in the implementing acts referred to in Article 14(3), shall be complied with.  1.6.5 Open air areas may be partially covered. Verandas shall not be considered as open air areas.  1.6.6 The total stocking density shall not exceed the limit of 170 kg of organic nitrogen per year and hectare of agricultural area.  1.6.7 To determine the appropriate density of livestock referred to in point 1.6.6, the competent authority shall set out the livestock units equivalent to the limit referred to in point 1.6.6, following the figures laid down in each of the specific requirements per type of animal production.  1.6.8 Cages, boxes and flat decks to raise livestock shall not be used for any livestock species.  1.6.9 When livestock is treated individually for veterinary reasons, it shall be kept in spaces that have a solid floor and shall be provided with straw or appropriate bedding. The animal shall be able to turn around easily and to lie down comfortably at full length.  1.6.10 Organic livestock may not be reared in a pen on very wet or marshy soil. | **Article 14 (834) Livestock production rules**  1. In addition to the general farm production rules laid down in Article 11, the following rules shall apply to livestock production:  (b) with regard to husbandry practices and housing conditions:  (i) personnel keeping animals shall possess the necessary basic knowledge and skills as regards the health and the welfare needs of the animals;  (ii) husbandry practices, including stocking densities, and housing conditions shall ensure that the developmental, physiological and ethological needs of animals are met;  (iii) the livestock shall have permanent access to open air areas, preferably pasture, whenever weather conditions and the state of the ground allow this unless restrictions and obligations related to the protection of human and animal health are imposed on the basis of Community legislation;  (iv) the number of livestock shall be limited with a view to minimising overgrazing, poaching of soil, erosion, or pollution caused by animals or by the spreading of their manure;  (v) organic livestock shall be kept separate from other livestock. However, grazing of common land by organic animals and of organic land by non-organic animals is permitted under certain restrictive conditions;  (vi) tethering or isolation of livestock shall be prohibited, unless for individual animals for a limited period of time, and in so far as this is justified for safety, welfare or veterinary reasons;  (vii) duration of transport of livestock shall be minimised;  (viii) any suffering, including mutilation, shall be kept to a minimum during the entire life of the animal, including at the time of slaughter;  (ix) apiaries shall be placed in areas which ensure nectar and pollen sources consisting essentially of organically produced crops or, as appropriate, of spontaneous vegetation or non-organically managed forests or crops that are only treated with low environmental impact methods. Apiaries shall be kept at sufficient distance from sources that may lead to the contamination of beekeeping products or to the poor health of the bees;  (x) hives and materials used in beekeeping shall be mainly made of natural materials;  (xi) the destruction of bees in the combs as a method associated with the harvesting of beekeeping products is prohibited;  **Article 10 Rules pertaining to housing conditions**  1. Insulation, heating and ventilation of the building shall ensure that air circulation, dust level, temperature, relative air humidity and gas concentration, are kept within limits which are not harmful to the animals. The building shall permit plentiful natural ventilation and light to enter.  2. Housing for livestock shall not be mandatory in areas with appropriate climatic conditions to enable animals to live outdoors.  3. The stocking density in buildings shall provide for the comfort, the well being and the species-specific needs of the animals which, in particular, shall depend on the species, the breed and the age of the animals. It shall also take account of the behavioural needs of the animals, which depend in particular on the size of the group and the animals' sex. The density shall ensure the animals' welfare by providing them with sufficient space to stand naturally, lie down easily, turn round, groom themselves, assume all natural postures and make all natural movements such as stretching and wing flapping.  4. The minimum surface for indoor and outdoor areas, and other characteristics of housing for different species and categories of animals, are laid down in Annex III.  *Article 14*  **Access to open air areas**  1.  Open air areas may be partially covered.  2.  In accordance with Article 14(1)(b)(iii) of Regulation (EC) No 834/2007 herbivores shall have access to pasturage for grazing whenever conditions allow.  3.  In cases where herbivores have access to pasturage during the grazing period and where the winter-housing system gives freedom of movement to the animals, the obligation to provide open air areas during the winter months may be waived.  4.  Notwithstanding paragraph 2, bulls over one year old shall have access to pasturage or an open air area.  5.  Poultry shall have access to an open air area for at least one third of their life.  6.  Open air areas for poultry shall be mainly covered with vegetation and be provided with protective facilities and permit fowl to have easy access to adequate numbers of drinking and feeding troughs.  7.  Where poultry are kept indoors due to restrictions or obligations imposed on the basis of Community legislation, they shall permanently have access to sufficient quantities of roughage and suitable material in order to meet their ethological needs.  *Article 15*  **Stocking density**  1.  The total stocking density shall be such as not to exceed the limit of 170 kg of nitrogen per year and hectare of agricultural area as referred to in Article 3(2).  2.  To determine the appropriate density of livestock referred to above, the competent authority shall set out the livestock units equivalent to the above limit, taking as a guideline, the figures laid down in Annex IV or the relevant national provisions adopted pursuant to Directive 91/676/EEC.  **Article 17 Simultaneous production of organic and non-organic livestock**  1.  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. | | | | |
| **30** | **1.7 Animal welfare**  1.7.1 All persons involved in keeping animals and in handling animals during transport and slaughter shall possess the necessary basic knowledge and skills as regards the health and the welfare needs of the animals and shall have followed adequate training, as required in particular in Council Regulation (EC) No 1/2005 and Council Regulation No (EC) 1099/2009, to ensure proper application of the rules set out in this Regulation.  1.7.2 Husbandry practices, including stocking densities and housing conditions, shall ensure that the developmental, physiological and ethological needs of the animals are met.  1.7.3 Livestock shall have permanent access to open air areas that allow the animals to exercise, preferably pasture, whenever weather and seasonal conditions and the state of the ground allow, except where restrictions and obligations related to the protection of human and animal health have been imposed on the basis of Union legislation.  1.7.4 The number of livestock shall be limited with a view to minimising overgrazing, poaching of soil, erosion, and pollution caused by animals or by the spreading of their manure.  1.7.6 Duration of transport of livestock shall be minimised.  1.7.7 Any suffering, pain and distress shall be avoided and shall be kept to a minimum during the entire life of the animal, including at the time of slaughter.  1.7.8 Without prejudice to developments in Union legislation on animal welfare, tail-docking of sheep, beak trimming undertaken in the first three days of life, and dehorning may exceptionally be allowed, but only on a case-by-case basis and only when those practices improve the health, welfare or hygiene of the livestock or where workers' safety would otherwise be compromised. Disbudding may be allowed only on a case by case basis when it improves the health, welfare or hygiene of the livestock or where workers' safety would otherwise be compromised. The competent authority shall only authorise such operations where the operator has duly notified and justified the operations to that competent authority and where the operation is to be carried out by qualified personnel.  1.7.9 Any suffering to the animals shall be reduced to a minimum by applying adequate anaesthesia and/or analgesia and by carrying out each operation at only the most appropriate age by qualified personnel.  1.7.10 Physical castration shall be allowed in order to maintain the quality of products and traditional production practices, but only under the conditions set out in point 1.7.9.  1.7.11 The loading and unloading of animals shall be carried out without the use of any type of electrical or other painful stimulation to coerce the animals. The use of allopathic tranquillisers, prior to or during transport, shall be prohibited. | **Article 18 Management of animals**  1.  Operations such as attaching elastic bands to the tails of sheep, tail-docking, cutting of teeth, trimming of beaks and dehorning shall not be carried out routinely in organic farming. However, some of these operations may be authorised by the competent authority for reasons of safety or if they are intended to improve the health, welfare or hygiene of the livestock on a case-by-case basis.  Any suffering to the animals shall be reduced to a minimum by applying adequate anaesthesia and/or analgesia and by carrying out the operation only at the most appropriate age by qualified personnel.  2.  Physical castration is allowed in order to maintain the quality of products and traditional production practices but only under the conditions set out in the second subparagraph of paragraph 1.  3.  Mutilation such as clipping the wings of queen bees is prohibited.  4.  Loading and unloading of animals shall be carried out without the use of any type of electrical stimulation to coerce the animals. The use of allopathic tranquillisers, prior to or during transport, is prohibited. | | | | |
| **31** | 1.9 Additional general rules  1.9.4 For poultry  1.9.4.1 Origin of animals  To prevent the use of intensive rearing methods, poultry shall either be reared until they reach a minimum age or else shall come from slow-growing poultry strains adapted to outdoor rearing.  The competent authority shall define the criteria of slow-growing strains or draw up a list of those strains and provide this information to operators, other Member States and the Commission.  Where slow-growing poultry strains are not used by the farmer, the minimum age at slaughter shall be as follows:  (a) 81 days for chickens;  (b) 150 days for capons;  (c) 49 days for Peking ducks;  (d) 70 days for female Muscovy ducks;  (e) 84 days for male Muscovy ducks;  (f) 92 days for Mallard ducks;  (g) 94 days for guinea fowl;  (h) 140 days for male turkeys and roasting geese; and  (i) 100 days for female turkeys. | **Article 12 Specific housing conditions and husbandry practices for poultry**  5. To prevent the use of intensive rearing methods, poultry shall either be reared until they reach a minimum age or else shall come from slow-growing poultry strains. Where slow-growing poultry strains are not used by the operator the following minimum age at slaughter shall be:  (a) 81 days for chickens,  (b) 150 days for capons,  (c) 49 days for Peking ducks,  (d) 70 days for female Muscovy ducks,  (e) 84 days for male Muscovy ducks,  (f) 92 days for Mallard ducks,  (g) 94 days for guinea fowl,  (h) 140 days for male turkeys and roasting geese and  (i) 100 days for female turkeys.  The competent authority shall define the criteria of slow-growing strains or draw up a list thereof and provide this information to operators, other Member States and the Commission. | | | | |
| **32** | **1.9.4.2 Nutrition**  With regard to nutrition, the following rules shall apply:  (a) at least 30 % of the feed shall come from the farm itself or, if this is not feasible or such feed is not available, be produced in cooperation with other organic or in-conversion production units and feed operators using feed and feed material from the same region;  (b) roughage, fresh or dried fodder, or silage shall be added to the daily ration;  (c) where farmers are unable to obtain protein feed exclusively from organic production for poultry species, and the competent authority has confirmed that organic protein feed is not available in sufficient quantity, non-organic protein feed may be used until 31 December 2025, provided that the following conditions are fulfilled:  (i) it is not available in organic form;  (ii) it is produced or prepared without chemical solvents;  (iii) its use is limited to the feeding of young poultry with specific protein compounds; and  (iv) the maximum percentage authorised per period of 12 months for those animals does not exceed 5 %. The percentage of the dry matter of feed of agricultural origin shall be calculated. | **Article 19 Feed from own holding and other sources**  1. In case of herbivores, except during the period each year when the animals are under transhumance subject to Article 17(4), at least 60 % of the feed shall come from the farm unit itself or in case this is not feasible, be produced in cooperation with other organic farms in the same region.  2. In case of pigs and poultry, at least 20 % of the feed shall come from the farm unit itself or in case this is not feasible, be produced in the same region in cooperation with other organic farms or feed business operators.  3. In the case of bees, at the end of the production season hives shall be left with sufficient reserves of honey and pollen to survive the winter.  The feeding of bee colonies shall only be permitted where the survival of the hives is endangered due to climatic conditions. Feeding shall be with organic honey, organic sugar syrups, or organic sugar.  **Article 43 Use of non-organic protein feed of plant and animal origin for livestock**  Where the conditions laid down in Article 22(2)(b) of Regulation (EC) No 834/2007 apply and where farmers are unable to obtain protein feed exclusively from organic production, the use of a limited proportion of non-organic protein feed is allowed for porcine and poultry species.  The maximum percentage of non-organic protein feed authorised per period of 12 months for those species shall be 5 % for calendar year 2018.  The figures shall be calculated annually as a percentage of the dry matter of feed from agricultural origin.  The operator shall keep documentary evidence of the need for the use of this provision. | | | | |
| **33** | **1.9.4.3 Animal welfare**  Live plucking of poultry shall be prohibited. |  | | | | |
|  | **1.9.4.4 Housing and husbandry practices**  With regard to housing and husbandry practices, the following rules shall apply:  (a) at least one third of the floor area shall be solid, that is, not of slatted or of grid construction, and shall be covered with a litter material such as straw, wood shavings, sand or turf;  (b) in poultry houses for laying hens, a sufficiently large part of the floor area available to the hens shall be available for the collection of bird droppings;  (c) buildings shall be emptied of livestock between each batch of poultry that has been reared. The buildings and fittings shall be cleaned and disinfected during this time. In addition, when the rearing of each batch of poultry has been completed, runs shall be left empty during a period to be established by the Member States in order to allow vegetation to grow back. Those requirements shall not apply where poultry are not reared in batches, are not kept in runs and are free to roam throughout the day;  (d) poultry shall have access to an open air area for at least one third of their life. However, laying hens and finisher poultry shall have access to an open air area for at least one third of their life, except in the case of temporary restrictions imposed on the basis of Union legislation;  (e) continuous daytime open air access shall be provided from as early an age as practically possible and whenever physiological and physical conditions allow, except where temporary restrictions have been imposed on the basis of Union legislation;  (f) by way of derogation from point 1.6.5, in the case of breeding birds and pullets aged under 18 weeks, when the conditions specified in point 1.7.3 as regards restrictions and obligations related to the protection of human and animal health imposed on the basis of Union legislation are met and prevent breeding birds and pullets aged under 18 weeks from having access to open air areas, verandas shall be considered as open air areas and, in such cases, shall have a wire mesh barrier to keep other birds out;  (g) open air areas for poultry shall permit fowl to have easy access to adequate numbers of drinking troughs;  (h) open air areas for poultry shall be covered mainly with vegetation;  (i) under conditions where feed availability from the range area is limited, for example, due to long term snow cover or arid weather conditions, supplementary feeding of roughage shall be included as part of poultry diets;  (j) where poultry are kept indoors due to restrictions or obligations imposed on the basis of Union legislation, they shall have permanent access to sufficient quantities of roughage and suitable material in order to meet their ethological needs;  (k) water fowl shall have access to a stream, pond, lake or a pool whenever the weather and hygienic conditions permit, in order to respect their species-specific needs and animal welfare requirements; when weather conditions do not permit such access, they shall have access to water which enables them to dip their head therein so as to clean plumage;  (l) natural light may be supplemented by artificial means to provide a maximum of 16 hours light per day, with a continuous nocturnal rest period without artificial light of at least eight hours;  (m) the total usable surface area for fattening poultry in poultry houses of any production unit shall not exceed 1 600 m²;  (n) not more than 3 000 laying hens shall be allowed in a single compartment of a poultry house. | **Article 12 Specific housing conditions and husbandry practices for poultry**  1. Poultry shall not be kept in cages.  2. Water fowl shall have access to a stream, pond, lake or a pool whenever the weather and hygienic conditions permit in order to respect their species-specific needs and animal welfare requirements.  3. Buildings for all poultry shall meet the following conditions:  (a) at least one third of the floor area shall be solid, that is, not of slatted or of grid construction, and covered with a litter material such as straw, wood shavings, sand or turf;  (b) in poultry houses for laying hens, a sufficiently large part of the floor area available to the hens shall be available for the collection of bird droppings;  (c) they shall have perches of a size and number commensurate with the size of the group and of the birds as laid down in Annex III;  (d) they shall have exit/entry pop-holes of a size adequate for the birds, and these pop-holes shall have a combined length of at least 4 m per 100 m2 area of the house available to the birds;  (e) each poultry house shall not contain more than:  (i) 4 800 chickens,  (ii) 3 000 laying hens,  (iii) 5 200 guinea fowl,  (iv) 4 000 female Muscovy or Peking ducks or 3 200 male Muscovy or Peking ducks or other ducks,  (v) 2 500 capons, geese or turkeys;  (f) the total usable area of poultry houses for meat production on any single unit, shall not exceed 1 600 m2;  (g) poultry houses shall be constructed in a manner allowing all birds easy access to open air area.  4. Natural light may be supplemented by artificial means to provide a maximum of 16 hours light per day with a continuous nocturnal rest period without artificial light of at least eight hours. | | | | |
| **34** |  | **Annex III  2. Poultry** | | | | |
|  | **Indoors area**  (net area available to animals) | | | | |
|  | No animals/m2 | | cm perch/animal | nest | |
| Laying hens | 6 | | 18 | 7 laying hens per nest or in case of common nest 120 cm2/bird | |
| Fattening Poultry (in fixed housing) | 10 with a maximum of 21 kg liveweight/m2 | | 20 (for guinea fowl only) |  | |
| Fattening Poultry (in mobile housing) | 16\* in mobile poultry houses with a maximum of 30 kg liveweight/ m2 | |  |  | |
| \* Only in the case of mobile houses not exceeding 150 m2 floor space | | | | |
|  | **Outdoors area**  (m2 of area available in rotation/head) | | | | |
| Laying hens | 4, provided that the limit of 170 kg of N/ha/year is not exceeded | | | | |
| Fattening Poultry (in fixed housing) | 4 broilers and guinea fowl  4,5 ducks  10 turkey  15 geese  In all the species mentioned above the limit of 170 kg of N/ha/year is not exceeded | | | | |
| Fattening Poultry (in mobile housing) | 2,5, provided that the limit of 170 kg of N/ha/year is not exceeded | | | | |
| **35** |  | **Annex IV** Maximum number of animals per hectare referred to in Article 15 (2) | | | | |
| **Class or species** | | **Maximum number of animals per ha equivalent to 170 kg N/ha/year** | | |
| Table chickens | | **580** | | |
| Laying hens | | **230** | | |