



Shortened conversion period in accordance with the EU Organic Regulation

Depending on prior management, an earlier point in time may retroactively be recognized as the commencement of the conversion period. The farm assessment will take prior management into account. Products can then be placed on the market sooner with indications referring to the organic production method.

Scope

Retroactive approval of a prior management period is only possible in accordance with the EU Organic Regulation. The Swiss Ordinance on Organic Farming and the Bio Suisse Standards do not provide this facility.

Legal basis: EU Reg. 834/2007 Art. 17(1)(e), EU Reg. (Implementing rules) 889/2008 Art. 36 (2)

Specifications and procedure

- Application for recognition of prior management period at the time the contract is concluded or when new lands are brought into the agreement. The application form can be downloaded from the bio.inspecta website.
- The organic principles must be adhered to during the entire conversion period.
- Sites of conservation interest and sites susceptible to erosion must not be ploughed up.
- Satisfactory proof must be furnished to show that products not authorized for organic production have not been used on the parcels in question for the past three years (e.g. written expert report or confirmation by an independent professional or a competent authority).
- In the case of approval being sought for fallow land or as yet unused land, the initial inspection must take place prior to the land being ploughed up.
- The inspector will carry out an on-site assessment of the parcels, including, if possible, photographic documentation.
- In cases of doubt the inspector will take a soil sample. The cost of sampling is to be borne by the holding.

Further information

Please contact us at any time if you require further information.

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