

Brief Info

Purchase of animals at the organic farm

The EU organic regulation clearly regulates that only organic animals may be used on an organic farm. In some areas there are exceptions to this principle, which you can find out from the following points.

In any case, when conventional animals arrive, the conversion times must be observed!

1. Renewal and stock supplementation

In the case of stock renewal and stock supplementation, conventional animals may be placed on an organic farm under the following conditions if organic animals are not available:

Species	Condition for the purchase of conventional animals	Conversion period
Bovine:		
Female breeding calves	not older than 6 months	If the animal has to be marketed for slaughter: 3/4 of life, but at least 12 months
Female animals for stock renewal/stock supplementation	only nulliparous ⁽¹⁾ (young) animals to the extent of 10% ⁽²⁾ of the stock of cattle older than 12 months ⁽³⁾ (per calendar year)	for milk: 6 months if the animal has to be marketed as an animal for slaughter: at least 3/4 of its life
Male breeding animals	without restriction	If the animal has to be marketed for slaughter: 3/4 of life, but at least 12 months
Animals for fattening	Only organic purchases!!	–
Poultry:		
Laying hens	not older than 3 days still possible until further notice	6 Weeks
	Pullets: Only organic purchases!!	–
Broilers	not older than 3 days, but only with confirmation from the breeder about the non-availability of organic chicks still possible until further notice	10 Weeks
Other poultry for meat production	not older than 3 days still possible until further notice	10 weeks, respectively 7 weeks for Peking ducks
Sheep, goats:		
Lambs and kids for breeding	not older than 60 days	6 Months
Female animals for stock renewal/stock supplementation	only nulliparous ⁽¹⁾ (young) animals to the extent of 20% ⁽²⁾ of the stock of sheep/goats older than 6 months ⁽³⁾ (per calendar year)	6 Months
Male breeding animals	without restriction	6 Months
Animals for fattening	Only organic purchases!!	–
Horses:	See bovines	

⁽¹⁾ „nulliparous” means: the (young) animals may not have given birth yet

⁽²⁾ This percentage can be increased to a maximum of 40% in the event of a change of breed or a significant increase in the population, but only with the prior approval of the competent authority.

⁽³⁾ If the number of animals is less than 10 cattle/horses or 5 sheep/goats, a maximum of 1 animal per calendar year may be purchased.


Continuation of: 1. Stock renewal and stock supplement

Species	Condition for the purchase of conventional animals	Conversion period
Schweine:		
Piglets for gilt rearing	Only organic purchases!! <u>Exceptions:</u> conventional piglets with less than 35 kg entrance weight: - in the case of proven non-availability of organic animals ⁽¹⁾ , or - with higher health status ⁽²⁾ , or - for herd bookable piglets of all breeds ⁽³⁾	6 Months
Female animals for stock renewal/stock supplementation	Only organic purchases!! <u>Exceptions:</u> conventional nulliparous ⁽⁴⁾ (young) sows to the extent of 20% ⁽⁵⁾ of the herd of pigs older than 6 months ⁽⁶⁾ (per calendar year): - in the case of proven non-availability of organic animals ⁽¹⁾ , or - with higher health status ⁽²⁾ or - at herd book farms ⁽³⁾ of all breeds	6 Months
Breeding boar	without restriction	6 Months
Fattening pigs	Only organic purchases!!	–
Antlers:		
female breeding calves/kids	not older than 6 Months	12 Months
female breeding animals	conventional nulliparous ⁽⁴⁾ animals to the extent of 20% ⁽⁵⁾ of the stock of the respective animal species older than 12 months ⁽⁶⁾ (per calendar year):	12 Months
Male breeding animals	without restriction	12 Months
Animals for fattening	Only organic purchases!!	
Rabbits		
female young animals	Not older than 3 months	3 Months
female breeding animals	conventional nulliparous ⁽⁴⁾ rabbits to the extent of 20% ⁽⁵⁾ of the stock of rabbits older than 3 months ⁽⁶⁾ (per calendar year):	3 Months
Male breeding animals	without restriction	3 Months
Animals for fattening	Only organic purchases!!	

- (1) Must be applied for at the competent authority. The application must be accompanied by at least 2 confirmations from a breeding association or a service centre proving the non-availability of organic breeding piglets or gilts.
- (2) Purchase from conventional PRRSV-suspicious farms possible if the negative PRRSV result of the organic farm is no more than 3 months old (date of the delivery note)
- (3) Prerequisite: Membership in a recognized breeding association for the respective breed
- (4) „nulliparous” means: the (young) animals may not have given birth yet
- (5) This percentage can be increased to a maximum of 40% in the event of a change of breed or a significant increase in the population, but only with the prior approval of the competent authority.
- (6) If the animal population is less than 5 pigs/antlers or less than 10 rabbits, a maximum of 1 animal per calendar year may be purchased.

Please also note:

- Once the national procedure has been defined, conventional chicken no older than 3 days may only be used for egg and meat production with the approval of the competent authority.

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- From 2023, conventional breeding animals (cattle, horses, sheep, goats, pigs, antlers, rabbits) may only be used with an extract from the animal database and the approval of the competent authority.

Calculation basis for the animal purchase of female nulliparous breeding animals

All adult males and adult females of the respective species according to the VIS database are used to determine the calculation basis. The stock of animals that can be purchased based on the basis is rounded up for accounting purposes, i.e. if the number is greater than or equal to 5 after the decimal point, it is rounded up, below that it is rounded down.

- Cattle:
Calculation basis is the maximum stock since 01.01. of the previous year according to the VIS database
- Pigs, sheep, goats, equidae:
Calculation basis is the maximum stock since 01.01. of the previous year according to the VIS database
- Antlers and rabbits
The basis for calculation is the maximum stock of adult male and adult female animals according to the company's own animal stock list since 01.01. of the previous year

SPECIAL CASE for inventory renewal and additions:

endangered livestock breeds:

In order to improve the possibilities of species conservation, since January 1st, 2022, conventional animals for breeding of endangered livestock breeds may be used without restrictions if corresponding organic animals are not available. The extract from the stud book or the AMA confirmation when participating in a funding program is used as proof of belonging to an endangered breed. However, this is the only exception for entry of conventional cows or other dams (except in cases of disaster - see point 3)!

2. Creation of a new branch of animal production

In order to set up a new branch of production, the following conventional young animals can be used for breeding without any limitation on the number if organic animals are not available:

Calves, foals and antlers up to 6 months, lambs and kids up to 60 days, rabbits up to 3 months, piglets up to 35 kg (at Turupolje and Mangalizza or with higher health status or at herd book farms of all breeds).


Nulliparous breeding animals that are above these age or weight limits can only be purchased in special cases and after prior approval by the responsible competent authority.

3. Disasters

In the event of high animal mortality for health reasons or in the event of a disaster, conventional animals, including dams, can be used if organic animals are not available. Approval must also be applied for in advance from the competent authority.

Please also note:

- Conversion periods:
In any case, the conventional animals that are brought in under consideration of the above-mentioned requirements must go through the conversion periods so that they can be declared as organic animals or their products as organic products. This conversion period

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starts at the earliest on the date of entrance to the organic farm.

- Records:
The entry of all animals must be recorded in the records. Compliance with the regulations and the existence of the possibly necessary approval of the competent authority or other required proof (see table under point 1.) is checked by the control body in the course of the annual organic inspection.

4. SPECIAL CASE: personal use and non-certified animals

Conventional animals for personal use (poultry, fattening pigs, sheep, goats) as well as non-food-producing animals (e.g. horses) can be stabled without regard to entry requirements. Of course, none of the animals of the affected species may be marketed and, in the case of personal use, may only be eaten by family members of the farm manager or may not be used for food production.