

According to Legislation (EC) 834/2007 (conform):

LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION RULES		
Art. 14		(1) In addition to the general farm production rules laid down in Article 11, the following rules shall apply to livestock production:
		<b>b)</b> with regard to husbandry practices and housing conditions:
		(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 nonorganically 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 <u>materials</u> ; (xi) the <u>destruction</u> of bees in the combs as a method associated with the harvesting of beekeeping products is prohibited;

According to Legislation (EC) 889/2008 (mostly conform, equivalent handling is written in *italics*)

ORIGIN OF ANIMALS		
Art. 8	Origin of organic animals	(2) For bees, preference shall be given to the use of <i>Apis mellifera</i> and their local ecotypes.
Art. 9	Origin of non-organic animals	(5) For the <u>renovation of apiaries</u> , 10 % per year of the queen bees and swarms may be replaced by non-organic queen bees and swarms in the organic production unit provided that the queen bees and swarms are placed in hives with combs or comb foundations coming from organic production units.
LIVESTOCK HOUSING AND HUSBANDRY PRACTICES		
Art.13	Specific requirements and housing conditions in beekeeping	(1) from the apiary site, nectar and pollen sources consist essentially of organically produced crops and/or spontaneous vegetation and/or crops treated with low environmental impact methods equivalent to those as described in Article 36 of Council Regulation (EC) No 1698/2005 ( <sup>1</sup> ) or in Article 22 of Council Regulation 1257/1999 ( <sup>2</sup> ) which cannot affect the qualification of beekeeping production as being organic. The above mentioned requirements do not apply where flowering is not taking place, or the hives are dormant.
		(2) <i>In Third countries to the EC and cases where there is no competent authority, AGRECO shall designate the regions or areas where organic beekeeping will not be allowed, if there is reason to do so.</i>
		(3) The hives shall be made basically of natural materials presenting no risk of contamination to the environment or the apiculture products.
		(4) The bees wax for new foundations shall come from organic production units.
		(5) Without prejudice to Article 25, only natural products such as propolis, wax and plant oils can be used in the hives.
		(6) The use of chemical synthetic repellents is prohibited during honey extractions operations.
		(7) The use of brood combs is prohibited for honey extraction.
Art.18	Management of animals	(3) Mutilation such as clipping the wings of queen bees is prohibited.



FEED		
Art.19	Feed from own holding and other sources	(2) 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.
	<i>AGRECO: „Winter“ = period of time without nectar flow</i>	<i>AGRECO: External feeding in the period of nectar flow is prohibited. Feeding in the period without nectar flow must be with <b>own organic honey</b> left in the colony.</i>
		(3) 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.
	<i>emergency feeding in time without nectar flow – external, organic</i>	<i>AGRECO: exemption is only possible in the case of a <b>disastrous climatic situation</b> and then only with <b>external organic honey</b>, organic sugar or organic syrup. <b>No permission for the use of organic feed is necessary</b>, but documentary evidence must be kept about the reason, the input-source and the quantity given.</i>
	<i>emergency feeding in time without nectar flow – external, non-organic</i>	<i>The use of <b>NON-ORGANIC feed</b> in the <b>period without nectar flow</b> may be permissible in the case of non-availability of organic feed, upon request and on a granted permit of exemption. In case of need, AGRECO will order analytic evidence</i>
DISEASE PREVENTION AND VETERINARY TREATMENT		
Art. 25	Specific rules on disease prevention and veterinary treatment in beekeeping	(1) For the purpose of cleaning and disinfection of frames, hives and combs, sodium hydroxide may be used. For the purpose of protecting frames, hives and combs, in particular from pests, only rodenticides (to be used only in traps), and appropriate products listed in Annex II, are permitted.
		(2) Physical treatments for disinfection of apiaries such as steam or direct flame are permitted.
		(3) The practice of destroying the male brood is permitted only to isolate the infestation of <i>Varroa destructor</i> .
		(4) If despite all preventive measures, the colonies become sick or infested, they shall be treated immediately and, if necessary, the colonies can be placed in isolation apiaries.
		(5) <b>As long as in Third countries to the EC there is no ruling on the authorization of veterinary medicinal products in organic beekeeping by competent authorities or national law, AGRECO decides on authorisation of veterinary medicinal products in organic beekeeping taking into account possible national recommendations, beekeepers' and AGRECOs' expertise and Community law of the EU, applying the procedure acc. to Art. 37.</b>
		(6) Formic acid, lactic acid, acetic acid and oxalic acid as well as menthol, thymol, eucalyptol or camphor may be used in cases of infestation with <i>Varroa destructor</i> .
		(7) If a treatment is applied with chemically synthesised allopathic products, during such a period, the colonies treated shall be placed in isolation apiaries and all the wax shall be replaced with wax coming from organic beekeeping. Subsequently, the conversion period of one year laid down in Article 38(3) will apply to those colonies.
		(8) The requirements laid down in paragraph 7 shall not apply to products listed in paragraph 6.



CONVERSION RULES		
Art. 38	Livestock and livestock products	<p>(3) Beekeeping products can be sold with references to the organic production method only when the organic production rules have been complied with for at least one year.</p>
		<p>(4) The conversion period for apiaries does not apply in the case of application of Article 9(5) of this Regulation.</p>
		<p>(5) During the conversion period the wax shall be replaced with wax coming from organic beekeeping.</p>
Art. 41	Management of bee-keeping units for the purpose of pollination	<p><b>In Third countries to the EC</b>, where the conditions laid down in Article 22(2)(a) of Regulation (EC) No 834/2007 apply, for the purpose of pollination actions an operator may run organic and non-organic beekeeping units on the same holding, provided that all the requirements of the organic production rules are fulfilled, with the exception of the provisions for the siting of the apiaries.</p> <p><b>In that case the bee-keeping unit carrying out pollination is considered a non-organic unit that must be kept totally separate from the organic unit with all items. In particular referring to queenbees, bees, wax, frames, bee-hives, honey, pollen, propolis etc., no interchange is allowed and the products of the pollination unit must in no case be labelled or sold as organic. Moreover in operations practicing pollination the organic unit must be accompanied by a systematic programme of intensified analytical monitoring on residues, drugs (e.g. antibiotics) and harmful substances, due to the risk of cross-contamination.</b></p> <p>The operator shall keep documentary evidence of the use of this provision.</p>
Art. 44	Use of non-organic beeswax	<p>In the case of new installations or during the conversion period, non- organic beeswax may be used only</p>
		<p>a) where beeswax from organic beekeeping is not available on the market ;</p>
		<p>b) where it is proven free of contamination by substances not authorised for organic production; and</p>
		<p>c) provided that it comes from the cap.</p>
CATASTROPHIC CIRCUMSTANCES		
Art. 47		<p>In <b>Third countries to the EC AGRECO</b> may authorise on a temporary basis:</p>
		<p>b) in case of high mortality of bees caused by health or catastrophic circumstances, the reconstitution of the apiaries with non-organic bees, when organic apiaries are not available;</p>
		<p><i>The use of <b>NON-ORGANIC apiaries</b> with bees acc. to Art. 47 (b) is only permissible in the case of non-availability of organic bees, upon request and on a granted permit of exemption. Conversion rules apply.</i></p>
		<p>d) the feeding of bees with organic honey, organic sugar or organic sugar syrup in case of long lasting exceptional weather conditions or catastrophic circumstances, which hamper the nectar or honeydew production;</p>
	<b>emergency feeding in time with nectar flow – external, organic</b>	<p><i>Note: The feeding with <b>external ORGANIC feed</b> acc. to Art. 47 (d) during the period of nectar flow is permissible only upon request to AGRECO and on a granted permit of exemption.</i></p>
	<b>emergency feeding in time with nectar flow – external, non-organic</b>	<p><i>The use of <b>NON-ORGANIC feed</b> is only permissible in the case of non-availability of organic feed, upon request and on a granted permit of exemption. In case of need, AGRECO will order analytic evidence</i></p>
		<p>Upon approval by <b>AGRECO</b>, the individual operators shall keep documentary evidence of the use of the above exceptions.</p>



<b>CONTROL REQUIREMENTS</b>		
<b>Art. 78</b>	<b>Specific control measures on beekeeping</b>	<b>(1)</b> a map on an appropriate scale listing the location of hives shall be provided to <b>AGRECO</b> by the beekeeper. <b>Where no official maps are available at least an outline with appropriate information shall be drawn, or where available, a satellite photo indicating the location, can be presented.</b> Where no areas are identified in accordance with Article 13(2), the beekeeper shall provide <b>AGRECO</b> with appropriate documentation and evidence, including suitable analyses if necessary, that the areas accessible to his colonies meet the conditions required <b>in this Standard.</b>
		<b>(2)</b> The following information shall be entered in the register of the apiary with regard to the use of feeding: type of product, dates, quantities and hives where it is used.
		<b>(3)</b> Whenever veterinary medicinal products are to be used, the type of product, including the indication of the active pharmacological substance, together with details of the diagnosis, the posology, the method of administration, the duration of the treatment and the legal withdrawal period shall be recorded clearly and declared to the control body or authority before the products are marketed as organically produced.
		<b>(4)</b> The zone where the apiary is situated shall be registered together with the identification of the hives. <b>AGRECO</b> shall be informed of the moving of apiaries by a deadline agreed on with the control authority or body.
		<b>(5)</b> Particular care shall be taken to ensure adequate extraction, processing and storage of beekeeping products. All the measures to comply with this requirement shall be recorded.
		<b>(6)</b> The removals of the supers and the honey extraction operations shall be entered in the register of the apiary.