

# Database of national and international organic standards



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## EC Project „Organic Revision“ of Regulation 2092/91

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in collaboration with:

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# Main objective

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- to make a database of differences in organic standards in relation to EEC Reg. 2092/91 and, on this basis, make an analysis of selected private and/or national standards.
- Mentioned as a need in the European Action Plan 2004

# Why is a need to improve the EU regulation 2092/91?

- **Lack of clear principles / criteria**  
e.g. „poor“ preamble, no clear criteria for agronomic inputs, or processing additives
- **Not harmonised areas/interpretations possible – no transparency:**  
in particular animal husbandry, e.g. brought-in-animals, slow growing breeds, chicken husbandry systems
- **Not precise enough:**  
horticulture (e.g. substrates), special crops
- **Other areas are even too detailed- no regional variation possible**  
climatic very different systems (e.g. animal housing)
- **Areas not covered / only in private standards:**  
aquaculture, social standards, fiber production, environmental management etc.



# Specific objectives

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- **to make a public web-based database** - as a tool for stakeholders and policy makers, kept updated by the different Member States and inspection bodies.
- **to check whether the selected organic standards comply with the EU regulation** (general provisions, crop production, higher levels of regulation on animal production).
- **to identify specific areas for revisions** in terms of harmonisation, regionalisation or simplification may be implemented in EEC Reg. 2092/91 and national standards, taking into account the basic ethical values



# Development of data-base

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- built on experiences with existing databases and software.
- designed for the analysis and further development of standards including new areas such as horticulture and breeding techniques.
- allow for decentralised web-based updating.
- allow for public input of suggestions for additions, changes or derogations to the regulations.
- discussed and coordinated with the EU Commission.
- hosted by DARCOF, responsible FiBL with AIAB
- In collaboration with IFOAM EU Regional Group



# Filling in the standards data

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- **Differences between the EEC 2092/91 and selected major organic standards (public/private)**
- **Interpretation/national standards implementation rules**
- **trade-relevant international and national organic standards (i.e. IFOAM Basic Standards, Codex Alimentarius Guidelines, USDA and Japanese Regulation).**



# Data-base as a tool

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- **Identification of ethically problematic areas** that can be made subject of detailed case studies
- **Analysing the database as regards compliance and harmonisation/transparency needs**
- **Proposals for improvement of EU regulation** e.g. with more emphasis on principles than detailness

# Organic Rules - main page

Organic Rules - Welcome to Organic Rules - Microsoft Internet Explorer

Filer Rediger Vis Foretrykne Funktioner Hjælp

Tilbage Søg Foretrukne Medier

Adresse <http://testwww.organicrules.org/> Gå Hyperlinks

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## Welcome to Organic Rules

On June 10th, 2003, the EU-commission published the European Action Plan for Organic Food and Farming containing 21 actions to improve the Community policy for organic farming.

One of the actions (Action 2, page 11) is to establish and maintain an Internet database listing the various private and national standards (including international standards and national standards in main export markets) compared to the Community standard. The database established in the project, **Organic-Revision**, is seen as a starting point for this database.

Objective: To publish an organic standards database on the internet with information on differences in relation to **EU regulation 2092/91** from minimum 15 European organic standards.

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Search records:

Search full text:

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### Browse

[Browse the archive](#)

### Latest Additions

[View items added to the archive in the past week.](#)

### Simple Search

Internet

# Organic Rules – Deposit types

Organic Rules - Deposit Type - Microsoft Internet Explorer

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## Deposit Type

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**EPrint Type \***  
Please select the most appropriate type for your deposit.

- Complete regulations**  
A whole set of governmental regulations or private standards
- Difference**  
A description of differences between national regulations/standards and EEC No 2092/91
- Papers on regulations/standards**  
Upload a document/paper/report discussing or comparing regulations and standards
- Comment**  
Upload a comment to EEC No 2092/91, national regulations/standards or organic principles
- EEC No 2092/91**  
Deposit subsections of EEC No 2092/91 (pdf), correspondingly to sections on browse view page

[Save for Later](#) [Next >](#)

**Contact Information**

Internet

# Organic Rules – Browse views

Organic Rules - Browse Records - Microsoft Internet Explorer

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Tilbage Søg Foretrukne Medier

Adresse <http://testwww.organicrules.org/view/>

Organic Rules

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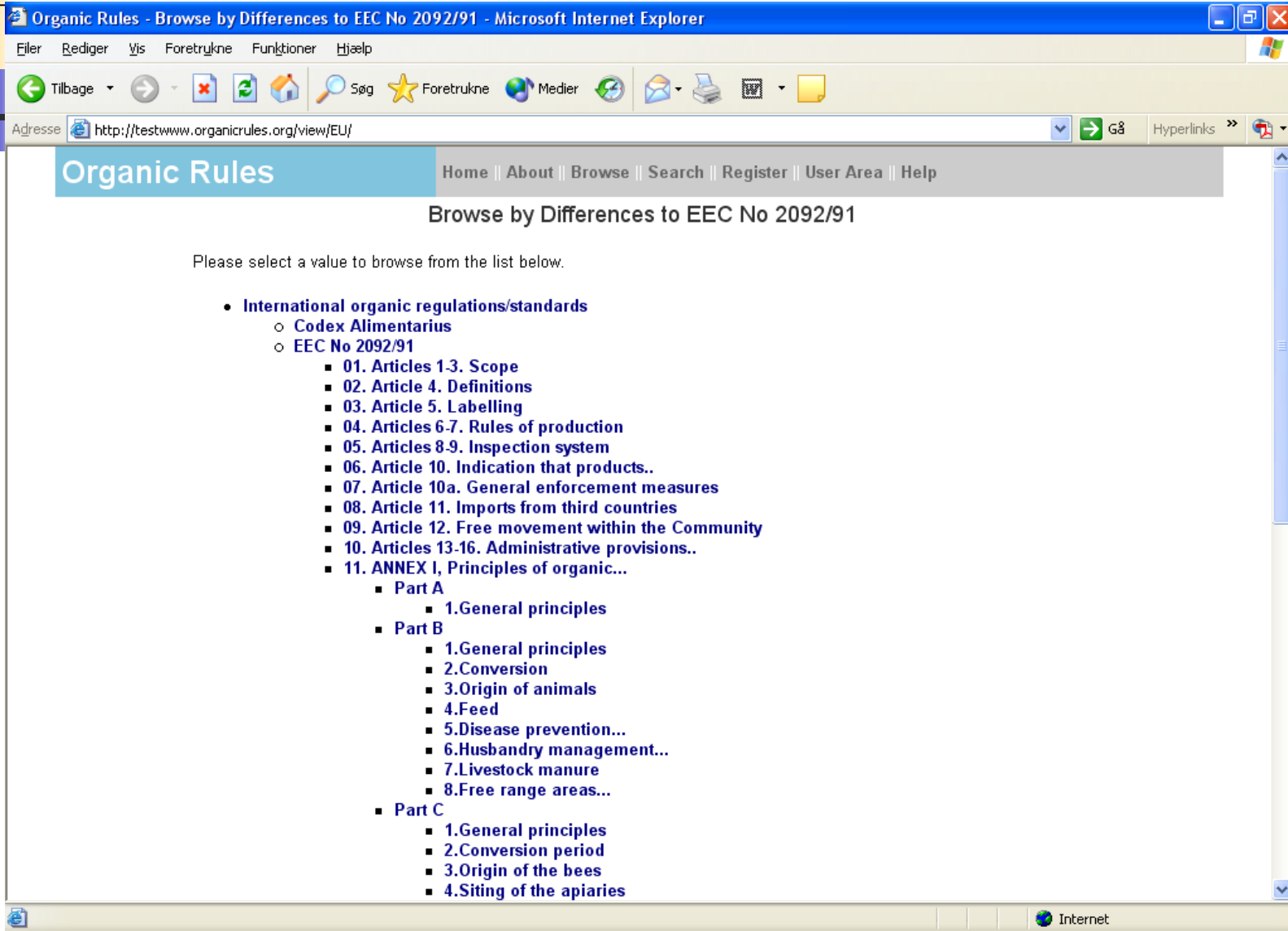
## Browse Records

Records may be browsed by the following:

- [Differences to EEC No 2092/91](#)
- [Governmental and private standards](#)
- [Organic principles](#)
- [Subjects](#)

[Contact Information](#)

# Organic Rules – Browse views: differences



Organic Rules - Browse by Differences to EEC No 2092/91 - Microsoft Internet Explorer

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Tilbage Søg Foretrykne Medier

Adresse <http://testwww.organicrules.org/view/EU/> Gå Hyperlinks

## Organic Rules

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### Browse by Differences to EEC No 2092/91

Please select a value to browse from the list below.

- **International organic regulations/standards**
  - Codex Alimentarius
  - EEC No 2092/91
    - 01. Articles 1-3. Scope
    - 02. Article 4. Definitions
    - 03. Article 5. Labelling
    - 04. Articles 6-7. Rules of production
    - 05. Articles 8-9. Inspection system
    - 06. Article 10. Indication that products..
    - 07. Article 10a. General enforcement measures
    - 08. Article 11. Imports from third countries
    - 09. Article 12. Free movement within the Community
    - 10. Articles 13-16. Administrative provisions..
    - 11. ANNEX I, Principles of organic...
      - Part A
        - 1.General principles
      - Part B
        - 1.General principles
        - 2.Conversion
        - 3.Origin of animals
        - 4.Feed
        - 5.Disease prevention...
        - 6.Husbandry management...
        - 7.Livestock manure
        - 8.Free range areas...
      - Part C
        - 1.General principles
        - 2.Conversion period
        - 3.Origin of the bees
        - 4.Siting of the apiaries

Internet

# Organic Rules – develop a logic structure

This shall be achieved by:

- **Structure is close to existing EU-Reg. 2092/91 and to Codex Alimentarius**
- **All information relevant for farmers, processors in the Annexes 1, 2, 3**
- **The Annexes I, II, III comprise of a general part and specific sections**
- **The specific sections in Annex are always structured as following:**
  - **A Plants and Plant production**
  - **B Husbandry**
  - **C Beekeeping**
  - **D Processing**
  - **E Feeding stuff**
  - **F Import**
  - **G Storage**
- **Section 1-8 are the general requirements (Council Regulation)**
- **The Annexes describe the technical details relevant for the operators and certification bodies (Commission Regulation)**

**Test for a more logically structured EU Regulation!**

# Organic Rules – Browse views: Reg./standards

Organic Rules - Browse by Governmental and private standards - Microsoft Internet Explorer

Filer Rediger Vis Foretrykne Funktioner Hjælp

Tilbage Søg Foretrykne Medier

Adresse <http://testwww.organicrules.org/view/countrystandard/> Gå Hyperlinks

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## Browse by Governmental and private standards

Please select a value to browse from the list below.

- **Organic regulations/standards by region**
  - **Europe**
    - **Austria**
      - Governmental regulation
      - Private standards
    - **Belgium**
      - Governmental regulation
      - Private standards
    - **Denmark**
      - Governmental regulation
      - Private standards
    - **Finland**
      - Governmental regulation
      - Private standards
    - **France**
      - Governmental regulation
      - Private standards
    - **Germany**
      - Governmental regulation
      - Private standards
    - **Italy**
      - Governmental regulation
      - Private standards
    - **Norway**
      - Governmental regulation
      - Private standards
    - **Poland**
      - Governmental regulation
      - Private standards
    - **Spain**

Internet

# Organic Rules – Basic information country overview

## **Example Switzerland**

### **Regulations**

The Suisse Organic Regulation (910.18) is very similar to EU-Regulation 2092/91.

The Regulation of the Eidgenössischen Volkswirtschaftsdepartements (910.181) on organic agriculture is a supplement and regulates its implementation. Switzerland is on the Third Country List of the European Union and as such judged to be equivalent to the EU-Regulation. However rabbits or products containing rabbit meats are excluded from the equivalence agreement.

### **Private Standards**

There are various private standards in Switzerland. The Bio Suisse standards are the most famous ones. The label of Bio-Suisse „bud“ is the most famous private label in Switzerland.

**LINKS: ...**



# Selected standards/regulations

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- Reference: EU regulation 2092/91
- International Umbrella Standards: Codex Guidelines and IFOAM Basic Standards
- Relevant international trade standards: USDA and Japan
- Specific state regulations (A, DK, *FR, FI*, UK, CH, *CZ*)
- Private standards (A, DE, *ES*, FI, I, NL, S, UK, CH, *CZ, PL, HU, SL*)

*\* countries covered through IFOAM EU – third party agreement and subcontracting*



# Time-table Standards Database

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Develop and adapt structure and testing the uploading of standards/regulations (coordinated with DG AGRI)	Jan. 2005 Feb. 2005
Presentation/discussion of data-base at Biofach	Feb 2005
Uploading national standards (training course)	April 2005
Intermediate discussion papers on specific areas (case study analysis)	Mai 2005- Dez. 2005
Public Database on the Internet	Dez. 2005
Internal comparison report for consultation	April 2006
Final report on the analysis	Aug. 2006



# Test phase / points for discussion

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- Level of logic and detailness of the EEC 2092/91?
- Which subject hierarchies (trees that provide overviews for browsing the archive )?
- Which additional information and links needed?
- Database fields for specific areas (mainly covered in private standards, e.g. horticulture, processing)
- Integration of additional national interpretation/implementation rules of the EU Regulation
- Harmonisation with other data-bases (like organic-equivalence)



Internet site

*organic*  
**Revision**

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Preliminary test version:

<http://test.organicrules.org>

The web site is public and everybody is able to register and able to upload.

Start End of March

People are welcome to try it out

GOOD LUCK