

Ecogarantie®

SPECIFICATIONS

**RULES AND STANDARDS FOR THE
INSPECTION AND CERTIFICATION
OF ECOLOGICAL PRODUCTS**



JANUARY 2012 - VERSION 2

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THE VISION OF ECOGARANTIE®

Ecogarrantie® is a trademark for ecological products. It serves as an instrument for the promotion and management of this kind of products.

Ecogarrantie® verifies and guarantees the ecological quality of a given product.

To develop its standards, Ecogarrantie® takes into account social, ecological and economic aspects, while respecting both life cycle and sustainability throughout several generations.

THE MISSION OF ECOGARANTIE® INCLUDES

1. helping consumers and companies to identify ecological products easily and reliably. Thereby guaranteeing as much as possible transparency for consumers and companies by manner of clear rules and complete labelling of the product.
2. verifying the use of the trademark Ecogarrantie® on the ecological product. The ecological quality of the product is contained in the principle of obligatory means more so than in obligatory results. The presence of the mark aims at the ecological quality of the product in the field of durability, safety and minimal impact on the environment, low aquatic toxicity and good biodegradability and in the field of restriction of harmful minerals.
3. anticipating –in a strive towards continual amelioration of the own specifications- the positive evolution of the legislation by defining standards for areas not yet covered by the European legislation.

THIS CAN BE ACCOMPLISHED THROUGH

- The specifications
- A (good) management of the trademark
- The independent system of inspection and certification

THE PRODUCTS

Ingredients and methods of preparation are selected according to their ecological properties and origin.

Ecogarantie®

SPECIFICATIONS

**RULES AND STANDARDS FOR THE
INSPECTION AND CERTIFICATION
OF ECOLOGICAL PRODUCTS**

INTRODUCTION



JANUARY 2012

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INTRODUCTION

A. GLOSSARY

Animal secretions

Products, such as lanoline or milk, which are secreted by animals.

Animal products

Products from the animal itself and requiring the slaughtering of the animal (examples are: fat, fresh cells, ox gall, collagen, ...)

Fossils

Stemming from fossilized organisms, such as lignite, pit coal or petroleum.

Ingredients

As well raw materials as semi-manufactured products

Mineral

Inorganic salt, component of the earth's crust, that has been extracted rather than manufactured.

Organic products (coming from organic farming) or wild vegetable products:

Products meeting the EC regulation 834/2007

Raw materials

Vegetable, animal or mineral products, coming from agriculture or obtained by extraction, unprocessed or gained through physical processes, so that the original characteristics have been kept almost intact.

Recyclable

That still has useful physical or chemical properties after serving its original purpose and can, therefore, be reused or remanufactured into additional products. Plastic, paper, glass, used oil, tin and aluminium cans as well as household and industrial waste, after sorting out, are examples of recyclable materials.

Renewable

Can be replaced or replenished, either by spontaneous processes over a short time scale or by human action. Air, water, sun, agricultural products and forests are often considered to be examples of renewable resources. Minerals and fossil fuels are examples of non-renewable resources.

Semimanufactured products

A product which is obtained through the manufacturing of raw materials, according to physico-chemical and/or microbiological/biotechnological processes and/or chemical synthesis that may sometimes deeply modify the original characteristics, and which is meant to be further processed into a final product.

B. GENERAL PRINCIPLES AND DEFINITIONS

The text and all the elements included in the present specifications are binding. An independent organisation will be in charge of verifying if the Ecogarantie® standards are correctly applied. It might be exceptionnaly that some not compulsory matters are mentioned as “recommended”. These matters are not subjected to inspection in the framework of the present standards.

1. SUSTAINABLE METHODS OF PREPARATION AND INGREDIENTS

Socially:

Recommended: The production may not go against basic human rights or be linked to social injustice. Every producer who employs more than 10 people must have a social justice policy. He will guarantee equal rights and equal treatment to all his employees, without discriminating them on the basis of age, sex, race, philosophical convictions or sexual inclination.

Economically:

Recommended: a company has to be profitable. Fair prices must therefore be paid to suppliers, and consumers must be offered fair prices as well.

Ecologically:

raw materials and packaging materials will be maximally renewable	see Part II D, Part III D and Part I D
Origin of ingredients subject to criteria	see Part II D and Part III D, see summary in the framework * below
organically-grown if available	see Part II D and Part III D
no halogen chemistry	see Part II D and Part III D
no GMO or GMO techniques in the production chain	see Part II D and Part III D
no animal test on the final product	see Part II D and Part III D
minimal waste while sourcing the raw materials	recommended
no amount or limited amount of VOC (Volatile Organic Components)	recommended
low input of energy	recommended
high level of recycling	recommended
low emissions	recommended
reasonable transport	recommended

2. HIGH PRODUCT SAFETY

Recommended: no additional requirements in the present standards, the product must comply with the effective European and Belgian legislation.

3. MINIMAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT WHILE IN USE

low VOC percentage	recommended
low measurement of dose	recommended
low water and energy consumption	recommended
declaration of ingredients	see Part III E.3.
packaging	see Part I D
prescriptions for measurement of dose	recommended
refill	recommended

4. LOW LEVEL OF TOXICITY FOR WATER LIFE (INGREDIENT AND PRODUCT)

See Part III D.4.4.: under construction: not compulsory until further notice

5. GOOD BIODEGRADABILITY BOTH ANAEROBIC AND AEROBIC WITHOUT STABLE METABOLITES (INGREDIENT AND PRODUCT)

See Part III D.4.1. and D.4.2.: under construction: not compulsory until further notice

6. LIMITED AMOUNT OF HARMFUL MINERALS

See Part II D.1.4. and Part III D.1.4.

See Part II D and Part III D

Raw materials

Any vegetable, animal or mineral product, coming in straight line from agriculture, harvesting or exploitation, either unprocessed or processed only by means of the physical processes allowed in the present specifications and keeping almost intact its original properties. These raw materials must meet the criteria of the present specifications.

Authorised kinds of raw materials:

- vegetable products
- animal products
- animal secretions
- minerals
- sea products
- gasses

Forbidden raw materials:

- petroleum and its derivatives

Semi-manufactured product

Any raw material processed according to the physico-chemical or microbiological/biotechnological processes authorised in the present specifications, which may sometimes deeply change the original properties. These semi-manufactured products must meet the requirements of the present specifications.

Authorised semi-manufactured products:

- Semi-manufactured products of vegetable origin
- Semi-manufactured products of animal origin
- Semi-manufactured products of mineral origin
- Semi-manufactured products of maritime origin
- Semi-manufactured products obtained through micro-organisms

Strictly restricted semi-manufactured products:

Semi-manufactured products obtained through chemical synthesis are excluded. The only ones to be authorised are those which cannot be substituted, in the short term, by renewable alternatives and which are necessary for the good working of the end product.

C. THE ECOGARANTIE® SYSTEM

1. OBJECTIVE

The Ecogarantie® trademark guarantees that the products have been manufactured in an ecological way and controlled as such. The present specifications and their appendixes establish the regulations and norms that need to be followed by the operators who would like to use the Ecogarantie® trademark.

2. THE ECOGARANTIE® TRADEMARK

The Ecogarantie® trademark has been registered.

3. MANAGEMENT OF THE TRADEMARK

The use of the Ecogarantie® trademark is under the management of professional organisations of farmers, processors and distributors, who own it.

Managing the trademark means for instance:

- setting the regulations and standards (of the present specifications)
- approving certification bodies for the use of the trademark
- approving foreign certification bodies
- dealing with the call of operators
- protecting the trademark
- promoting the trademark

4. HARMONISATION AT INTERNATIONAL LEVEL

Because it aims at a harmonisation of the rules at international level, BioForum npo defined its standards as a synthesis of the norms developed by the professional associations on natural and/or organic cosmetics or control bodies in France (Ecocert France and Cosmebio), Germany (BDIH) and United Kingdom (Soil Association). For this reason, BioForum npo may recognise products that conform to the above mentioned foreign specifications as well as raw materials and semi-manufactured products with related conformity attests (see annex I) based on a case by case approach. The applicant shall submit a complete file to the approval of BioForum including:

- in case of ingredients:

- the conformity attest
- a literature overview proving that no negative impact on the health of the consumers or the environment (biodegradability, aquatic toxicity,...) has ever been noted

- in case of end products:

- the certificate
- the list of ingredients (and processes) used.

5. INSPECTION AND CERTIFICATION

BioForum npo approves Belgian bodies that take care of the certification as well as the inspection for the trademark Ecogarantie®.

- As certification bodies, they are entitled to grant the operators the right to use the Ecogarantie® trademark, and to debar them from further use. As inspection bodies, they inspect the production units on the spot. In the present specifications, these organisations will be called certification bodies. Based on the control report, a certification commission of the certification body will decide on each case of non-conformity with the present specifications.
- The certification bodies must have been approved as inspection bodies by the ministry of Agriculture. At present, Certisys, TÜV Nord Integra bvba and Quality Partner are the three bodies approved by BioForum npo.

6. ADDRESSES OF THE INSPECTION BODIES

For processors, distributors and sales outlets:

Certisys e-mail: info@certisys.eu www.certisys.eu	Rue Joseph Bouché 57/3 5310 Bolinne tel: 081/60 03 77 fax : 081/60 03 13	Avenue de l'Escrime 85 1150 Bruxelles tel 02/779.47.21 fax 02/779.47.22	K. Maria Hendrikaplein 5-6 9000 Gent tel: 09/245.82.36 fax: 09/245.82.37
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TÜV Nord Integra e-mail : info@tuv-nord-integra.com www.tuv-nord-integra.com	Statiestraat, 164A 2600 Berchem tel 03/287.37.60 • fax 03/287.37.61
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Quality Partner e-mail: bio@quality-partner.be www.quality-partner.be	Rue Hayeneux 62 4040 Herstal tel: 04/240.75.00 • fax: 04/240.75.10
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Ecogarantie®

SPECIFICATIONS

**RULES AND STANDARDS FOR THE
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PART I

GENERAL NORMS FOR ALL OPERATORS



JANUARY 2012

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PART I ► GENERAL NORMS FOR ALL OPERATORS

A. RULES AND PROCEDURES

1. Operators

We make a distinction between four different categories of operators (selling ecological products) for whom the rules, standards and prices can differ:

Producers:

- Producers can produce the following products: vegetables, fruit, herbs, large-scale farming products, milk, eggs, meat, mushrooms, ornamental plants and other vegetable or animal products as well as seasalt. They are also allowed to process and to sell their own products.
- The logo will be used on the labels of crates, on strips or any other identification means used with the products.
- Any farmer processing products that do not come from his own production must be affiliated as a processor.
- Any farmer selling products (by means of home sales or street trading) that do not come from his own production must declare this activity and will be subject to the same rules as the sales outlets (part V).
- Parts I, II, III and IV of the present standards apply to farmers

Processors, Repackers

- Processors process ingredients in order to create a new product.
- Repackers buy products and modify the packaging.
- The logo is written on the packaging / final product.
- Any subcontractor who buys his raw material himself must be affiliated as a processor. If he does not buy the raw material himself, he will be considered as a contractor.
- Parts I to V of the present specifications apply to processors and repackers.

Distributors, importers

- These companies buy and sell products without modifying either the products or their packaging.
- The logo may be used on offers.
- Only part I of the present specifications apply to these companies.

Sales outlets

- Selling of products to the consumer in a store or on a market.
- The logo may be used on the price tags.
- Parts I and VI of the present specifications apply to sales outlets.

2. Contract

Operators are only allowed to use the trademark once they have signed a contract for the use of the trademark with the owners of the trademark or their representatives and are certified according to the present specifications.

3. Fees

Operators pay an annual fee that is made and collected as follows:

For producers

- a charge for the inspection and certification, collected by the certification body.
- a fee for the affiliation to Unab if Belgian
- a charge collected by Bioforum npo, for the use of the Ecogarantie® trademark and logo on any product in its final packaging, as it will be sold to the consumers

For processors and repackers

- a charge for the inspection and certification, collected by the certification body.
- a fee for the affiliation to Probila, collected by Probila-Unitrab.
- a charge collected by Bioforum npo, for the use of the Ecogarantie® trademark and logo on any product in its final packaging, as it will be sold to the consumers.

For distributors and importers

- a charge for the inspection and certification, collected by the certification body.
- a fee for the affiliation to BioForum npo, collected by BioForum npo.

For the sales outlets

- a charge for the inspection and certification, collected by the certification body.
- a charge, collected by BioForum npo, for the use of the Ecogarantie® trademark on the turnover made out of the certified products.

The operator is allowed to use the trademark only if he has paid all his fees and charges.

The inspection and certification fee collected by the certification body within the framework of Ecogarantie® only applies to activities that may not be inspected under EC regulation 834/2007. For activities covered by EC EU regulation 834/2007, there will be no inspection and certification fee required for the use of Ecogarantie®.

The prices to be paid for the above-mentioned fees are available at the office of BioForum npo.

4. Inspection and certification

The trademark may only be granted if the production units of the operator have been inspected on the spot by a certification body approved by BioForum npo. Later on, the units will be inspected at least once a year. This inspection can happen at any time. New products may only be introduced on the market once the certification body has given its written authorisation.

The minimal requirements for inspection are those mentioned in title IV of EC regulation 889/2008 but adapted to ecological products. The only adaptation is related to the distributors of pre-packaged products. They are not obliged to submit their activities to the inspection.

Inspection activities

Inspection may include following activities:

- inspection of the accounting practices: inspection of the nature and the origin of the products that were purchased, inspection of the natural origin of the ingredients, inspection of the quantities of ingredients that were purchased and of the finished products, based on the purchase and sales invoices, on the offers and price lists, among other documents;
- inspection of the production method: to establish the composition of the products, to examine the production methods and the materials that were used;
- inspection of packages and labels;
- measures taken by the company in order to separate the ecological production from the non-ecological production and to avoid contamination by disinfectants;
- visit of the production units and warehouses, residue analyses on ingredients and finished products.

Access to the company

In order for the certification body to conduct its inspection procedures, the company must provide full cooperation. The operator will give any information that the certification body deems necessary to judge the certification. The departments concerned must be freely accessible, and the needed documents will be made available on request. Inspection can be extended to areas in the company that have not switched over to ecological production or to products that are not covered by the Ecogarantie® trademark. The company has to submit samples free of charge to the certification body.

Information

If modifications have been made to a product that has already been approved, to its composition for instance or to the packaging, these modifications have to be submitted for approval to the certification body before the product can be (re)-introduced on the market.

The operator must inform the certification body on how production differs from specifications. Any project that does not meet standards will have to be approved in written form by the certification body. If the legislation imposes a procedure or conditions for the composition of a product that are not allowed by the present specifications, the operator has to inform the certification body.

5. Confidentiality

The certification body promises to respect the confidentiality of the information given in the inspection reports (and, more specifically, of all data concerning the composition of the products) or in the reports of the certification teams. Only the certification status can be made public by the certification bodies.

6. Contractors

Companies are allowed to subcontract part of their activities out to a contractor who will have to submit to the same kind of inspection.

7. Approval of foreign products

The following products are allowed to carry the Ecogarantie® logo if they have been certified as ecological by a foreign certification body approved by BioForum npo (see appendix I for more details):

- non-food products (cosmetics, washing and cleaning products)
- non-agricultural products (sea salt and water)

8. Sanctions

Any breach of these specifications will be penalized by the certification body according to the level of sanctions as laid down in the Regional Decree of February the 11th, 2010 for Wallonia and of December the 3rd 2009 for Brussels and its modifications. It means for example written warnings, suspension or exclusion of one or more certificates from the operator. Any suspension or exclusion can be made public. These sanctions will be attributed in the framework of the inspection system of the certification bodies.

The operator will have to compensate the owners of the trademark for the damage caused by the breaches. The amount of the fine will be fixed as a lump sum that is identical to the economic profit the operator derived from the breach. The amount of the profit will be established by the certification body, which will also receive the com-

pensation on behalf of the owners. BioForum npo is entitled to require a complementary compensation. No compensation will be due if the certification body does not deem it necessary.

9. Appeal

Any time a decision has been made, operators can appeal against it to the certification body. If the operator does not agree on the treatment of his appeal, he can bring an appeal to the Appeals Board of Bioforum npo, whose decision is final and has to be accepted by all parties.

B. USE OF THE TRADEMARK

1. General points

Products with the Ecogarantie® logo must show the logo in a clear and recognisable way. They must also mention the inspection body which took care of the inspection. The ® symbol will always accompany the logo.

2. Use on cosmetics

The Ecogarantie® logo may be used on:

- raw materials and/or
- semi-manufactured products and/or
- final products

if they meet the requirements of the present specifications.

3. Use on washing and cleaning products

The label may carry the Ecogarantie® logo if the final product meets the requirement of the present specifications.

Enzymes are authorised as long as they are not genetically modified or coming from genetically modified micro-organisms.

A reference to organic agriculture may be added for agricultural raw materials and semi-manufactured produce conforming to the following texts:

- EC regulation 834/2007
- Ecogarantie® specifications, namely for the conditions regarding the physical and chemical/microbiological processes

4. Use on sea salt

The label may carry the Ecogarantie® logo if the final product meets the requirement of the present specifications.

Reference to organic agriculture may be made for agricultural ingredients that conform to the EC regulation 834/2007.

5. Use on water *Under construction*

6. Use by sales outlets

Sales outlets are allowed to use the logo on price tags and posters if they respect the rules of part VI of the present specifications.

7. Use on price lists

Any company using the Ecogarantie® trademark on its price list must be under contract to BioForum npo. A sample text (appendix 6) has to be inserted at the beginning of the price list in order to introduce the identification system of ecological products. On the price list, a guarantee column will show the specific code across from each product.

If the trademark on the price list refers, solely and without possible mistake, to a specific product carrying the Ecogarantie® trademark, but produced by another company, the company commercialising it does not necessarily have to be under contract.

8. Label designing

Companies are allowed to design labels and wrappings if they respect the conditions defined in appendix 5 of the present specifications. They will have to submit their project before printing to the certification body for approval.

9. Promotion and sales

Neither the Ecogarantie® logo nor one of its constituent elements may be introduced in the logo of the company, in its letterheads, in its address, in its name or in any other element. Moreover the logo of the company may not be placed next to the Ecogarantie logo.

The names of the products receiving the Ecogarantie trademark must be followed or preceded by the term 'Ecogarantie®' on price lists, catalogues, etc.

On sales invoices and delivery slips, products with the Ecogarantie trademark will be indicated as Ecogarantie®.

The vehicles of an affiliated company may show the Ecogarantie® logo if the turnover of the company is made exclusively from ecological products as defined in the present specifications, and if the rules about where to place the logo, which are enclosed in the present specifications, are being followed.

Any company using the Ecogarantie® trademark in an advertisement must have a contract with BioForum npo. If the product referred to in the advertisement has the Ecogarantie® trademark and has been produced by another company, the company does not necessarily have to be under contract.

C. SEPARATION FROM NON-ECOLOGICAL PRODUCTS, STORAGE, CLEANING AND DISINFECTING

Concerning the separation between ecological and non-ecological products as well as the storage of these products, the measures fixed in EC Regulation 834/2007 and its modifications will be applied to ecological products.

The requirements concerning the cleaning and the disinfection of the premises, installations, equipments and utensils for the manufacturing of Ecogarantie® products are the following:

(under construction, not compulsory until further notice):

Each product used by the firm will be described in a technical sheet, including the attestation of the supplier as to the composition, conditions for use and security.

In addition, the following products and ingredients are prohibited:

- formaldehyde
- products based on genetically modified organisms
- products based on chlorine or chlorine derived produce
- ethoxylated products
- ammonium-based products
- persistent non-biodegradable compounds

D. PACKAGING

1. General points

Any superfluous form of packaging must be avoided. Recyclable or reusable packaging must be used whenever possible.

2. Materials

Wrapping materials must be of good quality, clean and adapted to the required goal.

As a general rule, we recommend environmentally friendly wrapping materials.

- PVC containers and other forms of plastic containing chlorine are forbidden, except in the case of reusable packaging.
- Expanded polystyrene is forbidden.
- It is forbidden to use CFC's in the production.

The creation of environmentally friendly forms of packaging being in constant and fast evolution, the BioForum npo might impose more severe restrictions according to the type of product.

E. RECOGNITION OF CERTIFICATION BODIES

In order to implement a thorough application of the Ecogarantie specifications, a compulsory control of the operators is necessary. To this end, BioForum acknowledges certification bodies according to the following conditions:

- The certification body has to be approved by the competent authorities to carry out controls in the frame of the CE 834/2007 regulations. This implies in particular that the certification bodies have made the necessary steps to obtain the accreditation according the EN45011 or ISO 65 or ISO 17020 norms. The fact that an approval has been issued in the frame of the CE834/2007 regulations, offers enough guarantees as for the method of work of the certification bodies, even for application fields which would not be resumed in the 834/2007 regulations but well in the present specifications.
- A constant dialogue between BioForum and the recognized controlling body is maintained in order to assess the system and to improve it if necessary.
- A communication between the recognized controlling body and BioForum will be set up as following:
 - From the side of the controlling body to BioForum:
 - o Every 6 months, a list of the controlled and certified companies is transmitted
 - o Registered 'decertifications' are transmitted as soon as they come into force
 - From the side of BioForum to the controlling body:
 - o Immediate transmission of the new affiliated member (= signed contract)
 - o Every 6 months, transmission of the operators up to date with their Ecogarantie contributions
 - o A contract is drawn up between BioForum and the controlling body (appendix 7 for this request for proposal)

BioForum judges about the recognition of the controlling bodies and is free not to recognise some control bodies.

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PART II

Cosmetics



JANUARY 2012

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PART II ► COSMETICS

A. GENERAL PURPOSE

1. The selection of the ingredients is based on the principles of sustainability and ecological responsibility. Agricultural raw materials are organically-grown unless it can be proved that they are not available. These cases are mentioned in the present specifications. Synthetic products, colouring agents and preservatives will not be used or be used in a very restricted way. The positive list only mentions substances which, because of their specific properties and of their function in the product, cannot be substituted, in the short term, by a better and more ecological alternative.

The use of genetically modified organisms (GMO's) is strictly forbidden.

2. The processes used in the production and processing may not be polluting and must respect both our health and the environment. This will be done through measures which take into account biodegradability, recycling of packaging, waste products, ... The commercialisation of these quality cosmetics takes into account the wellbeing of the consumer by setting up clear rules as well as by favouring communication and transparency in the chain.

3. End products may not be tested on animals (see D.4). Alternative methods will be used.

B. FIELD OF APPLICATION

All ingredients must conform to the European Directive 2003/15/EC of the 27th of February 2003 amending the European Directive 76/768/EEC and to the Royal Decree of October 15th, 1997 concerning cosmetics, as well as to its modifications, and meet the additional stipulations of the present specifications.

Cosmetics are not covered by EC Regulation 834/2007 concerning organically-grown products and therefore do not need to be certified.

However, the raw materials which would be organically-grown in the framework of the Ecogarantie® specifications, must meet the requirements of EC Regulation 834/2007 and/or the Biogarantie® standards.

The name "cosmetics" is defined (see the European Directive 76/768/EEC) as:

These are any substance or preparation other than pharmaceutical specialties and medicinal products intended for contact with the various external parts of the human body particularly epidermis, hair system, nails, lips and external genital organs or with the teeth and the mucous membranes of the oral cavity with a view exclusively or principally to cleaning them, perfuming them or protecting them in order to keep them in good condition, change their appearance or correct body odors (cf. Article L.5131-1 as the indicative list by category of products, mentioned by Article R 5263 (c) and laid down by the Order of 30 June 2000, published in the O.J. of 12/07/00).

C. USE OF THE TRADEMARK, INGREDIENT DECLARATION AND REFERENCE TO ORGANIC AGRICULTURE

The Ecogarantie® logo may be used on:

- raw materials and/or
- semi-manufactured products and/or
- final products

if they meet the requirements of the present specifications and have therefore been submitted to the inspection and certification of one of the approved certification bodies.

A complete ingredient declaration with the INCI appellation must be mentioned on the label, regardless of the quantity involved (see EC directive).

If the product contains perfumes, this must be mentioned on the packaging.

Reference to organic agriculture may be made for agricultural raw materials and semi-manufactured products that conform to the following texts:

- EC Regulation 834/2007 and its modifications
- the Ecogarantie® specifications, namely for the conditions regarding the physical and chemical/ microbiological processes

The indications referring to organic production methods make it clear that they relate to a method of agricultural production and are accompanied by a reference to the ingredients of agricultural origin concerned, unless such reference is clearly given in the list of ingredients.

If percentages of organic ingredients are mentioned on the packaging, the operator will communicate the method used for the calculation to the attention of the control body and mention it on the packaging. E.g. the operator will mention if the percentage refers to the total of ingredients or only to the vegetable ingredients.

The labelling refers to the name of the certification body to which the operator is subject.

D. PREPARATION

D.1. RAW MATERIALS AND PHYSICAL PROCESSES USED IN PROCESSING

D.1.1. Vegetable products

Vegetable products are authorised based on the following criteria:

- Organically-grown and/or harvested from wild plants according to EC Regulation 834/2007 and its modifications,
- Not being part of the European and international list of protected species (see the Washington Convention or the Bern Convention).

- As exception to the rule that vegetable products must be organically-grown, essential oil from conventional Ho wood is allowed until end January 2013 as alternative to essential oil from organic rosewood that may not be imported any-more (its increasing exploitation causes damages to trees).

D.1.2. Animal products

Animal products are not forbidden but there seems to be no need for their use. Therefore there is no positive list either.
(1)

D.1.3. Animal secretions

Authorised animal secretions are recorded in a positive list, based on the following criteria:

- Not being part of the European and international list of protected species (see the Washington Convention or the Bern Convention),
- from organic husbandry, if available,
- the exploitation of which has no detrimental effect on the ecological balance.

Positive list :

Authorised animal secretions

Butyris Lac
Butyrum
Caprae Lac (goat milk)
Cera alba
Cera flava
Lac (milk)
Lanolin
Lanolin cera
Mel
Ovum
Propolis Cera
Royal Jelly
Shellac
Snail secretion filtrate

D.1.4. Minerals

Minerals are authorised based on the following criteria:

- Must be used for their intrinsic properties
- Their exploitation causes no pollution or damage to the landscape
- According to the purity criteria (see appendix A)
- Whole and unmodified
- No disinfection through gamma rays

It is the producer's duty to show the inspection body that he examined these elements while selecting his raw materials.

Examples of authorised products:

- alumina
- montmorillonite clay (bentonite)
- kaolin clay
- chalks
- sand
- talc
- drinkable water: spring water, reverse-osmosis water, unmineralised water, ...
- ...

1) For questions on this subject, please contact the Ecogarantie® Technical Committee

Negative list:

petrochemical products

D.1.5. Maritime products**Maritime products are authorised based on the following criteria:**

For the vegetable maritime products: see criteria under point D.1.1

For the animal maritime products: see criteria under point D.1.2.

For the mineral maritime products: see criteria under point D.1.3.

D.1.6. Gas**Authorised gasses are recorded in a positive list.****Positive list:**

Authorised gasses
carbon dioxide
oxygen
nitrogen

D.1.7. Nature of the physical processes used**The hereby authorised raw materials may only be processed through very specific physical processes which are recorded in a positive list based on the following criteria:**

- processes which give good biodegradable molecules
- processes which respect the naturally active substances
- processes which allow a good management of the waste and of the energy consumption

Positive list:

absorption (on an inert support ²⁾)
bleaching, deodorisation (on an inert support ²⁾)
grinding
centrifuging (separating solid substance from liquids)
settling and decanting
desiccation, drying (by means of (non) gradual evaporation or sun radiation)
freezing/individually quick frozen
deterpenation (if fractioned steam distillation)
distillation or extraction (steam)
squeezing, crushing
extraction by means of following solvents: with any form of water or with a third solvent of plant origin <i>water - ethylalcohol - vegetable glycerine - honey - sugar - vinegar - carbon dioxide - vegetable oils</i>
filtration and purification (ultra-filtration, dialysis, crystallisation)
lyophilisation
blending
percolation
cold pressure
hot pressure (to extract according to the fluidity of the fatty acids)
sterilisation by means of heat treatment (according to the temperatures respecting the active substances) and UV (only for water)
Sifting
maceration
solar extraction (Eg. flower remedies)
cold extraction
vacuum
decoction (hot or cold)
infusion (hot or cold)
post extraction filtration, micro filter, depth filter (with non-bleached filtering papers) blending different batches of extracted herbs to achieve a specified level of markers/actives concentration by evaporation, vacuum distillation, spray drying clarifying/precipitating agents (permitted additives or processing aids: see appendix VIII of EC reg. 889/2008) nitrogen flushing pasteurisation

2) Inert support: substance that has no chemical reaction with the original substance.

Examples of forbidden processes:

irradiation (X-rays)
ionising treatments (gamma rays)
extraction by means of following solvents: benzene butylene glycol hexane toluene mineral oils petroleum-derived solvents propylene glycol
extraction with ultrasound ⁽³⁾
post extraction electron beaming irradiation post packaging sterilisation E.g. UV rectification

D.2. SEMI-MANUFACTURED PRODUCTS OBTAINED THROUGH CHEMICAL/MICROBIOLOGICAL PROCESSES**D.2.1. Nature of the chemical processes used**

In order to produce a semi-manufactured product that conforms to the present specifications, the hereby authorised raw materials may only be treated by means of specific chemical processes which are recorded in a positive list based on the following criteria:

- processes which give good biodegradable molecules
- processes which respect the naturally active substances
- processes which allow a good management of the waste and of the energy consumption

Positive list:

Alkylation
Amidation
Calcination of vegetable residue
Carbonisation (resins, fatty vegetable oils)
Condensation/addition
Esterification and trans-esterification
Etherification
Filtration and purification (crystallisation, electrolysis, ion exchange)
Hydration
Hydrogenation
Hydrolysis
Neutralisation through bases ⁽⁴⁾
Neutralisation through acids ⁽⁴⁾
Oxidation/reduction
Production processes for amphoteric (amidification and quaternisation)
Saponification
Sulfatation
Roasting

3) Precautionary principle: is forbidden as long as no study has proved the method to be innocuous.

4) Unable to mention here all the different modalities (catalysts, solvents, ...) necessary for the accomplishment of certain processes, we wish to remind you that these must however comply with the criteria mentioned above.

Examples of forbidden processes:

Quaternisation
Bleaching, deodorisation (on a support of animal origin)
Deterpenation (if not by means of steam)
Ethoxylation (PEG, ...)
Sulfonation (in main reaction)
Treatments with ethylene oxide (disinfection...)
Treatments with mercury (production of sodium and potassium hydroxide)
Propoxylation
Chlorine chemistry (chloric gasses, chlorine derivatives), with the exception of tap water

D.2.2. Nature of the microbiological/biotechnological processes used

Microbiological/biotechnological processes are allowed based on the following criteria:

- from vegetable or animal raw materials

Examples of authorised processes:

in vitro cultivation, wild or controlled fermentation by means of micro-organisms.
--

Negative list

Cloning, cell culture, methods based on genetically modified organisms (GMO): organism the genetic material of which has been modified in a way or with results that cannot be naturally achieved through reproduction, traditional forms of crossing, cross breeding, hybridation and/or recombination.
--

D.2.3. Semi-manufactured product of vegetable origin

Semi-manufactured products of vegetable origin are authorised based on the following criteria:

Only the raw materials and processes abovementioned are authorised. Exception is made for the organic quality of the raw materials: if they are not available in their organic version, raw materials from conventional agriculture may be used to produce the semimanufactured product.

Examples of authorised semi manufactured products

Anthocyan as colouring agent
Betaine
Peracetic acid
Produce obtained through fermentation like ethanol, citric acid, formic acid, ...
Tocopherol
Salts like sodium citrate, zinc gluconate, zinc lactate, zinc ricinoleate, zinc stearate, ...

D.2.4. Semi-manufactured product of animal origin

Authorised semi-manufactured products of animal origin are recorded in a positive list based, among others, on the following criteria:

Only the abovementioned raw materials and processes are authorised. Exception is made for the organic quality of the raw materials: if they are not available in their organic version, conventional raw materials may be used to produce the semi-manufactured product.

Positive list

Authorised semi-manufactured products of animal origin
Beeswax acid
Behenyl Beeswax
Behenyl / isostearyl Beeswax
Hydrolysed milk protein
Lactis Proteinum
Lactoferrin
Lactoperoxidase
Lactose
Lanolin alcohol
Yoghurt

D.2.5. Semi-manufactured product of mineral origin

Authorised semi-manufactured products of mineral origin are recorded in a positive list based on the following criteria:

- the only raw materials and processes to be authorised are those defined above
- according to the purification criteria (see appendix A)

Positive list

Authorised semi-manufactured products of mineral origin
CI 77000 aluminium
CI 77007 lazzerite
CI 77163 bismuth oxychlorure
CI 77220 calcium carbonate
calcium fluoride
calcium sulfate
CI 77288 and CI 77289 chromium oxides
CI 77400 copper
iron hydroxide
iron oxides CI 77480, 77491, 77492, 77499
iron sulfate
CI 77510 (Prussian blue)
CI 77711 magnesium oxide
CI 77713 magnesium carbonate (magnesite)
CI 77742 ammonium and manganese diphosphate
CI 77745 manganese bis orthophosphate
CI 77891 titanium dioxide
CI 77947 zinc oxide
copper oxide
copper sulfate
cupric sulfate
dicalcium phosphate dihydrate
disodium phosphate
hydrated silica
magnesium chloride
magnesium hydroxide
magnesium sulfate
manganese sulfate
potassium carbonate
potassium hydroxide
potassium sulfate
silver chloride
silver CI 77820
silver sulfate
sodium bicarbonate
sodium borate
sodium carbonate
sodium chloride
sodium fluoride
sodium hydroxide
sodium monofluorophosphate
sodium silicate
sodium sulfate
zinc gluconate
zinc lactate
zinc ricinoleate

zinc stearate
zinc sulfate
aluminium compounds not water soluble: aluminium/magnesium hydroxide stearate aluminium hydroxide aluminium oxide aluminium stearate aluminium sulfate
silicon dioxide
caprylic diglyceride

D.2.6. Semi-manufactured product of maritime origin

Authorised semi-manufactured products of maritime origin are recorded in a positive list based on the following criteria:

The only raw materials and processes to be authorised are those defined above. Exception is made for the organic quality of the raw materials: if they are not available in their organic version, conventional raw materials may be used to produce the semi-manufactured product.

Positive list :

Authorised semi-manufactured products of maritime origin
Algin
Carraghene
calcium alginate
Chitosan
potassium alginate
Xanthophyll

D.2.7. Semi-manufactured products of microbial origin

Authorised semi-manufactured products of microbial origin are recorded in a positive list.

Positive list :

xanthan

D.2.8. Surfactants

Surfactants are authorised according to the following criteria:

- based only on the raw materials and processes as defined above
- petrochemical synthesis is ruled out of the manufacturing process

Examples of authorised surfactants:

Authorised surfactants
Condensates of proteins/fatty acids
Any kind of soap produced from vegetable fatty acids and anorganic bases (sodium and potassium salts): Palmates, Cocoates, Olivates, Oleates, ... and their blends. Exception: soaps based on resin acids from coniferous trees because of their high level of toxicity in water
Alkylsulphates of vegetable origin: Sodium Lauryl Sulphate, Sodium Coco Sulphate, Sodium Octyl Sulphate, Sodium Oleyl Sulphate.
Alkylglutamate of vegetable base
Lipoamines of vegetable origin: Sodium Lauroyl Lipoamines
Alkylpolyglucosides of vegetable origin: Decyl Glucoside, Lauryl Glucoside, Octyl Glucoside, Caprylyl/Capryl Glucoside
Alkylglucosides of vegetable origin: Sucrose Cocoate, Sucrose laurate

Examples of forbidden surfactants:

Linear alkylbenzene sulfonate
Quats (quaternary ammonium connections)
Alkylphenol polyetheneglycol ethers (EPEO) like nonylphenolenylethoxylaten
Alkylphenol ethoxylates (APEO) or other alkylphenol derivatives (APD's)
Amine ethoxylates
EO/PO polymers in bloc (EO=ethylene oxide, PO=propylene oxide)
Secondary alkane sulphonate (SAS)
Fatty alcohol ethoxylates
Toluolsulphonate
Amphoteric of vegetable base origin: Oleo Ampho Polyglycinate, Alkyl Amido Ampho Polypeptide Carboxylate

D.3. CHEMICALLY SYNTHESISED SEMI-MANUFACTURED PRODUCTS

Definition: ingredients produced by chemical synthesis

General rule: (petro)chemical synthesis is ruled out of the manufacturing process

Examples of forbidden chemically synthesised semimanufactured products:

synthetic colouring agents
synthetic perfumes
synthetic antioxidants
synthetic emollients (soothing agents)
synthetic oils and fats
synthetic silicones
synthetic sun tan lotions
chelatan agents based on EDTA and its salts

Exceptions to the rule: “petrochemical synthesis is ruled out of the manufacturing process” can only be granted according the following criteria:

A few exceptions are tolerated in these standards (in positive lists: see D.3.1 and D.3.2) when this kind of synthesis does not apply to a main component or when the substances concerned cannot be replaced in the short run by a better and more ecological alternative because of their specific properties and of their function in the product.

D.3.1. Preservatives in the ingredients

Positive list:

Authorised preservatives in the ingredients
acetic acid, its salts and esters
benzoic acid, its salts and esters
benzylic alcohol
dehydroacetic acid
lactoperoxidase
formic acid and its sodium salt
parahydroxybenzoic acid, its salts and esters
phenoxy-2-ethanol,
phenylethyl alcohol
propionic acid and its salts
sorbic acid and its salts
silver chloride

D.3.2. Preservatives in the end product

Positive list

Authorised preservatives in the end product
acetic acid, its salts and esters
benzoic acid, its salts and esters
benzylic alcohol
dehydroacetic acid
lactoperoxidase
formic acid and its sodium salt
propionic acid and its salts
salicylic acid and its salts
sorbic acid and its salts
phenylethyl alcohol

D.4. PRODUCTION OF COSMETICS

Only the physical and/or chemical processes recorded in the positive lists under 1 and 2 are authorised in the processing of ingredients (hereby authorised raw materials and semimanufactured products) into a cosmetic product.

End products may not be tested on animals according to European Directive 76/768/EEC and its subsequent modifications.

E. COMPANY

The company must be able to prove that it meets the legal regulations in terms of cosmetic production (European Directive 76/768/EEC, Royal Decree of October 15th, 1997), and that it busies itself with HACCP and traceability.

Control plan

Following procedures must be set up:

- a file per product, containing all the guarantees from the suppliers (analyses and certificates as to the origin of the ingredients and of the production processes)
- a program of the risk analyses in order to supplement and verify the guarantees from the suppliers
- guarantees concerning the production of raw materials, which may not damage the environment
- a description of the conformity procedures on end products

Appendix A

Purification criteria for raw materials and ingredients

Basic principle

Raw materials must remain authentic (not chemically processed) and devoid of any kind of contamination. Semi-manufactured products may not be polluted through any form of contamination.

List of possible contaminations

Besides the forbidden substances mentioned in appendix II of Directive 76/768/EEC concerning cosmetic products, cosmetics have to be devoid of:

- mycotoxines
- PCB and PCDD/F
- residues of pesticides (insecticides, fungicides, herbicides, ...)

Establishing the maximal values

The maximal values in terms of contamination are those of the general regulation.

If no maximal value has been established by the general regulation, the detection level will be applied.

Ecogarantie®

SPECIFICATIONS

**RULES AND STANDARDS FOR THE
INSPECTION AND CERTIFICATION
OF ECOLOGICAL PRODUCTS**

PART III

WASHING PRODUCTS



JANUARY 2012

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PART III ► WASHING AND CLEANING PRODUCTS

A. GENERAL PURPOSE

1. The selection of the ingredients is based on the principles of sustainability and ecological responsibility. Agricultural ingredients come from organic farming, unless it can be proved that they are not available. If such is the case, it will be mentioned in the present specifications. Synthetic products, colouring agents and preservatives will not be used or used in a very restricted way. The positive list only mentions those substances which, because of their specific characteristics and their function in the product, cannot be replaced in the short run by a better and more ecological alternative. The use of genetically modified organisms (GMO's) or of GMO techniques in the production chain is forbidden.
2. The processes used in the production and processing may not be polluting and must respect both our health and the environment. This will be done by taking measures during the production process, as far as biodegradability, recycling of packages, waste products, ... are concerned. The commercialisation of these quality washing products takes into account the wellbeing of the consumer by setting up clear rules as well as by favouring communication and transparency in the chain.

B. FIELD OF APPLICATION

All ingredients and methods of preparation must conform to the European legislation and meet the additional stipulations of the present specifications.

Washing and cleaning products are not covered by EEC Regulation 834/2007 concerning organically-grown products and do therefore not need to be certified.

However, the raw materials that would be organically-grown in the framework of the Ecogarantie® specifications, must meet the requirements of EEC Regulation 834/2007 and/or the Biogarantie® standards.

The name “**washing products**” involves the following product groups all meant for both private and professional use.

The product group ‘**all-purpose cleaners and cleaners for sanitary facilities**’ shall be composed of the following three subgroups:

- a) all-purpose cleaners comprising detergent products intended for the routine cleaning of floors, walls, ceilings, windows and other fixed surfaces, and which are dissolved or diluted in water prior to use. All purpose cleaners must have water content $\leq 90\%$ (w/w).
- b) window cleaners comprising specific all-purpose cleaners for the routine cleaning of windows, and which are either diluted in water prior to use or used without dilution. All window cleaners must have water content $\leq 95\%$ (w/w).
- c) cleaners for sanitary facilities comprising detergent products intended for the routine removal, including by scouring, of dirt and/or deposits in sanitary facilities, such as laundry rooms, bathrooms, showers, toilets and kitchens. All cleaners for sanitary facilities must have water content $\leq 90\%$ (w/w).

The subgroup specified in point (c) shall also include the following:

- a) products which are automatically used when a toilet is flushed, such as ‘self-dosing-products’, including toilet blocks;
- b) products for use in a toilet cistern;
- c) products, which have no cleaning effects other than the removal of calcium carbonate (scale);
- d) disinfectants.

The product group shall also cover products for more specific cleaning uses, such as oven cleaners, floor-strippers, polishes, drain cleaners, and so on.

The product group ‘hand dishwashing detergents’ shall comprise:

‘all detergents intended to be used, to wash by hand, dishes, crockery, cutlery, pots, pans, kitchen utensils and so on’

The product group ‘detergents for dishwashers’ shall comprise all detergents intended for use exclusively in automatic dishwashers.

The product group ‘laundry detergents’ shall comprise all laundry detergents, in powder, liquid or any other form, for the washing of textiles.

This list is not comprehensive.

C. USE OF THE TRADEMARK

The Ecogarantie logo may be used for:

- raw materials (physically processed or not) and/or
- semi-manufactured products and/or
- final products

If they meet the requirements of the present specifications and have therefore been submitted to the inspection and certification of one of the approved certification bodies.

D. PREPARATION

D.1. RAW MATERIALS AND PHYSICAL PROCESSES USED IN PROCESSING

D.1.1. Vegetable products

Vegetable products are authorised based on the following criteria:

- Organically-grown and/or harvested from wild plants according to EC Regulation 834/2007 and its modifications.
 - Derogations can only be granted if a written substantiate file can be provided proving that:
 - the technical quality
 - and/or the quantity
 - and/or the economical viability

is not sufficient with the organic version.

The company has to motivate why it was not possible to find organic ingredients.

The technical committee will deal with this matter, in cooperation with the inspection bodies.

- Not being part of the European and international list of protected species (see the Washington Convention or the Bern Convention).

D.1.2. Animal products

Authorised animal products are recorded in a positive list, based on the following criteria:

- not be part of the European and international list of protected species (see the Washington Convention or the Bern Convention)
- organically-grown if available
- are not used as main component

Positive list:

ossengal for the production of soaps
tallow in abrasives

D.1.3. Animal secretions

Authorised animal secretions are recorded in a positive list, based on the following criteria:

- organically-grown if available
- the exploitation of which has no detrimental effect on the ecological balance.

Positive list :

Authorised animal secretions
Butyris Lac
Butyrum
Caprae Lac (goat milk)
Cera alba
Cera flava
Lac (milk)
Lanolin
Lanolin cera
Mel
Ovum
Propolis Cera
Royal Jelly
Shellac

D.1.4. Minerals

Minerals are authorised based on the following criteria:

- Must be used for their intrinsic properties
- Their exploitation causes no pollution or damage to the landscape
- According to the purity criteria (see appendix A)
- Whole and unmodified
- No disinfection through gamma rays

It is the producer's duty to show the inspection body that he examined these elements while selecting his raw materials.

Examples of authorised products:

alumina
montmorillonite clay (bentonite)
kaolin clay
chalks
sand
talc
drinkable water: tap water, spring water, reverse-osmosis water, unmineralised water, ...
silicates
...

Negative list:

petroleum and its derivatives
borium and its compounds
phosphorus, phosphates and their derivatives (phosphonates, ...)
silicone and its derivatives
mineral acids (H_3PO_4 , HCl , H_2SO_4 , ... and their derivatives)
mineral bases (with the exception of $NaOH$, $Ca(OH)_2$, $Mg(OH)_2$, KOH that are allowed (see also § D.4. for rules on final products –risk categories-))

D.1.5. Maritime products

Maritime products are authorised based on the following criteria:

For the vegetable maritime products: see criteria under point D.1.1

For the animal maritime products: see criteria under point D.1.2. and D.1.3.

For the mineral maritime products: see criteria under point D.1.4.

D.1.6. Gas

Authorised gasses are recorded in a positive list.

Positive list:

Authorised gasses
carbon dioxide
oxygen
nitrogen

D.1.7. Nature of the physical processes used

Raw materials may only be processed through very specific physical processes, which are recorded in a positive list based on the following criteria.

- processes that give good biodegradable molecules
- processes that respect the active substances
- processes that allow a good management of the waste and of the energy consumption

Positive list:

absorption (on an inert support)
decolouration, deodorisation (on an inert support)
grinding
centrifugation (separating solid substance from liquids)
clearance
dehydration, drying (by means of (non) gradual evaporation or sun radiation)
freezing/individually quick frozen
deterpenation (if fractioned steam distillation)
distillation or extraction (steam)
squeezing, crushing
extraction by means of following solvents: water ethylalcohol vegetable glycerin honey sugar vinegar carbon dioxide
filtering and purification (ultra-filtering, dialysis, electrolysis)
lyophilisation
blending
percolation
cold pressure
warm pressure (to extract according to the fluidity of the fatty acids)
sterilisation by means of heat treatment (according to the temperatures respecting the active substances) and UV (only for water)
sifting
maceration
solar extraction (eg. flower remedies)
cold extraction
vacuum
decoction (hot or cold)
Infusion (hot or cold)
post extraction filtration, micro filter, depth filter (with non-bleached filtering papers) blending different batches of extracted herbs to achieve a specified level of markers/actives concentration by evaporation, vacuum distillation, spray drying clarifying/precipitating agents (permitted additives or processing aids: see appendix 8 of EC reg. 889/2008) nitrogen flushing pasteurisation

Examples of forbidden processes:

irradiation (X-rays)
ionising treatments (gamma rays)
extraction by means of following solvents: benzene butylene glycol hexane mineral oils petroleum-derived solvents propylene glycol
extraction with ultrasound *
post extraction electron beaming
irradiation
post packaging sterilisation eg UV
rectification

* Precautionary principle: is forbidden as long as no study has proved the method to be innocuous.

D.2.1. Nature of the chemical processes used

In order to produce a semimanufactured product, the raw materials may only be treated by means of specific chemical processes that are recorded in a positive list based on the following criteria:

- processes that give good biodegradable molecules
- processes that respect the naturally active substances
- processes that allow a good management of the waste and of the energy consumption

Positive list:

Alkylation
Calcination of vegetable residue
Carbonisation (resins, vegetable oils)
Chlorine chemistry (only inorganic part)
Condensation / addition
Deterpenation by means of steam
Esterification and trans-esterification
Etherification
Hydration
Hydrogenation
Hydrolysis
Neutralisation through bases
Neutralisation through acids
Oxidation/reduction
Production processes for amphoteres (amidification)
Saponification
Sulphatation
Roasting

Examples of forbidden processes:

Amidification in case of main components like the surfactants
Quaternisation
Decolouration, deodorisation (on a support of animal origin)
Sulfonation (in main reaction)
Treatments with ethylene oxide
Treatments with mercury (production of sodium and potassium hydroxide)
Propoxylation
Chlorine chemistry (organic part)

D.2.2. Nature of the microbiological/biotechnological processes used

Microbiological/biotechnological processes are allowed based on the following criteria:

- from vegetable or animal raw materials

Examples of authorised processes:

in vitro cultivation, wild or controlled fermentation by means of micro-organisms, production of enzymes as far as they are not obtained from GMO technology
--

Negative list

Cloning, cell culture and methods based on genetically modified organisms (GMO): organism the genetic material of which has been modified in a way that cannot be naturally achieved through reproduction and/or recombination.

D.2.3. Semimanufactured product of vegetable origin

Semimanufactured products of vegetable origin are authorised based on the following criteria:

Only the raw materials and processes abovementioned are authorised. Exception is made for the organic quality of the raw materials: if they are not available in their organic version, raw materials from conventional agriculture may be used to produce the semimanufactured product.

Examples of authorised semimanufactured products

Anthocyan as colouring agent
Betaine
Peracetic acid
Produce obtained through fermentation like ethanol, citric acid, formic acid, ...
Tocopherol
Salts like sodium citrate, zinc gluconate, zinc lactate, zinc ricinoleate, zinc stearate, ...

D.2.4. Semimanufactured product of animal origin

Authorised semimanufactured products of animal origin are recorded in a positive list based, among others, on the following criteria:

Only the abovementioned raw materials and processes are authorised. Exception is made for the organic quality of the raw materials: if they are not available in their organic version, conventional raw materials may be used to produce the semimanufactured product.

Positive list

Authorised semimanufactured products of animal origin
Beeswax acid
Behenyl Beeswax
Behenyl / isostearyl Beeswax
Hydrolysed milk protein
Lactis Proteinum
Lanolin alcohol

D.2.5. Semimanufactured product of mineral origin

Authorised semimanufactured products of mineral origin are recorded in a positive list based on the following criteria:

- the only raw materials and processes to be authorised are those defined above
- according to the purity criteria (see appendix A)

Positive list

Authorised semimanufactured products of mineral origin
Cl 77000 aluminium
Cl 77007 lazurite
Cl 77163 bismuth oxychlorure
Cl 77220 calcium carbonate
calcium sulphate
Cl 77400 copper
Cl 77480 and Cl 77491 iron oxides
Cl 77492 iron hydroxide
Cl 77499 iron oxides
iron sulphate
Cl 77510 (bleu de Prusse)
Cl 77711 magnesium oxide
Cl 77713 magnesium carbonate
Cl 77820 silver
Cl 77742 ammonium manganese diphosphate
Cl 77891 titanium dioxide
Cl 77947 zinc oxide
copper chlorophylle
cupric sulphate

hydrated silica
potassium carbonate
magnesium chloride
magnesium sulphate
manganese sulphate
silicium carbonate
potassium chloride
potassium hydroxide
potassium sulphate
silver chloride
silver sulphate
Sodium aluminium silicate (NAS)
sodium bicarbonate
sodium carbonate
sodium percarbonate
sodium gluconate
sodium hydroxide
sodium silicate
sodium sulphate if < 5%
sodium thiosulphate
zinc gluconate
zinc lactate
zinc ricinoleate
zinc stearate
silicates
silicon dioxide
hydrogen peroxide

D.2.6. Semimanufactured product of maritime origin

Authorised semimanufactured products of maritime origin are recorded in a positive list based on the following criteria:

The only raw materials and processes to be authorised are those defined above. Exception is made for the organic quality of the raw materials: if they are not available in their organic version, conventional raw materials may be used to produce the semimanufactured product.

Positive list :

Authorised semimanufactured products of maritime origin
algin
carraghene
calcium alginate
chitosan
potassium alginate
xanthophyll

D.2.7. Semimanufactured products of microbial origin

Authorised semimanufactured products of microbial origin are recorded in a positive list.

Positive list:

- xanthan
- succinoglycan
- enzymes (protease, amylase, lipase) as far as they are not obtained from GMO technology

Examples of forbidden semimanufactured products :

- Enzymes produced by GMO

D.2.8. Surfactants

Surfactants are authorised according to the following criteria:

- based only on the raw materials and processes as defined above
- petrochemical synthesis is ruled out of the manufacturing process

Examples of authorised surfactants

Authorised surfactants
Condensates of proteins/fatty acids
Fatty acid esters
Any kind of soap produced from vegetable fatty acids and anorganic bases (sodium and potassium salts): Palmates, Cocoates, Olivates, Oleates, ... and their blends. Exception: soaps based on resin acids from coniferous trees because of their high level of toxicity in water
Fatty alcohol sulphates from fatty alcohol of vegetable origin
Alkylsulphates of vegetable origin: Sodium Lauryl Sulphate, Sodium Coco Sulphate, Sodium Octyl Sulphate, Sodium Oleyl Sulphate.
Alkylglutamate of vegetable base
Lipoamines of vegetable origin: Sodium Lauroyl Lipoamines
Alkylpolyglucosides of vegetable origin: Decyl Glucoside, Lauryl Glucoside, Octyl Glucoside, Caprylyl/Capryl Glucoside
Alkylglucosides of vegetable origin: Sucrose Cocoate, Sucrose laurate
Glyceryl stearat citrat

Examples of forbidden surfactants

Linear alkylbenzene sulfonate
Quats (quaternary ammonium connections)
Alkylphenol polyetheneglycolethers (EPEO) like nonylphenolenylethoxylaten
Alkylphenol ethoxylates (APEO) or other alkylphenol derivatives (APD's)
Amine ethoxylates
EO/PO polymers in bloc (EO=ethylene oxide, PO=propylene oxide)
Secondary alkane sulphonate (SAS)
Fatty alcohol ethoxylates
Toluolsulphonate
Amphoterics of vegetable base origin: Oleo Ampho Polyglycinate, Alkyl Amido Ampho Polypeptide Carboxylate

D.3. CHEMICALLY SYNTHESISED SEMIMANUFACTURED PRODUCTS

Definition: ingredients produced by chemical synthesis

General rule: (petro)chemical synthesis is ruled out of the manufacturing process

Examples of forbidden chemically synthesised semimanufactured products:

chemically synthesised colouring agents
chemically synthesised perfumes (phenol, cumolsulphonate, ...) and auxiliary for perfumes (nitromusk connections, ...)
polycyclic musks
chemically synthesised antioxidants
chemically synthesised softeners
chemically synthesised oils and fats
silicones
optical whitening agents
chelatant agents based on EDTA and its salts
polycarboxylates
polyacrylates
substances containing iodine
formaldehyde
glutaraldehyde
glycol

isopropanol and other synthetic alcohols
cellulose thinner
white spirit
chlorinated hydrocarbons
benzene and derivatives
cetone
sulphamine acid and amidosulfonic acid
...

Exceptions to the rule: “(petro)chemical synthesis is ruled out of the manufacturing process” can only be granted according the following criteria:

A few exceptions are tolerated in these standards (in positive lists: see D.3.1 and D.3.2) when this kind of synthesis does not apply to a main component or when if the substances concerned cannot be replaced in the short run by a better and more ecological alternative because of their specific properties and of their function in the product. When establishing the positive lists based on the above mentioned conditions, BioForum takes also into account the advantages for the environment on long term (e.g. saving energy, extension of the life cycle of textile, ...) that some ingredients can add to the end products.

D.3.1. Additives

D.3.1.1. Preservatives in the ingredients

Positive list:

Authorised preservatives in the ingredients
acetic acid, its salts and esters
acid ascorbic, its salts and esters
benzoic acid, its salts and esters
benzyl alcohol
dehydroacetic acid
lactoperoxidase
salicylic acid and its salts
sorbic acid and its salts
silver chloride

D.3.1.2. Preservatives in the end product

Positive list

Authorised preservatives in the end product
acetic acid, its salts and esters
acid ascorbic, its salts and esters
benzoic acid, its salts and esters (not as in-can preservatives)
benzylalcohol
dehydroacetic acid
lactoperoxidase
sorbic acid and its salts
Formic acid and salts as long as it is not derived from petrochemical sources
Glycolic acid
Lactic acid and salts
Tartric acid and salts

D.3.2 MISCELLANEOUS

Positive list

TAED
Baypure (tetrasodium iminodisuccinat and sodium polyaspartate)

D.4. PRODUCTION OF WASHING PRODUCTS

Only the physical and/or chemical processes recorded in the positive lists under D.1.7. and D.2.1. are authorised in the processing of ingredients (raw materials and semimanufactured products see from D.1 to D.3) into a washing product.

End produce may not be tested on animals. The tests on the raw material are performed according to the legal rules and with respect of the animal well fair. Claiming “no animal testing” is forbidden.

The final product is not classified in one or more of the following risk categories according to Directive 67/548/EEC, as modified, or Directive 1999/45/EC of the European Parliament and Council (3), as modified :

Caustic (C):

R 34 Causes burns

R 35 Causes serious burns

D.5. ENVIRONMENTAL CRITERIA

D.5.1. Environmental criterion. Aerobic and anaerobic biodegradability of the organic substances

“Each organic substance that is present in the product must be easily biodegradable in aerobic and anaerobic conditions”.

D.5.2. Environmental criterion Toxicity for aquatic organisms

Ingredients and end produce may not be toxic for aquatic organisms.

Soaps based on resin acids from coniferous trees are not allowed because of their high level of toxicity in water.

E. PACKAGING

E.1. THE PACKAGING / WATER CONTENT RATIO

(under construction: not compulsory until further notice)

The amount of packaging compared to the average usage dose of the detergent may not be too high. By limiting the water content (concentrated products), one also limits the amount of packaging per functional unit.

Criteria:

- a) The primary packaging will have a volumetric packaging coefficient (VPC) of 1.9 at the most. This criterion does not apply to primary packaging that is made of at least 50% of recycled material. The VPC is equal to the smallest rectangular body (a rectangular parallelepiped) that can be contained in the packaging, divided by the volume of the product in the packaging.
- b) If no refills are supplied, the weight of the total primary packaging may not exceed 3.7 g/washing for tablets and 1.7 g/washing for all other products.
- c) If refills are supplied, the weight of the total primary packaging may not exceed 7 g/washing, and the producer will have to supply refills. The weight of a refill may not exceed 1.7 g/washing.
- d) In the case of all-purpose cleaners for private use, the percentage of water must be $\geq 90\%$ (g/g) (in order to reduce the amount of packaging material to a minimum).

E.2. AUTHORISED KINDS OF PACKAGING

(the following text is under construction: not compulsory before August 2012)

Besides the conditions stipulated under Part I D, the following criteria have to be applied:

- The materials must be recyclable (cardboard, PE, PP, PET) or compostable (bio plastics).
- If cardboard is being used, it has to contain at least 60% of recycled fibres as long as the technical requirements allow it.
- If at all possible, reusable packaging will be supplied to the consumer.

- a) If the primary packaging is made of recycled material, reference must be made about it in accordance with ISO norm 14021 (“Environmental labelling and declarations – Own claims (type II environmental labelling)”).
- b) The different parts of the primary packaging must be easy to separate in parts of one and the same material.
- c) Plastics must be marked in accordance with Directive 94/62/EC of the European Parliament and Council of December 20th, 1994, concerning packaging and packaging waste (1), or in accordance with DIN 6120, parts 1 and 2, in combination with DIN 7728, part 1.
- d) Primary plastic packaging must be marked in accordance with ISO 1043.
- e) Air sprays using propellants are not authorised.

Evaluation and control: The applicant will submit a sample of the packaging, as well as a declaration stating that each section of this criterion has been met. He will submit to the authorised body a calculation of the weight of the primary packaging together with a declaration about the percentage of recycled material contained in the packaging. The definition of Directive 94/62/EC of the European Parliament and Council of December 20th, 1994 regarding packaging and packaging waste (2) applies to primary packaging.

(2) PD L 365 of 31.12.1994, p. 10

E.3. MENTION ON THE PACKAGING

Once the operator refers to the ingredients and the organic agriculture, the following rules should be applied:

a) Information about the ingredients

The company will refer to the legal rules laid down in the regulation CE 648/2004 from the European Parliament and the Council of March the 31st, 2004 on detergents.

A complete ingredient declaration in common language or with the INCI names must be mentioned on the label. From 2012, the declaration must detail the type of enzymes used (for example protease, lipase)

If the product contains perfumes, this must be mentioned on the packaging.

b) Reference to the organic agriculture

Reference to organic agriculture may be made for agricultural raw materials and semi-manufactured products which conform to the following texts:

- EC Regulation 834/2007 and its modifications
- the Ecogarantie® specifications, namely for the conditions regarding the physical and chemical/microbiological processes

The indications referring to organic production methods make it clear that they relate to a method of agricultural production and are accompanied by a reference to the ingredients of agricultural origin concerned unless such reference is clearly given in the list of ingredients.

If percentages of organic ingredients are mentioned on the packaging, the operator will communicate the method used for the calculation to the attention of the control body and mention it on the packaging. E.g. the operator will mention if the percentage refers to the total of ingredients or only to the vegetable ingredients.

The labelling refers to the name of the inspection body to which the operator is subject.

Evaluation and control: The applicant will submit to the authorised body a sample of the packaging of the product.

c) Information about the Ecogarantie® label

More information can be found on the Ecogarantie website www.ecogarantie.com

Following information can be added to the label or be inserted in folders:

a) Prescriptions in terms of doses

The packaging of the product must mention the dosing instructions. For laundry detergents and detergents for dishwashers, the recommended doses must be given for “normally dirty” and “very dirty” goods, as well as for the relevant water hardness degrees in the different countries where the product will be commercialised. The instructions must indicate how best to use the product according to the degree of dirt. The recommended doses for water hardness 1 (soft water), “normally dirty” goods, and for the highest degree of water hardness 3 or 4, “very dirty” goods, may differ at the most by factor 2.

The packaging of all-purpose cleaners must give a recommendation for an exact dose by means of a pictogram (such as a bucket of 5 l and several caps with ml).

The packaging of concentrated cleaners for sanitary facilities must clearly indicate that, compared to normal (i.e. not concentrated) products, only a small quantity is required.

The packaging of hand dishwashing detergents must mention the following information:

- the text below (possibly with a pictogram) with information in a reasonable size and against a visible background:

Recommended dose for 5 litre soap suds:	
Not very dirty:	x ml (y teaspoons) detergent
Dirty:	z ml (w teaspoons) detergent

X,y,z must be specified by the applicant and/or producer.

The text will use millilitres as unit. A second common unit, such as teaspoons (which are used in the above-mentioned pictogram), will be given between brackets. If the packaging has an easy and efficient dosing system, giving a reliable dosing, another unit (such as caps or jets) may be used.

- the number of uses the consumer should more or less be able to derive from one bottle.

This is calculated by dividing the quantity of product in one bottle by the recommended dose (mentioned in the pictogram) for 5 litre soap suds and dirty dishes.

The applicant will take the necessary measures to ensure that the consumer uses the recommended dose by giving, for instance, a dosing system (for powders or liquid products) and/or by at least mentioning in ml the recommended dose (for powders or liquid products). The packaging should also urge the consumer to inquire with the local water supplier or local authority about the degree of hardness of the mains water.

If the dosing instructions are given by means of a dosing device, the volume of the device (in ml) must also clearly show on the packaging.

The packaging must mention the following text (or a similar one):

“Do not use too much: in so doing, you will save money and cause less damage to the environment”.

b) Information on ecological products

Following text (or a similar one) must be mentioned on laundry detergents:

“AN ECOLOGICAL LAUNDRY IMPLIES: - to sort the laundry (for example according to colour, degree of dirt, kind of fibre), - to wash only when the washer is full, - to choose washing programmes running on low temperatures.

You will help to diminish water pollution, to reduce the amount of waste and the consumption of energy by using this environmentally labelled product and by following the above-mentioned instructions.”

The packaging of hand dishwashing detergents must mention the following information:

- The text “Do not use running water but dip the dishes in the suds and use the recommended dose. In so doing, you will wash your dishes in the most efficient way, you will save water and energy and contribute to a clean environment. The best way to wash your dishes does not require a huge amount of lather” (or a similar text).

c) Information about the Ecogarantie label and the company

Detailed information about the detergent must be given upon request. Therefore the packaging will mention the fact that, if the consumer wants to know more about the detergent, he/she can get in touch with the customer service of the company.

The following text will be added in a frame:

In the case of products carrying an Ecogarantie® label, the ingredients and methods of preparation are selected according to their origin and their ecological responsibility. Agricultural raw materials are preferably organically-grown. These products have been controlled by independent certification organisations.

The Ecogarantie® products:

- cause less damage to aquatic animals and plants
- help to reduce the use of resources
- help to reduce water pollution
- help to reduce the amount of packaging

d) Security advice

The product must mention the following security advice (or a similar text) (in the form of a written text as well as in the form of a matching pictogram):

„Keep away from children”

„Do not mix with other cleaning products”

„Do not breathe the spray of the product” (NB: only for products in a spray can).

F. COMPANY

F.1. TRACEABILITY

The company must be able to prove that it meets the legal regulations in terms of washing products production and that it busies itself with a system such as HACCP and traceability.

Control plan

Following procedures must be set up:

- a file per product, containing all the guarantees from the suppliers (analyses and certificates as to the origin of the ingredients and of the production processes)
- a program of the risk analyses in order to supplement and verify the guarantees from the suppliers
- guarantees concerning the production of raw materials, which may not damage the environment
- a description of the conformity procedures on end products

F.2. ENERGY CONSUMPTION

The electricity used for the production and packaging must come from renewable sources of energy (green electricity). Efforts will be made by the mother company to insure green energy in the whole channel.

F.3. CLEANING AND DISINFECTION OF THE COMPANY

The company must be cleaned with ecological products and methods.

F.4. TRANSPARENCY, COMMUNICATION, ADVERTISING AND CLAIMS

The communication, advertising and claims of the firm about its whole range and any of the products should be true and will not mislead the consumers.

Claiming “no animal testing” is forbidden.

The sentence “our products are only plant based” should be submitted to the inspection bodies for approval.

APPENDIX A

PURITY CRITERIA FOR RAW MATERIALS AND INGREDIENTS

BASIC PRINCIPLE

Raw materials must remain authentic (not chemically processed) and devoid of any kind of contamination. Semi-manufactured products may not be polluted through any form of contamination.

LIST OF POSSIBLE CONTAMINATIONS

Washing products have to be devoid of:

mycotoxines
PCB and PCDD/F
residues of pesticides (insecticides, fungicides, herbicides, ...)

ESTABLISHING THE MAXIMAL VALUES

The maximal values in terms of contamination are those of the general regulation.

If no maximal value has been established by the general regulation, the detection level will be applied.

Ecogarantie®

SPECIFICATIONS

**RULES AND STANDARDS FOR THE
INSPECTION AND CERTIFICATION
OF ECOLOGICAL PRODUCTS**

PART IV SEA SALT



JANUARY 2012

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PART IV ► SEA SALT WITH/WITHOUT ORGANIC INGREDIENTS

A. GENERAL PURPOSE

1. The selection of the ingredients is based on the principles of sustainability and ecological responsibility. Agricultural ingredients are organically-grown.
2. The processes used in the production and processing may not be polluting and must respect both our health and the environment. This will be done by taking measures during the production process, as far as biodegradability, recycling of packages, waste products, ... are concerned.
3. The commercialisation of these quality products takes into account the well being of the consumer by setting up clear rules as well as by favouring communication and transparency in the chain.
4. The products meet the requirements of the present specifications. Through close cooperation with some foreign organizations, BioForum npo aims at the recognition of their standards and the harmonization of the rules at European level.
5. The use of genetically modified organisms (GMO's) or of GMO techniques in the production chain is forbidden.

B. FIELD OF APPLICATION

All ingredients and methods of preparation must conform to the European legislation and meet the additional stipulations of the present specifications. Organic ingredients must comply with the EEC Regulations 834/2007 and 889/2008.

The Ecogarantie® logo may be used (see table 2) on the following types produce made:

- exclusively from sea salt
- from sea salt with (organic)¹ seaweed and organic herbs/vegetables/spices
- from sea salt with (organic)¹ seaweed
- from sea salt with organic herbs/vegetables/spices

Table 1				
SEA SALT	(ORGANIC) ¹ SEaweEDS	ORGANIC HERBS/ VEG-ETABLES/SPICES	In the scoop of the EC reg. 834/07	Standards and labels
EXCLUSIVELY	none	none	No	Ecogarantie®
none	EXCLUSIVELY	none	Yes	Biogarantie®
none	none	EXCLUSIVELY	Yes	Biogarantie®
with	with	with	Yes	Biogarantie® or Ecogarantie®
with	with	without	Yes	Biogarantie® or Ecogarantie®
with	without	with	Yes	Biogarantie® or Ecogarantie®
none	with	with	Yes	Biogarantie®

To respect the present standards, the sea salt should be obtained by traditional methods (see definitions and stipulations mentioned in appendix A)

Industrial and/or refined salt is excluded.

(1) as soon as the implementation rules about organic seaweed are developed in the framework of the EC reg. 834/2007 and if available. In the meantime, wild seaweed may be used.

C. USE OF THE TRADEMARK

The label may carry the Ecogarantie® logo if the final product meets the requirements of the present specifications and has therefore been submitted to the inspection of one of the certified inspection bodies.

Reference to organic agriculture may be made for agricultural ingredients that conform to the EC regulations 834/2007 and 889/2008.

The indications referring to organic production methods make it clear that they relate to a method of agricultural production and are accompanied by a reference to the ingredients of agricultural origin concerned, unless such reference is clearly given in the list of ingredients.

The labelling refers to the name of the inspection body to which the operator is subject.

D. PREPARATION

Sea salt:

The rules concerning the production, the processing until the end product, the kind of packaging and the control plan are described in appendix A.

Herbs, vegetables and spices:

Herbs, vegetables and spices are authorised if organically-grown according to the EC regulations 834/2007 and 889/2008.

Seaweeds:

Organic seaweeds will be used as soon as the implementation rules about organic seaweed are developed in the framework of the EC reg. 834/2007 and if available (in sufficient quantity and at a fair price). In the meantime, wild seaweeds are allowed.

E. COMPANY

The company must be able to prove that:

- it meets the legal regulations
- it busies itself with HACCP and traceability
- it meets the European legislation about food safety

Inspection and certification plan

The minimum measures for the inspection and the certification are those as described in the title IV of the EC regulation 889/2008. This applies to all kinds of products including those exclusively made from salt.

APPENDIX A: PRODUCTION REGULATIONS FOR TRADITIONAL SEA SALT: ORIGIN, CONDITIONS OF PRODUCTION, PROCESSING, PACKING, COMMERCIALISATION AND CONTROL PLAN

A.1. Definitions

Sea salt

Traditional sea salt is a solar salt that is extracted from seawater. Sea salt is regularly harvested by hand at salt-pans, where the salt crystallises from the evaporation and natural concentration process of seawater as it passes through a series of pools. Sea salt contains a minimum of 94% sodium chloride and is a salt rich in minerals and trace mineral elements.

Traditional sea salt is not the same as industrial sea salt, which is also a solar salt extracted from seawater. But industrial sea salt is harvested by machines once or twice a year after a process to concentrate the seawater.

Refining

Refining is understood to mean the purification processes designed to obtain a compound of NaCl that is practically pure (99.9%). The refining process harms the nutritional qualities of the salt (loss of trace mineral elements). Refining usually includes a recrystallisation stage during which a solution of brine is treated with chemicals to precipitate out any impurities (mostly magnesium and calcium salt).

A.2. Geographic origin and environment

A.2.1. General environment

By conducting their business, salt producers help to maintain and preserve the landscape and biotope. Saltpans need to be located in areas where there is a favourable environment, more specifically in a location that preferably offers the following conditions:

- located in natural and/or protected areas (operated under coastal legislation, protected areas, natural reserves or parks or heritage sites).
- at least 500 metres from major communication routes.
- away from and unaffected by prevailing winds blowing from major urban, industrial or tourist centres, as well as waste or effluent treatment works, public tips or illegal dumps.
- not affected by farming or run-off pollution resulting from the application of pesticides, chemical fertilisers or veterinary medication (the farming of crops, livestock rearing and aquaculture).
- not in areas that are subject to applications of insecticides, rat poison or other harmful chemicals.
- not in an area where hunting is practised, on account of the accumulation of lead in the environment.

A.2.2. Water supply

- the water used must come exclusively from the sea or the ocean, without any external soiling and especially without coming into contact with wastewater generated by intensive fish-farming or other types of husbandry.
- water circulation in the saltpans must be natural, driven only by the power of gravity.
- in the event of accidental pollution, no water will be taken into salt marshes.

A.2.3. Maintenance of the surroundings

- the banks and sides of the saltpans must be maintained in such a way as to guarantee good water circulation and evaporation, preferably using manual processes or, as a last resort, by mechanical or thermal processes. These latter processes must take place outside salt production periods and times when fauna are reproducing.
- There must be no use of chemicals, matter or materials presenting a sanitary risk in the vicinity of the production locations. The use of any chemical procedures is forbidden.

The products obtained in compliance with these specifications must, in addition to corresponding with geographically favourable locations and using renewable sources of energy (such as solar energy or tidal power), be representative of production systems that protect the environment and use traditional methods of craftsmanship.

A.3. Conditions of production

A.3.1. The work of the salt producer

Harvesting sea salt is a totally natural process, involving the sea, the sun, the wind and the labour of human beings only. The seawater must reach the saltpans naturally or be brought in to the upper pools using traditional methods that enable the storage of the right quantity of water needed for operating all the saltpans located downstream from the upper pools.

A.3.2. Formation of the salt

The water, as it circulates slowly in the clay basins of the salt marsh, evaporates under the effect of the sun and wind, becoming more concentrated in salt and rising gradually from 30-35 g to 240-260 g per litre of water.

When the water reaches saturation point in the final pool in the circuit, the salt crystallises. This salt then has to be harvested manually during the summer.

The work carried out by the salt producer extends further than just harvesting salt: from the end of the winter until harvest time, the producer maintains the salt marsh itself (removing seaweed and mud, raising the level of the 'vettes' or walkways that the salt-maker walks along through the salt pans, etc.) to ensure that the water circulates and evaporates properly.

After the summer is over, when the harvest comes to a halt, the producer "brings in" the salt to where it is stored (salt-drying lofts or specially designed sheds or drying floors, etc.)

A.3.3. The way salt is used and commercialised

A.3.3.1. Harvesting salt

Evaporation takes place through the action of the wind and sun. The salt itself is harvested manually.

A.3.3.2. Equipment used (non-exhaustive list)

The tools and utensils used must not be made from materials that can rust. Examples of materials permitted include stainless steel, polyethylene or fibreglass. However, if tools or utensils that can corrode are used, any contact with water or the salt must be kept to a minimum. As an exception, aluminium shovels are allowed for a limited period.

Sheets of fibrocement are not permitted.

A.3.3.3. Protecting equipment and tools

The use of paint, coatings or treatments applied to any wooden surfaces that come into direct contact with the salt (tools, wheelbarrows, internal lining of various containers, including trailers, etc.) is forbidden. The tools used for handling the salt (loader bucket, loading screw, sifting spouts, etc.) may not be painted or treated in any way. For other equipment, only paint that is specifically designed for contact with food is permitted. Such paint may not be white in colour.

A.3.3.4. Storage and transport

After being strained, the salt is transported to a specific location on the edge of the salt marsh, where it is deposited in heaps in the open air. These heaps may be protected by tarpaulins made from polyethylene or ethyl vinyl acetate to prevent any soiling from the outside environment. All material that comes into contact with the salt must be specifically intended for food usage.

The ground on to which the salt is deposited may be covered with a food-standard film or tarpaulin.

Transport from the salt marsh to the depot must be carried out in trailers with the interior protected by wood, tarpaulins, stainless steel or plastic. Food big-bags may also be used. The quality of the salt may not be affected by the loading, transport or unloading process. For this reason, the salt must again be covered with a tarpaulin during these operations to prevent it being soiled, in particular by splashes and debris thrown up by tractor wheels.

Any machines used inside the depot must be fitted with gas-driven or electric motors.

Outside storage areas and depots must be clean, particularly before and after handling operations. The salt must be covered by tarpaulin in outside storage areas (as well as inside depots, where appropriate). The use of chemicals or matter/materials that present any sanitary risk is not permitted in storage areas or depots, or in the vicinity of these locations. This precaution also applies to packing and/or packaging facilities.

Each batch of salt that meets these specifications must be stored separately from other batches and must be identified clearly.

A.4. Processing, packing and packaging

Two types are harvested together:

- coarse salt, which crystallises in water,
- 'fleur de sel', which crystallises on the surface of the water on calmer, warmer days, and which is held in suspension without ever touching the bottom of the salt pan. This explains its high level of purity and whiteness.

A.4.1. Processing

The salt must be dried naturally in the sun and stored in its unrefined state. If this is not possible, indirect heating techniques are permitted, preferably from a renewable source of energy (green electricity, etc.). If direct heating is used, only gas heating is allowed.

Any refining operation is forbidden.

The use of any additives (e.g. anti-caking agents and flavour enhancers E504, E535, E536, E621, E622, E623, monosodium glutamate or potassium glutamate) or “enhancing” element (e.g. iodine, fluorine, magnesium) is forbidden, as is mixing the product with salt from origins that are not authorised under these specifications.

The product can be stored in big-bags made from polyethylene or polypropylene.

Before it is packed, the salt may be sifted.

To obtain ground or milled salt, only techniques that do not adversely affect the chemical characteristics and quality of the product are authorised.

A.4.2. Packaging

The materials used for packaging may not harm the sanitary quality of the product in any way. Packs must be made preferably from natural materials that are easy to recycle, such as receptacles made from glass, terracotta or stoneware, wood, waxed cardboard (purified wax), natural textile bags or, if necessary, receptacles in high-density polyethylene or polypropylene.

Packaging made from aluminium and PVC is forbidden.

A.5. Chemical characteristics

In terms of the analytical parameters of the final product, its maximum and minimum content levels must be complied with on account of their decisive effect on the salt’s level of quality:

sodium chloride – minimum 94% of the dry extract
total magnesium – minimum 0.25 % (in MS)
heavy metals – less than (mg/kg): <ul style="list-style-type: none">- lead 1.0- cadmium 0.25- copper 1.0- mercury 0.05- arsenic 0.25

A.6. Control plan

The production, harvesting and preparation of the salt must comply with these specifications. To recap, each batch of salt must be identifiable.

A.6.1. Production control

These specifications are agreed to by the producers and the harvesting and/or processing bodies, all of which are required to apply the regulations in full.

There will be two types of controls:

A.6.1.1. Internal control: each producer of salt in question will be audited using a standard control sheet that will meet the requirements of these specifications.

A.6.1.2. External control: carried out by an independent inspection body, with at least one inspection annually of the production location. The number of inspections and choice of date(s) will be left to “Ecogarantie” and the inspection body.

A.6.2. Minimum requirements and control measures

Controls are carried out in accordance with section IV of regulation EC 889/2008 and its modification.

The packing and processing workshop keeps updated records of:

- inward registrations of raw materials (origin of the salt, volume),
- registrations of outgoing finished products (volume),
- storage and packing programmes,
- stocks of packaging and labels,
- analysis results,
- the list of subcontractors and the products involved.

A.6.3. Conformity checks are carried out at various stages of production, storage, processing.

Comprehensive analyses will be carried out on different samples taken at random (heavy metals, etc.).

A.6.4. After checking conformity and certification, the packaging is allowed to display the collective “Ecogarantie®” brand.

Ecogarantie®

SPECIFICATIONS

**RULES AND STANDARDS FOR THE
INSPECTION AND CERTIFICATION
OF ECOLOGICAL PRODUCTS**

PART V SALES OUTLETS



JANUARY 2012

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IDENTIFICATION OF ECOLOGICAL PRODUCTS IN THE SALES OUTLET

1. Sales outlets for recognised ecological products

This section applies to sales outlets that sell to the consumer ecological products certified by the Ecogarantie® specifications, and that identify these products as ecological using the Ecogarantie® logo.

Operators who also sell products which are not from their own production are subject to the present regulations.

2. Identification of the sales outlet

The sales outlet will inform the consumer of the verification it undergoes by using a plate (in accordance to appendix Part I, 3).

3. Identification of the products

Each certified product will be shown on shelves, in crates and on counters, and will be clearly separated from non-certified products. It will have a standardised price card (with the Ecogarantie® logo) in accordance to appendix Part I, 4.

The use of a price card can be substituted by a price tag (with the Ecogarantie® logo) placed on each product separately.

It is strictly forbidden to use the logo on products that are not certified by the Ecogarantie® specifications.

4. Purchasing certified foreign products

Only certified ecological products, as defined in Part I, chapter A, article 7, may carry the Ecogarantie® logo. In bulk ecological products may only be purchased if the distributor or processor is certified for the use of the Ecogarantie® trademark.

5. Exclusively ecological product groups

As a result of the increasing availability of ecological products, BioForum npo can forbid the sales of certain non-ecological products or ranges of non-ecological products. See appendix 2 for a list of these products. Moreover, the sales outlet can sell some product groups only under their ecological form and advertise this in the outlet, after having introduced a written request to the verification organisation and having received its agreement.

6. Prepackaged products

If some products are available, at the same time, under a non-certified and a certified form, the latter will have to be prepackaged or marked piece by piece when it is purchased by the sales outlet. This certified version of the product will have to be put for sale without changes to its packaging or labelling.

7. Repackaging

Whenever the shopkeeper repacks the products (in a package that has the Ecogarantie® trademark), he or she must write down in a separate register the origin, the purchased quantities, the date of the purchase and the quantity he or she repackaged for each product.

8. Use of the trademark

Each package, labelling or advertisement referring to the Ecogarantie® trademark will have to meet the requirements of appendix 5 of the present specifications, and to be approved by the certification organisation before being printed or introduced on the market. If the products are not only sold in the sales outlet, one must be affiliated as a processor.

9. Verification

A sales outlet can only be certified after having been verified on the spot by a certification organisation approved by the Ecogarantie® specifications. Each sales outlet will be checked at least once a year. This visit can occur at any time of the year and will be unannounced.

Verification on the spot will consist in:

- * verifying the conformity with the required standards of all products showing the Ecogarantie® logo or trademark on their price tag. In order to do this, the inspector may ask to see the repackaging register, the purchase invoices, the delivery slips, the crater cards, etc.

- * verifying that there is no possible confusion between conventional products and ecological products, and more specifically that no non-ecological products from article 5 are present in the sales outlet, or that non-prepackaged products are not present, at the same time, in an ecological version and in a conventional version.

In order for these verifications to be possible, the sales outlet has to give its full cooperation. The rooms will be accessible for inspection, and the needed documents will be made available on request.

The cost of the verification is assumed by the operator according to a rate list that has been agreed upon with BioForum npo. Price lists are available from the verification organisations.

10. Promotion

Standardised folders, packages, posters, packaging material and a labelling system are available to affiliated sales outlets at the office of BioForum npo.

The sales outlet has to clearly identify certified ecological products from non-certified products on its own advertisements and billboards.

Non-certified products may not carry the Ecogarantie® logo, even if the word ecological or a similar word is printed on the package.

Any breach of the regulation will be followed by a removal of the promotional matter at first request from the verification organisation. It is advisable to submit any new advertising project to the certification organisation.

Ecogarantie®

SPECIFICATIONS

**RULES AND STANDARDS FOR THE
INSPECTION AND CERTIFICATION
OF ECOLOGICAL PRODUCTS**

APPENDIXES



JANUARY 2012

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www.ecogarantie.com

COSMETICS

Ecocert France

B.P. 47, 32600 L'ISLE-JOURDAIN, France

Tel: + 33 562 07 34 24

e-mail: cosmetiques@ecocert.com

www.ecocert.com

for the inspection and certification of the following specifications and the related conformity attests for raw materials and semi-manufactured products:

«Ecocert France, Référentiel définissant les produits cosmétiques, écologiques et biologiques » (Cosmebio)

Soil Association

South Plaza, Marlborough Street, Bristol BS1 3NX, UK

Tel: + 44117 314 5000

e-mail: proc.cert@soilassociation.org

www.soilassociation.org

for the inspection and certification of the following specifications:

“Soil Association, Standards for Health and Beautycare Products”

BDIH (Federation of German Industries and Trading Firms for pharmaceuticals, health care goods, dietary supplements and personal hygiene products)

L11, 20-22, D-68161 Mannheim, Germany

Tel: +49 621 309 808 60

e-mail: bdiH@bdiH.de

www.bdiH.de

for the inspection and certification of the following specifications and the related conformity attests for raw materials and semi-manufactured products:

“BDIH, Guidelines for controlled natural cosmetics”

SEASALT

CERTIPLANET (PORTUGAL)

for the inspection and certification of the following specifications:


“CERTIPLANET, Cahier des charges SEL »

APPENDIX 2

PRODUCTS AND RANGES OF PRODUCTS WHICH MAY NOT BE SOLD IN A NON-ECOLOGICAL VERSION BY AN ECOGARANTIE® SALES OUTLET


Nihil (under construction)

APPENDIX 3 POSTER (DIMENSION 25 x 10 cm)

PRODUCTS CARRYING THE ECOGARANTIE® TRADEMARK	
	
ARE CERTIFIED ECOLOGICAL®	(1) (2)

- (1) Number of the inspection organism
(2) www.ecogarantie.com

APPENDIX 4 PRICE TAGS

Product:	
Trademark	
Price	

APPENDIX 5 Logo book

CHARTER FOR THE USE OF THE ECOGARANTIE® LOGO

The charter for the use of the Ecogarantie® logo intends to improve the impact of the logo on packages, labels, etc., to stress the presence of the Ecogarantie® label with the public, and to heighten the image conveyed by ecological products.

Processors, distributors, etc. are contractually forced to conform to the rules of the Ecogarantie® trademark.

The authorisation to use the Ecogarantie® trademark only applies to products for which the operator received the explicit authorisation from the certification body.



In order to avoid any possible confusion with their own logos and trademarks, companies that have been granted the Ecogarantie® label have to use the logo in a hexagonal frame, whatever the object:

- price tag
- packaging
- promotional leaflet, etc.

GENERAL RULES



- The Ecogarantie® logo will not be put in direct relation either with the trademark of the product, nor with the logo or name of the company, but with the appellation of the product or with the list of ingredients.
- The certification body will allow exceptions to the above mentioned rule if minimum 95% of the turn over of the company consists in Ecogarantie® certified produce.
- Likewise, it may not be linked to other texts, promotional or other, without prior approval from the certification body. No other logo will be placed in direct relation with the Ecogarantie® logo. Ecogarantie® is a trademark: it must always be written with a capital E and be followed by a ®.
- The Ecogarantie® logo will be preferably positioned to the left of the document or to the left of the appellation of the product, and be surrounded by an empty space of at least one third of its width. (A 15 mm wide logo will be surrounded by a white space of at least 5 mm).
- The logo must be black or in the darkest colour of the document, on a light background. If necessary, the background of the logo will be white or in a light colour (for instance on a transparent package).
- The hexagonal frame is made of two large and dark stripes separated by a thin white line.
- The size of the logo must be big enough to be clearly and immediately identifiable, the word Ecogarantie® remaining easily legible.

Up to a size of 11 mm, the stamp on the background must carry the text ECOGARANTIE®.



- If the size goes down somewhere between 10 and 8 mm, the text ECOGARANTIE® may be placed on top of the stamp. The frame will have a minimal dimension of 8 mm. The logo must be easily visible and all associated text fully legible. To ensure this, its diagonal must measure at least 30mm. The logo must remain easily visible and all text legible in all circumstances. As a derogation to the above concerning logo dimensions, in the case of small product labels (where the diagonal or diameter measures less than 15cm), the minimum size may be reduced, subject to the requirement that the diagonal of the logo must not measure less than 10mm.
- It is strictly forbidden to alter the logo in any way or to change its typography. Only the bromide proof, films or disks given by BioForum npo are to be used.
- The cost of the inspection is assumed by the operator according to a rate list that has been agreed upon with BioForum npo. Price lists are available from the inspection bodies.

INFORMATION AND ADDITIONAL TERMS



- Additional terms, such as CONTROLE CERTISYS, CONTROLE TÜV NORD INTEGRA, will be mentioned under the Ecogarantie® logo. The font HELVETICA (or some other assimilated font – Universe, Geneva, etc. sans-serif) will be used. These terms will be placed eventually in the list of ingredients.



- The word CONTROLE will be justified over the width of the stamp. CERTISYS and INTEGRA will be centred on the second line. Slightly tight spacing is required between the letters.



INSPECTION & APPROVAL BEFORE USE

- In order to avoid any further contention, the operators are required to submit for approval to the certification body a proof of any new document (price tags, promotional material, labels, ...) before having it printed.

APPENDIX 6

SAMPLE TEXT TO BE INSERTED AT THE BEGINNING OF THE PRICE LIST

Operator under ECOGARANTIE® convention

In order to give you the necessary assurances as to the origin and processing of our ecological products, our company has signed a convention allowing us to use the Ecogarantie® trademark.

The inspection is carried out by (name of the certification body).

The products meeting the standards of the Ecogarantie® specifications are recognisable from the ECOGARANTIE® trademark.

The following legend is given by way of illustration at the beginning of the catalogue:

- EG - ECOGARANTIE® + Product meeting the requirements of the Ecogarantie® specifications.

For further information:

info@ecogarantie.be or www.ecogarantie.com

APPENDIX 7

CONTRACT BETWEEN BIOFORUM AND THE CERTIFICATION BODY

AGREEMENT

Between BioForum Wallonia npo, on one hand,

And,, recognised as certification and controlling body
(named below as 'C.B.'), on the other hand,

It is agreed as follows :

1. BioForum Wallonia recognises the C.B. as certification and controlling body in the frame of the attribution and the use of the Ecogarantie® label. In this way, the C.B. will be able to authorise operators to make use of the Ecogarantie® label as well as to exclude them, as far as the C.B. is approved by the Authorities in accordance to the organic regulations.
This agreement only concerns the use of the Ecogarantie® label.
2. The C.B. will strictly respect all norms, regulations, contracts and decisions regarding Ecogarantie®, approved by BioForum Wallonia (Technical Commission, Legislation Working Group, Ecogarantie® Working Group, Board of Directors and General Assembly) and will have them implemented by the affiliated operators.
3. The C.B. will see to it that all the controlling measures used in the frame of Ecogarantie® are approved by BioForum Wallonia. All the regulations and other non-confidential documents will be introduced to BioForum Wallonia, on request of BioForum Wallonia.
4. The C.B. undertakes to transmit to BioForum Wallonia the rating system and the scale of charges relative to the controlling and certification costs of the Ecogarantie® label, for Belgium as for foreign countries.
5. In the frame of its Communication regarding organic certification, the C.B. will tend as far as possible to make use of the Ecogarantie® label.
6. BioForum Wallonia is entitled to carry out an assessment of the C.B. regarding the Ecogarantie® label, executed by an independent audit, mandated by BioForum Wallonia and, approved by both of the contracting parties.
7. The list of the affiliated operators and acknowledged products will be reported by the C.B. on request of BioForum Wallonia and will be published at least once a year. In case of withdrawal of the authorization due to serious misconduct on the side of the operators, the C.B. will inform BioForum Wallonia.
8. In the frame of the monitoring mission, the C.O. is committed to report any abusive use of the Ecogarantie® label.
9. Operators have the right to call upon the C.B.'s decisions at the Board of Appeal. In case of Appeal, the C.B. will propose to a BioForum Wallonia expert to be in session, with the exception of an operator.
10. This convention is valid during one year, to be dated as from the convention's signature date and is tacitly renewed each year for one year duration without any opposite view before the due date. The denunciation of the present convention shall take effect each year, as from six months before the due date.
11. Amendments and additions to the present convention are feasible only on basis of common accord between both organisations.
12. This agreement is only valid under condition that the convention signed on January 1st 2008 between the owners of the Biogarantie®/ Ecogarantie® labels is valid.

Done in Namur,

i.o. BioForum Wallonia npo
Hermann Pirmez

Controlling Body

AGREEMENT

Between BioForum Flanders npo, on one hand,

And,, recognised as certification and controlling body
(named below as 'C.B.'), on the other hand,

It is agreed as follows :

1. BioForum Flanders recognises the C.B. as certification and controlling body in the frame of the attribution and the use of the Ecogarrantie® label. In this way, the C.B. will be able to authorise operators to make use of the Ecogarrantie® label as well as to exclude them, as far as the C.B. is approved by the Authorities in accordance to the organic regulations.
This agreement only concerns the use of the Ecogarrantie® label.
2. The C.B. will strictly respect all norms, regulations, contracts and decisions regarding Ecogarrantie®, approved by BioForum Flanders (Technical Commission, Legislation Working Group, Ecogarrantie® Working Group, Board of Directors and General Assembly) and will have them implemented by the affiliated operators.
3. The C.B. will see to it that all the controlling measures used in the frame of Ecogarrantie® are approved by BioForum Flanders. All the regulations and other non-confidential documents will be introduced to BioForum Flanders, on request of BioForum Flanders.
4. The C.B. undertakes to transmit to BioForum Flanders the rating system and the scale of charges relative to the controlling and certification costs of the Ecogarrantie® label, for Belgium as for foreign countries.
5. In the frame of its Communication regarding organic certification, the C.B. will tend as far as possible to make use of the Ecogarrantie® label.
6. BioForum Flanders is entitled to carry out an assessment of the C.B. regarding the Ecogarrantie® label, executed by an independent audit, mandated by BioForum Flanders and, approved by both of the contracting parties.
7. The list of the affiliated operators and acknowledged products will be reported by the C.B. on request of BioForum Flanders and will be published at least once a year. In case of withdrawal of the authorization due to serious misconduct on the side of the operators, the C.B. will inform BioForum Flanders.
8. In the frame of the monitoring mission, the C.O. is committed to report any abusive use of the Ecogarrantie® label.
9. Operators have the right to call upon the C.B.'s decisions at the Board of Appeal. In case of Appeal, the C.B. will propose to a BioForum Flanders expert to be in session, with the exception of an operator.
10. This convention is valid during one year, to be dated as from the convention's signature date and is tacitly renewed each year for one year duration without any opposite view before the due date. The denunciation of the present convention shall take effect each year, as from six months before the due date.
11. Amendments and additions to the present convention are feasible only on basis of common accord between both organisations.
12. This agreement is only valid under condition that the convention signed on January 1st 2008 between the owners of the Biogarrantie® / Ecogarrantie® labels is valid.

Done in Antwerp,

i.o. BioForum Flanders npo

Controlling Body

