

Working instructions for organically operating projects with EU and/or Naturland certification

1 Site colonies, origin of honey (applies to a flight radius of 3 km during foraging period)		
applicable to	permissible	not permissible
production	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> certified areas woods and their perimeters, disused and fallow land heather, wild flowers, shrubs and bushes, meadows non-cultivated tree blossoms, extensive cultivation traditionally farmed mass forage sources where neither pesticides nor artificial fertilisers are applied (certificate) inner-city sites, provided special analysis of honey is produced 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> intensively, conventionally farmed mass forage sources where pesticides and/or artificial fertilisers are applied (e.g. oilseed rape, mustard, sunflowers, phacelia, fruit trees, cotton, citrus trees, lavender etc.) <i>If the honey is from such forage sources, the bee produce must be harvested and stored separately and may only be sold as conventional honey.</i> sites within the flight radius of industrial plant, power stations, waste deposit sites, waste incineration plants, motorways etc. sites officially designated as being unsuitable for beekeeping
collection and storage points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> joint collection and storage of honeys from permissible forage sources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> intensively, conventionally farmed mass forage sources where pesticides and/or artificial fertilisers are applied
processing, export	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> joint processing of all bee produce of all beekeepers on the ABL¹ of any one year Bee produce of uncertified or not yet certified beekeepers must be processed separately and at a different time from the organic honey. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> joint processing of bee produce of certified and non-certified beekeepers honey from intensively, conventionally farmed mass forage sources <i>If the honey is from such forage sources, the bee produce must be harvested and stored separately and may only be sold as conventional honey</i>

¹ approved beekeepers' list

2 a) Plant		
applicable to	permissible	not permissible
production, collection point, storage, processing, export		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • dirty, unsanitary, unhygienic premises • out in the open • proximity to coal or fuel stocks, cesspools, manure heaps etc. • muddy or slushy floor
production	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • any type of building, including tents or disused vehicles • sturdy secure flooring • while performing field extraction: trucks platform, paving stone, clay brick 	
collection point, storage facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • any type of building, shed, warehouse, shelter, sturdy tents, vehicles (lorries), container • sturdy secure flooring • roofed sheds 	
processing, export	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • any type of building permitting proper storage and processing • closed in huts, sheds, garages, shelters, cellars • Plant must be bee-free and hygienically impeccable. • separate storage of honey from conventional and organic forage sources. <p>fresh location (low temperature)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • joint storage of organic and conventional honey
2 b) Plant hygiene		
production, collection point, storage, processing, export	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • generally applicable hygienic standard of the relevant project area • storage area of honey as dark, protected and cool as possible under local conditions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • any risk of pollution of the honey or other bee produce • dust, smoke, odours, exhaust fumes, fragrances liable to pollute the honey • storage or processing of honey in the open, in direct sunlight, in open containers
production	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • hygienic conditions considerably better than those of other forms of animal husbandry • production areas separate from other forms of animal husbandry 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • direct contact of beekeeping operation with other forms of animal husbandry (e.g. hens in apiary) • storage of honey in open air, in direct sunlight, in open containers
collection point, storage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • hygienic conditions of storage equal to those of any other food storage facility 	



	permissible	not permissible
processing, export	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • impeccable hygienic conditions at least equivalent to those normal in storage and processing of other foodstuffs (e.g. milk, wine, bread) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • direct contact of the honey with fuel produce etc.
2 c) Beehives		
production	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • all common types of hives, such as fixed comb hives, top bar hives, hives with frames etc. • multi-compartmental hives (honey and breeding chamber separate) • magazines • use of natural materials such as wood, clay, straw, paper, cardboard, cork etc. • connecting sections, insulation, roofing etc. also of metal and plastic • wooden frames • external treatment only with natural substances • internal treatment only with wax, propolis and vegetable oils 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • hives without honey chambers and sufficient space for building and/or adequate storage space • use of materials such as concrete, sheet metal, aluminium, steel, copper, polyurethane (PU), polyethylene (PE), polypropylene (PP), other plastics • frames, septums or combs made of plastic (even if coated in wax) • external treatment of paint, varnish, glazes of industrial and synthetic origins (e.g. paint of synthetic resin, septums or combs of plastic (even if coated in wax)



3 a) Wax and combs		
applicable to	permissible	not permissible
production	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> unlimited use of wax from own production unlimited use of certified wax residue-free wax (e.g. capping wax or building frame wax) from conventional sources, upon approval of inspection body wax from a closed production cycle of the project 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> conventional wax or wax from an unknown source, if not residue analysis can be produced and no approval has been issued wax from „honey-hunters“ or from other sources of annihilated wild colonies
3 b) Treatment to combat the small and/or great wax moth		
storage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> cool and well-aired storage facilities deep-freezing early melting acetic acid 60% bacillus Thuringiensis other natural bio-technical storage methods 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> sulphur dioxide (SO₂) dichlorobenzene other chemical substances and methods
3 c) Septums		
production	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> septums from the uninterrupted production cycle of the project septums, the conversion of which has been certified septums from the project's own conversion with its own wax 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> septums from conventional wax cycles addition of acids or other bleaches septums produced with colouring, aromas, pheromones or other additives

4 Artificial feeding		
applicable to	permissible	not permissible
production	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> the beekeeper's own honey honey purchased from a certified beekeeper certified cane sugar or beet sugar certified sugar syrup, sugar paste or sugar molasses 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> conventional honey conventional refined sugar conventional sugar syrup, sugar paste or sugar molasses supplementary pollen or pollen substitute (e.g. soya flour, milk powder) herbal teas (e.g. as additives to fodder or in the drinking trough) any other type of fodder (e.g. milk, lemon juice, apple juice, other juices, garlic, vitamin supplements, salt, mineral powder etc.



5 The bees' health

applicable to production	permissible	not permissible
	5 a) Treatment of varroatosis	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • formic acid 60% (from above with various types of humidifiers), formic acid 85% (from below with various types of humidifiers) • oxide acid 4% (drip method), oxide acid (aerosol gassing) • lactic acid 15% (spray method) • essential oils (crystalline or wick humidification of thymol, eukalyptol, menthol and camphor) • removal of part of the brood of drones • artificial swarm method • queen bee cages 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fluvalinat (e.g. Apistan, Klartan, Mavrik, Manpulik) • flumethin (e.g. Bayvarol) • propyl bromide (e.g. Folbex) • Amitraz (e.g. MP10, Taktik, Schering, Varridol) • Coumaphos (e.g. Perizin, Asuntol, EC 16) • Thiazolin (e.g. Apitol) • Malathion • acrinathrin • other chemical substances or medication • other useless organic substances (e.g. ferns, teas, grasses, spices, leaves, alcohols)
	5b) Treatment of American or European foulbrood	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • incineration • artificial swam method (only in the case of weak infestation of single colonies) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • streptomycin • terramycin • tetracycline • sulphonamides • other antibiotics and chemical substances
	5 c) Treatment of accariosis	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduce a new queen of a resistant type • Ref. varroatosis. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ref. varroatosis.
	5 d) Treatment of nosemosis	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feed with warm honey-water. • Feed with blossom honeys. • Change site • Introduce a new queen. • artificial swarm technique 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fumidil • Nosemak • other chemical substances



applicable to production	permissible	not permissible
	5 e) Treatment of chalk brood disease, Morator aettatulae Holmes, stone brood and other brood diseases	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Change site. • Introduce a new queen. • Disperse or unite swarms. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • chemical substances or medication
5 f) Treatment of dysentery, May sickness etc.		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feed with warm water. • Improve water supply. • Improve natural pollen supply. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • any other form of treatment
5 g) Treatment of acute paralysis virus (APV)		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regenerate swarm. • Introduce a new queen. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • any other methods
5 h) Treatment of Kashmir bee virus		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduce a new queen 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • any other treatment
5 i) Treatment of tropilaelaps clarae		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ref. varroatosis 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • all other methods
5 k) Treatment of small hive beetle		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • general hygiene techniques (e.g. cleaning out hives, scraping out, torching etc.) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • all other forms of treatment
5 l) Treatment to combat ants		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • bio-technical techniques. moats, lime circles, organic substances outside the hive) • Change site. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • sulphur powder • all chemical insecticides • mineral oil products • any treatment within the hive
5 m) Treatment against toads, mice, snakes etc.		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Change site. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • any other form of treatment



6 Breeding and propagation

applicable to	permissible	not permissible
production	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • all possible standard breeding methods • selection and introduction of resistant swarms for propagation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • clipping of the queens' wings • in Europe: only <i>apis mellifera</i>. No Africanised bee strains may be introduced. • genetically modified bee strains • artificial fertilisation is not allowed, contact certification body

7 Origin and purchase of bee swarms (as a proportion of the countable colony))

applicable to	permissible	not permissible
production	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10% wild swarms, artificial swarms and queens from conventional sources per year • no limit to proportion purchased from sources certified organic • total or partial integration of colonies certified organic • no limit to propagation from own colony 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • more than 10% bees per year from conventional sources or wild swarms

8 a) Extraction of honey, honey harvest

applicable to	permissible	not permissible
production; processing/export	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • extraction • pressing • cutting (comb honey) 	
production	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • harvesting ripe honey 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • total harvesting of the entire comb stocks of the bee colony • extraction or harvesting of incubated combs • harvesting of unripe honey (non-capped honey) • honey with a water content of more than 18% (exception: bakers' or industrial honey)
processing/export		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • processing of unripe honey (non-capped honey)



applicable to	permissible	not permissible
8 b) Hygienic measures when harvesting		
production	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> extractors with food-safe inner coating (e.g. special epoxy resin paints, beeswax) or stainless steel extractors extractors of galvanised sheet steel, provided the galvanised coating is intact honey presses of the same material standards removing bees by knocking, brushing or blowing them off, and with bee escapes cleaning equipment with hot water, soap, caustic soda, fire, steam, potash lye, organic acids, alcohol 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> extractors made of tin plate or sheet lead rusty extractors extractors, the inner coating of which is not food-safe total or partial annihilation of the colony knocking off the whole colony and cutting off parts of the colony (brood combs) use of repellents (e.g. carbolic acid rags, phenol etc.) cleaning with other non-approved chemical substances
8 c) Storage of honey		
production, collecting point/storage, processing/export	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> containers made of glass stainless steel PP and PE glazed pottery and porcelain steel vessels with food-safe inner coating one-off use of galvanised tin plate cans with sprayed PE inner coating aluminium tins 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> vessels of lead, pewter, copper, brass wooden vessels animal skins or other containers repeated use of galvanised tin plate cans all use of containers which have been in contact with mineral oils or substances containing mineral oils, paints and lacquers steel vessels with damaged coating
production	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PET 	
processing/export	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> new or completely overhauled steel vessels with food-safe inner coating 	



9 Records		
applicable to	permissible	not permissible
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All documents must be in a common European language and be clean and legible. • preferred EU languages: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • German • English • French • Spanish • Portuguese 	
9 a) Honey		
production, collecting point/storage, processing/export	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IMO – Standard – documentary aids or other comprehensible personal records (e.g. honey account, weighing chits, receipts, invoiced, delivery notes etc.) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • incomprehensible or illegible records or verbal statements
collecting point/storage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IMO – Standard – documentary aids for collecting points 	
9 b) Wax		
production, collecting points/ storage, processing/export	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IMO – Standard – documentary aids or other comprehensible records 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • incomprehensible or illegible records or verbal statements
collecting point/storage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IMO – Standard – documentary aids for collecting points or other comprehensible records (e.g. wax account, receipts, invoices, delivery notes) 	



applicable to	permissible	not permissible
9 c) Feeding		
production	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IMO – Standard – documentary aids or other comprehensible personal records (e.g. honey account, weighing chits, receipts, invoices, delivery notes etc.) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • incomprehensible or illegible records or verbal statements
9 d) Treatment of bee diseases		
production	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IMO standard documentary aids or other comprehensible personal records (e.g. honey account, weighing chits, receipts, invoices, delivery notes etc.) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • incomprehensible or illegible records or verbal statements
9 e) Migration		
production	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IMO migration table 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • other documentation
9 f) Forage		
production	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IMO forage calendar 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • other documentation
9 g) Colonies		
production	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • list of all works in one apiary • receipts, invoices, delivery notes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • verbal statements
9 h) Bottling		
processing/export	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IMO standard documentary aids (wax account) or other comprehensible records 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • incomprehensible or illegible records or verbal statements
9 i) Processing of wax		
processing/export	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • records of production of own septums or a sub-contracting agreement if processed off the premises 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • incomprehensible or illegible records or verbal statements
9 k) Cleaning		
processing/export	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • proof of cleaning methods (e.g. rinsing and cleaning of filters, pumps and tanks) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • incomprehensible or illegible records or verbal statements



applicable to	permissible	not permissible
	9 l) Approved beekeepers list (ABL)	
process- ing/export	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IMO standard documentation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • incomprehensible or illegible records or verbal statements
	9 m) Standard survey map	
process- ing/export	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • suitable maps on a scale 1:150.000 showing all producers on the ABL 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • hand-drawn maps
	9 n) Plan of farm and buildings	
production, collecting point/storage, process- ing/export	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • comprehensible sketches drawn by beekeeper 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • incomprehensible sketches

