



# Naturland and Bio Suisse

## Template for the Production of a Water Management Plan (WMP)

### on the basis of the following standards:

Naturland Standards on Production, Part B.I.7.2

Bio Suisse standards, Part V, Section 3.6.2

## Introduction

Your farm or producer group is located in an area with scarce water resources if it is situated in a region which is classed under the indicator “Water Depletion” in the Aqueduct Water Risk Atlas of the WRI (World Resources Institute). Regions which are graded as “high” (50% - 75%) or “extremely high” (>75%) or are situated in a desert zone are identified as regions with scarce water resources.

Link to the Water Risk Atlas: <https://wri.org/applications/aqueduct/water-risk-atlas>

Any producers who are members of Naturland or Bio Suisse and are situated in areas with scarce water resources must devise a water management plan. **This requirement applies solely to producers who rely on irrigation and therefore not to those who practice rain-fed agriculture only.** Producer groups as defined under the terms of the Naturland, or Bio Suisse certification procedure are required to complete a WMP for the group as a whole. (Member units of the group which are larger than 25 ha are treated as separate units and are required to submit their own WMP.) In the case of producer groups, the producer group checklist “Farmer List Irrigation, FLI” must be completed to record all the members.

The water management plan must be signed by the farm manager or, in the case of a producer group, by its official representative, and be submitted, complete with all the attachments, to the certification body of Naturland resp. Bio Suisse every three years (via the inspection body). Please use the present document as a template. The water management plan is also designed to help Naturland and Bio Suisse farms to improve their water management systems. The water management plan including the current conditions can be exchanged between Bio Suisse and Naturland.

The corresponding table Excel attachment WMP (note both registers) must be continuously updated, presented annually at the organic inspection, and submitted every 3 years with the management plan to the corresponding inspection body and Naturland or Bio Suisse. In the case of producer groups (members selected for a random sample), only the second tab, “Legality/Plausibility”, is relevant. Producer groups are required to submit the FLI during annual inspection.

## **Structure of the document**

The management plan consists of three sections, with the requirement for all the quantitative data and evidence of legality to be shown in the corresponding Excel attachment WMP (section 3):

### **1. General information**

- farm-related data
- source of the irrigation water
- legality of water use
- type of irrigation system and practices employed

### **2. Risk analysis and plan of action**

The risk analysis helps you address the risk to which your farm is exposed with respect to water use. The analysis should reflect the situation to be found on your farm and identify the other water users or stakeholders in your catchment area. In the plan of action, you can record all the measures you have already taken or need to take in order to eliminate the risks identified or to mitigate them as far as possible. Producer groups should create a risk analysis and action plan applicable to the group as a whole.

### **3. Excel attachment WMP to record your water consumption and its legality**

For all quantitative consumption data of your farm (see the tab "Quantitative Data Irrigation") and evidence of legality (tab "Legality/Plausibility") the Excel attachment WMP must be filled in. Producer groups are required to record the quantitative details of consumption in the group checklist, tab "Farmer List Irrigation".

# 1. General information

## 1.1 Farm-related data

name of the farm/group	
registration numbers (EU-Bio number and Bio Suisse /Naturland number)	
farm manager/official representative	
email	
complete address including country	
GPS data of the plots or link to aerial photograph of the map (GIS from agricultural land register)	

## 1.2 Source of the irrigation water

types of water sources (e. g. well)	
More information on the origin of the water (e. g. groundwater, surface water)	
types of irrigation facilities	<input type="checkbox"/> wells/quantity: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> water meters/quantity: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> water pumps/quantity: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> reservoirs/quantity: _____ max. capacity (total): _____ m <sup>3</sup>

### → Submit maps

Annotated map(s) showing all the plots on the farm or producer group, both irrigated and not irrigated, including the plot numbers shown in the EU-organic certificate, water inlets, irrigation facilities including explanations (locations of springs, catchment systems, wells etc.) and the boundaries of the farm are to be submitted along with the water management plan. The plots clearly match those recorded in the Excel tab "Legality/Plausibility".

### → Producer groups:

Producer groups are only required to submit maps for group members which have been selected on a random basis. This random selection is made by Naturland or Bio Suisse



(or a respective inspection body), whereupon the producer group is informed of the choices made.

### 1.3 Legality of water use

Proof of the legality of all water sources (including wells) issued by the appropriate authority must be enclosed (see also guidance document). The data must be transferred in full and completely to the enclosed Excel sheet “Legality/Plausibility” (tab 2):

→ **Missing water quantities on the proof of legality:**

An alternative official confirmation of the used water quantities must be enclosed (e.g. water bills).

→ **Joint use of water rights:**

Where water rights are used jointly, the water ratio of each of the joint users must be stated, either on the enclosed Excel sheet “Legality/Plausibility” (tab 2) or in a separate clear presentation.

→ **Producer groups:**

Producer groups only need to submit proof of legality for the group members who have been selected for a random sample. This random selection is made by Naturland or Bio Suisse (or a respective inspection body), whereupon the producer group is informed of the choices made.

### 1.4 Type of irrigation system and practices employed

#### 1.4.1 What type of irrigation system is used?

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> drip irrigation      | <input type="checkbox"/> flood irrigation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> sprinkler irrigation | <input type="checkbox"/> other: _____     |

Add any comments on the irrigation system:

#### 1.4.2 How is the water consumption monitored?

- |   |                                       |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> water meter                        | <input type="checkbox"/> other: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> calculation (Please give details.) | <input type="checkbox"/> no records   |

Add any comments on how your water consumption is monitored:

**1.4.3 Has your irrigation water been analyzed as per the FAO (Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations) standards or equivalent methods?**

See <https://www.fao.org/3/T0234E/T0234E01.htm>

- yes (→ **Include the water analysis report with this document.** Producer groups should submit a representative analysis)
- no

**1.4.4 Does your irrigation water comply with the guidelines issued by the FAO on electrical conductivity (EC), total dissolved solids (TDS), toxic ions and nitrates?**

- yes
- no (→ **Please comment in the box below.**)

**If your irrigation water does not comply with the guidelines**, please describe the steps you have taken so far to remedy this.

Please explain in 2 – 3 sentences:

## 2. Risk analysis and plan of action

Producers situated in areas with scarce water resources are often exposed to a wide range of risks, including, for example, water shortage, climate change and salinization. Please describe what water-related risks your farm or the members of the producer group are exposed to and what actions would need to be taken to mitigate them.



## 2.1 Risk analysis

**2.1.1** In your opinion, what risks does your farm or producer group and your region face with respect to sustainable water use? Who are the other water users and stakeholders in the same water catchment area as yours? Please name the three greatest risks, giving details, and list the other water users and stakeholders who are also affected by these risks.

1.
2.
3.



**2.1.2 Has a risk analysis for your farm or producer group (and/or your region) ever been done?**

- yes (→ Enclose written documentation of the analysis, if available.)  
 no

Comments on the risk analysis:

--

**2.2 Plan of action**

**2.2.1 What actions have you taken to avoid or mitigate the risks?** If possible, please state and explain three actions undertaken. These should include actions which were performed by several water users or stakeholders in your catchment area.

1.
2.
3.

**2.2.2 What actions do you plan to mitigate the risks you have listed?**

If possible, please state and explain three of the actions planned. These should include actions which are planned by several water users or stakeholders in your water catchment area.

1.
2.

3.

**2.2.3 What actions do you think need to be taken besides those performed by your farm or producer group in order to mitigate the risks you have named (actions at the local or political level)? Where do you need support?**

Other actions:
Where support is needed:

### 3. Excel attachment WMP

All quantitative data with respect to irrigation must be entered in the corresponding Excel attachment WMP in the tab “Quantitative Data Irrigation”, which, however, does not apply to producer groups.) The yellow cells are mandatory, the green cells are recommended. Details on the proof of legality are to be recorded in the tab “Legality/Plausibility”. Instead of completing the tab “Quantitative Data Irrigation”, producer groups must complete the Excel spreadsheet “Farmer List Irrigation”.

The spreadsheets must be refreshed regularly, for annual presentation to the organic inspection body and submission to Naturland or Bio Suisse every three years or on demand.

- Data must be entered regularly in the separate Excel attachment WMP or the “Farmer List Irrigation” respectively.



#### 4. Declaration regarding the transfer of data by the inspection body, respectively by Bio Suisse and Naturland e.V., to the certification bodies of Naturland e.V. resp. Bio Suisse

The farm, resp. the producer group, named below, is certified both by Bio Suisse (resp. its inspection body) and by Naturland e.V. (resp. its inspection body) as per the respective standards of these two associations. The inspection body appointed by the association is:

Association	Inspection body (name and address)
Bio Suisse	
Naturland e.V.	

The undersigned farm/producer group hereby authorizes the associations Bio Suisse and Naturland e.V. and the aforementioned inspection body/bodies to transfer data relevant to inspection and certification (inspection report including attachments; certificate; notification of certification including deviations and conditions imposed) relating to his or her enterprise/farm to the respective certification body of Naturland e.V. (Kleinhaderner Weg 1, 82166 Gräfelfing, Germany) respectively to Bio Suisse (Peter-Merian-Strasse 34 in 4052 Basel, Switzerland) and to provide it with information.

Both Naturland e.V. and Bio Suisse give assurance that they will treat this information confidentially and use it solely for the purpose of certification. Naturland e.V. and Bio Suisse are only obliged to disclose information to their accreditors.

Revocation of permission to transfer data may be declared at any time in writing to Naturland e.V., respectively to Bio Suisse.

---

**Producer/Processor/Trader** (name, address)

---

place, date

---

name of signatory, signature, chop

---

## Required documents:

- Annotated map(s) showing all the plots, both irrigated and not irrigated, including the EU-Bio plot numbers, sources of the water, irrigation facilities including explanations (locations of springs, catchment systems, wells etc.) and the boundaries of the farm are to be submitted along with the water management plan (see 1.2, page 3, and see the regulation for groups).
- Written proof of the legality of all water sources (including wells) issued by the appropriate authority. Details are to be registered in the Excel attachment “Legality/Plausibility” (See 1.3, page 4).
- Where water rights are used jointly, the water ratio of each of the joint users must be stated (see 1.3, page 4).
- Documentation of the analysis of the irrigation water according to the FAO standards or similar methods (see 1.4.3, page 5, and see the regulation for groups).
- Documentation of the risk analysis of the farm or the producer group (see 2.1.2, page 7)
- Record of water consumption on a separate Excel attachment WMP (see 3, page 8 and Excel attachment WMP). This does not apply to producer groups.
- For producer groups: completed form “Farmer List Irrigation” (FLI)
- Declaration regarding data transfer from the inspection body, respectively by Bio Suisse and Naturland e.V., to the respective certification bodies of Naturland e.V. and Bio Suisse (see 4., page 9)

## Signature as confirmation of the accuracy of the information:

The water management plan is to be completed truthfully and accurately by the farm manager, respectively by the official representative of the production group. The person responsible undertakes to amend the management plan regularly to reflect any changes and to correct any faults promptly. The management plan and its supporting documents may be examined by a member of the inspection body to determine their accuracy and completeness.

I herewith confirm the accuracy of all the information given in this water management plan.

date:

name:

signature: