

# Revision of permitted substances for use in organic production

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EU proposes new substances for use in organic production

[Draft](#) Commission Implementing Regulation amending and correcting Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/1165 authorising certain products and substances for use in organic production and establishing their lists

[Draft](#) Annexes

## Update

The EU has notified to the World Trade Organization (WTO) Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) Committee a draft Regulation that adds to the list of substances and products that can be used in organic production ([G/TBT/N/EU/1001](#)). It also delays the introduction of a new list of permitted cleaning and disinfection products for use in animal production until January 2026, and amends the description of permitted fertilisers.

## Impacted products

All organic products

## What is changing?

The new Regulation proposes various changes, including the following.

- Adding the substances in Table 1 to the list of products and substances that can be used in organic production (according to Regulation (EU) 2021/1165). The conditions of use for these additional substances are detailed in the Annexes to the draft Regulation.
- Clarifying the introduction of a new list of products for use in cleaning and disinfecting animal production facilities. A new list should have been established by 31 December 2023, but now it is expected by end 2025. Before that date, animal producers should continue to use the cleaning and disinfection products listed in the current rules (Regulation 889/2008, Annex VII).

- Amending the description of permitted fertilisers from “composted or fermented mixture of household waste” to “composted or fermented biowaste”.

## Why?

Some new substances have been approved for use in organic production. The description of fertilisers is changed to allow sources of biowaste other than household waste to be used in organic production.

In the case of animal production, the [Expert Group for Technical Advice on Organic Production](#) (EGTOP), responsible for evaluating substances in organic production, requires more time to complete the evaluation of cleaning and disinfection substances. The deadline of 31 December 2023 has therefore been postponed.

## Timeline

The new rules are expected to apply from **1 January 2024**.

## What are the major implications for exporting countries?

Organic producers in non-EU countries will have access to a broader range of substances to support organic production.

## Recommended Actions

Comments or concerns about the proposal can be submitted via the [National TBT notification authority](#) of the country concerned to the [EU TBT Enquiry Point](#) until **1 October 2023**.

## Background

Regulation (EU) [2021/1165](#) authorises and lists products and substances that can be used in organic production. This part of the Regulation applied from 1 January 2022.

For cleaning and disinfection products, and for non-organic agricultural ingredients for the production of processed organic food, the Regulation will apply from 1 January 2024.

The following Annexes to Regulation 2021/1165 are the most relevant to countries exporting organic products to the EU:

- Annex I: Active substances contained in plant protection products authorised for use in organic production.
- Annex II: Authorised fertilisers, soil conditioners and nutrients.
- Annex IV: Authorised products for cleaning and disinfection.
- Annex VI: Products and substances authorised for use in organic production in certain areas of third countries (Regulation (EU) 2018/84, Art. 45(2)). Substances can be added to Annex VI for use in non-EU countries when there are justified reasons (e.g. for a pest not present in the EU).

## Resources

European Commission: [EGTOP reports on organic production](#)

Final Reports from the Expert Group for Technical Advice on Organic Production (EGTOP):

- Fertilisers IV and Plant Protection Products VI
- Plant Protection VII and Fertilisers V
- Food VII – Feed V
- Feed VI and pet Food I
- Food VIII

## Table & Figures

Table 1 Additions to the lists of substances permitted for use in organic production*			
Substance	Category	Notes	
Sodium hydrogen carbonate	Low-risk active substance (Annex I, 2)	Already in Annex I list (1), but now also listed as a “low-risk” substance	
Other low-risk substances from plant or animal origin	Low-risk active substance (Annex I, 2)	Herbicidal uses not allowed	
Selenium	Authorised fertilisers, soil conditioners and nutrients (Annex II)	Only in case of deficiency in the soil used for animal rearing or for the production of feed crops	
Calcium chloride	Authorised products and substances for use as feed or in feed production (Annex III)	To be used as feed materials	
Algal oil			
Propylene glycol; [1,2-propanediol]; [propane-1,2-diol]			
Iron (II) chelate of protein hydrolysates		Compounds of trace elements	
Copper (II) chelate of protein hydrolysates			
Manganese chelates of protein hydrolysates			
Zinc chelate of protein hydrolysates			
Selenised yeast <i>Saccharomyces cerevisiae</i> CNCM I-3060, inactivated			
Ascorbic acid			Food additives (Annex IV, A)
Lecithins			On animal and plant products, only from organic production
Potassium tartrates, sodium tartrates and potassium sodium tartrates		On plant products (only from organic production from 1 January 2027)	
* For details on specific conditions and limits, see Draft Annexes to the Regulation.			
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Source: [Draft Annexes to the Regulation](#)

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