

| S. No. | ORGANIC DAIRY STANDARDS |
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| I Origin and Conversion Period for Organic Dairy Farming | |
| 1 | Landless farmers (having no organically managed land) are not allowed to practice ODF. |
| 2 | Landless farmer (having no organically managed land), and who has established a written cooperation (leased) agreement with another certified organic farmer/operator for feeding, housing and other organic standards requirements can start his own organic farming? |
| 3 | Animal husbandry systems that change from conventional to organic production require a conversion period . |
| 4 | For a new organic dairy farm, land and animals may be converted simultaneously within 36 months . |
| 5 | Dairy animal's offspring may be considered organic only if their mother has been organically managed throughout the pregnancy . |
| 6 | Milk may be considered organic only if the dairy animal has been organically managed throughout the pregnancy preceding lactation. |
| 7 | For a dairy production unit the transition to organic production in terms of feeding is 12 months . |
| 8 | Where the land and dairy unit conversion to organic status is not simultaneous and the land alone has reached organic status, then dairy animals must be reared organically for 6 months , before their products (milk and milk products) are sold as organic. |
| II. Breeds and Breeding Management for Organic Dairy Farming | |
| 1 | For an ODF, dairy breeds chosen for rearing must be adapted to local conditions in terms of disease resistance, maintenance cost and adaptability. |
| 2 | In ODF, the pure breeds should be maintained as far as possible. |
| 3 | In ODF, breeding systems shall be based on breeds that can reproduce successfully under natural conditions? . |
| 4 | In ODF, Artificial Insemination is permitted . |
| 5 | In ODF, Embryo transfer techniques(ETT) and cloning are prohibited. |
| 6 | In ODF, hormones are prohibited to induce ovulation and birth unless applied to individual animals for medical reasons and under veterinary supervision. |
| 7 | High capital intensive breeds like genetically engineered breeds are not allowed in organic farming systems. |
| 8 | Beginners (new dairy entrepreneurs) can procure 4 weeks old calves that have received colostrums and full milk diet, from conventional farms. |
| 9 | A maximum of 10 per cent breeding stock can be brought from the conventional farms annually under ODF. |
| 10 | Animal production records are mandatory under ODF. |
| III. Animals Housing management for Organic Dairy Farming | |
| 1 | Adequate natural bedding materials are necessarily required under ODF. |
| 2 | Bedding materials that are normally consumed by the animals should be organic . |
| 3 | Sufficient free movement and accessibility to fresh air and natural daylight is |

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| | essential besides protecting them from excessive sunlight and rain. |
| 4 | Animals should have access to clean fresh water all times to meet their water requirements under ODF. |
| 5 | Herd animals should not be kept individually under ODF. |
| 6 | Tethering is generally not allowed in ODF. |
| 7 | Even in ODF animals can be confined for specific reasons , such as, milking , for some medical procedures , controlled grazing, during night time and for health, safety and well being of animal. |
| 8 | In ODF, as far as possible locally available materials may be used for construction of dairy animal dwellings . |
| 9 | Maintenance of sanitation, hygiene and bio-security are essential in ODF. |
| 10 | Animals of two different species shall not be kept together as per ODF standards. |
| 11 | Indigenous dairy cow require 3.5 and 7 square meters per head floor space as covered and open area respectively. |
| 12 | Buffaloes/ cross bred cows require 4 and 8 square meters per head floor space as covered and open area respectively. |
| 13 | Under ODF a maximum of 50 cows/ buffaloes can be reared in one shed . |
| 14 | Under ODF a maximum of 12 young calves can be reared in one shed. |
| 15 | Under ODF a maximum of 30 old calves can be reared in one shed . |
| 16 | A breeding bull requires 12 and 20 square meters per head floor space as covered and open area respectively under ODF. |
| | IV. Dairy Animal Nutrition standards for Organic Dairy Farming |
| 1 | Dairy animals under ODF should meet their nutritional requirements from organic forage and feed only . |
| 2 | Dairy animals under ODF should be fed either home grown organic feed or organically certified readymade concentrate feed of good quality. |
| 3 | In no case the percentage of non-organic feed should exceed 10% of dry matter per ruminant under ODF. |
| 4 | Exceptions Organic dairy farmers may feed a limited percentage (not more than 10% dry matter per ruminant) of non-organic feed under specific conditions such as areas where organic agriculture is in early stages of development/ when availability of organic feed is of inadequate quantity or quality/ grazing of non-organic grass or vegetation during seasonal migration . |
| 5 | Permitted A dairy farmer may feed a higher percentage (more than 10% dry matter per ruminant) of non-organic feed for a limited time under specific conditions , such as following extreme and exceptional weather conditions/ manmade or natural disasters beyond the control of the dairy farmers? |
| | Prohibited |
| 6 | Feeding of farm animal wastes and byproducts (e.g. abattoir waste) to dairy animals is prohibited in organic dairy farming. |
| 7 | Feeding of all types of excrements including droppings, dung or other manure to dairy animals are prohibited in organic dairy farming. |
| 8 | Feeding of urea and other synthetic nitrogen compounds like amino acids to dairy |

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| | animals are prohibited in organic dairy farming. |
| 9 | Feeding of preservatives , except when used as a processing aid to dairy animals are prohibited in ODF. |
| 10 | Feeding of synthetic growth promoters or stimulants to dairy animals are prohibited in ODF. |
| | Allowed |
| 11 | Animals under ODF may be fed vitamins, trace elements and supplements from natural sources . |
| 12 | Under ODF may be fed synthetic vitamins, minerals and supplements when natural sources are not available in sufficient quantity and quality . |
| 13 | As per ODF standards, young stock (calves) of dairy animals should be provided maternal milk or organic milk from their own species. |
| 14 | Under organic dairy farming, young stock (calves) of dairy animals should be weaned only after a minimum period of 3 months . |
| | V. Animal Health Care Practices for Organic Dairy Farming |
| 1 | In ODF, natural medicines & methods , including, homeopathy, ayurvedic medicine and acupuncture shall be given first priority and emphasized. |
| 2 | Ethno-veterinary practices (ITKs) are essential component in treatment of sick animals under ODF. |
| | Vaccination |
| 3 | In ODF vaccine shall be used only when diseases are known or expected to be a problem in the region and diseases cannot be controlled by other management techniques. |
| 4 | In ODF, vaccinations are allowed when a vaccination is legally required . |
| 5 | In ODF, anesthetics shall be used where appropriate to minimize suffering. |
| 6 | In ODF, using oxytocin for let-down of the milk is not allowed. |
| 7 | In ODF, hormonal heat treatment and induced birth are not allowed. |
| 8 | In ODF, use of any vaginal implant is not allowed. |
| 9 | In ODF, the focus is on preventing health problems and diseases through better /scientific management practices. |
| | Prohibited |
| 10 | In ODF, farmers should not use preventive antibiotics . |
| 11 | Substances of synthetic origin used to stimulate production or suppress natural growth are prohibited in ODF. |
| 12 | Milk of sick animals treated with antibiotics can be consumed after drug withdrawal period. |
| 13 | In ODF, good measures must be followed after the death of an animal due to any contagious disease. |
| | VI. Animal Disease Prevention and Control for Organic Dairy Farming |
| 1 | If any illness occurs, farmer should try to find out the cause and change / manipulate the management practices to prevent future outbreaks ? |
| 2 | In ODF conventional medicine (allopathic) can be used when no other alternative is available. |

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| 3 | Exceptions: If the animal is on allopathic treatment for two subsequent times in a year, then it loses its organic status for that year? |
| 4 | Prohibited Genetically produced vaccines are prohibited in organic dairying. |
| 5 | Under ODF, instead of relying on medicines, animal's immunity should be strengthened so that immune system can do the job. |
| | VII. Animal Welfare Practices for Organic Dairy Farming |
| 1 | Animals need to be protected from predation by wild and feral animals. |
| 2 | Dairy animals must be regularly visited, monitored and inspected in ODF. |
| 3 | When welfare and health problems occur in dairy farms, appropriate management adjustments are needed to be implemented (e.g. reducing stocking density). |
| 4 | Animals must be treated in a humane manner that causes least possible stress and suffering. |
| 5 | In ODF no sick animals should be put to work. |
| 6 | In ODF child labour is not allowed. |
| 7 | In ODF, dairy animals shall not be treated with synthetic tranquilizers or stimulants prior to or during transport. |
| 8 | In ODF each dairy animal shall bear unique identification number in the form of tag. |
| 9 | In ODF identification devices to be used on the animals can be printed ear tags, RFID tags, Barcodes or any other suitable tag which is clearly visible. |
| | Mutilations |
| 10 | In ODF, mutilations in general are prohibited with some exceptions. |
| | Exceptions |
| 11 | In ODF, mutilations such as castrations and dehorning are allowed only if animal suffering is minimized by analgesics & anesthetics, wherever appropriate. |
| | VIII. Organic Certification process for Organic Dairy Farming |
| 1 | During the registration of the dairy farm by the accredited Certification Body, the producer/farmer has to present an organic management plan which requires to be verified during the inspection. |
| 2 | To produce organic milk, dairy farm must be registered with an organic control body and production system. |
| 3 | National Programme for Organic Production (NPOP) is a national body for promotion of organic farming. |
| 4 | There is recognition of Indian Organic Standards and certification system by EU and USA which provides a vast potential for export to these countries? |