Summary of standards changes

Organic standards documents updated Tuesday 12th October – version 18.7

This document summarises the changes made to the Soil Association Standards for version 18.7.

The changes outlined below have been applied to the relevant standards documents which are: **aquaculture, abattoir & slaughtering, feed processing, farming & growing, food & drink and seaweed**.

The main updates are as follows:

- Changes to Soil Association poultry standards
- Inclusion of regulatory update first agreed in 2019 - following recent clarifications on implementation

In addition, a small number of wording changes have been made to some standards and guidance across all Soil Association Standards documents to provide further clarification for licensees. In this document we have not included small edits that have been made to formatting, grammar and spelling.

Key to text changes: (~~strikethrough~~ = delete; underlined = new wording; normal text = no change)

Changes to Soil Association Poultry Standards

Following a public consultation in summer 2021, our laying hen and pullet rearing standards have been updated to:

- Introduce a new higher standard to require enrichment in the hen house
- Bring the Soil Association upper flock size limit for laying hens and pullets in line with the EU and UK Organic Regulations, increasing from 2000 to 3000 birds
- clarify our standard on range design.

These changes will be reflected in the Sourcing Organic Ingredients annex. Producers need to provide enrichment in the hen house for flocks with more than 500 birds from 1st February 2022, as shown below.

3.12.22 Enrichment in the house (NEW)* You must provide suitable enrichment material in your poultry house. *Soil Association higher standard* ***This Standard comes into effect from February 2022**	Ⓢ A sourcing requirement applies for SA processors. To provide suitable enrichment for flocks of more than 500 birds you must: - Provide enough enrichment material across the whole house to enable all birds to access it. This must be no less than two items per 500 birds but you may find that more are required to meet the needs of your flock. - Change enrichment items frequently to maintain the birds' interest. - Ensure that any enrichment materials that contain feed material are organic. - Provide destructible enrichment, including forage, e.g. lucerne bales, bagged chopped alfalfa, hanging vegetables or cardboard egg trays. It is recommended that flocks of 500 birds or less are also provided with this type of enrichment. You will be expected to use enrichment as a management tool to address issues in the flock as necessary. Enrichment items can include pipe or barrel 'tunnels', hanging items, pecking materials and innovative feeders. For more information on enrichment materials see the Featherwel website
3.12.23 Minimum slaughter ages for poultry To prevent the use of intensive rearing methods, poultry shall either be reared until they reach a minimum age or else must come from slow-growing poultry strains. Where slow growing poultry strains are not used the following minimum age at slaughter must be: a) 81 days for chickens b) 49 days for Peking ducks c) 70 days for female Muscovy ducks d) 84 days for male Muscovy ducks e) 92 days for Mallard ducks f) 94 days for guinea fowl g) 140 days for male turkeys and roasting geese h) 100 days for female turkeys *(EC) 889/2008 Art. 12(5)*	In the UK, Defra regards strains as 'slow growing' under organic management if the live weight gain per day does not exceed 45g or in the case of turkeys, 55g per day, averaged over the life of the bird. You may use certain poultry strains with intermediate growth rates. For permitted breeds and strains of chicken, see standard 3.2.1

3.12.2 Number of birds permitted in each house Each poultry house must not contain more than: a) 3,000 birds for laying chickens ~~*Soil Association higher standard*~~ *(EC) 889/2008 Art. 12(3)(e)* b) 1,000 birds for other poultry species. *Soil Association higher standard*	Under this definition laying hens means laying chickens. Other poultry species includes all other laying birds and table birds. (S) A sourcing requirement applies for SA processors.

3.13.6 Number of birds permitted in each house You must **not** have more than 3,000 pullets in a flock. ~~*Soil Association higher standard*~~ *EC) 889/2008 Art. 12(3)(e)*	

3.12.16 Range quality and cover* 1. The range must be of a suitable design and actively managed to encourage birds outside and to promote full and extensive use of the range. The minimum outdoor space required for the flock must be available within the distances set out in the guidance below. 2. A variety of shelter and natural cover must be provided on the range and distributed appropriately to promote full range use. 3. Your range of shelters must provide adequate protection from the inclement weather and overhead predators. 4. Natural cover must be provided at an area equal to at least 5% of the area available to your poultry. a) If the natural cover does not provide cover all year round or if the natural cover is immature, you must	Acceptable forms of shelter can include trailers. For more information and ideas on appropriate shelters see the FeatherWel website. The distance between shelters or natural cover should be no more than 20 metres to promote full range use. For trees this can be calculated from the outer most branch of a tree. New trees should be planted no more than 30 metres apart, trunk to trunk. Natural cover may include trees, perennial shrubs, bushes, hedgerows, or cover crops, such as artichokes, kale, millet, fodder rape and corn. To be included as part of the 5% requirement, natural cover must be accessible to the poultry. Long grass does not count towards your natural cover provision because it does not encourage birds to range and can cause harm if eaten.

provide supplementary cover during the period in which sufficient cover is not provided. 5. At least one area of natural cover or shelter must be available within 20m of the pop-holes. 6. Points 2 -5 above apply for laying chickens, meat chickens, turkeys and guinea fowl. They do not apply to geese and ducks. ~~This standard applies for laying hens, meat chickens, turkeys and guinea fowl. It does not apply to geese and ducks.~~ *Soil Association higher standard* ~~*This Standard comes into effect from November 2020~~	Not all natural cover has to provide actual overhead protection, but it must encourage range use by providing refuge for the birds. For example, it can include brashings from trees or hedges. If you use deciduous trees or other forms of natural cover that only provide shelter for part of the year, you must provide supplementary cover or shelter. The supplementary shelter can be artificial, for example arcs, or natural, for example piles of brashings. The supplementary cover must make up the 5% natural cover requirement when the natural cover is not providing shelter. Narrow ranges which require birds to walk long distances to access a portion of the range do not encourage good use of the range. ~~As a guide, maximum ranging distances from the house to the range boundary should be~~ The minimum outdoor space required for the flock must be available within the following distance from the house: • 100m for layers, turkeys, geese and guinea fowl • 50m for table chickens and ducks Any additional space provided on the range may extend further than this limit and does not need be included when calculating your 5% natural cover requirement. If geese or ducks are walked out to pasture, narrow paddocks or fields may be appropriate. S A sourcing requirement applies for SA processors.

Updates following clarification of regulatory update first published in 2019

2.5.2 Permitted fertilisers, soil conditioners and nutrients

(EC) 889/2008 Art. 3(1); Annex I

Name of product	Description, compositional requirements and conditions for use	Soil Association additional conditions
Farmyard manure (FYM)	• Non-organic manure must not be from factory farming origin (defined below) or	

	contain GM ingredients. • Liquid animal manure must undergo controlled fermentation and/or appropriate dilution before use. **Guidance** Preferably from Soil Association or EU organic certified systems and preferably composted. You must retain information on the source, including the animal species and the husbandry system it comes from. We may request labels of feed fed to the animals producing the manure at inspection. If you use non-organic manure, the following sources meet this standard: • Poultry manure and deep litter from the following egg producing systems: ◦ free range ◦ deep litter systems which have a maximum stocking density of 7 birds/ m^2 ◦ deep litter rearing systems which have a maximum stocking density of 20kg/m^2 • Poultry manure and deep litter from free range, traditional free range and extensive indoor barn reared meat producing systems which have a maximum stocking density of 30kg/m^2 • Manure from straw-based pig production systems, **not** including indoor tethered sow breeding units • Manure from cattle systems where cattle have access to pasture for at least part of the year. Animals from all these systems must be able to freely turn through 360° for the majority or all of their life-cycle and must **not** be kept permanently in the dark. A directory of Soil Association certified composts can be found here.	
Name of product	**Description, compositional requirements and conditions for use**	**Soil Association additional conditions**
Composted or fermented mixture of household waste	• Product obtained from source separated household waste, which has been submitted to composting or to anaerobic fermentation for biogas production.	

	• Only vegetable and animal household waste • Only when produced in a closed and monitored collection system, accepted by the Member State • The concentrations of heavy metals in mg/kg of dry matter must not exceed: cadmium: 0.7; copper: 70; nickel: 25; lead: 45; zinc: 200; mercury: 0.4; chromium (total): 70; chromium (VI): not detectable.	
Peat	• Use limited to horticulture (market gardening, floriculture, arboriculture, nursery stock)	Only permitted as propagating media
Mushroom compost	• This must be initially made from products permitted in this table.	
Dejecta of worms (vermicompost) and insects		
Composted or fermented mixture of vegetable matter	• Composts obtained from mixtures of vegetable matter which has been submitted to composting or to anaerobic fermentation for biogas production.	
Biogas digestate containing animal by-products co-digested with material of plant or animal origin as listed in this table	• By-products of animal origin (including by-products from wild animals) of category 3 and digestive tract content of category 2 (categories 2 and 3 as defined in *Regulation (EC) No 1069/2009* of the European Parliament and of the Council). Animal by-products must not be from factory farming origin. The processing must have been done in accordance with *Commission Regulation (EC) No 142/2011*. • Not to be applied to edible parts of the crop. **Guidance** Biogas digestate has high nitrogen availability, so is only suitable for situations where nitrogen loss can be controlled, e.g. application in spring when the crop is actively growing.	
Products or by-products of animal origin as below: • Blood meal • Hoof meal • Horn meal • Feather meal • Bone meal or degelatinised bone meal	• Hydrolysed proteins must not be applied on edible parts of the crop. • For furs the maximum level of chromium (VI) must not be greater than: not detectable. **Guidance** You should use products sourced from organic or extensive farming systems where possible.	

• Fish meal • Meat meal • Hair and 'chiquette' meal • Wool • Fur • Hair • Dairy products • Hydrolysed proteins	The Soil Association will continue to review the use of animal products with the aim of permitting only animal products sourced from organic or extensive systems in the future. If you are aware of any research or developments in this area please contact a member of the Standards Team: standards@soilassociation.org Non-animal based alternatives to these inputs, such as composts, farmyard manure or soft ground rock phosphate, may be suitable to treat your nutrient deficiency. Animal products typically have readily available nitrogen and are suitable only for situations where nitrogen loss can be controlled.	
Name of product	**Description, compositional requirements and conditions for use**	**Soil Association additional conditions**
Products and by-products of plant origin	• For example oilseed cake meal, cocoa husks, malt culms.	
Hydrolysed proteins of plant origin		
Seaweeds and seaweed products	• For products which have been through the following processes: (i) physical processes including dehydration, freezing and grinding, (ii) extraction with water or aqueous acid and/or alkaline solution, or (iii) fermentation	You must not use calcified seaweed, lithothamne or maerl if extracted from the sea.
Sawdust and wood chips, composted bark and wood ash	• The wood must not have been chemically treated after felling.	
Leonardite	• Raw organic sediment rich in humic acids. • Only if it is obtained as a by-product of mining activities.	
Organic rich sediment from fresh water bodies formed under exclusion of oxygen (e.g. sapropel)	• Only organic sediments that are by-products of fresh water body management or extracted from former freshwater areas. • When applicable, extraction methods should cause minimal impact on the aquatic system. • Only sediments derived from sources free from contaminations of pesticides,	

	persistent organic pollutants and petrol-like substances. • The concentrations of heavy metals in mg/kg of dry matter must not exceed: cadmium: 0.7; copper: 70; nickel: 25; lead: 45; zinc: 200; mercury: 0.4; chromium (total): 70; chromium (VI): not detectable.	
Chitin	• The polysaccharide obtained from the shell of crustaceans. • Only if obtained from organic aquaculture or sustainable fisheries, as defined in Article 3e of *Council Regulation (EC) No 2371/2002*.	
Soft ground rock phosphate	• Product as specified in point 7 of Annex 1 A.2 of *Regulation (EC) No 2003/2003*. • The cadmium content must be less than or equal to 90 mg/kg of P_2O_5	
Aluminium-calcium phosphate	• Product as specified in point 6 of Annex I A.2. of *Regulation (EC) No 2003/2003*. • The cadmium content must be less than or equal to 90 mg/kg of P_2O_5. • Use only allowed where the soil pH is greater than 7.5.	
Basic slag	• Products as specified in point 1 of Annex I A.2 of *Regulation (EC) No 2003/2003*.	
Name of product	**Description, compositional requirements and conditions for use**	**Soil Association additional conditions**
Crude potassium salt or kainit	• Products as specified in point 1 of Annex I A.3 of *Regulation (EC) No 2003/2003*.	
Potassium sulphate, possibly containing magnesium salt	• Product obtained from crude potassium salt by a physical extraction process, possibly containing magnesium salts.	
Stillage and stillage extract	• Ammonium stillage excluded.	
Calcium carbonate	• Only of natural origin, for example chalk, marl, ground limestone, Breton ameliorant, phosphate chalk.	
Mollusc waste	• Only from sustainable fisheries, as defined in Article 4 (1) (7) of *Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013* or organic aquaculture **Guidance** You should also comply with Animal By-Product Regulations, for example in the *UK*.	
Egg shells	• Must not be of factory farming origin. **Guidance** You should also comply with Animal By-Product Regulations, for example in the *UK*.	
Magnesium and calcium carbonate	• Only of natural origin, for example magnesium chalk, ground magnesium limestone.	
Magnesium sulphate	• Only of natural origin, for example kieserite.	

Calcium chloride solution	• Foliar treatment of apple trees, after identification of a calcium deficiency	
Calcium sulphate (gypsum)	• Only of natural origin. • Products as specified in point 1 of Annex I D of *Regulation (EC) No 2003/2003*.	
Industrial lime	• Only as a by-product of sugar production from sugar beet or sugar cane, or vacuum salt production from brine found in mountains.	
Elemental sulphur	• Products as specified in Annex I D.3 of *Regulation (EC) No 2003/2003*.	
Trace elements	• Only the inorganic micronutrients listed in Annex I, part E of *Regulation (EC) No 2003/2003*.	
Sodium chloride		~~Only sea and rock salt~~
Stone meal and clays	• For example ground basalt, bentonite, perlite and vermiculite.	
Humic and fulvic acids	• Only if obtained by inorganic salts/solutions excluding ammonium salts; or obtained from drinking water purification.	
Xylite	• Only if obtained as a by-product of mining activities (e.g. by-product of brown coal mining)	
Biochar	• A pyrolysis product made from a wide variety of organic materials of plant origin and applied as a soil conditioner. • Only from plant materials, untreated or treated with products listed in standard 2.6.3. • Maximum value of 4 mg polycyclic aromatic hydro-carbons (PAHs) per kg dry matter (DM).	

2.6.3. Permitted pesticides and plant protection products

All substances listed in this table must comply at least with the conditions for use as specified in the Annex of Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 540/2011. More restrictive conditions for use for organic production are specified in the second column of the table.

(EC) 834/2007 Art. 16(1)(a)
(EC) 889/2008 Annex II

Name of product	Description, compositional requirements, conditions for use	Soil Association additional conditions
Substances of plant or animal origin		

Allium sativum (Garlic extract)		
Azadirachtin extracted from *Azadirachta indica* (Neem tree)		
Beeswax	Only as pruning agent/wound protectant	
COS-OGA		
Eugenol		Preferably of natural origin
Geraniol		Preferably of natural origin
Hydrolysed proteins excluding gelatine		
Laminarin	Kelp must be either grown organically according to standard 15.7.4 (Art. 6d) or harvested in a sustainable way according to standard 15.7.3 (Art. 6c) of the Soil Association seaweed standards.	
Maltodextrin		
Pheromones	Only in traps and dispensers	
Plant oils	All uses authorised, except herbicide.	
Pyrethrins	Only from plant origin	
Quassia extracted from *Quassia amara*	Only as an insecticide, repellent	
Repellents by smell of animal or plant origin/sheep fat	Only on non-edible parts of the crop and where crop material is not ingested by sheep or goats	
Salix spp. Cortex (aka willow bark extract)		
Thymol		Preferably of natural origin
Basic substances		
Basic substances based on food	Only those basic substances within the meaning of Article 23(1) of *Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009* that are covered by the definition of 'foodstuff' in Article 2 of *Regulation (EC) No 178/2002* and have plant or animal origin. Substances not to be used as herbicides, but only for the control of pests and diseases.	

	Basic substances are substances which are useful in plant protection, but are not predominantly used for this purpose. Many of them have traditionally been used in organic farming and include numerous foodstuffs of plant or animal origin. Substances that fall under this category are: • Lecithins • Sucrose • Fructose • Vinegar • Whey • Equisetum arvense L. • Chitosan hydrochloride (Obtained from sustainable fisheries or organic aquaculture) **Contact your Certification Officer for more information**	
Micro-organisms or substances produced by or derived from micro-organisms		
Micro-organisms	Not from GMO origin	
Spinosad		Not from GMO origin
Cerevisane		Not from GMO origin
Other substances		
Aluminium silicate (Kaolin)		
Calcium hydroxide	Fungicide, only in fruit trees, including nurseries, to control *Nectria galligena*	
Carbon dioxide		
Copper compounds in the form of: • copper hydroxide • copper oxychloride • copper oxide • Bordeaux mixture • tribasic copper sulphate	**Guidance** In compliance with PPP legislation you may use a maximum of 4kg/ha in any one year provided that over 7 years you do not exceed 28kg/ha.	

Diammonium phosphate	Only as attractant in traps	
Ethylene		
Fatty acids	All uses authorised, except herbicide	
Ferric phosphate (iron (III) orthophosphate)	Preparations to be surface-spread between cultivated plants.	
Hydrogen peroxide	For seed treatment of lettuce and ornamentals and for disinfection of agricultural cutting tools used in *Solanaceae*.	
Kieselgur (diatomaceous earth)		
Lime sulphur (calcium polysulphide)		
Paraffin oil		
Potassium and sodium hydrogen carbonate (aka potassium/sodium bicarbonate)		
Pyrethroids (only deltamethrin or lambdacyhalothrin)	Only in traps with specific attractants; only against *Bactrocera oleae* and *Ceratitis capitata* Wied	
Quartz sand		
Sodium chloride	All uses authorised, except herbicide	
Sulphur		

Standards

3.10.14 Products and substances permitted for use in livestock feed

(EC) 834/2007 Art. 16(1)(c)(d)
(EC) 889/2008 Art. 22; Annex V; Annex VI

Feed Material	
Product or substance	**Conditions of use**
Organic feed materials of animal origin	• There are restrictions on what animal by-products you can feed to different animal species. UK guidance is available here
Non-organic feed materials of plant or animal origin, or fermentation (by-products) from micro-organisms, the cells of which have been inactivated or killed: a) Saccharomyces cerevisiae b) Saccharomyces carlsbergensis	• must be produced or prepared without chemical solvents; and • only used as part of the non-organic feed allowance in compliance with standards 3.10.8 and 3.10.11.
Minerals	

Product or substance		Conditions of use
Sodium	Sea salt Coarse rock salt Sodium chloride Sodium bicarbonate Sodium carbonate Sodium sulphate	
Potassium	Potassium chloride	
Calcium	Calcareous marine shells Calcium gluconate Calcium carbonate	
Phosphorus	Defluorinated monocalciumphosphate Defluorinated dicalciumphosphate Monosodium phosphate Calcium magnesium phosphate Calcium sodium phosphate Monosodium phosphate	
Magnesium	Magnesium oxide (anhydrous magnesia) Magnesium sulphate Magnesium chloride Magnesium carbonate Magnesium phosphate	
Preservatives		
Functional Group	**Product or substance**	**Conditions of use**
E 200	Sorbic acid	
E 236	Formic acid	
E 237	Sodium formate	
E 260	Acetic acid	
E 270	Lactic acid	
E 280	Propionic acid	
E 330	Citric acid	
Antioxidants		

ID no. or Functional Group	Product or substance	Conditions of use
1b306(i)	Tocopherol extracts from vegetable oils	
1b306(ii)	Tocopherol-rich extracts from vegetable oils (delta rich)	
Binders and anti-caking agents		
ID no. or Functional Group	**Product or substance**	**Conditions of use**
E412	Guar gum	
E 535	Sodium ferrocyanide	• Maximum dose rate of 20 mg/kg NaCl calculated as ferrocyanide anion
E 551b	Colloidal silica	
E 551c	Kieselguhr (diatomaceous earth, purified)	
1m558i	Bentonite	
E 559	Kaolinitic clays, free of asbestos	
E 560	Natural mixtures of stearites and chlorite	
E 561	Vermiculite	
E 562	Sepiolite	
E 566	Natrolite-Phonolite	
1g568	Clinoptilolite of sedimentary origin	
E 599	Perlite	
Silage additives		
ID no.	**Product or substance**	**Conditions of use**
1k	Enzymes and micro-organisms	Use restricted to production of silage when weather conditions do not allow for adequate fermentation
1k237	Sodium formate	
1k280	Propionic acid	
1k281	Sodium propionate	
Sensory additives		
ID no.	**Product or substance**	**Conditions of use**
2b	Flavouring compounds	Only extracts from agricultural products
	Castanea sativa Mill.: Chestnut extract	
Nutritional additives		
ID no.	**Product or substance**	**Conditions of use**

3a	Vitamins and provitamins	• Only if derived from agricultural products, or • If synthetic vitamins are used only those identical to vitamins derived from agricultural products may be used for monogastric and aquaculture animals Only synthetic vitamins A, D and E if identical to vitamins derived from agricultural products may be used for ruminants. Their use is subject to approval by the Member State. If you want to make use of this provision, you must justify why you need to use these vitamins. In the UK this must be approved by the competent authority.
3a920	Betaine anhydrous	• Only for monogastric animals. • Only from natural origin and when available from organic origin. **Guidance** There is a risk of production from GM beet and you must be able to demonstrate that betaine anhydrous is not from a GM source as per standard 1.11.2.
Trace elements		
ID no. or Functional Group	**Product or substance**	**Conditions of use**
E1 Iron 3b101 3b103 3b104	 Iron(II) carbonate (siderite) Iron(II) sulphate monohydrate Iron(II) sulphate heptahydrate	
3b201 3b202 3b203	Potassium iodide Calcium iodate, anhydrous Coated granulated calcium iodate anhydrous	
3b301 3b302 3b303	Cobalt(II) acetate tetrahydrate Cobalt(II) carbonate	

3b304	Cobalt(II) carbonate hydroxide (2:3) monohydrate	
3b305	Coated granulated cobalt(II) carbonate	
	Cobalt(II) sulphate heptahydrate	
3b402	Copper(II) carbonate dihydroxy monohydrate	
3b404	Copper (II) oxide	
3b405	Copper (II) sulphate, pentahydrate	
3b409	Dicopper chloride trihydroxide (TBCC)	
3b502	Maganese (II) oxide	
3b503	manganous sulfate, monohydrate	
3b603	zinc oxide	
3b604	zinc sulphate heptahydrate	
3b605	Zinc sulphate monohydrate	
3b609	Zinc chloride hydroxide monohydrate (TBZC)	
3b701	Sodium molybdate dihydrate	
3b801	Sodium selenite	
3b8.10, 3b8.11, 3b8.12, 3b813 and 3b817	Selenised yeast inactivated	
Zootechnical additives		
ID no. or Functional Group	**Product or substance**	**Conditions of use**
4a, 4b, 4c and 4d	Enzymes and micro-organisms in the category of "Zootechnical additives"	

Product or substance	Conditions of use
Products from sustainable fisheries,	• only when they are produced without chemical solvents • their use is restricted to non-herbivores • the use of fish protein hydrolysate is restricted solely to young animals
	Guidance
	The source must be independently certified as sustainable, such as by the Marine Stewardship Council.
Non-organic spices, herbs and molasses provided that:	• only when organic is not available • must be produced or prepared without chemical solvents, and • use is limited to 1% of the feed ration of a given species calculated as a percentage of the dry matter of feed from agricultural origin
	Guidance
	If you use non-organic spices, herbs or molasses you must demonstrate that the organic form is not available.

*also updated in Feed Processing standards

Updates to Farming and growing standards

3.10.9 Feeding young mammals 1. Young mammals must be fed natural, organic milk, preferably maternal milk, for a minimum period of: a) 12 weeks for calves b) 45 days for lambs and kids c) 40 days for piglets. *(EC) 834/2007 Art. 14(1)(d)(vi)* *(EC) 889/2008 Art. 20(1)*	Maternal milk is milk from the mother; natural milk is from the glands of a mammal. Natural milk can come from other species provided that it meets the nutritional and health needs of the species you are feeding it to. Milk powder is considered as natural milk as long as it only contains milk powder. Milk powder containing vegetable oil and milk replacers is not considered as natural milk and therefore must be regarded as a concentrate for feed calculations during the minimum periods set out in this standard. You should have a plan in place to provide an organic source of colostrum. In an emergency you may feed non-organic milk replacer to young mammals until they are 72 hours old. However, if you feed them non-organic milk replacer for any longer they will lose their organic status. Proper care of youngstock is critical for their long-term health and survival. If a newborn is unable to suckle a bottle, or consume the full amount of colostrum, then a stomach tube should be used. This is a skilled technique which requires training to ensure the correct ~~the~~ placement of the tube. See how to safely tube a calf using the AHDB Colostrum Feeding video here and guidance on tubing a lamb here.

3.8.6 Minimum housing area for cattle

1. When housing your animals you must give them at least the following space:

Class of animal	Minimum indoor space m^2 per head (net area available to animals)	Additional area required m^2 per head * (indoors or outdoors, excluding pasture)	Total m^2 per head
Breeding and fattening cattle:			
Up to 100 kg	1.5	1.1	2.6
Up to 200 kg	2.5	1.9	4.4
Up to 350 kg	4.0	3.0	7.0

Over 350 kg	5.0 with a minimum of 1m²/100kg	3.7 with a minimum of 0.75m²/100kg	8.7 with a minimum of 1.75m²/100kg
Dairy cows	6.0	4.5	10.5
Bulls for breeding	10	30*	40
	When a bull is fully mature and used for breeding then the space allowance for 'Bulls for breeding' should be applied, if they are adolescent bulls, not yet at maturity the space requirements for 'breeding and fattening cattle' should be applied for all the animals in the group. If mature bulls are housed within a group made up of different ages or types e.g. Cows or adolescent bulls, then the space calculation should be made for the other cattle in the group with the additional space for the bull.		

* The additional area for bulls is not required if the bull is temporarily being run with cows provided the additional area is provided for all other animals within the group. ~~This additional area is not required if the bulls are housed with cows.~~

2. Open air areas may be partially covered.

(EC) 889/2008 Art. 10(4); Art. 14(1)(3); Annex III

3.2.6 Exceptional rules for poultry 1. When you are establishing for the first time, renewing or reconstituting a flock, non-organic poultry may be brought in **only** when organic poultry are not available in sufficient numbers. If you have to bring in non-organic poultry you must in order of preference: a) use pullets for egg production, or chicks for meat production, that have been kept to organic standards from three days of age, if they are available. b) use non-organic pullets for egg production before they are 18 weeks old. Any non-organic pullets you bring in must have been reared to the veterinary and feed standards detailed in sections 3.4 and 3.10. 2. You must have prior authorisation from your competent authority before bringing in any non-organic poultry. 3. The EU Commission has stated that producers may request permission to use non-organic pullets until 31st December 2021~~0~~.	Organic Poultry suppliers in the UK are listed here. If you are bringing in non-organic poultry you must have permission from your competent authority before you bring them onto the holding. In the UK, permission is granted by the competent authority and we will submit an application on your behalf. You must show us that organic poultry is not available in sufficient numbers. We will need the following details from you to submit to the competent authority: • why you cannot source organic birds • which organic suppliers you have contacted • the number of birds you need • the number of non-organic birds you plan to bring in and when • the name of your suppliers • whether any suppliers will be able to supply you with organic birds in future. A form with all the relevant questions is available on our website or from your Certification Officer.

(EC) 834/2007 Art. 22(2)(b) *(EC) 889/2008 Art. 42*	

3.10.8 Use of non-organic protein for pigs and poultry 1. If you cannot source 100% organic feeds that meet the nutritional needs of your animals, you may feed pigs and poultry up to 5% non-organic protein feed. 2. This percentage must be calculated on an annual dry matter basis. 3. At your inspection you must have records to demonstrate that you are unable to source an appropriate 100% organic or in-conversion ration and that you have not fed more than 5% non-organic protein feed. 4. This exemption will be in place until 31st December 2021~~0~~. *(EC) 834/2007 Art. 22(2)(b)* *(EC) 889/2008 Art. 43*	If you are using a feed that is certified as suitable for organic production and it contains some non-organic ingredients, the feed mill will already have demonstrated that organic ingredients are not available. If you are mixing or blending your own feeds then you must demonstrate that suitable organic ingredients are not available. Ⓡ Feed records When the EU Commission reviews this exemption we will update this page.

Changes to Food and Drink standards

Standards	Guidance
5.16.5 PVC You must **not** use polyvinyl chloride (PVC) unless alternative materials are not available or are functionally unsuitable, as listed in the guidance section of this standard. *Soil Association higher standard*	Demonstrate that you have not used these materials, for example by having written confirmation from your supplier. You must not use vinyl chloride plastics but you may use other chlorinated plastics, such as PVdC. There are some specific circumstances where we are aware that no suitable alternatives to PVC currently exist yet. These include: • metal jar lids or caps (e.g. for jams, sauces and baby food), and • tamper evident seals on jar lids or caps.

	The Soil Association's Packaging Working group will review this list on a regular basis. You may use metal jar lids, caps and tamper evident seals that contain PVC, however you will need to make your packaging supplier aware that a PVC-free alternative is preferable should it become available. PVC film overwrap may be used where a non-PVC film is unavailable in suitable quantities or is not fit for purpose. If you wish to use a PVC film wrap please contact your Certification Officer. We will need evidence from you and your suppliers that a PVC-free alternative is either not available or not suitable for the purpose you intend. You may continue to use PVC in these cases until a suitable alternative becomes available. Each year we will contact you to see if you have found a suitable PVC-free alternative.

Why?

The production, use and disposal of PVC are associated with a range of environmental and human health issues. PVC often contains additives which are added to improve flexibility and plasticity, including phthalates. PVC can also contain other toxic substances such as chlorinated paraffins, organic tin compounds and alkyl phenols.

The environmental hazards of PVC go beyond those associated with other plastics. Some of today's most worrying environmental contaminants are released during the production of PVC or its feedstocks and during the disposal of PVC products.