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## 1 Sanction categories and measures for certification according to Reg. (EU) 2018/848 and 2021/1698 Art. 22.

This document specifies general classification criteria and measures. Detailed non-compliances and respective measures are listed in the guidelines in the Intact database.

Category of non-compliance	Classification criteria	Measures	Deadlines
<b>O-observation</b>	<p>Issues currently not relevant but might become so in future.</p> <p>Documents which have not been available during inspection (plausible explanation), or need some correction (e.g. maps, crop rotation plans).</p>	No measures are required.	<p>Onsite verification next inspection</p> <p>14 days</p>
<b>MN (Minor)</b>	<p>The non-compliance does not affect the integrity of the organic or in-conversion product.</p> <p>Precautionary measures are proportionate and appropriate and the self-control efficient.</p> <p>A traceability system is in place.</p>	Usually, verification will be done during the next annual update inspection (depending on the situation, a shorter deadline may be requested, e.g. submission of the data sheet, etc.).	Next inspection
<b>MN2 (Minor)</b>	<p>The non-compliance does not affect the integrity of the organic or in-conversion product.</p> <p>Precautionary measures are proportionate and appropriate and the self-control efficient.</p> <p>A traceability system is in place.</p>	<p>Depending on the situation, there are the following options:</p> <p>Corrective action must be implemented and action plan must be submitted to bio.inspecta.</p> <p>Corrective action must be implemented and evidence submitted to bio.inspecta before certification.</p>	<p>14 days</p> <p>14 days</p>

**Catalogue of sanctions and measures for (EU) 2018/848, NOP, Bio Suisse, TR-R and AL-R**

		<p>An action plan on the correction of the non-compliance needs to be provided until a set deadline.</p> <p>An action plan on the correction of the non-compliance needs to be provided before certification.</p> <p>The operator or group of operators must increase the frequency of own controls and the action plan must be submitted to bio.inspecta.</p> <p>Not correcting the minor non-compliance or repeated may lead to a major non-compliance.</p>	<p>14 days</p> <p>14 days</p> <p>14 days</p> <p>one time repeat</p>
<b>Major non-compliance</b>	<p>The non-compliance affects the integrity of the organic or in-conversion product.</p> <p>Precautionary measures are not proportionate and appropriate and the self-control not efficient.</p> <p>A traceability system is in place, allowing to locate the affected product in the supply chain and the product can be prevented from being imported to the EU with reference to organic production.</p> <p>A minor non-compliance has not been corrected within the set time limits.</p> <p>Significant deviation between input and output calculation (mass balance)</p>	<p>Decertification/ downgrading of certain plots, products, lots. The concerned products may not be marketed or advertised with reference to organic production according to Reg. (EU) 2018/848 with immediate effect.</p> <p>New conversion period</p> <p>Corrective action (action plan) is required in order to ensure that the non-compliance is not repeated. Improvement of the implementation of the precautionary measures and the controls that the operator has put in place to ensure compliance.</p> <p>The operator or group of operators must increase the frequency of own controls and submit the improved action plan.</p> <p>Not correcting the major non-compliance or repeated may lead to a critical non-compliance.</p>	<p>Immediate action</p> <p>Immediate action</p> <p>14 days</p> <p>14 days</p> <p>1 time repeat</p>

**Catalogue of sanctions and measures for (EU) 2018/848, NOP, Bio Suisse, TR-R and AL-R**

<b>Critical non-compliance</b>	The non-compliance affects the integrity of the organic or in-conversion product. Precautionary measures are not proportionate and appropriate and the self-control not efficient.	Decertification/ downgrading of certain plots, products, lots. The concerned products may not be marketed or advertised with reference to organic production according to Reg. (EU) 2018/848 with immediate effect.	Immediate action
	The traceability system does not allow to locate the affected product in the supply chain and the product cannot be prevented from being imported to the EU with reference to organic production.	New conversion period required Corrective action is required in order to ensure that the non-compliance is not repeated in future (e.g. regarding precautionary measures and self-control).	Immediate action 14 days
	Intentional use of unallowed substances or products, intentional labelling of conventional/ downgraded products as organic or mixing organic with in-conversion or non-organic, any other kind of fraud.	The operator or group of operators must increase the frequency of own controls and submit the improved action plan.	14 days
	Absence of records and financial records showing the compliance with Reg 2018/848 Intentional omission of information or falsification of documents connected with the certification of organic products Intentional use of GMO	Depending on the situation, the certificate is suspended for a certain period of time or withdrawn.	Immediate action
	The operator refuses the CB access to premises subject to controls, or to its book keepings, including financial records, or refuses to allow the control authority or control body to take samples A major non-compliance has not been corrected.		

## 2 Sanction categories NOP

Sanction categories	Description
<b>0-Observation</b>	Potential risk of noncompliance: Issues not yet relevant but might become so in future. Precautionary information.
<b>MN</b>	<b>Minor Issues:</b> Noncompliant practices or minor inconsistencies or omissions that indicate no systemic failure and can easily be corrected. Evidence of corrective actions must be provided within the deadline. Certification will be conducted despite unresolved MNs.
<b>MN2</b>	<b>Notices of Noncompliance:</b> Noncompliant practices or minor inconsistencies or omissions that indicate no systemic failure but require a corrective action plan within the deadline to ensure and verify compliance. Unresolved MN2s will lead to a proposed suspension.
<b>Major</b>	<b>Denial or Proposed Suspension:</b> Systemic failure that demonstrates inability to comply with the regulations or accidental or otherwise un-willful application of a prohibited substance to land. Failure to resolve, successfully or within a prescribed time period, a previously issued noncompliance
<b>Critical</b>	<b>Denial or Proposed Revocation:</b> Deliberate violation of the regulations (e.g. willful sale, labeling or representation of conventional agricultural products as organic, willful application of prohibited substances or use of prohibited practices). Falsification or concealment of records, refusal to provide access to a site or records or continuing noncompliance with the regulations following a proposed suspension.

### 2.1 Possibility of rebuttal according to NOP (USDA) in case of a Notification of Noncompliance

If a certified operation believes the notification of noncompliance is incorrect or not well-founded, the certified operation may submit a rebuttal to bio.inspecta AG, as applicable, providing supporting data to rebut the facts stated in the notification. The opportunity for rebuttal is provided to allow certifying agents and certified operations to informally resolve noncompliance issues. The rebuttal process should be helpful in resolving differences which may be the result of misinterpretation of requirements, misunderstandings, or incomplete information.

Alternatively, the certified operation may correct the identified noncompliance and submit proof of such corrections. When the certified operation demonstrates that each noncompliance has been corrected or otherwise resolved, the certifying agent will send the certified operation a written notification of noncompliance resolution.

### 3 Sanction Catalogue for Bio Suisse Standard

Category	Case	Description	Integrity impact	Sanction	Sanction in event of recurrence
0		No or minor non-conformity	Integrity is not or is not directly compromised	Info or note in the certification decision	
A		Major non-conformity*	Integrity is compromised		
	A01			Condition for approval	Binding condition, withdrawal of certification for the crop/product in the following year
	A02			Condition for approval	Binding condition, withdrawal of certification for the operation in the following year
B		Major non-conformity	Integrity is compromised		
	B01			Binding condition	Withdrawal of certification for the crop/product
	B02			Binding condition	Withdrawal of certification for the operation
C		Potentially serious non-conformity	Integrity is potentially violated	Correction/measure necessary before certification	
D		Serious non-conformity	Integrity is violated		
	D01			Crop/product status downgraded	Crop/product status downgraded
	D02			Crop/product status downgraded	Withdrawal of certification for the crop/product
	D03			Withdrawal of certification for the crop/product	Withdrawal of certification for the crop/product

**Catalogue of sanctions and measures for (EU) 2018/848, NOP, Bio Suisse, TR-R and AL-R**

	D04			Withdrawal of certification for the crop/product	Withdrawal of certification for the operation
	D05			Withdrawal of certification for the crop/product; plot status downgraded	Withdrawal of certification for the crop/product; plot status downgraded
	D06			Withdrawal of certification for the crop/product; plot status downgraded	Withdrawal of certification for the operation
	D07			Withdrawal of certification for the operation	
	D08			Withdrawal of certification for the operation, plot status downgraded	
	D09			Withdrawal of certification for the operation, operation status downgraded	
	D10			Withdrawal of certification for the operation, waiting period for re-entry	

\* The non-conformity either cannot be remedied by the next inspection for agronomic/organisational reasons, or a remedy would not be proportionate

## 4 Sanction Catalogue for Turkish Organic Regulation

Sanction categories	Description
<b>0-Observation</b>	Potential risk of noncompliance: Issues not yet relevant but might become so in future. Precautionary information.
<b>MN (Minor)</b>	Noncompliant practices or minor inconsistencies or omissions that indicate no systemic failure and can easily be corrected. Evidence of corrective actions must be provided within the deadline. Certification will be conducted despite unresolved MNs.
<b>MN2 (Minor)</b>	Noncompliant practices or minor inconsistencies or omissions that indicate no systemic failure but require a corrective action plan within the deadline to ensure and verify compliance. Unresolved MN2s will lead to a proposed suspension.
<b>Major non-compliance</b>	Noncompliant practices or inconsistencies or omissions that indicate no systemic failure but require a corrective action plan within the deadline to ensure and verify compliance. Unresolved major non-compliances might lead to denial/ withdrawal of certificate or decertification/ downgrading of certain plots, products, lots etc.
<b>Critical non-compliance</b>	The non-compliance affects the integrity of the organic or in-conversion product. It might indicate systemic failure and require immediate corrective action. This might lead to denial/ withdrawal of certificate or decertification/ downgrading of certain plots, products, lots etc.



## 5 Sanction Catalogue for Albanian Organic Regulation

Sanction categories	Description
<b>0-Observation</b>	Potential risk of noncompliance: Issues not yet relevant but might become so in future. Precautionary information.
<b>MN (Minor)</b>	Noncompliant practices or minor inconsistencies or omissions that indicate no systemic failure and can easily be corrected. Evidence of corrective actions must be provided within the deadline. Certification will be conducted despite unresolved MNs.
<b>MN2 (Minor)</b>	Noncompliant practices or minor inconsistencies or omissions that indicate no systemic failure but require a corrective action plan within the deadline to ensure and verify compliance. Unresolved MN2s will lead to a proposed suspension.
<b>Major non-compliance</b>	Noncompliant practices or inconsistencies or omissions that indicate no systemic failure but require a corrective action plan within the deadline to ensure and verify compliance. Unresolved major non-compliances might lead to denial/ withdrawal of certificate or decertification/ downgrading of certain plots, products, lots etc.
<b>Critical non-compliance</b>	The non-compliance affects the integrity of the organic or in-conversion product. It might indicate systemic failure and require immediate corrective action. This might lead to denial/ withdrawal of certificate or decertification/ downgrading of certain plots, products, lots etc.

## 6 Quality assurance

In order to monitor set deadlines, your inspection body can conduct unannounced additional inspections at any time.

## 7 Right to appeal

Decisions of the certification body are in principle binding as soon as they are issued. An appeal against a decision of the certification body can be lodged with the Appeals Service **no later than 30 days from delivery of the decision**. The charge for the appeals procedure is Euro 400 for appeals that are partly rejected, and Euro 600 for appeals that are fully rejected. The appeal must state its grounds and include any available evidence, and be sent to the Appeals Service of bio.inspecta, Ackerstrasse, 5070 Frick, Switzerland. On the outside the letter must be marked visibly with the word: Appeal. Submission of an appeal does not have a postponing effect. At the appellant 's request, the President of the Appeals Service may grant postponing effect to an appeal.