

## Request for retroactive recognition of land

By submitting this application your operation seeks retroactive recognition of conversion period. Retroactive recognition for cultivated plots/ fallow/ virgin areas may be granted for the following organic Standards:

- bio.inspecta Organic Standard (EU-Equivalent, Art. 36.2)
- NOP (§ 205.400-406 National Organic Program)

Please fill in chapters 1-4 of this form and attach the mandatory annexes. The inspector will fill in chapter 5 during inspection. A decision about retroactive recognition may only be taken after on-site inspection of the plots has taken place. Processing of your application will be charged according to our price list.

Please note that verification of the application might take additional inspection and certification time as follows: all concerned plots have to be visited by the inspector, and in case of previously cultivated areas, respective records have to be cross-checked on-site. For bi-OS, in case of operations in countries considered as high risk by the EU (Kazakhstan, Moldova, Russia, Ukraine) a full check of the records for the period to be considered for retroactive recognition has to be done.

After evaluating the facts collected in this request form by the inspector, the final decision is taken by the certification committee.

Please attach all necessary documents according to chapter 4 of this form. Please keep documents and production records such as use of inputs, yield quantities, invoices, GMO free declarations, non-treatment declarations for seeds, or other information giving evidence of production during previous years ready for inspection.

### 1. Applicant/ Operator

Name of operator		Address	
b.i Number		Country	

**2. Explanatory Statement**

Please give reasons for requesting retroactive recognition for the plots listed in chapter 3.2.

Has the land ever been certified organic before?

If yes:

- by which certification body
  
- according to which standard
  
- from when to when

If no:

- have the organic production rules according to the bi-OS standard/ NOP been applied?  
Self assessment:
  
- how were weeds, pests and diseases managed during the last 3 years?
  
- how was soil fertility managed during the last 3 years?
  
- have you used treated seeds/ planting material during the last 3 years?

**3. Field history of previous 3 years**

**3.1 Previous management**

- Plots have been under the management of the applicant
- Plots have **not** been under the management of the applicant  
Name(s) and address(es) of former responsible(s) of the land:

Name	
Address	
Country	
Phone/E-mail	

Retroactive recognition request

**3.2: Details of plots for which retroactive recognition of conversion period is sought**

Year	Plot No. and/ or name	Area [ha]	Crop	Name/ variety of all used seeds/ planting material	Source/ manufacturer of seeds/ planting material	Name of all used in-puts (fertilisers, plant protection agents)	Source/ manufacturer of fertilisers/ plant protection agents
This year: 20							
Last year: 20							
Two years ago: 20							
Three years ago: 20							

**Note:** If there is not enough space, please add additional lines to list all plots.

**4. Annexes to be added by applicant:**

<p><b>Compulsory annexes:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><input type="checkbox"/> Google (or similar) map of plots</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Pictures of plots, with date of picture</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Invoices and confirmation of untreated/ non-GMO seeds from suppliers for seeds used in the past 3 years</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Organic confirmation of used inputs (if available)</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> In case of previous certification: Certificate of former certification body</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> If plots have not been under management of the applicant: Written statement of land use and management practices of field(s) by former owner/ manager</li></ul> <p><b>Other possible annexes:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><input type="checkbox"/> Written statement of a competent and independent third party (e.g. authorities, NGO) confirming that the plots listed in chapter 3 have not been under cultivation /or that no prohibited inputs were applied over the past years.</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Pesticide analysis reports from accredited laboratories (please describe sampling place and method)</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> other</li></ul>
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Please send the completed and signed form with annexes to: [sekretariat@bio-inspecta.ch](mailto:sekretariat@bio-inspecta.ch)

**Confirmation by the operator that the above made declarations are correct and complete.**

.....  
Place/Date

.....  
Signature & Name

.....  
Stamp

**5. Inspector's findings: *To be filled in by bio.inspecta***

***A description must be added whenever there is a text field!***

<b>Evaluation of the project region</b>	Yes	No
Is agriculture the primary source of livelihood for the farmers in the region?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The common farming practice is mainly: <input type="checkbox"/> intensive (high mechanization level, use of chemicals) <input type="checkbox"/> extensive (low mechanization level, use of chemicals is rarely found)  Listing of the typical crops grown in the region:		
In case of fallow/ virgin land, is the type of area and vegetation typical for the region?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
In case of "organic by neglect", is the type of area and vegetation typical for the region?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are there official agriculture management measures conducted in the region (government/ state management and inspection etc.)? If yes, indicate dates of order and results of inspection and type of the suggested inputs:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is there official chemical pest management/ requirements (government/ state) in the region for the type of production done by the operator? If yes, indicate common time and inputs:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do the measures include any pest control by plane done in the region? If yes, indicate dates of application and type of the agent used:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are chemical fertilizers, pesticides etc. easily available in the project area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do the farmers get support and free supply of pesticides from government or NGO's?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
How easy is the access to dealers selling pesticides and seeds?		
<b>Characteristic of the farm</b>	Yes	No
Has the operator good knowledge of organic farming practices?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Where did the operator get his knowledge from (training, consultant, self-study)?		
Does the operator keep own animals?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

<p>Animal species: _____ Number: _____</p> <p>Have the animals been treated with veterinary treatments? If yes, which ones?</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Animal manure shall not derive from factory farming. Was manure of the animals used on fields? If yes: Where did it come from?</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>If plots have not been under management of the applicant:</p> <p>Written statement of land use and records about management practices (ref. paragraph "documentation") by former owner/ manager have been checked and are attached:</p> <p>Interview with the former owner/ manager has been done:</p> <p>Is there plausible proof that the former owner/ manager did not use any prohibited inputs (e.g. treated or GMO seeds, fertilizers, plant protection agents)?</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Documentation</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>NO</b>
<p>Production records, invoices, storage records or other documents regarding the farm management, use of any (allowed and/ or prohibited) inputs, planting materials for the last 3 years (name of input, applied quantity, date of application) have been checked. Please describe what records have been checked and what are the findings:</p> <p>Are yields plausible for the cultivation practices declared?</p> <p>If yield data before starting organic practices are available, was there a decline in yield when organic practices started?</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Farm visits</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
<p>Have any prohibited inputs been found on the farm (storage, fields, etc.)? If yes, please mention name, active substance, manufacturer, add pictures and explanation of operator:</p> <p>Do spraying equipment/ fertilizer application machines/ tools show any hints that chemicals have been used (by smell, appearance, rests etc.)? If yes, please describe and attach pictures.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>



The interview(s) led to the following conclusion:		
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<b>Confirmation inspector</b>	
..... Place/ Date of inspection	..... Signature & Name