

New Requirements for all Poultry Producers

Organic requirements are in addition to other statutory requirements
Statutory information is for guidance only and is correct at time of going to print

This leaflet contains information relating to the use of pullets for organic egg production and chicks for organic meat production.

Derogations for non-organic birds.

Due to recent changes in the EU organic regulation, the increasing availability of organic birds and recent announcements by Defra, OF&G now require all organic egg and poultry producers to obtain written approval from their Certification Officer before purchasing non-organic birds. The OF&G Record Sheet 21A – Non-organic Poultry Derogation Application Form must be completed, sent to OF&G and approved prior to the purchase of any non-organic birds.

Please remember that the standards require you to use organic birds where they are available and to obtain a derogation before you purchase any non-organic birds. If you do have to apply for a derogation you must provide evidence to demonstrate that organic birds of the type and quantity you require were not available. To assist you with this requirement, this leaflet includes a list of known organic pullet rearers and suppliers of organic birds for meat production. You should contact the relevant suppliers to check availability and suitability before you apply for derogation.

You must give the supplier sufficient notice when you are ordering organic birds, especially with seasonal birds such as turkeys and geese where several months is required. Derogations for non-organic birds are more likely to be approved where you can demonstrate that the organic bird supplier cannot provide your requirements even though you have given them sufficient notice.

Please be aware that from 1/1/2008 until 31/12/2009, the derogation allowing non-organic feed will only permit 10% non-organic feed in the poultry rations. From 1/1/2010 until 31/12/2011, the derogation allowing non-organic feed will only permit 5% non-organic feed in the poultry rations.

Non-organic pullets.

If a derogation is approved to purchase non-organic pullets for use in organic production, recent changes to the EU organic regulation now require that, from 1st January 2006, the pullets have to be reared in accordance with the organic feed and veterinary standards from the time they arrive at the pullet rearing unit. This does not apply to birds hatched before 1st January 2006. We will provide details of suppliers of non-organic pullets that have been reared to the organic feed and vet standards as these become available.

As confirmation that the non-organic pullets have been subject to the organic feed and vet standards during the rearing phase, the supplier must provide a declaration with each consignment to the effect that 'the pullets have been produced in accordance with the UK Organic Standards for feed and veterinary management'. It is not a requirement that the supplier should be subject to any certification or inspection to confirm that the birds are reared under these conditions. You should be aware that these pullets would not be regarded as organic birds as they were reared from conventional stock. They will still be subject to a six-week conversion period under full organic management before the eggs can be sold as organic.

You need to contact your pullet supplier and discuss this with them. Defra have produced guidelines to assist you and your pullet supplier and these are available from OF&G. If you or your pullet supplier have any queries regarding these new requirements please contact us at the OF&G offices. It is recognised that this may create difficulties for the pullet rearers. Any feedback from them or yourself is welcomed and will be passed on to Defra.

Non-organic table bird and turkey chicks, goslings and ducklings

Organic birds should be used where they are available, use the attached lists to help source organic birds and ensure you give the supplier sufficient notice of your requirements. If you have to apply for a derogation for non-organic birds please see the above section 'Derogations for non-organic birds'.

Further Information

Tel: 01939 291800 or 0845 3305122 (local call rate)
Fax: 01939 291250 or 0845 3305123 (local call rate)
Email: info@organicfarmers.org.uk
Web site: www.organicfarmers.org.uk

List of known pullet rearers supplying birds suitable for use on organic farms

Company	Contact	Address	Telephone	Cert body	Breed	Quantity	Age	Status
Fairfield Organics	Mr Potter	Littlethorpe Farm, Pottery Lane, Littlethorpe, Ripon, North Yorkshire, HG4 3LT	01845 578376	OF&G	Hybrid layer breeds to order	1800+ phone to discuss requirement	Up to POL	Organic
Fridays Ltd	Mr John Selwyn	Chequer Tree Farm, Benenden Road, Cranbrook, Kent TN17 3PN	07747 34411	OF&G	Lohmann Brown, Traditional, Goldline.	Phone to discuss requirements	POL	Part Organic
Glenrath Farms Ltd		Whim Poultry Farm, Lamancha, West Linton, Tweeddale, EH46 8BD	01968 675596	OF&G	Various breeds	Phone to discuss requirements	Approx 16 weeks	Part Organic
Grassington Rangers	Andrew Barton	East Grinstead Road, North Chailey, East Sussex, BN8 4HX	01825 723253	OF&G	Any breed to order	Phone to discuss requirements	16 weeks	Part Organic
G Powell	G Powell	Newton Farm, Westbrook, Dorstone, Herefordshire, HR3 5SX	01497 831388	OF&G	Buff Orpington, Scots Dumpy, Marans, Brahma, Light Sussex, Welsummer, Rhode Island, Indian Game.	Small numbers	Phone.	Organic
Kinsale Agriculture	N Selwyn-Williams	Kinsale Farm, New Road, Dinton, Aylesbury, Bucks, HP17 8UT	01296 748842 07773 321815	OFF	Goldline, other breeds	5000	Phone	Organic
A B Roots	Yvonne Roots	Spring Farm, Blackmore Road, Fryerning, Ingatestone, Essex, CM4 0NP	01277 355228 07720 558070	SA Cert	Black Rock will do other breeds to order	Up to 1000 phone to discuss requirements	Approx 16 weeks	Organic
Deans Food Group	Mike Tyers or Colin Saunders	Bulbourne Farm, Upper Icknield Way, Tring, Hertfordshire, HP23 5QG	M Tyers 01594 835004 C Saunders 01623 873214	SA Cert	Lohmann Traditional, Hyline. Other commercial breeds subject to availability	3000+ phone to discuss requirements	Approx 16.5 weeks	Organic
White Stitch House	Mrs E M Mander	Great Packington, Meridian, Coventry, Warwickshire, CV7 7JE	01676 522362	SA Cert	Old Fashioned Utility Breeds ie Rhode Island, Welsummer, Leghorn, Wyandotte.	Small numbers	6 weeks upwards	Organic
Liz Findlay	Liz Findlay	Nantclyd, Llanilar, Aberystwyth, Ceredigion, SY23 4SL	01974 241543	SA Cert	Bovan Nera	Up to 500	POL	Organic
Ben & Cathy Wetherden	Ben & Cathy Wetherden	Eastwood Farm, Hittisleigh, Exeter, Devon EX6 6LW	07812 048323	SA Cert	Black Rock, Speckledy, Lohmann Traditional, Goldline. Anything to order	Up to 1500	Up to POL	Part Organic
David Gray	David Gray	1 Summerhurst, Union Lane, Hedley, Newbury, Berkshire. RG19 8LR	07713 745450	SA Cert	Isa Brown, Black Rock. Other breeds to order	Up to 600 phone to discuss requirements	POL	Organic
S & T Poultry		39 Windsor Drive, Wisbech, Cambs. PE13 3HJ	01945 585618 07885 718195	SA Cert	Various breeds	phone to discuss requirements	POL	Organic
Wootton Organic	Andrew Head	Cote Farm, Farley, Oakamoor, Staffordshire, ST10 3BQ	01538 702335	SA Cert	ISA Brown. Possibly others.	Up to 1200	9-10 weeks	Organic
Potters Poultry		Willey Fields Farm, Willey, Rugby, Warwickshire, CV23 0SQ	01455 553234		Any breed to order	Phone to discuss requirements	16 weeks	Part Organic
Country Fresh Pullets		Morton, Oswestry, Shropshire SY10 8BH	01691 831020		All breeds	Phone to discuss requirements	16 weeks	Part Organic
MJ Hayward & Sons	Alan Hayward	Green Farm, North Gorley, Fordingbridge. Hants. SP6 2PB	01425 652007 07785 931398		All commercial breeds	Any number		Part Organic
Hinchliffes	Andrew Arthurs	Sunnyside Farm, Netherton Moor Road, Huddersfield, West Yorkshire.	07917 220888		Any breed to order	Phone to discuss requirements	16 weeks	Part Organic
The Tom Barron Group	Doug Kirby or Keith Kay	Square Lane, Catforth, Preston, Lancashire, PR4 0HQ	01772 690111		ISA Brown, Warren, Shaver	Phone to discuss requirements		Part Organic

List of known suppliers of organic table birds (inc. geese, ducks, etc.)

Company	Contact	Address	Telephone	Cert body	Type	Breed	Quantity	Age	Status	Comments
Lowther Park Farms Ltd	John Reid	Estate Office, Lowther, Penrith, Cumbria, CA10 2HG	01931 712407	OF&G	Chickens	Hubbard M757	1000s per week	Day old	Organic	
S & T Poultry		39 Windsor Drive, Wisbech, Cambs. PE13 3HJ	01945 585618 07885 718195	SA Cert	Chickens	Sasso, WS	phone to discuss requirements	Day old	Organic	
S & T Poultry		39 Windsor Drive, Wisbech, Cambs. PE13 3HJ	01945 585618 07885 718195	SA Cert	Ducks	Goslings – meat strains	phone to discuss requirements	Day old	Organic	
Middle Whitecleave	John Burns	Burrington, Umberleigh, Devon, EX37 9JN	01769 520506	SA Cert	Geese	Commercial White	Up to 200 Feb to June	Day old	Organic	
Thistledown Farm	G Faulkner	Babcary, Somerton, Somerset, TA11 7DS	01458 223463	SA Cert	Guinea Fowl			Day old & eggs	Organic	
Cefn Goleu	Michael Moorhouse	Pont Robert, Meifod, Powys, SY22 6JN	01938 500128	SA Cert	Turkeys	Mixed hybrids from rare breeds - Black, Bronze, Blue, Bourbon Red, Buff, Nebraskan/Harvey Spotted, Crollwitzer/Pied	Up to 10 per batch seasonally	Day old	Organic	Collection only. First year of production. Supplies own Xmas market. Can produce more if given plenty of notice.
S & T Poultry		39 Windsor Drive, Wisbech, Cambs. PE13 3HJ	01945 585618 07885 718195	SA Cert	Turkeys	Norfolk Black, Bronze	phone to discuss requirements	Day old	Organic	
Wonnacott	Rosie Yells	Lewdown, Okehampton, Devon, EX20 4QU	01837 871238	SA Cert	Turkeys	Norfolk Black & Norfolk BlackXBronze	150 per year	Chicks	Organic	Extra lighting in the winter to bring the lay forward.
Cuckoo Farm Partners	Pat Taylor	Cuckoo Farm, Ketton, Stamford, Lincs, PE9 3UU	01780 722009	SA Cert	Turkeys	Norfolk Black & Bronze, Norfolk Reds & Blues	400 per week	Chicks	Organic	Collection only

This information has been supplied by the companies listed. OF&G takes no responsibility or liability for errors. Inclusion in this list does not constitute a recommendation by OF&G.

Other sources of poultry: <http://www.soilassociation.org/organicmarketplace>

This list is not definitive, other poultry rearers may exist. Please check the OF&G website for the most up to date list, or if you know of anyone who wants adding to it, contact Nicola Mason.

Before purchasing organic birds please ensure that they are covered by a valid certificate proving that they are organic. Suppliers cannot respond to last minute orders and must be given reasonable notice, e.g. several months for geese and turkeys. A Derogation must be obtained from OF&G prior to ordering/purchasing any non-organic birds. Derogation requests must be submitted to OF&G using Record Sheet 21a.