



INTERNATIONAL ORGANIC ACCREDITATION SERVICE

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IFOAM Accreditation Programme

Official Notice Number 1998-03

First Issued: 19th March 1998 (Revised 2000)

Re-Issued: August 28, 2003

Individual Livestock Standards

Issue: Whether standards should have specific sections for individual livestock species.

Reason for consideration: While some programmes have special sections others do not. It is clear, for example, that bees require special standards but what about other species? Can these be dealt with adequately in the general section of standards? Should this depend on the number of such operations being certified?

IOAS Board consideration: In the Boards' opinion the issue of whether general standards are enough is dependent upon the species concerned (for example, fowl would be more likely to have specific issues than cattle) and the number of operators (the more operators, the more likely specific specialist issues not dealt with by general standards are likely to come to the fore).

IOAS Board decision: The IOAS will accept that if the general livestock standards are covering all issues being confronted by the certification body then there is no need to have specific standards for any particular species. As soon as certification decisions are made which make exception to the general standard or which prohibit practices not mentioned in the general standard, specialist standards must be developed.

K Commins