



REQUIREMENTS 01, Version 07

Soya Bean Farmer (Producer)

Purpose	Specify the requirements to be met by Donau Soja soya bean farmers (producers).
Definition	Soya bean farmer (producer): agricultural holding growing and harvesting soya beans
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Status	Version 07: released by the Board on 30 January 2020

1 Risk assessment

- 1.1 The farmer is geographically located in one of the following countries: Austria (AUT), Bosnia and Herzegovina (BIH), Bulgaria (BGR), Croatia (HRV), Czech Republic (CZE), Germany (DEU, Bavaria and Baden-Württemberg only), Hungary (HUN), Italia (ITA, Trentino Alto Adige, Friuli Venezia Giulia, Veneto, Emilia-Romagna, Lombardia, Piemont and Vallée d’Aoste only), Moldova (MDA), Poland (POL, Dolnoslaskie, Opolskie, Slaskie, Swietokrzyskie, Podkarpackie and Malopolske only), Romania (ROU), Serbia (SRB), Slovakia (SVK), Slovenia (SVN), Switzerland (CHE), Ukraine (UKR, Uschgorod, Tschernowzy, Winniza, Odessa, Lwow, Ternopol, Chmelnizkij and Iwano-Frankovsm only).
- 1.2 The farmer shall be assigned a “production area risk level” (= F-RL) based on their geographical location (risk of origin) and their GM risk:
 - F-RL 0: AUT, BIH, CHE, HRV, HUN, SRB, SVN;
 - F-RL 1: DEU, ITA, POL;
 - F-RL 2: BGR, CZE, ROU, SVK;
 - F-RL 3: MDA, UKR.

2 Cultivation

Seeds and GMOs

- 2.1 The farmer shall only grow GM-free soya bean varieties either listed in the EU common catalogue of plant varieties or in the respective national catalogue of plant varieties. Only these varieties shall have been used the last three years.
- 2.2 The farmer shall not have grown any other GM crop (e.g. GM maize) for one year.



2.3 If the farmer is located in a risk level 3 production area:

The farmer shall use original seeds only, and shall document this with invoices covering the purchase of original seeds.

2.4 The farmer shall document all quantities of soya beans, both grown and harvested, by keeping their own records.

2.5 The farmer shall not use genetically modified organisms or products produced from or by GMOs. As for agricultural inputs that are marketed as originating either from GMOs or from GM-free production such as plant protection products, fertilisers and soil conditioners, only products labelled as GM-free shall be used. The confirmation is waived for products where, according to our current knowledge, no practical methods are known which would suggest that these products are GMOs, contain GMOs or were produced from GMOs or using GMOs. This, for example, currently applies to pure minerals, mineral fertilisers, chemical or synthetic active substances of plant protection products or certain micro-organisms.

Good Agricultural Practices and biodiversity

2.6 The farmer shall comply with both national and EU plant protection legislation.

2.7 Agrochemicals shall be applied using methods that minimise harm to human health, wildlife, plant biodiversity, soil, water and air quality.

2.8 Negative environmental and health impacts of phytosanitary products are reduced by implementation of systematic, recognised Integrated Crop Management Techniques.

2.9 A plan for Integrated Crop Management is made and implemented which includes adequate and continuous monitoring of crop health, use of non-chemical and chemical control means and measures to improve crop resilience.

2.10 The application of agrochemicals (crop protection and fertilisers) is documented.

2.11 The use of agrochemicals listed in the Stockholm and Rotterdam Conventions shall be prohibited.

2.12 The use of agrochemicals whose active substances have been assessed as Class 1a or 1b in the WHO (World Health Organisation) Classification of Pesticides by Hazard¹ shall be prohibited (e.g. tefluthrin, zeta-cypermethrin or zinc phosphide).

2.13 The use of desiccants prior to harvest (e.g. glyphosate or diquat) shall be prohibited.

2.14 There is no application of pesticides within 30 meters (or more if stated in national laws) of any populated area or water body and all necessary precautions are taken to avoid people entering into recently sprayed areas.

2.15 Aerial application of pesticides is not allowed.

2.16 Good agricultural practices are implemented to minimise diffuse and localised impacts on surface and ground water quality from chemical residues, fertilisers and erosion or other sources.

¹ Reference for the World Health Organisation (WHO) Classification of Pesticides by Hazard: https://www.who.int/ipcs/publications/pesticides_hazard/en/



- 2.17 The farmer has knowledge of techniques to maintain and control soil quality (physical, chemical and biological) and the relevant techniques are implemented.
- 2.18 The farmer has knowledge of techniques to prevent soil erosion and the relevant techniques are implemented.
- 2.19 The farmer shall follow the recommendations contained in the Donau Soja Best Practice Manual.
- 2.20 The farmer shall participate in the implementation of the CAP (Common Agricultural Policy) with mandatory *cross compliance* inspections.
- or
- The farmer shall participate in an ISCC certification programme² or an equivalent sustainability certification programme³ including inspections.

Land use

- 2.21 The farmer shall respect nature reserves⁴ and shall only use land dedicated to agricultural use no later than 1 January 2008.

Labour and social rights

- 2.22 The farmer shall comply with the EU-wide and international labour and social standards (ILO conventions)⁵.
- 2.23 In case of permanent or temporary workers:
- Overtime is always voluntary and should be paid in accordance to local and national laws or sector agreements.
- Deductions from wages for disciplinary purposes are not made, unless legally permitted. Wages paid are recorded by the employer.
- 2.24 In areas with traditional land users: where rights have been relinquished by traditional land users there is documented evidence that the affected communities are compensated subject to their free, prior, informed and documented consent.
- 2.25 Communication with local communities: there are communication channels (written sign or website with the following information: email, cell-phone, mailbox) that adequately enable communication between the farmer and the community. The communication channels have been made known to the local communities.

² Refer to www.iscc-system.org for ISCC EU or ISCC Plus

³ An equivalent standard shall at least comply with the FEFAC sustainability criteria (available at: www.fefac.eu/files/62592.pdf) and can be approved as such by the Donau Soja Board upon request.

⁴ The term "nature reserves" covers all different categories of protected areas for nature and landscape protection, including but not limited to national parks, landscape protection areas, Natura 2000 sites, Ramsar wetlands, UNESCO World Heritage Sites, natural parks, biosphere reserves. If any alteration of protected areas has taken place, the farmer shall be obliged to restore the affected areas to their former state.

⁵ **Annex** with ILO conventions



3 Delivery, settlement, certification as agricultural collector

- 3.1 The farmer shall hand over to the agricultural collector the Declaration of Self-Commitment – Farmers (Soya Bean Producers) signed by an authorised representative, and shall retain a copy of this declaration. Alternatively, the soya bean farmer shall confirm on the accompanying shipping document (delivery note) both compliance with the Donau Soja Requirements and the quantity of Donau Soja soya beans delivered, and shall retain a copy of this confirmation.
- 3.2 The farmer shall document all quantities of marketed soya beans with copies of all delivery notes and commercial invoices for agricultural collectors and other customers, and shall include a reference to the quality label “Donau Soja”.
- 3.3 If soya bean farmers, located in a risk level 3 production area (F-RL 3) or in Romania, sell Donau Soja soya beans directly to a trader not acting as an agricultural collector, they need to be certified as an agricultural collector and may only sell Donau Soja soya beans by means of Donau Soja lot certificates (in accordance with paragraph 10.2 in R 02).

4 Registration of farmers

- 4.1 If the farmer is located in a risk level 3 production area:

The farmer shall notify Donau Soja Organisation by e-mail that they cultivate Donau Soja soya by 30 June of the current harvest year (quality@donausoja.org). Alternatively, the farmer can be registered by their primary collector (also by 30 June of the current harvest year).

5 Directly commissioned inspections

- 5.1 If the farmer is located in a risk level 3 production area:

The farmer shall conclude an inspection contract with a certification body recognised by Donau Soja Organisation, commissioning this body to undertake a chargeable first inspection as well as further annual inspections. The name of the certification body commissioned shall be announced at the same time as the farmer is registered according to paragraph 4.1.

The directly commissioned certification body shall take a composite sample of Donau Soja green soya plants from the fields within the scope of their Donau Soja audit, and shall conduct rapid GM tests (Roundup Ready and LibertyLink). A positive rapid test result shall entail two further rapid GM tests. If any two of the three rapid tests conducted give a positive result, the farmer shall have a PCR test performed.

Please note: In soya plants older than 36 days, samples shall be taken from cotyledons or leaf pair 1 or 2.

Farmers may be exempt from rapid GM testing if they meet the following four criteria:

- the farmer delivers exclusively to a certified agricultural collector belonging to the same agricultural enterprise as this farmer;
- the farmer is inspected by the same certification body as the agricultural collector;



- the farmer does not receive their own certificate, but is listed in the annex to the certificate belonging to the agricultural collector;
- the directly commissioned certification body shall undertake a chargeable inspection of the farmer every year prior to harvest.

6 Supervisory inspections

- 6.1 The farmer shall accept supervisory inspections (risk-based sampling) by inspection bodies or inspectors commissioned by Donau Soja Organisation.