



Guidance note - Demeter & Organic livestock feeding



BDA Organic livestock feed standards

Species	Minimum Organic feed	Minimum from on farm production	Maximum allowance of in conversion feed	Approval for use of non-organic feed with derogation
Cattle, sheep and other herbivores	100% Organic	50%	30%	No, except in catastrophic circumstances.
Pigs	95% Organic (5% allowance of non-organic protein feed)	none	30%	No, except in catastrophic circumstances.
Poultry	95% Organic (5% allowance of non-organic protein feed)	none	30%	No, except in catastrophic circumstances.



Demeter livestock feed standards

Species	Min Demeter in the annual ration*	Max organic share in the annual ration**	Minimum on farm***	Is approval possible for less Demeter feed?
Cattle, sheep and other herbivores	70%	30%	60%	No****
Pigs	70%	30%	50%	Yes, can only be reduced to 50%
Poultry	70%	30%	50%	Yes, can only be reduced to 50%

* May contain 'in conversion to Demeter' feed, if the feed is already organic. If used, can only make up 20%, so 50% is fully Demeter certified.

** May contain 'in conversion to organic' feed.

*** Can be an average calculated for all animals on the farm, as long as it is in line with national organic law.

**** Except in emergency cases with approval of Demeter UK (APP 24: see Appendix 7)