



BDA Certification



Guidance Note for the Labelling of Demeter Products

To label food as Demeter (biodynamic) it must be certified by an accredited Demeter certification body. The requirements for products to be labelled as Demeter are as follows:

- At least 90% of the ingredients are certified as biodynamic (Demeter), with the remaining 10% being certified organic (if Demeter ingredients are not available).
- At least 95% of the agricultural ingredients are certified organic.
- The other ingredients (including allowed additives) can only come from the approved list in Section 5.3 in the Demeter Processing Standards.
- Water, salt and other minerals are not declared as being organic or Demeter.
- The label must clearly state which ingredients are Demeter and organic as distinct from any approved non-organic.
- They should be listed in descending order of quantity.
- If it is not a certified product, there should be no indication in the descriptive text that misleads the consumer into thinking it is organic or Demeter (e.g., using the phrase 'made with organic or biodynamic/Demeter ingredients')
- The labels should also comply with UK Statutory requirements.

Label Approval

Please forward all labels for approval **before printing**. This applies to updated as well as new labels. Send your labels to the Processing Technical Officer (certification@biodynamic.org.uk) using a dedicated form. Once approved they will be signed off and returned to you for presentation at your inspection.

MIPS/SIPS

Multi Ingredient Product Specification (MIPS) and Single Ingredient Product Specification (SIPS) forms need to be completed:

1. For each new product that requires certification (along with an up to date supplier certificate).
2. Each time there is a recipe change or a new supplier is used – again with an up to date supplier certificate.
3. The product is rebranded with a new name.

Forms are available for this purpose, which once approved are countersigned and returned to you for presentation at your inspection.

If the label also needs changing, these need to be submitted at the same time.

Statutory requirements

Labels should be also be checked by your local Trading Standards Office before printing. The most recent requirements can be found here: (<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/food-labelling-giving-food-information-to-consumers>)

Using the Demeter logo



The Demeter trademark logo is to be used on all products that are certified biodynamic. This can be obtained in either jpeg or eps format from the Certification Office. The Demeter Labelling Standards give criteria for usage. These can be obtained from the BDA Certification Office or downloaded from the BDA Certification website.

Usage

- The logo can only be used where a minimum of 90% of the ingredients are Demeter (biodynamic) certified. In cases where shortages of raw materials can be verified, it can be used for products with between 66% and 90% with special derogation.

Placement

- The requirement is for the logo to be in the upper third of the front facing label, with preferred placement being at the top.

Colours

- The colours used are very specific and defined in the Demeter Labelling Standards. Single colour is possible where the label/packaging is monochrome.

Size

- The logo should be at least 20 mm wide but less than 50 mm, but variations are possible on request.
 - Proportionality must be maintained and thus no distortion of the logo is allowed.
 - For wine and cosmetics, other positions are allowed. These are indicated in the Demeter Labelling Standards.
-

Mandatory Organic labelling requirements

To label food as organic it must be certified by an accredited organic certification body. The requirements for products to be labelled as organic are as follows:

- At least 95% of the agricultural ingredients are certified organic.
- The other ingredients (including allowed additives) can only come from the approved list in Section 7 of the BDA Organic Processing Standards.
- Water, salt and other minerals are not declared as being organic.
- The label must clearly state which ingredients are organic as distinct from any approved non-organic.
- They should be listed in descending order of quantity.
- If it is not a certified product, there should be no indication in the descriptive text that misleads the consumer into thinking it is organic (e.g., using the phrase 'made with organic ingredients')
- The labels should also comply with UK Statutory requirements.

Label Approval

Please forward all labels for approval **before printing**. This applies to updated as well as new labels. Send your labels to the Certification Office (certification@biodynamic.org.uk) using a dedicated form. Once approved they will be signed off and returned to you for presentation at your inspection.

MIPS/SIPS

Multi Ingredient Product Specification (MIPS) and Single Ingredient Product Specification (SIPS) forms need to be completed or updated:

4. For each new product that requires certification (along with an up to date supplier certificate).
5. Each time there is a recipe change or a new supplier is used – again with an up to date supplier certificate.
6. The product is rebranded with a new name.

Forms are available for this purpose, which once approved are countersigned and returned to you for presentation at your inspection.

If the label also needs changing, these need to be submitted at the same time.

Statutory requirements

Labels should also be checked by your local Trading Standards Office before printing. The most recent requirements can be found here: (<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/food-labelling-giving-food-information-to-consumers>)

The following labelling requirements for organic products placed on the UK market must be in place by 31 December 2023. When printing new labels, you should comply with the new labelling requirements. You must not remove or deliberately omit mandatory information.

Labels for UK market only

- Preferred use of BDA Certification organic logo. Colour or monochrome options available - contact the office for logo graphic files.
- Optional use of EU organic logo. If it is used, it must meet the EU rules and labelling requirements (see below- Labelling for both EU & UK markets using the EU Organic Logo).
- Mandatory use of BDA Certification code 'GB-ORG-06'
- Mandatory UK statement of agricultural origin, placed immediately below Certification code GB-ORG-06. One of:
 - 'UK agriculture' – where the agricultural raw materials were farmed in the UK.
 - 'Non-UK agriculture' – where the agricultural raw materials were farmed outside of the UK.
 - 'UK and non-UK agriculture' – where part of the raw agricultural ingredients was farmed in the UK, and part of it were farmed outside the UK.
 - Option to use the name of an individual country if more that 98% of the ingredients of the product are farmed there – e.g., 'Scottish Agriculture', 'Welsh Agriculture' or 'English Agriculture'.

For example, products certified to organic BDA Certification standards may use one of:



GB-ORG-06
UK agriculture



GB-ORG-06
Non-UK agriculture



GB-ORG-06
UK/non-UK agriculture



GB-ORG-06
Scottish Agriculture
Welsh Agriculture or
English Agriculture

Labelling for both EU & UK markets using the EU Organic Logo

- Preferred use of BDA Certification organic logo.
- Products labelled for export to EU will be acceptable in the UK.
- Optional use of EU organic logo for certified organic products placed on the UK and EU market. If EU organic logo used, it must meet the EU rules and labelling requirements.
- If the EU organic logo is used, it is mandatory for the following to be used:
 - BDA Certification code GB-ORG-06 – must be placed within the same visual field as logo.
 - UK statement of agricultural origin, placed immediately below Certification code.
GB-ORG-06. One of:
 - UK Agriculture
 - Non-UK Agriculture
 - UK/ Non-UK Agriculture
 - AND:
 - EU statement of agricultural origin – must be placed within the same visual field as logo.
 - EU Agriculture
 - Non-EU Agriculture
 - EU/ Non-EU Agriculture
- EXCEPTIONS when using the EU organic logo:
 - Where 98% of the product is grown in one country, a single statement of agricultural origin may be used to meet both UK and EU requirements. E.g., ‘Scottish Agriculture’, ‘Welsh Agriculture’, ‘English Agriculture’.

For example, products certified to organic BDA Certification standards and using the EU organic logo may use one of:



GB-ORG-06
UK and/or non-UK Agriculture
EU and/or Non-EU Agriculture



GB-ORG-06
Scottish Agriculture
Welsh Agriculture or
English Agriculture

For further guidance on the rules for using the EU Organic logo please see the BDA Certification Organic Processing Standards and https://agriculture.ec.europa.eu/farming/organic-farming/organic-logo_en

For more details on labelling, please refer to the Demeter Standards. These can be obtained from our website www.bdcertification.org.uk or from the Certification Office (certification@biodynamic.org.uk). The Demeter, BDA Certification and EU logos can also be obtained from the Certification Office in several formats.