



# Suppliers Approval Guide

## How to use this guide

If you intend to certify your product to the Soil Association Food & Drink Standards, and use the Soil Association organic symbol, please refer to **Section 1**.

### Is your supplier:

- In the UK or the EU? – see **Section 2**
- Outside the UK or EU? – see **Section 3**

## General points

- Do you have a copy of your supplier's organic certificate that's in date and includes the product(s)/ingredient(s) you intend to buy?
- Any company producing, processing, storing, importing or placing products on the market (selling/transferring ownership) must hold an organic certificate in their name.
- If you don't have a copy of your supplier's certificate, please request a copy and refer to this guidance. If you're in any doubt, please contact us before placing an order with them.

## Resources and further guidance

### To check supplier certificates are valid:

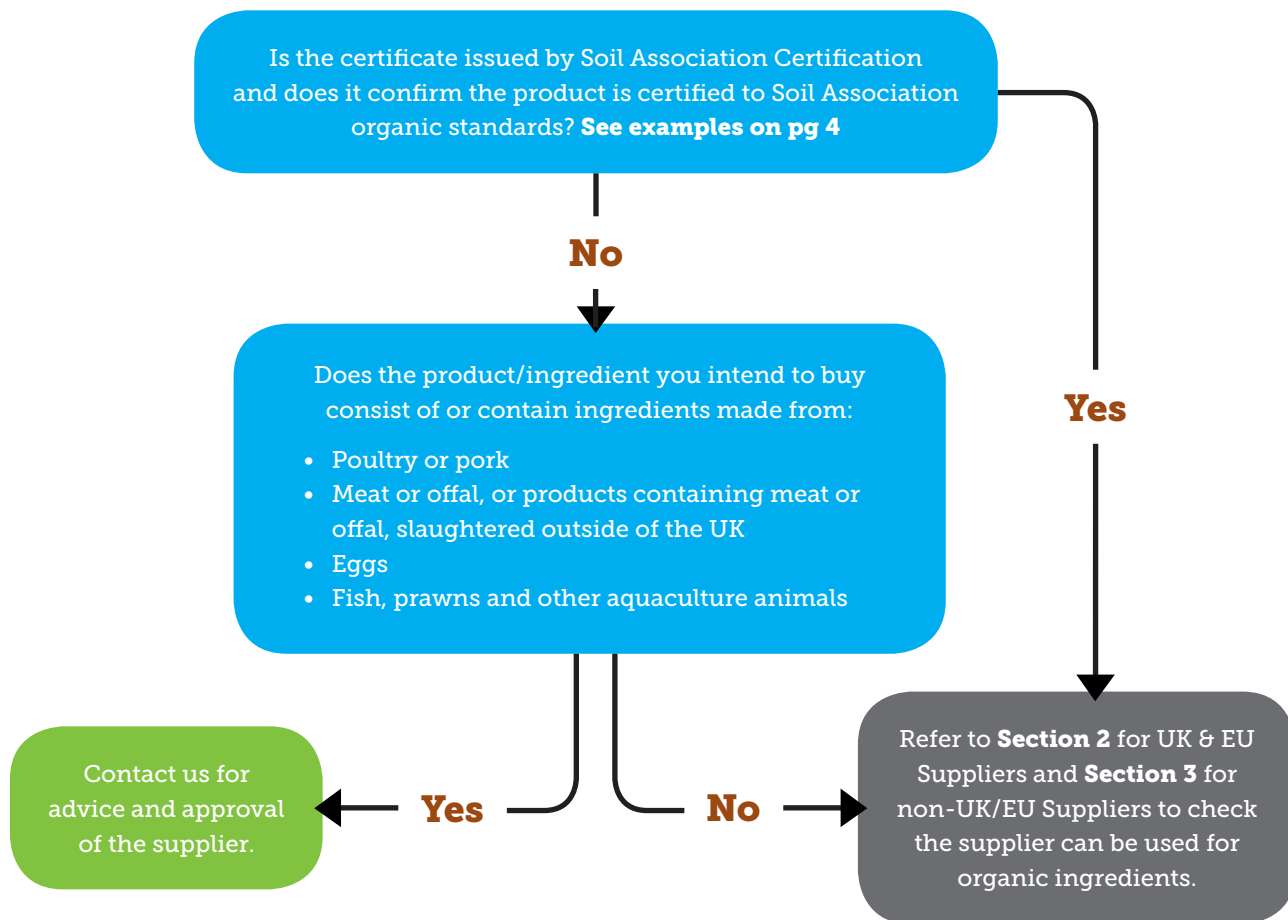
- [Approved EU certification bodies](#)
- [Recognised third countries outside the EU](#)
- [Recognised non-EU certification bodies](#)
- To check ingredients where Soil Association standards have additional requirements for an ingredient - refer to [Sourcing Organic Ingredients](#)

### and if your supplier's certificate is current and genuine:

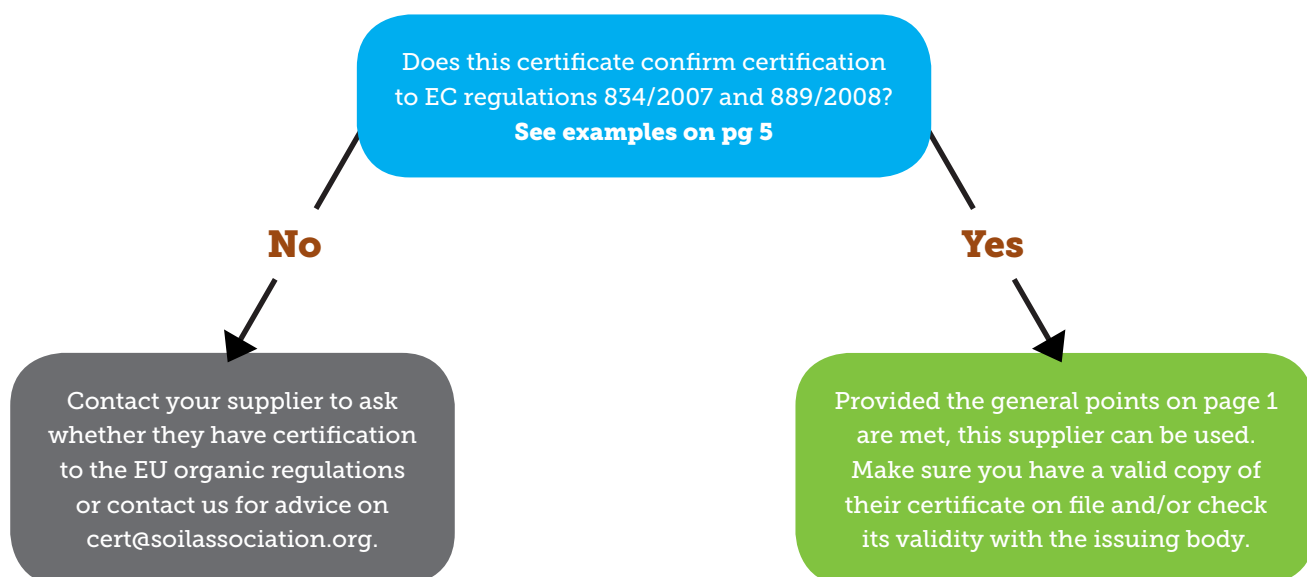
- Many countries publish all of their certified organic farms and businesses using [Bio C](#)
- Lots of certifiers have their own checking services, for example: [Soil Association Certification](#) | [Ecocert](#) - visit the certifier's website or we can provide you a list of links.

If you'd like further guidance or to double check your supplier's certificate, please contact your Certification Officer, directly.

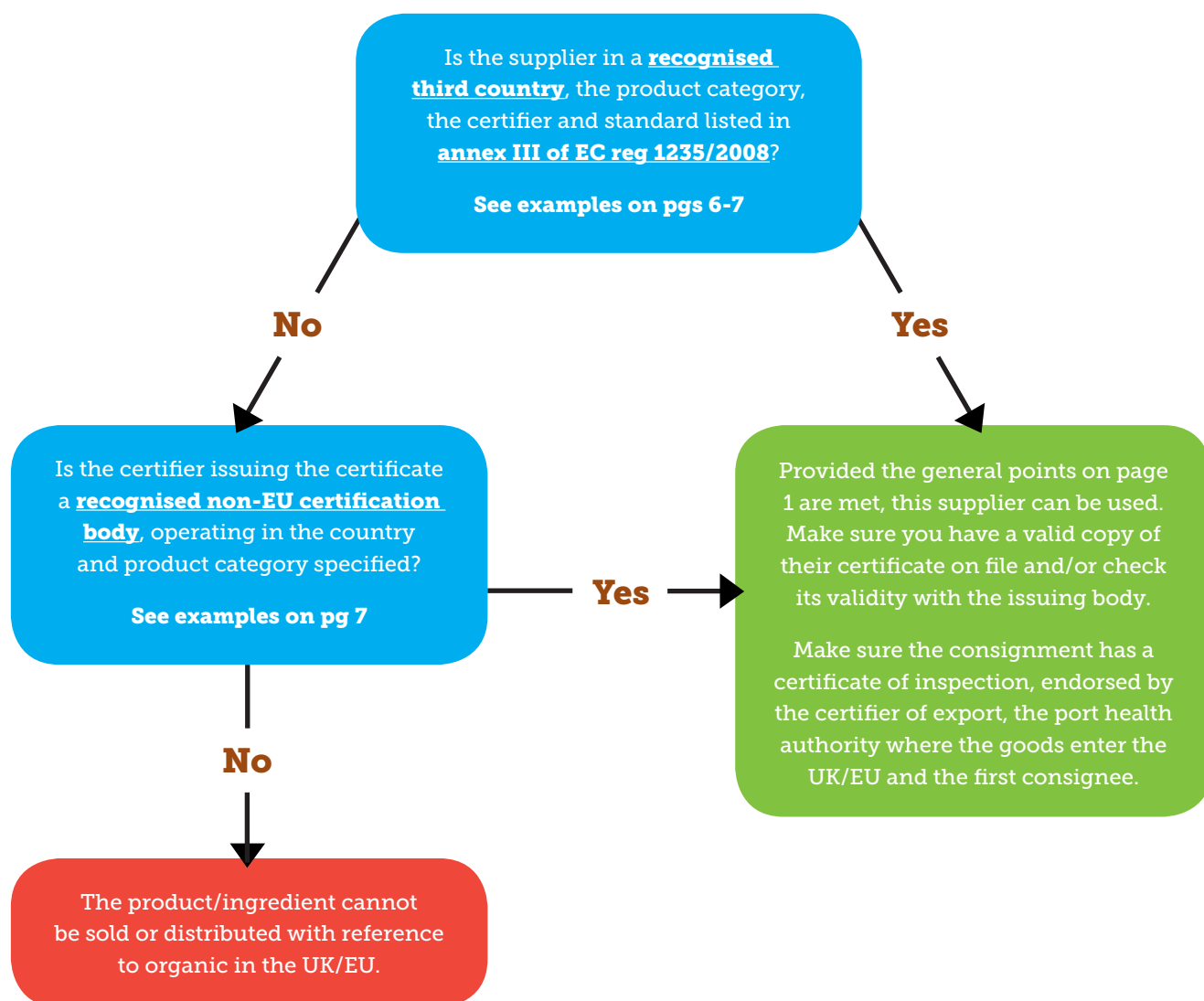
## Section 1: Can I use this supplier for organic ingredients in products certified to Soil Association organic standards?



## Section 2: Can I use this supplier for organic ingredients? (UK and EU Suppliers)



### Section 3: Can I use this supplier for organic ingredients? (Suppliers outside the UK and EU)

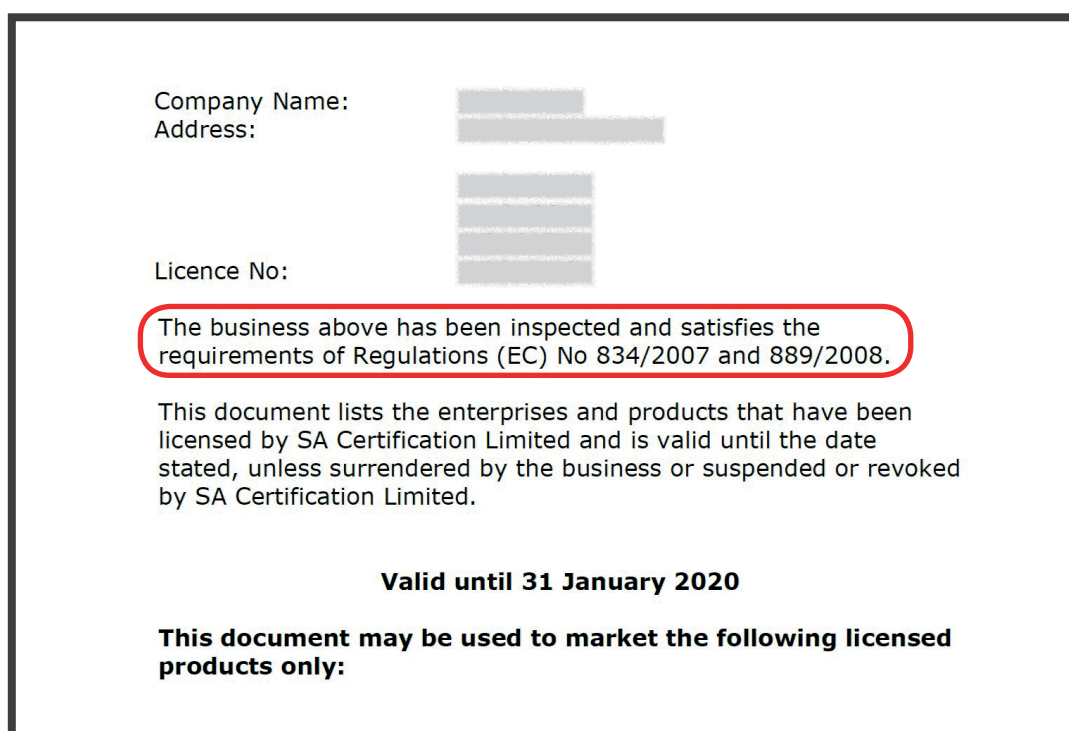


If you 'd like further guidance or to double check your supplier's certificate, please **contact your Certification Officer directly**.

## Section 1 examples



**Example 1:** Certificate confirming approval of an ingredient to Soil Association standards will feature the SA Organic symbol and specify that the Soil Association standard has been met.



**Example 1a:** N.B. Not all certificates issued by Soil Association Certification confirm compliance to the Soil Association standards – some confirm compliance with the EU organic regulations only.

## Section 2 examples

The operator:

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

This certificate has been issued on the basis of Article 29 (1) of Regulation (EC) No. 834/2007 and Regulation (EC) No. 889/2008 for:

1. **Manufacturing**  
**Manufacture of food products**
2. **Wholesale and retail trade**  
**Wholesale trade**
3. **Transport and storage**  
**Warehousing and support activities for transportation**

**Example 2:** Certificates confirming compliance to EU organic regulations



**Certificate of Compliance**

**GB-ORG-02**

This certificate has been issued on the basis of Article 29(1) of Regulation (EC) 834/2007 and Regulation (EC) 889/2008. The declared operator has submitted his activities under control, and meets the requirements laid down in the named regulations, and the OF&G Certification system:

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

is certified for the following organic enterprise/s:

Importing from EU States  
Packing  
Wholesaling  
Importing from outside the EU  
Storage/Warehousing

**Example 3:** Certificates confirming compliance to EU organic regulations



## Section 3 examples



**Example 4:** Approved third country certificate

AUSTRALIA		
1. Product categories:		
Category of products	Designation of category as in Annex IV	Limitations
Unprocessed plant products	A	
Processed agricultural products for use as food <sup>(1)</sup>	D	Composed essentially of one or more ingredients of plant origin
Vegetative propagating material and seeds for cultivation	F	
► M25 ◀		
<sup>(1)</sup> Wine, yeast not included.		
2. Origin: products of categories A and F that have been grown in Australia and products of category D processed in Australia with organically grown ingredients that have been grown in Australia.		
3. Production standard: national standard for organic and bio-dynamic produce.		
4. Competent authority: Department of Agriculture and Water Resources <a href="http://www.agriculture.gov.au/export/controlled-goods/organic-bio-dynamic">http://www.agriculture.gov.au/export/controlled-goods/organic-bio-dynamic</a> .		

**Example 5:** Excerpts from annex III of EC reg 1235/2008

5. Control bodies:

Code number	Name	Internet address
AU-BIO-001	Australian Certified Organic Pty. Ltd	► M24 www.aco.net.au ◀
AU-BIO-003	Bio-dynamic Research Institute (BDRI)	www.demeter.org.au
AU-BIO-004	NASAA Certified Organic (NCO)	www.nasaa.com.au
AU-BIO-005	Organic Food Chain Pty Ltd (OFC)	www.organicfoodchain.com.au
AU-BIO-006	AUS-QUAL Pty Ltd	www.ausqual.com.au

**Example 6:** Excerpts from annex III of EC reg 1235/2008

**CERTIFICATE**

CERTIFICATE No: \_\_\_\_\_  
REGISTRATION No \_\_\_\_\_

Field of attention:  
Organic production methods  
Organic EU

Issued to:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Standard:  
Control Union Certifications Production Standards and Regulation (EC) No 834/2007 and Regulation (EC) No 889/2008 on organic production of agricultural products and indications referring thereto on agricultural products and foodstuffs, including the amending regulations, and Control Union Certifications (CU) Inspection Regulations.

**Example 7:** Recognised non-EU certification body certificate

**'Control Union Certifications'**

1. Address: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Internet address: <http://certification.controlunion.com>

3. Code numbers, third countries and product categories concerned:

Code number	Third country	Category of products					
		A	B	C	D	E	F
LK-BIO-149	Sri Lanka	x	x	x	x	x	x

**Example 8:** Excerpts from list of recognised non-EU certification bodies