



## Commission Working Document

**Date: January 2017**

### **"BASIC SUBSTANCES" THAT MAY BE USED IN ORGANIC AGRICULTURE IN ACCORDANCE TO ANNEX II OF COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 889/2008<sup>1</sup>**

Criteria concerning "basic substances" in organic agriculture are defined in Annex II of Commission Regulation (EC) 889/2008:

*" Only those basic substances within the meaning of Article 23(1) of Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009<sup>2</sup> of the European Parliament and of the Council that are covered by the definition of "**foodstuff**" in Article 2 of Regulation (EC) No 178/2002<sup>3</sup> of the European Parliament and of the Council **and** have **plant or animal origin**. Substances are not to be used as herbicides, but only for the control of pests and diseases."*

Other "basic substances" authorised in conventional agriculture so far (December 2016), cannot be used as they do not fulfil the above criteria. Currently approved "basic substances" in organic agriculture are listed on page 2.

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<sup>1</sup> Commission Regulation (EC) No 889/2008 of 5 September 2008 laying down detailed rules for the implementation of Council Regulation (EC) No 834/2007 on organic production and labelling of organic products with regard to organic production, labelling and control (OJ L 250, 18.9.2008, p. 1–84)

<sup>2</sup> Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009 of The European Parliament and of the Council of 21 October 2009 concerning the placing of plant protection products on the market and repealing Council Directives 79/117/EEC and 91/414/EEC (OJ L 309, 24.11.2009, p. 1–50)

<sup>3</sup> Regulation (EC) No 178/2002 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 28 January 2002 laying down the general principles and requirements of food law, establishing the European Food Safety Authority and laying down procedures in matters of food safety (OJ L 31, 1.2.2002)

**LIST OF "BASIC SUBSTANCES" ALLOWED IN ORGANIC AGRICULTURE**  
*("Basic substances" allowed in organic agriculture are indicated in green;  
conditions for use apply)*

| <b>Number</b> | <b>Common name,<br/>identification numbers</b> | <b>Fulfilling the<br/>criteria of<br/>Annex II to<br/>Regulation<br/>889/2008</b> | <b>Use</b>  |
|---------------|--|---|---|
| 1             | <i>Equisetum arvense L.</i>                    | YES   | Use as fungicide approved (see Appendices I and II of <a href="#">SANCO/12388/2013</a> for specific conditions).                          |
| 2             | <b>Chitosan hydrochloride</b>                  | YES   | Use as fungicide and bactericide approved (see Appendices I and II of <a href="#">SANCO/12388/2013</a> for specific conditions).          |
| 3             | <b>Sucrose</b>                                 | YES   | Use against fruit and corn borers approved (see Appendices I and II of <a href="#">SANCO/11406/2014</a> for specific conditions).         |
| 4             | <b>Calcium hydroxide</b>                       | NO but explicitly listed in Annex II  | Approved in organic agriculture when used as fungicide, only in fruit trees, including nurseries, to control <i>Nectria galligena</i> .   |
| 5             | <b>Vinegar</b>                                 | YES   | Use as fungicide and bactericide approved (see Appendices I and II of <a href="#">SANCO/12896/2014</a> for specific conditions).          |
| 6             | <b>Lecithins</b>                               | YES   | Use as fungicide approved (see Appendices I and II of <a href="#">SANCO/12798/2014</a> for specific conditions).                          |
| 7             | <b>Salix spp cortex</b>                        | NO  |   |
| 8             | <b>Fructose</b>                                | YES   | Use against fruit borers approved (see Appendices I and II of <a href="#">SANCO/12680/2014</a> for specific conditions).                  |
| 9             | <b>Sodium hydrogen carbonate</b>               | NO  |   |
| 10            | <b>Whey</b>                                    | YES   | Use as fungicide (against powdery mildew) approved (see Appendices I and II of <a href="#">SANTE/12354/2015</a> for specific conditions). |
| 11            | <b>Diammonium Phosphate</b>                    | NO  |   |