



Module 17

Health and Bodycare

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Table of Contents

1	Scope and purpose	3
2	References	3
3	Definitions	3
4	General Standards	4
4.1	Introduction	4
4.1.1	Guiding Principles	4
4.2	Ingredient Specifications	4
4.2.1	Manufactured Nanoparticles	4
4.2.2	Agricultural ingredients	5
4.2.3	Minerals	5
4.2.4	Anti-microbial agents	5
4.2.5	Other additives (i.e. thickeners, antioxidant)	6
4.2.6	Skin cream ingredients	6
4.2.7	Animal testing	6
4.3	Processing methods	6
4.3.1	Physical and Chemical Processing of Ingredients/Derived Natural Ingredients	6
4.3.2	Extraction process	7
4.4	Propellants	7
4.5	Labelling and Composition	7
4.5.1	Label wording general requirements	7
4.5.2	Composition calculation	8
4.6	Water based products	8
4.7	Mineral based products	8
4.7.1	Product with mineral content above 30%	8
4.8	Household cleaning products	8

1 Scope and purpose

This BioGro Standard contains the production requirements and audit criteria for the certification and licensing by BioGro of processors of organic health and bodycare products to use the BioGro trademarks and logos.

This BioGro Standard specifies the production requirements that must be met by all:

- Processors of organic products certified by BioGro; and
- Processors of organic products licensed by BioGro to use the BioGro trademarks and logos.

All organic health and bodycare products bearing the BioGro trademarks and logos are to be processed in accordance with this Standard.

Information on BioGro, applying for certification, and the use of the BioGro trademarks/logos can be obtained from *Module 1 Introduction* and *Module 3 Certification System*. Information on the BioGro requirements for distribution of organic products can be obtained from *Module 14 Distribution Standard*.

2 References

All relevant regulations and industry requirements must be complied with.

3 Definitions

Bodycare product – any product or preparation intended to be placed in contact with the various external parts of the human body.

Additional BioGro definitions of terms can be found in the BioGro Standards *Module 2 Glossary of Terms*.

4 General Standards

4.1 Introduction

This Standard covers health and bodycare products that are made from organic ingredients.

This Standard specifies the criteria, treatments and practices of organic health and bodycare products including processing of the raw materials, manufacture, labelling and composition.

This Standard must be used in conjunction with the requirements of *Module 13 Processing*.

Certified operators must be in compliance with all relevant New Zealand national and local body regulations and all relevant regulations for any export market(s) their products will be exported to.

4.1.1 Guiding principles

Organic health and beauty products should:

- a. be fit for their purpose;
- b. have as high as possible proportion of organic ingredients (minimum 95%);
- c. be clearly identified, traceable and separate from non-organic products at all stages of manufacturing;
- d. not be tested on animals;
- e. not be harmful to human health and the environment in manufacture and use; and
- f. be labelled to give clear and accurate information to the consumer.

GMO ingredients and GM technology are expressly prohibited.

4.2 Ingredient Specifications

Ingredients, additives and processing aids may only be used if permitted in these standards.

GMOs are specifically prohibited as ingredients in certified products.

Onus is on the operator to ensure all raw materials are sourced directly/indirectly from currently BioGro recognised certified organic suppliers. An Approved Supplier List (ASL) shall be maintained and list all approved suppliers, including maintenance of current organic certificates and/or Transaction Certificates signed by the supplier's certification agency.

4.2.1 Manufactured Nanoparticles

Manufactured nanomaterials must not be used.

For the purposes of these standards, nanomaterials are those where:

- a. the mean primary particle size is 300nm or smaller, OR
- b. the minimum primary particle size is 125nm or smaller.

Note: There are many cases of nanoparticles produced by nature, for example from volcanic eruptions or in wood smoke. These fall outside of the scope of the standard.

4.2.2 Agricultural ingredients

- a. Ingredients must be organic if available.
- b. Non-organic agricultural ingredients that are not listed in *Annex C* may be used subject to written BioGro approval. Processors must provide BioGro with documentation to verify that the ingredient is not available as organic in sufficient quantity or quality for the product.
- c. Non-organic fragrance ingredients may be used subject to written BioGro approval providing:
 - i. the fragrance does not contain any synthetic ingredients;
 - ii. the fragrance is not prepared using solvents other than those permitted extraction methods in this standard;
 - iii. the fragrance does not contain organic and non-organic forms of the same ingredient;

4.2.3 Minerals

- a. The following minerals are permitted:
 - i. clays – montmorillonite and kaolin;
 - ii. sand;
 - iii. chalks;
 - iv. pumice;
 - v. salt; and
 - vi. diatomaceous earth.
- b. Minerals should be from extraction processes that minimise environmental impact.
- c. The following treatment processes are permitted for minerals:
 - i. washing;
 - ii. steam cleaning;
 - iii. drying;
 - iii. ultra heat treatment; and
 - iv. other mechanical cleaning methods.

4.2.4 Anti-microbial agents

- a. The following anti-microbial agents are permitted:
 - i. benzyl alcohol;
 - ii. benzoic acid and its salts;
 - iii. sorbic acid and its salts;
 - iv. sodium dehydroacetate;
 - v. dehydroacetic acid; and
 - vi. agricultural raw materials or extracts which may be modified by simple physical or chemical processes that do not change the active ingredients.
- b. The following anti-microbial agents are permitted with written BioGro approval. Processors must provide BioGro with documentation to justify why anti-microbial agents listed in 4.2.4a can't be used:
 - i. lactoperoxidase;
 - ii. phenylethyl alcohol; and
 - iii. any other anti-microbial agent that meet the criteria in the "Cosmetic Products Group Standard"¹

¹ Published by the New Zealand Environmental Protection Authority

4.2.5 Other additives (i.e. thickeners, antioxidants)

Substances listed in Annex C are permitted.

4.2.6 Skin cream ingredients

The following ingredients are permitted for skin creams:

- a. titanium dioxide;
- b. zinc oxide;
- c. silicon dioxide (as a surface treatment to aid dispersion); and
- d. caprylic triglyceride (as dispersant).

4.2.7 Animal testing

Raw materials, ingredients or products must not be tested on animals except where required by law.

4.3 Processing methods

4.3.1 Physical and Chemical Processing of Ingredients/Derived Natural Ingredients

- a. The following are permitted for processing organic ingredients:
 - i. physical methods (including heating and cooling);
 - ii. mechanical techniques;
 - iii. biological processes, such as fermentation, but not using GMOs or their derivatives; and
 - iv. saponification of organic materials using sodium hydroxide or potassium hydroxide.
- b. Additives and processing aids listed in *Annex C* are permitted to be used to chemically process agricultural ingredients.
- c. Chemically processed ingredients that meet these criteria include:
 - i. alkylglucosides;
 - ii. alkylpolyglucosides;
 - iii. fatty acids and alcohols;
 - iv. ester of fatty acids and alcohols;
 - v. glyceryl esters of fatty acids; and
 - vi. natural oils derived from saponification process (eg. sodium olivate).
- d. The following derived natural products are prohibited:
 - i. phenoxyethanol;
 - ii. coco betain;
 - iii. cocamidopropyl betaine;
 - iv. ethanolamides (i.e. cocamide DEA, cocamide MEA);
 - v. alkyl sulphates (i.e. sodium lauryl sulphate, sodium coco sulphate, ammonium lauryl sulphate);
 - vi. alkyl ether sulphate (i.e. sodium laureth sulphate, ammonium laureth sulphate); and
 - vii. polysorbates (i.e. polysorbate 20).
- d. The following processes are prohibited:
 - i. sulphonation;
 - ii. ethoxylation;
 - iii. propoxylation; and
 - iv. petroleum reagents.

4.3.2 Extraction process

- a. The following substances are permitted for extraction:
 - i. Solvents of organic origin (e.g. alcohol, glycerol, lactose, sugar, vinegar);
 - ii. Water; and
 - iii. Carbon dioxide, liquid CO₂, supercritical fluid extraction (SCFE).
- b. The following substances are prohibited for extraction:
 - i. hexane;
 - ii. benzene;
 - iii. propylene glycol;
 - iv. butylene glycol;
 - v. mineral oils; and
 - vi. petroleum derived products
- c. Permitted extraction processes:

Natural extraction processes such as physical and biological are permitted.

 - i. pressing;
 - ii. pressure;
 - iii. vacuum;
 - iv. maceration (hot or cold);
 - v. percolation;
 - vi. juicing;
 - vii. solar extraction;
 - viii. cold extraction;
 - ix. distillation;
 - x. decoction;
 - xi. infusion; and
 - xii. fermentation.

4.4 Propellants

Carbon dioxide, air and nitrogen may be used as propellants.

4.5 Labelling and Composition

Labelling must convey clear and accurate information on the organic status of the product.
Labelling must comply with all regulatory requirements.

4.5.1 Label wording general requirements

Labelling must show the following:

- a. International Nomenclature on Cosmetic Ingredients (INCI) names;
- b. The percentage of organic ingredients (if the product contains less than 95% organic ingredients and is “made with organic” category);
- c. The full list of ingredients in descending order by weight;
- d. Percentage of the mineral component in the product (if the product falls under 4.7.1);
- e. Ingredients marked as “organic” only when the whole of that ingredient is of organic origin;
- f. Clearly identify the organic ingredients transformed by chemical processes as “made with organic ingredient” or similar wordings. This may be indicated by an asterisk or similar mark; and
- g. The BioGro logo (refer to BioGro’s use of logo guidelines).

Note: if the product is “made with organic” category, the BioGro logo can only appear on the back of the packaging near the ingredients list panel and there must be a statement of the % of organic ingredients associated with the logo.

4.5.2

Composition calculation

- a. Organic (>95% organic ingredients)
The organic percentage must be calculated as follows:
 - i. The calculation is of the finished product.
 - ii. Any added water is not included in the calculation.
 - iii. If a raw ingredient is a concentrate, or reconstituted from concentrates, the calculation should be made on the basis of single-strength concentrations of the ingredients and finished product. (Refer to section 4.6 below)
 - iv. For an ingredient of mixed organic and non-organic form, either as a mixture or arising from a chemical reaction, you must use the relative proportions in the calculation.
- b. Made with X% organic ingredients (<95%, >70% organic ingredients)
This percentage must be calculated on the same basis for “organic” above.

4.6

Water based products

- a. Flower waters or hydrosols can be only claimed as organic if they have been produced using distillation method.
- b. If any raw ingredient is a concentrate, or reconstituted from concentrates, the calculation should be made on the basis of single-strength concentrations of the ingredients and finished product.

Example:

2g organic aloe vera powder diluted with 50g water

The entire amount of the reconstituted aloe vera water can be counted towards the organic percentage of the product.

4.7

Mineral based products

4.7.1

Product with mineral content above 30%:

Some products require a high proportion of minerals. With BioGro written approval, such products may be labelled in the same way as a product with 70-95% organic ingredients (“made with organic ingredients”) subject to:

- a. the remaining ingredients (excluding minerals, water and salt) must be >95% organic;
- b. providing BioGro with documentation to justify the minerals are essential for the product; and
- c. the label stating the organic percentage in the product title.

4.8

Household cleaning products

Household cleaning products can be certified to these standards if the products fully comply with the requirements.



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