



**Notification:** 2202  
**Date:** 11<sup>th</sup> May 2022  
**Category:** Update to the Australia Organic Standard (ACOS) 2021v1  
**Title:** EU Annex Updates

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## Background

Australian Certified Organic (ACO) Certification Limited have a direct EU recognition of the ACOS, for scopes and countries not covered under government equivalencies.

The update to the ACOS for the EU Annex only pertains to parallel production. The government-to-government equivalence arrangement that exists between Australia and the EU relevant to plant products is unaffected by this change. Similarly, the third country control body approval for ACO Certification Limited (which includes the scopes of wine and livestock products) based on the ACOS is unaffected by this notification.

These updates will only affect operators certified to the ACOS for exporting organic produce to the EU.

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## Point 1

**Delete:** Wherever possible, the entire property shall be managed organically; however, the property may be split into clearly separated units that may not all be managed organically, in instances referred to in 3.6 of this Standard. In these instances, different species of animals, different varieties of plants, which are visually distinguishable, shall be produced, and adequate records shall be kept to demonstrate the separation.

**Replace with:** A producer may have organic and non-organic production in the same area only under the following cases:

a) Perennial crops with a cultivation period of at least three years:

i) a conversion plan for the entire farm area and all production activities where the producer provides a firm undertaking to convert such areas to organic as quickly as is reasonably possible, and within 5 years. This must be approved and confirmed by the CB annually.

ii) suitable measures are implemented to ensure separation of organic and non-organic produce. Such measures must be approved and confirmed by the CB annually.

iii) the CB must be informed at least 48 hours prior to harvest of organic and/or non-organic parallel products.

b) To facilitate agricultural research or formal education (where points ii and iii above are met).



c) In the case of production of seed, vegetative propagating material and transplants (where points ii and iii above are met).

d) Pastures are exclusively used for grazing.

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**END**