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Answer given by Mr Hansen
on behalf of the European Commission
(29.4.2025)

As stated in the Commission's Communication 'A Vision for Agriculture and Food Shaping together an attractive farming and agri-food sector for future generations'¹, continuous support for organic farming remains essential for the Commission.

Organic farming is a voluntary scheme² based on precise legal standards set in Regulation (EU) 2018/848 on organic production and labelling of organic products³ and its associated secondary legislation. Organic farming has been increasingly successful over the last decade as EU consumers choose to support a model that is based on ambitious environmental and animal welfare rules.

Regulation (EU) 2018/848 generally requires poultry to have access to open air areas and herbivores to have access to pastures and provides only time-limited exemptions to these requirements related in particular to weather conditions, state of the grounds or animal health diseases⁴.

¹ COMMUNICATION FROM THE COMMISSION TO THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT, THE COUNCIL, THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE AND THE COMMITTEE OF THE REGIONS A Vision for Agriculture and Food Shaping together an attractive farming and agri-food sector for future generations, Brussels, 19.2.2025 COM(2025) 75 final.

² https://agriculture.ec.europa.eu/farming/organic-farming_en

³ Regulation (EU) 2018/848 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 May 2018 on organic production and labelling of organic products and repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 834/2008, OJ L 150 14.6.2018, p. 1.

ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2018/848/2024-12-01>

⁴ Frequently asked questions ON ORGANIC RULES, replies to questions 12 and 14.
https://agriculture.ec.europa.eu/document/download/e5b18da2-e7a7-4535-8425-db81ebe7e5ba_en