



شعبة الترجمة الرسمية  
Official Translation Department

## **Law of Organic Farming**

Royal Decree No. M/55  
July 13, 2014

**Translation of Saudi Laws**



**NOTE:**

The translation of Saudi laws takes the following into consideration:

- Words used in the singular form include the plural and vice versa.
- Words used in the masculine form include the feminine.
- Words used in the present tense include the present as well as the future.
- The word “person” or “persons” and their related pronouns (he, his, him, they, their, them) refer to a natural and legal person.



## Law of Organic Farming

### Article 1

In the implementation of the provisions of this Law, the following terms and phrases shall have the meanings assigned thereto, unless the context requires otherwise:

**Ministry:** Ministry of Agriculture.

**Minister:** Minister of Agriculture.

**Law:** Law of Organic Farming.

**Regulations:** Implementing Regulations of the Law.

**Organic Farming:** A method of agricultural production – both of plants and animals – which relies on the use of natural materials to produce food without using chemical fertilizers or materials, pesticides, hormones or genetically modified materials.

**Standards of the Organic Farming Industry:** Organic farming standards approved by the Ministry.

**Organic Farming Industry:** The processes of producing, manufacturing, marketing, importing or exporting organic inputs or products.

**Organic Inputs:** Materials used in organic farming.

**Organic Products:** Fresh and processed plant or animal organic products.

**Organic Production Unit:** A facility for the production, manufacturing, storing, canning packaging or processing of organic inputs or products.

**Certifying Agent:** Companies specialized in organic certification which oversee production units through implementing the standards of organic farming industry.

**Organic Certificate:** A certificate issued by a certifying agent licensed by the Ministry.

### Article 2

This Law aims at regulating and protecting the organic farming industry in the Kingdom against improper practices.

### Article 3

The provisions of this Law shall apply to any person who practices organic farming as well as to any certifying agent operating in the Kingdom.

### Article 4

Without prejudice to the jurisdiction of the authorities set forth in other laws, the Ministry shall oversee the organic farming industry.



### **Article 5**

Any person wishing to practice organic farming shall obtain an organic certificate from a certifying agent licensed by the Ministry.

### **Article 6**

The Ministry shall attempt to achieve the objectives of this Law, particularly the following:

1. Prepare and approve standards of the organic farming industry.
2. Approve requirements and procedures for the inspection and testing of organic inputs.
3. Prepare lists of the substances authorized for use as organic inputs as part of the standards of the organic farming industry.
4. Set requirements for labelling organic inputs.
5. Set requirements for importing and exporting organic inputs.

### **Article 7**

The Saudi Food and Drug Authority shall, in coordination with the Ministry, set the following:

1. Requirements and procedures for the inspection and testing of organic products.
2. Requirements for labelling organic products.
3. Requirements for importing and exporting organic products.

### **Article 8**

The Ministry shall be in charge of issuing licenses to certifying agents operating in the Kingdom. The regulations shall set forth the conditions for granting such licenses.

### **Article 9**

Any person engaging in the organic farming industry shall maintain necessary records relating to organic inputs and products, and shall notify the Ministry and the certifying agency of any updates to his business as set forth in the regulations.

### **Article 10**

Organic inputs and products shall be subject to the standards of the organic farming industry and to necessary technical controls and requirements as set forth in the regulations.



### **Article 11**

It is prohibited to affix any word, phrase, logo or label to a non-organic product to indicate that it is organic.

### **Article 12**

The Ministry may, in collaboration with relevant agencies – each according to their jurisdiction – inspect organic production units to ensure their compliance with the standards of the organic farming industry.

### **Article 13**

The Minister may issue a decision prohibiting the production, trade, export or import of organic live animals, or any plant or animal organic input, permanently or temporarily if the public interest so dictates, as stipulated in the regulations.

### **Article 14**

Officers designated pursuant to a decision by the Minister shall have the capacity of preliminary investigation officers, and shall be in charge of recording violations of the provisions of this Law or its regulations, each according to their jurisdiction.

### **Article 15**

Without prejudice to any harsher penalty set forth in other laws, any person who violates any of the provisions of this Law or its regulations shall be punished with one or more of the following penalties:

- a) A Warning.
- b) A fine not exceeding one million riyals.
- c) Suspension of the license for a period not exceeding one year.
- d) Revocation of the license.

### **Article 16**

One or more committees of at least three members, including a legal advisor, shall be formed pursuant to a decision by the Minister to consider violations of this Law or its regulations and impose appropriate penalties. The Minister shall approve the decisions of such committees. Any person, against whom a penalty decision is rendered, may appeal such decision before the Board of Grievances within 60 days from the date of notification.

### **Article 17**

The Minister shall issue the regulations of this Law after 120 days from the date of its publication.



**Article 18**

This Law shall enter into force 120 days following the date of its publication in the Official Gazette.