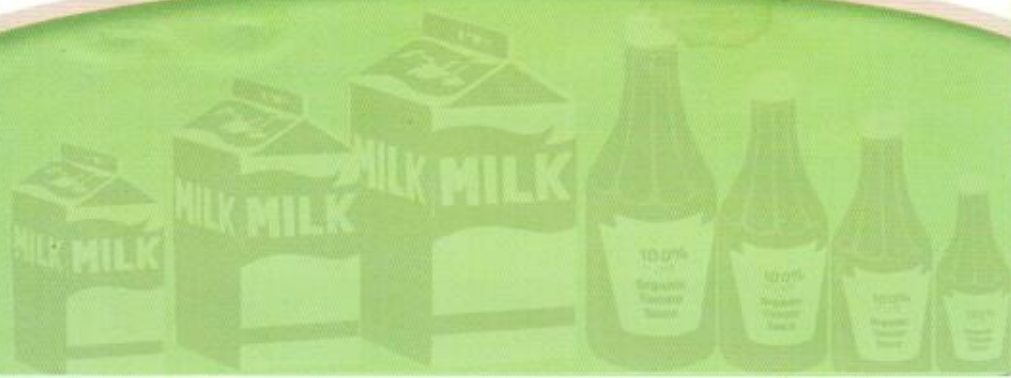




Processing of Organic Products

Introducing the
**East African Organic Products
Standard**



1 Choosing products for organic processing

Use organic and natural products for organic processing and separate them from non-organic products throughout processing, storage and transportation.

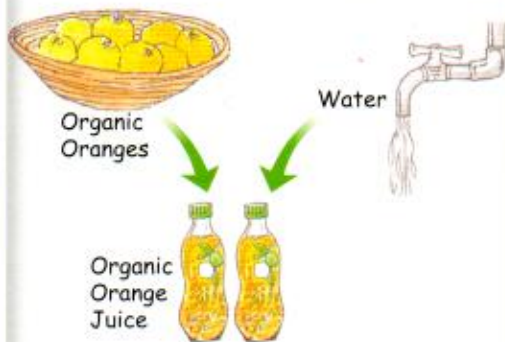
How?



- Clearly label all materials and equipment used for carrying and storing organic products.
- Check that raw materials are declared as organic in delivery papers, before using them for an organic product.

2 Adding ingredients into organic products

Use organic or natural ingredients in organic products.



- Water and edible salt can be used as ingredients

- Where non-organic ingredients are used, indicate on the packaging the quantities of those ingredients.

3 Preserving organic products

To protect processed organic products from spoilage, use only natural methods and materials.

How?

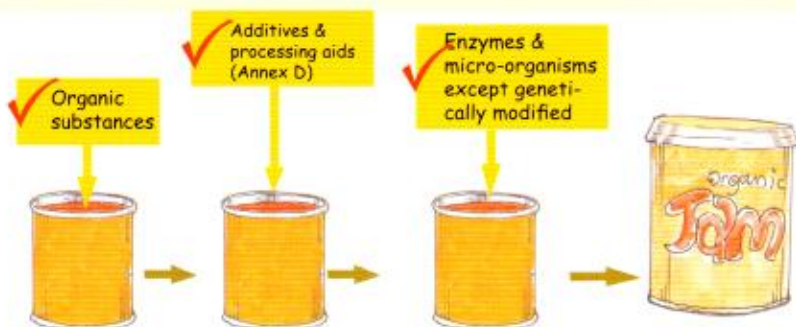


- Do not use equipment that contains substances which may contaminate the product
- Use suitable temperature and conditions for storage

4 Using additives and other processing aids

Use materials and substances obtained from natural or organic sources as additives and processing aids.

For example;



- Enzymes and micro-organisms can be used in organic products, except genetically engineered micro-organisms
- Do not use artificial colours, flavours, and taste-enhancing materials

5 Adding extra nutrients

Where legally required, you may use minerals, vitamins, amino acids and other nitrogen compounds to improve the nutritional status of the products.



6 Using clean packaging materials

Use clean boxes, bags or crates (which have not been used for non-organic products and materials like fertilizers or pesticides) for carrying, storing or final packing of any organic products.

For example;

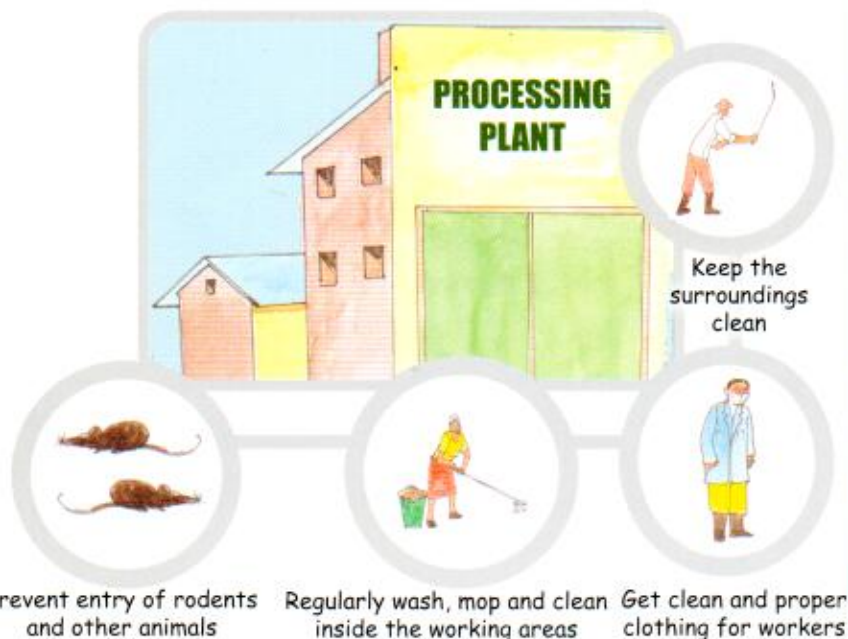


- Do not use packaging materials treated with chemicals
- Use naturally-derived or environmentally-friendly packaging
- Avoid Polyvinyl chloride (PVC) and other chlorine-based plastics if possible

7 Maintaining hygiene and minimising pests

Ensure that all areas used for handling, processing and storing of organic products are clean and well protected from pests.

How?



Conventional pest control (e.g. fumigations) may be used for pest control, under the following conditions;

- Remove all organic products before treatment is done
- Take precautions to minimise contamination of equipment and other facilities
- Use a qualified person or organisation
- Keep records of the date, substances used and areas treated.

In this brochure you can see some of the requirements of the East African Organic Products Standard. This standard was adopted by the East African Community in April 2007 as EAS 456:2007. It thereby became an official standard for Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda. More information about organic farming and the practical application of these requirements can be obtained from;



NOGAMU

Plot 957 Galukande Close, Off Tank Hill Road, Muyenga, P. O. Box 70071, Clock Tower, Kampala, Uganda.
Tel: +256 312 264039
admin@nogamu.org.ug
www.nogamu.org.ug



Tanzania Organic Agriculture Movement

TOAM

Shaurimoyo/Lindi Str, Mariam Towers Bldg. P.O. Box 70089, Dar es salaam, Tanzania
Tel: +255 732 975 799
toam@kilimohai.org www.kilimohai.org



BOAM

PO Box 2251, Bujumbura - Burundi
Tel +25779910345
Email.sibad53@gmail.com



KOAN

ICIPE Complex, Kasarani Road P.O. Box 72461-00200 Nairobi, Kenya
Tel: +254 572 506836/787 557908
Email: koansecretariat@elci.org
www.koan.co.ke



ROAM

B.P. 6886 Kigali - Rwanda
Tel +250 788558027
Email: rwandaorganicmovement@gmail.com



This material is produced with funding from;



Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency

Other Brochures in the Series

- Beekeeping
- Crop production
- Livestock Production