

	<p><i>Istituto per la Certificazione Etica e Ambientale</i></p>	<p>document</p> <p><b>REGULATION</b></p> <p><b>RC.JAS</b> Ed. 01 Rev.03</p>
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*This document, issued selectively, is a true copy of the original.*

*The original version, bearing the signatures of the authorized bodies, is deposited at the ICEA National Office in Bologna.*

## 1. FOREWORD

**Istituto per la Certificazione Etica ed Ambientale**, hereinafter referred to as **ICEA**, is a nonprofit Consortium composed of associations and organizations operating in a field of activities oriented towards environment-friendly, fair and long-lasting development, pursuant to Art. 2612 and the relevant ones of the Civil Code.

The Consortium was founded by AIAB (Italian Association for Organic Farming), Banca Popolare Etica (Ethical Bank), Demeter (Association for the protection of biodynamic quality in Italy), ANAB (National Association for Bio-ecological Architecture) and ACU (Consumers' Association), with a view to offering a certification service based on the principles of independence, transparency, objectivity, impartiality and competence, capable of building up suppliers' and consumers' confidence in the certified products, through verification of product conformity to voluntary or binding regulations.

The Consortium's registered office is in Bologna (Italy), Via Nazario Sauro, 2.

ICEA obtains financial support from proceeds from certification and training activities.

ICEA is entitled to open offices, branch offices and agencies in Italy and abroad.

ICEA authorizes all operators who observe the certification scheme governed by this Regulation, to affix to products the conformity label and the certification mark provided by relevant provisions and/or standards.

a) ICEA guarantees admission of Applicants to the certification schemes governed by this Regulation, without any discrimination whatsoever. In particular:

- there are no undue economic or other conditions applied;
- qualification for evaluation and certification is not conditioned by the size of the unit or the membership of particular associations or groups.

b) ICEA undertakes to apply current procedures and expenditure accounts based on its own national List of Fees in force, guaranteeing uniformity of application.

c) The request for inspection and certification does not entail any obligation for the concerned Organization to utilize ICEA's other services not contemplated in this Regulation.

d) The request for inspection and certification does not entail any obligation for the concerned Organization to join the ICEA Consortium or any other related body.

## 2. DEFINITIONS

**Product:** the result of a process.

**Process:** the total correlated or interacting activities, which transform inputs into outputs.

**Product Specification:** a document, which establishes the requisites of a product. (Hereafter it is called Standard).

**Regulatory Body:** a public or private body, which draws up and publishes the regulations governing product standards.

**Organization:** a body, unit, organ, enterprise or parts thereof, with share capital or not, public or private, with its own functions and administration, which concurs in the formation, marketing and supply of the product.

**Applicant:** an organization requesting certification. In case the certification concerns a chain of products, the Applicant is also the coordinator of the chain.

**Licensed Operator:** an organization to which ICEA has issued the conformity certification and which is, consequently, authorized to use the conformity label and certification mark.

### 3. REFERENCES

- UNI EN 45011/99 (ISO 65/EC)
- Reg. (EEC) No. 834/07, as amended
- Japanese Agricultural Standards (JAS) for Organic Products
- JAS Rules and Decrees of the Japanese Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF)

### 4. GENERAL CONDITIONS

**4.1** This Regulation describes the procedures followed by ICEA in order to inspect food products and certify their compliance with JAS Standards and Decrees.

**4.2** ICEA carries out the JAS inspection and certification activity applying the JAS Standards and relevant regulations.

**4.3.** The control and certification activity, in compliance with JAS Standards and Decrees, is applicable to all commodities and processing products from organic farming origin. For all commodities which are not part of the application sphere of JAS Standards, ICEA will issue a certificate of compliance with Reg. (EEC) No. 834/07 and the IFOAM-accredited system.

**4.4.** By agro-foodstuff “ICEA Certificated-Organic JAS” we mean the agro-foodstuff from organic farming origin:

- controlled and certificated according to Reg. (EEC) No. 834/07 and its subsequent amendments;
- produced in compliance with JAS Standards and Regulations.

**4.5.** The purpose of ICEA's inspection and certification activity is to give, through initial assessment and subsequent surveillance, an independent, trustworthy assurance that such products comply with the relevant JAS Standards.

**4.6.** The certification system is based on auditing and approving the production process and management system set up by the applicant operator in order to obtain organic products, and also on the execution of type tests (where required by the Standard), followed by continuing surveillance through periodical verification of the conformity of processes and quality systems, and testing of samples taken both from the market, and production and/or processing sites.

In particular, the certification system established by the Organization shall take into consideration the management and application of the following requisites:

- a) traceability and possibility to recall the product in case of serious nonconformities;
- b) identification and separation of certified products from uncertified products;
- c) management of customers' complaints;
- d) management of quality records.

**4.7.** Application for certification can be forwarded by any Organization whose activity falls within the scopes of production of agricultural products and foodstuffs.

Application for certification is compulsory for all the organizations wishing to affix indications of conformity to JAS Standards to products falling within the scope of agricultural crop production, and preparation/packaging.

The above obligation does not apply to organizations which only perform trading activities (buying or selling), and do not have any influence on product processing or labeling.

**4.8.** ICEA conformity certification authorizes the Applicant Organization to include the conformity indications and certification mark specified in this Regulation, on product labels and/or any other promotional and advertising material.

**4.9** ICEA undertakes to apply expenditure accounts based on the List of Fees in force, guaranteeing fair and uniform application.

**4.10** ICEA does not provide Organizations with any sort of advisory service (e.g. ways to overcome obstacles to certification, or promotional and information activities aimed at marketing specific products of certified organizations).

**4.11.** ICEA carries out worldwide inspection and certification activities, according to JAS Standards and Regulations, except in Japan.

**4.12** On the Italian territory, ICEA carries out its activity with Italian staff and documents in the Italian language.

For inspection and certification activities carried out abroad, ICEA undertakes to use when necessary, the English language or the language used by the local populations, reserving the possibility to employ skilled translators and interpreters accepted also by the operator subject to the inspection system.

The same principle is adopted when drawing up and distributing documents which are necessary for requesting, obtaining and maintaining the certification (standards, regulations, records, forms etc.).

Certification documents are usually issued in Italian and English. When the product is intended for countries where the English language is not widely used, ICEA undertakes to use the local language or another language spoken by the local populations.

**4.13** The certification activity is carried out and managed by the ICEA National Office of Bologna with address at Via Nazario Sauro, 2 40121 Bologna (BO) Italia, on all working days (Monday to Friday) with office hours: **9 a.m. to 1 pm. and 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.** The Office is closed on Saturdays, Sundays and the following annual holidays:

- Christmas holidays: 24<sup>th</sup> December to 6<sup>th</sup> January
- Easter holidays: a week between the months of March and April, 40 days after the Carnival.
- Summer holidays: 7<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> August
- Other holidays: 25<sup>th</sup> April (Liberation Day), 1<sup>st</sup> May (Labour Day) and 1<sup>st</sup> November (All Saint's Day).

**4.14** In order to facilitate access to useful information for all persons interested in this certification scheme, ICEA undertakes to:

a) organize yearly training courses for all producers, key personnel in the certification management, other concerned operators and the personnel employed by ICEA, in the JAS control and certification activity.

b) make all documents and materials available, either on request or on the web site, [www.icea.info](http://www.icea.info).

Moreover, in order to make the system more transparent, ICEA undertakes to make public, through the internet or other media, any unclassified information relating to its own activity, and in particular the list of licensed operators, the penalties imposed and the results of type tests.

**4.15** The application of this Regulation is constantly monitored by the National Certification Commission (CNC), which is an organ that guarantees impartial and correct execution of certification activities, and ensures fair representation of all parties involved in certification.

CNC membership includes the delegates designated by the parties involved in the certification of such type of products and processes. For the purpose of surveillance and correct execution of all assessments required by this certification scheme, CNC is composed of one or more committees (which may have territorial competence), referred to as CoCerJAS, where at least the following areas of interest are represented:

- a) Producers;
- b) Technical/scientific area;
- c) Consumers.

**4.16** All the functions provided for in this Regulation (decisions regarding the certification issue, its suspension or withdrawal), are delegated to the CoCerJAS committees, with the exception of evaluation of appeals and fundamental documents related to the rules governing the operation of the inspection and certification system.

## **5. CONDITIONS FOR OBTAINING AND MAINTAINING THE CERTIFICATION**

**5.1** In order to obtain and maintain the certification, the Applicant Organization shall:

- a) observe the provisions of this Regulation for all products and processes which are not covered in the application filed according to Reg. (EEC) 834/07 and of ICEA Regulation for Certification – Reg. (EEC) No. 834/07 (M.0202);
- b) apply for the certification according to articles 42,56 of the Ministerial Ordinance No. 62 of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fishery;
- c) implement and maintain a documented management system demonstrating compliance with product and/or process requirements laid down by JAS Standards;
- d) identify and monitor the specified requirements, including the ones legally binding and regulated;
- e) complete the document assessment stage and any necessary type tests with satisfactory results;
- f) take all measures which may be needed for correct assessment, as required by this Regulation;
- g) allow staff appointed by ICEA or by accreditation bodies, and the personnel of the Japanese Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fishery (MAFF), to access documentation, records, and areas and personnel involved in certification;
- h) maintain throughout certification validity, the conditions that permitted such certification to be granted;
- i) send ICEA a written document within five working days, containing every relevant change regarding the certification conditions: change of the company's name, change of chief positions in the organization chart, change in the management and organization of production processes and product features;
- j) send ICEA a written document within five working days, containing any possible interruption of the production activities or part of them, and the possible definitive interruption or suspension in the production of products which required the certification;
- k) define in the organization chart two different persons who cover these two key roles: Officer-in-Charge for the production with organic methods and Officer-in-Charge for the product conformity inspection before grading, whose names shall be communicated to ICEA at the request for certification or at the beginning of the inspection (for farms, both roles can be covered by one person). The Officer-in-Charge for product conformity before grading shall:
  1. communicate promptly to ICEA the possible irregularities discovered in the product, which could invalidate the conformity of the same, its upgrading and the possible withdrawal of the product from the market.
  2. according to Art. 46.1 of the MAFF rules, submit to ICEA by 30 June each year, a report containing the results and data relevant to the activity carried out in the previous 12 months.
  3. According to Art. 80 of the MAFF, ICEA will submit to MAFF by 30 September each year, a report divided into product categories and farm type, which summarizes all reports received as of above mentioned point.
- l) in case ICEA ascertains any Nonconformities (NCs), propose Corrective Actions (ACs), and accomplish and sign the appropriate forms, specifying the implementation periods and name of the person responsible for implementation; one copy of the signed form shall be sent via fax to ICEA within 10 calendar days from the date of notification;
- m) satisfy all ICEA's requests for ACs within the agreed deadline;

- n) pay to ICEA the fees due for the inspection and certification activity, no matter what the outcome is <sup>(1)</sup>;
- o) retain, throughout the certification validity, a record of all complaints received and the documents pertaining to the relevant ACs implemented <sup>(2)</sup>;
- p) inform ICEA of the organization's involvement in cases of judicial proceedings for infringement of laws on product responsibility or in relation to the certification obtained.

**5.2** Certified Organizations shall keep the following records, which shall be made available to ICEA's personnel:

- a) **Register of Materials Purchased** (inputs, raw materials, etc), indicating date, supplier, type of product, quantity, purchase documents, references (for agricultural operators = Purchase Sheet - Reg. (EEC) No. 834/07).
- b) **Register of Sales**, indicating date, purchaser, type of product, quantity, sales documents references (for agricultural operators = Sales Sheet – Reg. (EEC) No. 834/07).
- c) **Register of Agricultural Practices** (fertilizing, plant protection treatments, mechanical cultivation, etc.), indicating date, parcel(s) references, substance used, total quantity and doses, interested area (Agricultural Practices Sheet – Reg. (EEC) No. 834/07)
- d) **Register of Processes** (*preparation/packaging units only*), indicating date, type of product, production lot and reference to origin of raw materials/ingredients.
- e) **Register of the copies of certificates distributed**, indicating ICEA certificate identification code, and name and address of Body and/or Customer to whom certificates were delivered.
- f) **Register of complaints**, indicating date, name of complainant, reasons and resolution of complaint.
- g) **Register of analyses** performed by the unit, indicating date and result (enclose copy of laboratory test reports).
- h) **Conformity Control of the output product**, with the record of the control of the conformity carried out by the OFFICER-IN-CHARGE FOR CONFORMITY CONTROL OF THE PRODUCT BEFORE GRADING.

**5.3** The abovementioned records shall be updated daily. They may be in electronic format, subject to ICEA's approval.

When records are in electronic format, it is necessary to keep on file a hard copy (or back-up disk) of the monthly summary.

ICEA reserves the possibility to ask for one copy of such records (also in electronic format).

The records concerning productions subject to JAS Standards and Regulations conformity certification, shall be clearly distinguishable from those concerning products which are not (including products exclusively certified pursuant to Reg. (EEC) No. 834/07).

**5.4** ICEA's Control Technicians shall also be allowed to access all the accounting, fiscal and financial documentation which may be needed in order to cross-check mandatory records with a view to verifying correct and systematic filing of records.

**5.5** If the abovementioned conditions are not fulfilled, ICEA will take necessary measures proportionate to the frequency and severity of infringements, to the extent of certification suspension and withdrawal.

## 6. APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATION

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<sup>(1)</sup> Any inspection visits not included in the surveillance plan, which should be necessary as a consequence of NCs found, will be charged to the Organization as per List of Fees in force at the moment such visits are carried out.

The annual flat rate for maintaining the certification is due also in case of suspension.

<sup>(2)</sup> The Organization is also required to take into consideration any complaints received by other applicants (even if not licensees) involved in the certification project, for which the Organization assumes responsibility as far as product conformity is concerned.

**6.1** To start the certification process, the Organization shall forward to ICEA the appropriate, duly accomplished application, that is the form, APPLICATION FOR VOLUNTARY INSPECTION AND CERTIFICATION FOR PRODUCTS FROM ORGANIC FARMING (M.RCJAS 01).

The application shall contain in particular, the following information:

1. Organization's business name and registered address;
2. Product type for which the certification is requested (commodities, foodstuff processed with organic methods);
3. Names of the persons who perform the following roles: Officer-in-Charge for Organic Production and Officer-in-Charge for Product Conformity before grading.

**6.2** By signing the APPLICATION FOR VOLUNTARY INSPECTION AND CERTIFICATION SERVICE FOR PRODUCTS FROM ORGANIC FARMING (M.RCJAS 01), the Organization confirms acceptance of this Regulation in its entirety, and undertakes to comply with relevant JAS Standards.

The application for certification shall be accompanied by the following documents:

In cases where the organization is subject to ICEA inspection and also for inspection and certification pursuant to Reg. (EEC) No. 834/07, only the documents specified in a), d), and e), shall be enclosed.

- a) Copy of the receipt of payment of the flat rate due to JAS inspection and certification;
- b) Organization's Chamber of Commerce registration certificate;
- c) Copy of VAT number certificate;
- d) (Preparation/packaging units and distributors under mark only) ICEA INFORMATION SHEET FOR IFOAM-ACCREDITED CERTIFICATION (Traceability Chart, Preparation Recipe, List of Suppliers) (M.RCJAS 02);
- e) ICEA LIST OF FEES FOR JAS INSPECTION AND CERTIFICATION, duly signed for acceptance (M.RCJAS 03);
- f) Statement authorizing the use of personal data (if accepted);
- g) Copy of administrative and health authorizations required by current legislation, including the layout of the establishment with indication of what premises are intended for, if required.
- h) Recipes for the preparation of products to be certified, with description of production process and production sites;
- i) Broad annual production plan (quality/quantity);
- j) Facsimile of label affixed to packaging; ICEA will evaluate the conformity of the label exclusively for what strictly concerns conformity to JAS Standards and Regulations as regards the organic farming production.
- k) Number, full address and data of operational units (or other Organizations interested in the project) involved in the production to be certified.
- l) Copy of the agreement with the Processor, in case some processes are performed in third-party establishments. The agreement shall contain at least the following information:
  - Processor's undertaking to process the goods under the agreement, fully respecting the provisions of JAS Standards;
  - Processor's undertaking to give advance notice of the date and time the process begins;
  - Processor's undertaking to allow ICEA's appointed staff free access to sites and documentation relating to the process;
  - Processor's broad annual production plan (quality/quantity).

## **7. PRE-CERTIFICATION INSPECTION VISIT**

**7.1** If the Organization considers it advisable, it may ask ICEA to carry out a pre-certification inspection visit.

The written application shall be sent to ICEA's competent regional office.

The purpose of the pre-certification inspection visit is to:

- determine the Organization's size, structure and activity;

- determine to what extent the Organization is prepared to face the certification process and guarantee compliance with JAS Standards and Regulations and with this Regulation.

**7.2** The pre-certification visit is optional. The relevant time and costs will be established on the basis of the Organization's type and size.

The date and schedule for the pre-certification visit will be jointly fixed by ICEA and the Organization.

## **8. ASSESSMENT**

Assessment is performed by ICEA with the purpose of verifying the conformity of the Organization's product and/or process to the requirements laid down in the relevant JAS Standards and Regulations, and is carried out on the basis of the technical rules of Art. 29.2 and 33 of the MAFF. It includes:

1. evaluation of documents;
2. inspection visit to the structure of the Licensed Organization and of the other Organizations involved in the certification;
3. type tests (when required by JAS Standards)

The assessment phase starts only after the Organization has submitted the documents mentioned in chapter 6.

ICEA classifies the situations where product requirements laid down in relevant Standards are not met as NCs.

NCs are subdivided into Serious (G) and Minor (M).

Serious NCs are the ones, which do not guarantee the product requisites laid down in JAS Standards. Such NCs require immediate downgrading of product and the arrangement for ACs accepted by ICEA.

ICEA classifies some remarks denoted as "(O)" as recommendations to be carefully taken into consideration by the Organization in order to obtain improvements.

When the Organization's documentation is complete, ICEA will make arrangements with the Organization regarding the verifications to be carried out for the purpose of certification.

### **8.1 Evaluation of documents**

**8.1.1** Documents are evaluated by qualified staff appointed by and subordinate to the Voluntary Certification Manager (RCV), by accomplishing the form CHECK LIST EVALUATION OF DOCUMENT (M.RCJAS 08) within 30 working days from the receipt of the documents.

The appointed technician shall evaluate all the documents submitted by the Organization with a view to verifying their compliance with the relevant JAS Standards and Regulations, and with this Regulation.

ICEA reserves the possibility to ask for further information which may be useful for the purpose of evaluation. In this case, as in any other cases where documents result to be incomplete, the 30-day term for the fulfillment of the control operations starts again from the date of receipt of the new documents.

**8.1.2** When assessment of the Organization's documentation is completed, a judgment is issued, as follows:

- a) Approved: if no NCs have been found;
- b) Approved on condition: where ICEA's overall evaluation of detected NCs does not prejudice the subsequent evaluation phases (elimination of NCs can be directly demonstrated on the first inspection visit);
- c) Not Approved: where ICEA's overall evaluation of detected NCs prejudices the subsequent evaluation phases. In this case, the evaluation process is suspended until NCs are eliminated.

**8.1.3** If the operator does not eliminate the NCs detected and does not update the documentation within three months; the application will become null and void. A new application may be presented against a new payment of the fees due to ICEA.

**8.1.4** In the cases a) and b), a qualified Control Technician will be entrusted with the execution of the first inspection visit.

## **8.2 First Inspection Visits**

**8.2.1** The purpose of first inspection visits is to verify the conformity of the applicant Organization, and of any other participant in the project, to the requirements laid down in the relevant JAS Standards and Regulations, and this Regulation.

**8.2.2** The first inspection, which shall be carried out within 30 working days from the conclusion of the document evaluation giving positive results, includes:

- a) accurate verification of compliance of all products/processes to be certified with the provisions of relevant JAS Standard and Regulations (as concerns the requisites that are not already covered by Reg. (EEC) No. 834/07);
- b) audit of the system of management of production process, analysis and control of points which are critical as concerns product conformity, and application of relevant controls;
- c) a final meeting where the Organization will be informed of the result of the inspection visit.

On completion of the verification, ICEA Control Technician shall:

- a) clarify the remarks written down in NONCONFORMITY REPORT forms, and ask the Organization to sign these forms for acceptance;
- b) clarify the contents of the INSPECTION REPORT M.RCJAS 04, write down any remarks made by the Organization and ask the Organization to countersign the Report for acceptance.

**8.2.3** One copy of the NONCONFORMITY REPORT shall be given to the operator who shall return it (also via fax) to ICEA within 10 calendar days from the date of the visit, complete with ACs and/or Nonconformity Treatments (TNCs), implementation periods and names of persons responsible for implementation.

Unless expressly required by the Operator, a copy of the INSPECTION REPORT prepared by the technician is not left with the Organization.

The TNCs and the ACs proposed by the operator are verified by the Voluntary Certification Manager (RCV) or his delegate. If no communication to the contrary is given within five calendar days from receipt, they are deemed approved.

In case such TNCs and ACs are not considered sufficient or valid, RCV shall inform the operator in writing, giving reasons.

**8.2.4** In case of serious NCs, ICEA may arrange special inspection visits (whose cost shall be borne by the Organization) with a view to evaluating the effective implementation of approved treatments and/or preventive actions.

If irregularities concern documentation, it will be sufficient to complete such documentation and send it to ICEA within the deadline.

## **8.3 Type Tests**

**8.3.1** During assessment, ICEA reserves the possibility to subject the product to type tests (generally analyses). For this purpose, a sufficient number of product samples will be taken and then subjected to any tests or analyses as may be needed in order to verify their conformity to the technical specifications of the relevant JAS Standards and Regulations.

**8.3.2** The tests shall be carried out by test laboratories accredited within the European certification system, in accordance with international rules governing test laboratory accreditation. The costs incurred shall be borne by the Organization.

**8.3.3** In case the tests show that the product does not comply with the relevant JAS Standards and Regulations, the assessment will be suspended until the Organization, within the agreed deadline which may not exceed six months, restores the conformity of the product and asks ICEA to subject the product to new type tests.

The samples for type tests may be taken on the First Inspection Visit during the beginning of the activity or throughout the production cycle, and after that during the supervision stage.

## **9. DELIBERATION**

**9.1** The certification file will be submitted to CoCerJAS's for evaluation only when the Organization has eliminated any existing NCs and/or has clearly and credibly committed itself to reaching full conformity within an established deadline considered acceptable by ICEA.

ICEA engages itself to submit the certification file for CoCerJAS's or the Committee's evaluation, within 30 working days starting from the date the solutions were determined for NCs identified during the previous evaluation processes (documents, starting visit and sample tests). On completion of the evaluation, CoCerJAS will decide whether to grant the Conformity Certificate or disapprove the application.

**9.2** In case a negative resolution is passed and the certificate is not granted, the applicant Organization will be informed in writing of the decision and reasons behind this.

**9.3** If, within 90 calendar days, the Organization does not implement the necessary corrective actions, the application for certification will officially become null and void. A new application may be presented against a new payment of the fees due to ICEA.

**9.4.** During the evaluation CoCerJAS shall, when necessary, consider the previous decisions and exceptions taken. ICEA engages itself to draw up an update of the register containing the noncompliances and decisions. This register shall be available for the Certification Committee members. The register, without any mention of the interested organizations, should be made public.

**9.5.** The decisions taken by CoCerJAS shall be communicated to the Control Technician who carried out the inspection visit.

## **10. ISSUANCE OF CONFORMITY CERTIFICATE**

Following CoCerJAS's positive evaluation and resolution to grant certification, ICEA (within 15 working days) will issue the JAS CONFORMITY CERTIFICATE (M.RCJAS 05) showing the following details:

- Name and/or business name of the Organization holding the certification;
- Certificate/license registration number;
- Date of issue (beginning of validity period);
- Revision status;
- Name and class of certified products and/or category of activity;
- JAS Standards and Decrees conformed to.

The ICEA President or his delegate will sign the Conformity Certificate. The delegate's list is available as a document in the ICEA's office or on the web site, [www.icea.info](http://www.icea.info).

If requested by an operator, ICEA can issue the document concerning the conformity of certification regarding product lot/batch CERTIFICATE OF JAS CONFORMITY (LOT/BATCH) – M.RCJAS 06, with the chance to request additional analysis or test (with secretarial cost paid by the operator).

The issuance of this document, in any case, is possible only after the issuance of the certificate of conformity.

At the issuance of a certificate, which is made in compliance with JAS Standards and Regulations, ICEA will promptly forward to MAFF the following data:

- a) company's name, address, country of the organization, company or person who has received the certification (licensee);
- b) name and type of the certificated product;

- c) type of operator: producer, processor, packaging or mark distribution, livestock;
- d) name and address of the factory, plot of land, office where the activity is carried out and whose products are subject to certification practices;
- e) Year, month and day of the certificate issuance.

### **10.1 Use, validity and renewal of Conformity Certificate**

- a) The validity of the Conformity Certificate is also subject to the maintenance of the certification obtained pursuant to Reg.(EEC) No. 834/07.
- b) During the validity period, surveillance visits will be carried out in order to verify continuing compliance with requirements.
- c) CoCerJAS reassesses the Organization every year in its entirety. The new assessment will be based on all the information gathered in the course of inspections during the preceding three years.

Once the Organization has received the certificate, it is entitled to:

- publicize the certification obtained;
- make the Conformity Certificate public;
- affix the conformity label specified in this Regulation and in JAS Standards and Regulations, to the label of certified products;
- utilize the conformity label specified in this Regulation and in JAS Standards and Regulations, in technical specifications and promotional material explicitly referring to certified products;

The operator may renounce inspection and certification by communicating his withdrawal by registered letter. In any case, the operator will be obliged to pay the fees due for ICEA's activity in the course of the year.

However, withdrawal from Reg. (EEC) No. 834/07 inspection system entails immediate withdrawal also from JAS control service.

The company, with written communication, can be JAS-certified according to JAS rule even if the company is not certified according to Reg. (EEC) 834/07.

### **10.2 Register of Licensed Operators**

**10.2.1** All the Organizations which are granted the Conformity certification and the authorization to use JAS Marks, are entered in the Register of JAS Licensed Operators M.RCJAS 07 with the following data:

- Date of issue of certification;
- Date of request acceptance;
- Registration number of certificate/license;
- Name and/or business name of the Organization holding the certification, registered address of the main office and production plants, phone/fax number, e-mail address and website (if any);
- Name and/or business name and address of any sub-licensees involved;
- Name and class of products and/or category of activity subject to certification;
- Indications as to certification status (operating, suspended on ..., withdrawn on...);

**10.2.2** The Register of JAS Licensed Operators is a public document, which is available at the ICEA's national office with address at Via Nazario Sauro, 2 40121 Bologna.

**10.2.3** ICEA, from the licensee register according to Art. 52 of the Ministerial Ordinance No. 62 of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fishery, draws up and keeps all commodities' registers, divided into the categories for which the certification has been required.

**10.2.4.** ICEA can send the above cited registers (also in electronic format) to any person who submits a written request, also publish it in specialized reports, print it on advertising material or upload it on its internet site, [www.icea.info](http://www.icea.info)

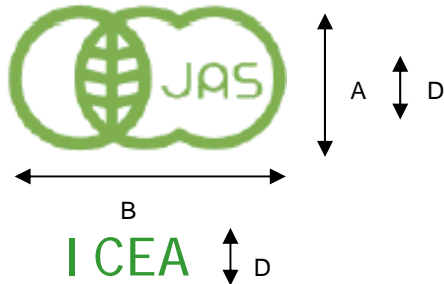
## 11. CONFORMITY LABEL AND LOGO

The Organizations which obtained the JAS Conformity Certificates from ICEA thanks to observance of JAS Standards and Regulations and of this Regulation, may use the following

### Conformity label:

- Product obtained in compliance with JAS Standards - ICEA Certificate;
- Other translations into the official languages approved by ICEA.

### Certification Mark

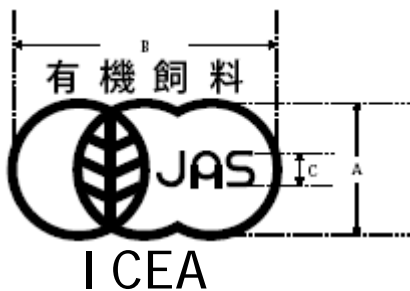


#### 11.1 Technical characteristics of the Certification Mark

According to the Official Japanese Gazette of 9th June 2000, the dimensions of the logo are determined as follows:

- The height (A) should be more than 5 mm.
- The length (B) should be double the height, while the height of the word JAS (D) on the inside of the logo should be 3/10 (three tenths) of A.
- The name of the control and certification body (ICEA) should be just under the logo and should have a height equal to D.
- Any color can be used.

JAS Certification Mark for organic feed:



- The height (A) should be more than 30 mm.
- The length (B) should be double the height, while the height of the word JAS (C) on the inside of the logo should be 3/10 (three tenths) of A.
- The height of "有機飼料" (organic feed) should be equal to C.
- The name of the control and certification body (ICEA) should be just under the logo and should have a height equal to C.
- The JAS seal which has to be visible, has to be on each bag, pack or transport document.

It is established at a minimum height because the feed packs are usually larger than other agricultural products.

## 11.2 Support for protection initiatives

ICEA will at least once a year, control the right employment of the certification mark, conformity descriptions, and inspections carried out during the normal control activities and those carried out by its own personnel in shops, supermarkets and other shopping centers, exhibitions in this field, web sites, etc.

In case of irregular use, ICEA will act as follows:

- require corrective actions and sanction addressed to organizations subject to the control system;
- communicate, notice and when necessary take legal steps which could be a compensation for damages followed by withdrawal from the market.

The Person Responsible for this activity is the RCV of ICEA with the support of ICEA's staff.

## 11.4 Specifications for product labeling

As regards labeling, reference shall be made to the provisions laid down in Reg. (EEC) No. 834/07 and ICEA Labeling Guidelines (L.0501).

However, as concerns multi-ingredient products, the percentage of ingredients from organic farming will be determined by proportioning the quantity of organic-certified ingredients of agricultural origin to the total of ingredients (whether of agricultural origin or not), with the exception of water and salt.

*When the processing product contains both organic and in conversion ingredients, it shall be indicated which part is of organic origin and which is in conversion. The EU does not allow the use of raw material in conversion during the processing of multi-ingredients products.*

*The mark "Organic JAS" shall be present on the label. When the product packaging does not indicate the mark "Organic Jas" it cannot feature the words: organic, organic production, wholly organic, organic from abroad, organic rate %, that is organic (also when reported with the English name = organic) with reference to the end product.*

*When the product cannot have the JAS mark but its ingredients have it, it is possible to report: salad containing organic vegetable or ketchup produced from organic tomatoes.*

*The label shall report the following words:*

- a) If the ingredients are of organic farming origin (and not in conversion): Yuuki nousanbutsu = organically farmed products;*
- b) If the product is in conversion: Atenkan kikan-chu = (during a transition period);*
- c) If the processing product is of organic farming origin: yuuki nousanbutsu kako shokuhin (processed product from organic farming origin).*

## 12. MODIFICATION OF CERTIFICATION CONDITIONS

### 12.1 Modification of JAS Regulations and/or Standards

All certified Organizations will be informed about changes (e.g. a new revision) through notices published in the JAS association's magazine "Bioagricultura" and displayed on the internet site, [www.icea.info](http://www.icea.info).

Organizations will also be given a deadline for meeting the new requirements. After the deadline, Organizations will have the right to renounce certification.

If Organizations decide to maintain certification, ICEA will check conformity to new requirements through verification of documents or, when needed, through inspection visits and/or type tests.

Any costs incurred for inspections or analyses shall be borne by the Organization.

### 12.2 Modification of JAS Regulations for Certification

In case of modifications to the provisions laid down in this Regulation, the revised Regulation will be sent to the Organization (or published in JAS association's magazine "Bioagricultura", and displayed on the internet web site, [www.icea.info](http://www.icea.info)) together with the acceptance form, which the Organization has to return, duly signed, dated and stamped.

In case of nonacceptance, the Organization shall send ICEA its renunciation of certification within 30 calendar days from receipt of communication or from publication in the magazine "Bioagricultura."

### **12.3 Modification of JAS List of Fees**

If the economic terms specified in the List of Fees are changed, the revised List of Fees will be sent to the Organization (or published in JAS Association's magazine "Bioagricultura" and displayed on the internet web site, [www.icea.info](http://www.icea.info)). The Organization shall return the revised List of Fees to ICEA duly signed for acceptance or, in case of nonacceptance, it shall send ICEA its renunciation of certification within 30 calendar days from receipt of communication or from publication in the magazine "Bioagricultura."

In all the above-mentioned cases of renunciation, the operator will anyway be obliged to pay the fees due to ICEA for its activity throughout the year.

## **13. SURVEILLANCE ACTIVITY**

**13.1** During the period of validity of certification, ICEA will perform surveillance activity with its own qualified personnel, through inspection visits and analyses according to a specific sampling plan approved by CoCerJAS.

The purpose of surveillance activities is to verify continuing compliance with all requirements laid down in JAS Standards and in this Regulation.

**13.2** ICEA will carry out product tests on samples taken either in the production phase and from storage premises, or from distribution and sales points, in accordance with the Sampling Plan (and whenever the Control Technician, during inspection, gathers evidence of irregularity).

Such tests will be carried out in accordance with the same criteria as established for type tests, and aim at supporting and validating the tests directly carried out by the Organization in its own control procedures.

**13.3** Surveillance visits may either be announced or not.

For announced visits, ICEA's technicians will communicate the date of the visit directly to the Organization.

The announced visits are scheduled at least one per year, in compliance with the surveillance plan approved by CoCerJAS.

For announced visits, the operator has the right to ask for a change of the date proposed by ICEA, giving reasons. ICEA reserves the right to accept the change only if it is not prejudicial to the significance of the inspection.

The surveillance visit schedule always includes:

- a) evaluation of changes in the Organization's production processes (if any);
- b) verification of remedial action for NCs detected during previous inspections and satisfaction of conditions;
- c) verification of continuing conformity to the requirements of JAS Standards and Regulations and its modifications, if any;
- d) observance of CoCerJAS's specific requirements and correct implementation (also within the deadlines of any derogation ruling incurred);
- e) examination of customers' complaints;
- f) verification of requirements laid down in this Regulation;
- g) verification of substantial changes in the production plan.

**13.4** The procedures for safekeeping and managing of Nonconformity Reports are the same as the ones described in paragraph 8.2.

**13.5** Unannounced visits are scheduled, within the surveillance plan, to cover a sample of units determined on the basis of criteria approved by CoCerJAS. They may also be decided at ICEA's discretion, with a view to verifying continuing conformity, as a follow-up to complaints, reports from the market, product test results and surveillance activity in other organizations.

During inspections, the operator shall offer maximum collaboration to staff appointed by ICEA. If the operator fails to communicate his absence on the occasions of announced inspections, he shall bear the cost of the visit.

**13.6** The Organization has the right to ask for a change of the date proposed by ICEA, stating reasons. ICEA reserves the right to accept such change only if the significance of the inspection is not compromised.

If the operator communicates that he will not be available on the scheduled date, but does not propose an alternative date, this may be considered as proof that the operator wishes to escape inspections.

## **14. MODIFICATION AND EXTENSION OF CERTIFICATION SCOPE**

**14.1** The certified Organization is entitled to request changes in the scope of certification.

These changes may be:

- change of business name and/or modifications in the Organization;
- modification or extension of production units;
- modification or extension of products and/or processes subject to certification.

**14.2** The procedure for requesting such modifications is the same as the one indicated for submission of application for certification. Of course, the request shall exclusively refer to the processes and/or products modified or extended.

The assessment may just be limited to the verification of documents, inspection and analysis, without a specific evaluation by CoCerJAS, only where such modifications have no significant influence on the Organization's activity or production process management.

**14.3** The issuance and/or revision of the Conformity Certificate, taking into account the modification and/or extension of the scope of certification, is subject to the complete fulfillment of the provisions laid down in Art. 8 of this Regulation.

## **15. CONFIDENTIALITY**

**15.1** ICEA undertakes to treat as confidential (except for particular legislative or judicial provisions) all the data and information gathered in the course of the relationship with the Organization.

ICEA's personnel involved in inspection and certification activities also undertake to treat as confidential the data acquired, in particular as regards product processing and formulation.

**15.2** The documentation acquired will be filed only at ICEA's offices, and access to files will only be allowed for authorized personnel who signed the appropriate Confidentiality Agreement.

**15.3** ICEA will not divulge the Organization's data and information (other than the ones contained in the Register of Licensed Operators) to third parties, without the Organization's written consent. If the Judicial Authority requests data and information, ICEA will supply the information requested and inform the Organization accordingly.

**15.4** The data which may be considered public and which can be disseminated without any written consent, are the ones contained in the REGISTER OF LICENSED OPERATORS M.RCJAS 07 and the significant information regarding test results and penalties (if any) imposed on the Organization (date, type, products concerned). Notice of such penalties may also be displayed in ICEA's website, [www.icea.info](http://www.icea.info).

## **16. VALIDITY OF CERTIFICATION CONTRACT**

**16.1** By signing this Regulation, a contractual relationship between ICEA and the Organization is constituted.

**16.2** The contract will be valid for three years starting from the date of its stipulation and has the tacit approval of its renewal upon expiry, unless either party gives notice of termination at least three months before expiry.

In any case, the renewal of the contract entails a new overall assessment of the Organization and the renewal of the Conformity Certificate (see point 8).

**16.3** In particular, the validity of the contract is bound to the fulfillment of the following obligations:

a) Observing the provisions of JAS and UE regulations concerning products from organic farming;

b) Before the issuance of the JAS certificate, participation in training sessions by all the Officers responsible, especially the Officer-in-Charge for production processing with organic method and the Officer-in-Charge for the conformity control of the product (grading), or company consultant; these training sessions are organized yearly by ICEA according to Jas Standards and Regulations.

If a different person (for example a company consultant) participates in JAS training sessions, it is his responsibility to update the Officer-in-Charge for the production processing with organic method and the Officer-in-Charge for the conformity control of the product (grading), and in this case the company has to give ICEA proof of JAS training given at the company premises.

JAS training can be given in the company premises by qualified ICEA personnel on an occasion separate from the inspection visit.

c) Accomplishing and constantly updating the forms envisaged by the application of the inspection system;

d) Allowing inspection personnel access to locations and documentation, as required by such inspection personnel;

e) Making available to inspection personnel all the products and raw materials (including, therefore, water, additives, flavorings, etc.) for analysis as may be required for the purpose of inspection and certification;

f) Fulfilling the requirements of the inspection system and paying any fees due to ICEA within the prescribed time limits;

g) Notifying of any substantial change in the operator's situation or in any activity connected with the inspection system and product conformity, within the prescribed time limits. In case the variations that occurred require a specific evaluation by the inspection and certification body, the operator shall wait for ICEA's conformity judgment before affixing the conformity label or logo to the concerned products;

h) Observing the provisions of the regulations concerning product labeling and the Regulation for Use of ICEA Marks, promptly reporting to ICEA any misuse, even by other operators;

i) Making comments about the certification only when referring to the purposes for which the certification was issued;

j) Not using the certification in such a way as to discredit the Certification Body and not making comments about product certification, which may be considered not correct or not authorized by the Certification Body;

k) In case of suspension or withdrawal of the certification, stopping the use of all documents bearing indications referring to the certification and/or in case of withdrawal of the certification, stopping the use of advertising material containing such indications, and returning any certification document upon the Certification Body's request;

l) Using the certification only to indicate that the products have been certified in compliance with relevant regulations;

m) Behaving as prescribed by the Certification Body when dealing with media regarding product certification (i.e. documents, brochures or advertising);

n) Accepting, without prejudice to the possibility of filing an appeal the penalties applied in accordance with the provisions laid down in this Regulation;

o) Keeping records of all complaints received regarding the products subject to inspection and certification;

- p) Controlling the distribution of ICEA's Conformity Certificates to customers, recording each distributed copy's registration number (to be indicated also in the document), date of delivery, and name of recipient;
- q) Communicating any withdrawal or suspension of the Conformity Certificate to all persons to whom such certificate had been distributed;
- r) When requesting certification, communicating any previous withdrawal from other certification programs, or certification bodies recognized by JAS, the certification status at the moment of withdrawal and any penalties applied by the previous certifying bodies.

## **17. RENUNCIATION OF CERTIFICATION**

The Organization may renounce certification in case it decides not to accept modifications to the conditions for certification which ICEA might possibly introduce (see point 12) and for any other reasons, by sending a written request within the prescribed time limit.

## **18. PENALTIES**

### **18.1 Precautionary suspension of the use of Product Certificate and Labels**

**18.1.1** The precautionary suspension of the use of Conformity Certificate and, consequently, of the license to use the mark and the conformity indications is applied:

- a) whenever the operator does not allow access for the execution of surveillance visits at the stages of the production cycle which are critical or most significant for regular and effective control;
- b) whenever infringements or serious irregularities have been found in the course of surveillance visits and product inspections, or when analysis results are such as to cast doubts on product compliance with JAS Standards and Regulations and the provisions laid down in this Regulation.

**18.1.2** Communication of the measure is given to the operator by registered letter (sent in advance via fax) signed by the ICEA President or his delegate, pending the necessary evaluation by CoCerJAS. The measure can be applied to specific parcels, production lots and batches, or to the entire production of the enterprise, depending on the infringements detected.

The evaluation by CoCerJAS will take place, in any case, within 30 days from the date of application of the measure. RCV or his delegate will inform the operator about test report results and any other causes, which determined the penalty, and about the deadlines for submission of any remarks, comments, documents and/or counter-analysis reports.

### **18.2 Suspension of certification validity**

**18.2.1** The resolution to suspend the validity of certification for a limited period of time is passed after ascertaining substantial infringements of the certification rules laid down in this Regulation.

The suspension of the Conformity Certificate is also applied whenever the Organization, during inspection and certification pursuant to Reg. (EEC) No. 834/07, has been inflicted the following penalties: Withdrawal of Product Certificate and Suspension of the Authorization for Label Printing and/or Suspension of Unit Conformity Attestation.

**18.2.2** ICEA will send written notification of the measures and its own decisions to the Organization, stating the deadline for completing the ACs that are needed to eliminate NCs, and that for filing any appeal against the decisions.

The suspension will be revoked only when the Organization has given concrete evidence, within the prescribed time limits, that the ACs have been successfully completed.

The suspension will last a maximum of 120 calendar days. Upon expiry of that period, if the suspended Organization has not implemented the ACs required, ICEA will proceed by notifying it of the Certification Withdrawal.

Where the detected NCs prejudice the conformity of specific products, the penalty will be applied to these products only. Consequently, the Conformity Certificate will be revised by updating the list of certified products and/or activities.

The Organization is required to return to ICEA the outdated Conformity Certificate.

**18.2.3** The Organization itself may ask ICEA to suspend the certification for a limited period of time (also for specific types of products) giving reasons, and ICEA will accept such request.

### **18.3 Withdrawal of certification**

For the withdrawal, the criteria for sanction will be according to Art. 46,1 Number 3 of the JAS rules.

### **18.4 Notification of penalties**

**18.4.1** The penalties will be decided by ICEA, after CoCerJAS's decision, and will be communicated to the Organization by registered letter (sent in advance via fax) signed by the ICEA President. The penalties will be immediately communicated to MAFF and for the information of other national Control Bodies provided with a JAS-recognized certification program.

**18.4.2** The Organization may file a written appeal against these measures, stating detailed reasons, within 30 calendar days from the date of receipt.

Moreover, CoCerJAS will supervise ICEA's activity, verifying technical documents (besides administrative procedures regarding payment requests and reminders for defaulting Operators), in order to guarantee that these measures are taken fully, observing the principles of independence and impartiality of the Inspection System.

## **19. CONSEQUENCES OF RENUNCIATION, NON-RENEWAL, SUSPENSION AND WITHDRAWAL OF CERTIFICATION**

**19.1** In case of renunciation, non-renewal, suspension and withdrawal of the certification, the Organization is obliged to:

- a) immediately stop using Conformity Certificates and immediately return them to ICEA;
- b) immediately stop using all documents/publications and letterheads bearing references to certification and JAS marks;
- c) immediately stop using the conformity label and the certification mark provided;
- d) inform all the customers who had been advised of the certification.

**19.2** In case the Organization uses the certification infringing the abovementioned obligations, ICEA reserves the right to publicize, as it considers most convenient and without prejudice to any further action, that the Organization is no longer entitled to use the certification. The costs incurred for publication will be borne by the defaulting operator, without prejudice to ICEA's possibility to request compensation for any further damage.

**19.3** When the Organization transfers to another certifying body with a view to obtaining a JAS conformity certification, ICEA will be obliged, upon request from the new certifying body, to communicate to the same the certification conditions and any penalties applied to the Organization prior to transfer.

## **20. INSPECTION AND TESTING ACTIVITY**

**20.1** For the purposes of inspection and testing, ICEA may avail itself of the services of contracted and/or qualified external structures, for whose professional competence it can vouch, fully complying with the Standards UNI CEI EN 45011 (March 1999), paragraph 4.4 concerning

Subcontracts, without prejudice to the same activity being carried out by its own national structures.

In any case, ICEA is the only one entitled to and legally responsible for the issue, maintenance, extension, suspension or withdrawal of certification.

For the control and certification activity in compliance with Reg. (EEC) 2091/92 and this Regulation, the Inspection Personnel and Inspection Bodies are deemed to be qualified and the test laboratories deemed as meeting the criteria for quality and methods.

The JAS technical control needs to have at least one specific training course organized by ICEA about JAS certification.

**20.2** The Organization may, in advance, express grounded objections to any particular Control Technician, inspection body or test laboratory, which ICEA decides to utilize. For this purpose, ICEA undertakes to communicate in advance the names of the appointed professionals or bodies to the Organization.

The Organization shall communicate such objections and reasons, in writing, to RCV. As concerns analyses, the Organization may write down its request in the Sampling Report.

RCV shall evaluate whether to accept the request or not. The request may be accepted in those cases where there is formal evidence of conflicts/disputes/controversies/disagreements, either under way or past, between the operator and the professional or body appointed by ICEA.

The operator's request and RCV's consequent decision shall be communicated to CoCerJAS for information.

## **21. MANAGEMENT OF MUTUAL RECOGNITION**

When the certified operator uses ingredients which have not already been certified by ICEA in compliance with JAS Standards and Regulations, ICEA shall necessarily recognize their equivalence.

The criteria envisages the following methods for evaluating equivalence:

- a) transference of certification;
- b) recertification.

### **21.1 Transference of Certification**

**21.1.1** ICEA recognizes as valid the certification of Bodies which have obtained JAS accreditation by Japanese MAFF (the list of reference is that published on the web site, [www.maff.go.jp](http://www.maff.go.jp)). The products obtained from raw materials or ingredients certified according to JAS Standards and Regulations from Control and Certification Bodies recognized by MAFF, can obtain the ICEA certification of JAS conformity.

### **21.2 Recertification**

**21.1.1** As regards requests to recognize certifications issued by organizations which are not included in the official list of bodies and relevant programs accredited by MAFF, ICEA requires the valid conformity certification according to Reg. (EEC) 834/07 issued by the Control Body, and the control by skilled personnel directly appointed by ICEA, of the operators' conformity to JAS Standards and Regulations.

**21.2.2** Following the positive result of CNC's assessment of Standards and certification activities carried out by RCV (or its delegate) under the supervision of CoCerJAS, ICEA recognizes as valid all the certification documents issued by the assessed body for the next 12 months, for a specific operator or group of controlled operators.

**21.2.3.** The assessment can be started after an application is submitted by the organization requesting certification (licensee operator).

**21.2.4** ICEA reserves the possibility to invoice the costs of assessment to the operator which requested it, irrespective of the outcome of the assessment.

## **22. COMPLAINTS**

**23.1.** If the Organization deems that the quality of service supplied does not correspond to what is stated in this Regulation, it may file a complaint with ICEA.

Complaints may be forwarded by post, fax, or e-mail, to the attention of the ICEA Quality Assurance Manager (RAQ) who will evaluate whether the complaint is justified, and will give a reply within 30 calendar days.

## **23. APPEALS**

**23.1** If the Organization deems that the resolutions passed by CoCerJAS or by ICEA in any case, are unjustified and/or discriminating, it may file an appeal with the ICEA President.

**23.2** The appeal shall be filed in writing, stating reasons, within 30 calendar days from the date of notification of ICEA's decision.

Within 30 calendar days, ICEA will convene CNC, which will examine the appeal within 60 calendar days from the date of filing.

On the occasion of such meeting, the Organization's representatives may request a hearing.

**23.3** The decision made at this point will be final and binding on the parties.

**23.4** All expenses incurred for the appeal will be charged to the losing party.

If the Operator's appeal is to include analysis results, these must be presented as Test Reports by Laboratories accredited within the European certification system, in accordance with European regulations concerning laboratory accreditation.

## **24. ARBITRAL AWARD**

**24.1** All disputes arising from the application of the ICEA Certification System, which were impossible to settle at the level of the complaints management, shall be submitted to an Arbitration Team composed of three experts in judicial and technical matters, chosen from the list of the Council of Arbitration of the territorially competent Chamber of Commerce. Two arbitrators shall be appointed by each of the two parties and the third shall be jointly appointed by the two arbitrators chosen, or by the President of the territorially competent Court, who shall also appoint the arbitrator of the party that, though invited, has failed to appoint its own arbitrator within the required time limit.

**24.2** The arbitrators shall examine the case with equity, proceed with no formality except for the obligation to keep written records of the measures, and communicate their final award to the parties, stating the reasons, within 90 days from the date of acceptance of the third arbitrator. For what is not foreseen, the arbitration shall comply with the rules of the territorially competent Chamber of Arbitration, which the parties declare that they know and accept.

## **25. INSPECTION CONTROLS AND PERIODICAL REEXAMINATIONS**

With the aim of verifying and controlling the correct compliance of applications and effectiveness of this control and certification system, ICEA, through the Officer-in-Charge of Quality Assurance, provides for the implementation of periodical Internal Control Inspections (VII) at the national and regional offices. The results of the VII will be subject to reexamination by the Directors according to procedures applied for all other certification schemes.

## **26. FEES FOR JAS INSPECTION AND CERTIFICATION**

Fees for control and certification are decided by the ICEA board committee after a proposal by RCV and RSA and shall concern only the direct and indirect costs regarding the activities for the specific certification process.

Fees are indicated in a specific document FEES FOR JAS INSPECTION AND CERTIFICATION M.RCJAS 03 and are distinguished in relation to the type of activity requested by the operator (farm, farm and processor, packaging, distribution under trademark, **livestock**) and are valid until a variation will be communicated as written in the item 12.3. The operator must underwrite the fees requested in connection with the certification and eventual revisions.

## 27. INSPECTION SYSTEM CHART

