

**Rural Development Contracts - Support for conversion to organic farming
ORGANIC VIABILITY PROPOSAL**

The purpose of this form is to allow you to provide an overall picture of what your proposed organic unit will look like, once it has been converted, and to demonstrate that it will be technically viable in terms of rotation and stock number and health. **This is an overview, not a detailed Conversion Plan, which you will still have to complete and submit to your Certification Body before it formally accepts you into conversion.**

You must submit this Proposal form to your chosen Certification Body for assessment. Once they have approved it they will sign the form. The signed form must then be submitted along with your RDC application.

1. FARM DETAILS

Agricultural Holding No.:		Business reference number:	
Operator Name:			
Address:			Post code

2. ORGANIC STANDARDS

	*Yes	No
Do you possess a copy of the organic standards of an approved organic certification body?		

*Tick 'Yes' or 'No'

3. PROPOSED CONVERSION TIMETABLE

3.1 Overview: timetable for conversion of land and livestock

1) Will the proposed organic unit be converted all-at-once or in a phased conversion?	All-at-once	
	Phased	
2) What is the proposed start date for the (first phase of) conversion?		
3) What is the proposed date for the (first phase of) land to reach full organic status?		
4) When do you plan to harvest your first full organic status crop?		
5) Do you plan to undertake simultaneous conversion of land and livestock?		

4. LAND AREA TO BE CONVERTED

4.1 Areas

Total area of proposed organic unit		Hectares
If phased conversion is proposed, area to be converted in:		
a) Phase 1 Hectares	b) Phase 2 Hectares	c) Phase 3 Hectares
Total area already organic or in conversion		Hectares
Total area of land which will not be converted to organic		Hectares
All other land (e.g. woodland)		Hectares
Roads, Yards and Buildings		Hectares
Total Area Of Holding		Hectares

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7. ANIMAL HEALTH PLAN

	Yes*	No
Do you currently operate to a written Animal Health Plan (AHP)?		
<p>If not, you should be aware that you will be required to prepare a written organic Animal Health Plan, as part of the Conversion Plan which you submit to your Certification Body, showing in detail how you propose to promote and maintain animal health on your farm. It is desirable to seek veterinary advice in the preparation of your AHP, although this is not compulsory.</p>		

*Tick 'Yes' or 'No'

8. PROPOSED MARKETING STRATEGY

Please give below an indication of your proposed **main** market outlet by volume.

	Tick one box
Sale of primary product (e.g. grain, cattle) to wholesale/processing sector	
Sale of primary product direct to consumers (e.g. through farmers market, etc)	
On-farm processing (e.g. on-farm butchery) and sale of product direct to consumers	
Other main outlet	

Outline in the box below your proposed marketing strategy, including a list of any potential market outlets you have contacted or advisers you have consulted.

Applicant signature: _____ Date: _____

Print name: _____

For Certification Body use only

Approved by: _____

Signed: _____

Certification Body: _____ Date: _____