

Excerpt from the Bio Suisse Standards

Pest control in storage and processing

Based on part III, section 1.12

Basic principles

- Preventive measures take absolute precedence over any kind of treatment.
- The aim is to refrain from the use of synthetic pesticides.
- Pest control measures must be documented.
- Operations with a higher than normal risk of pest infestation must have a particularly detailed system of pest control.

Operations considered to be at high risk include:

- operations on which large-scale pest control treatments are carried out (fogging and/or fumigation);
- operations which are certified for the storage and/or processing of grain products or dried products (dried fruit, nuts, spices, herbs, tea, cocoa, coffee, oilseeds; e.g., warehouses and mills).

Pest control system requirements for high-risk operations

High-risk operations must have a detailed pest control system (i.e., an integrated system). This requirement can be met in a number of ways:

1. The operation is BRC or IFS certified; or
2. an integrated pest control system has been installed at the operation by a professional pest control company; or
3. the operation has its own pest control system (incl. prevention [cleaning], monitoring, defined procedures in case of incidence, and clearly allocated responsibilities).

Large-scale measures (fogging and fumigation) for rooms and equipment

The following requirements apply to all rooms:

- Only substances permitted by Bio Suisse may be used (see point 3 of this information note).
- All products that are certified according to Bio Suisse standards must be removed from the rooms and equipment that are to be treated. In the case of fogging, the only exceptions are raw or semifinished products in gastight packaging (e.g., gastight metal drums).
- Strict attention must be paid to ensure that the fogging or fumigation agents do not come in contact with and contaminate products that are certified according to Bio Suisse standards. Rooms and equipment to be treated must be properly sealed.
- After fogging or fumigation treatments, rooms and equipment must be thoroughly ventilated prior to processing products or being refilled with products. Waiting period: 24 hours.

The operation must ensure that organic raw materials and products do not become contaminated when they are returned to the rooms (no residues on products):

- The rooms and equipment must be sufficiently cleaned.
- The first production batch (except from bins) following treatment may not be traded as BIOSUISSE ORGANIC.

Appendix: Permitted substances and measures for pest control in storage and processing

The following list was approved by the LCPT and is continuously updated to reflect current circumstances. It does not apply to farming operations.

1. Treating products that are certified according to Bio Suisse standards

1.1 The following are permitted:

- physical/mechanical measures such as re-storage, cleaning, airing, sieving, removal (including by suction) from contaminated areas, bouncing, using pin mills, and electronic traps
- thermal processes such as deep-freezing products, heat treatments of rooms and equipment, etc.
- fumigation with inert gases such as CO₂ and N₂, including disinfestation treatments
- a low-oxygen atmosphere
- diatomaceous earth (silicon dioxide)
- using beneficial organisms

2. Localized applications in rooms

2.1 Localized pest control using traps and bait

The following are permitted:

- to control rodents: traps and stationary bait with rodenticides;
- to control insects: insect traps and stationary bait stations (e.g., bait gel and roach gels);
- to control moths: pheromone-based mating disruptors, as long as this does not interfere with monitoring or the use of beneficial organisms.

2.2 Localized applications of spray products / treatment of nooks

Permitted substances in descending order of priority:

- natural pyrethrum without added piperonyl butoxide (sesame oil or another plant oil may be used as a synergist)
- natural pyrethrum with added piperonyl butoxide (as a synergist)
- synthetic pyrethroids such as deltamethrin, permethrin, cypermethrin, etc. and chlorpyrifos in the form of microcapsules. Only concentrated formulas that are added to water and sprayed using pump containers are permitted. Aerosol/spray cans are not permitted.

3. Large-scale applications (fogging and fumigation)

3.1 Fogging

The following agents are permitted for fogging empty spaces (in descending order of priority):

Active ingredient	Waiting period
Natural pyrethrum without added piperonyl butoxide as a synergist; Sesame oil or another plant oil may be used as a synergist.	At least 24 hours with proper ventilation
Natural pyrethrum with added piperonyl butoxide (as a synergist)	At least 24 hours with proper ventilation

3.2 Fumigation

The following products are permitted for fumigating empty spaces:

Active ingredient	Waiting period
Phosphine	At least 24 hours with proper ventilation
Sulfuryl fluoride	At least 24 hours with proper ventilation