

# **INFOSHEET** for registered farmers



# SUSTAINABILITY OF BIOFUELS, BIOLIQUIDS and BIOMASS FUELS

Version 03 - 15.11.2023



Certified quality management system according to ÖNORM EN ISO 9001 REG. Nr. 01537/0 Certified information security management system according to ÖNORM ISO/IEC 27001 REG Nr. 35/0 Certified environmental management system according to EMAS REG Nr. AT-000680 and ÖNORM EN ISO 14001 REG Nr. 02982/0

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# 1 GENERAL

The Austrian Agricultural Certification Scheme (AACS) is responsible for the monitoring of agricultural raw materials (cereals, oil plants and vegetable oils) which are grown and harvested on Austrian soil and which are envisaged for the production of sustainable biofuels and sustainable liquid and gaseous fuels in accordance with the Directive (EU) 2018/2001. Furthermore, the scheme includes the acquisition of raw materials from other Member States or third countries – which have been certified by other voluntary schemes, which are recognised by the European Commission – in the mass balance system.

The principles - set out in the Directive (EU) 2018/2001 - include, inter alia, the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions in Europe, the increased use of biomass for sustainable energy production, in particular in the fuel and energy sector. The aim is to raise the share of EU energy consumption produced from renewable resources to 32%, and to reach at least a 14 % share of renewable resources in the transport sector in all Member States by 2030. Sustainable energy production refers to the use of raw materials which are sustainable, which are not grown on land protected for conservation purposes or with high biological diversity, which do not harm people and nature, and which contribute significantly to the reduction of greenhouse gases.

More detailed information on specific requirements can be found in the following pages and on <a href="www.ama.at">www.ama.at</a> / the AMA Information portal / the AMA website for expert information,

or by sending an email to <a href="mailto:nachhaltigkeit@ama.gv.at">nachhaltigkeit@ama.gv.at</a> or by calling: +43 50 3151 - 100

#### 2 LEGAL BASIS

- ⇒ Directive (EU) 2018/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December
   2018 on the promotion of the use of energy from renewable sources
- □ Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2022/996 of 14 June 2022 on rules for verification in relation to sustainability criteria and greenhouse gas savings criteria and low risk of indirect land use change criteria.
- □ Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2022/1656 of 26 September 2022 on the recognition of the Austrian agricultural certification scheme (AACS) for demonstrating compliance with the requirements laid down in Directive (EU) 2018/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council for biofuels, bioliquids, biomass fuels, liquid or gaseous renewable fuels of non-biogenic origin and recycled carbon fuels

- ⇒ Communication from the Commission of 19 June 2010, OJ No C 160 02 on the practical implementation of the EU biofuels and bioliquids sustainability scheme and on counting rules for biofuels
- ⇒ Commission decision of 10 June 2010, 2010/335/EU, OJ No L 151 on guidelines for the calculation of land carbon stocks for the purpose of Annex V to Directive 2009/28/EC
- □ Commission decision of 12 January 2011, 2011/13/EU, OJ No L 9 on certain types of information about biofuels and bioliquids to be submitted by economic operators to Member States
- ⇒ BGBI. II No. 124/2018: 124th Ordinance of the Federal Minister for Sustainability and Tourism on Sustainable Agricultural Feedstocks for Biofuels and Liquid Biofuels (as amended)
- ⇒ **BGBI. II No. 403/2022:** 403rd Ordinance of the Federal Minister for Agriculture, Forestry, Regions and Water Management with Rules for the Application of the CAP Strategic Plan (CAP- Strategic Plan Application Regulation GSP-AV) as amended
- → Order (EC) No 1059/2003 on the establishment of a common classification of territorial units for tatistics (NUTS)
- ➡ Commission Regulation (EU) No 1307/2014 of 8 December 2014 on defining the criteria and geographic ranges of highly biodiverse grassland for the purposes of Article 7b (3) (c) of Directive 98/70/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council relating to the quality of petrol and diesel fuels and Article 17(3) (c) of Directive 2009/28/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council on the promotion of the use of energy from renewable sources
- ⇒ Forestry Act 1975, BGBI No 440/1975, as amended
- ⇒ Convention on wetland of international importance, especially as waterfowl habitat BGBI No 225/1983, as amended
- ⇒ Environmental Management Law UMG BGBI I No 96/2001, as amended
- Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17

  December 2013 establishing a common organisation of the markets in agricultural products and repealing Council Regulations (EEC) No 922/72, (EEC) No 234/79, (EC) No 1037/2001 and (EC) No 1234/2007
- ⇒ Directive 2009/147/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 November 2009 on the conservation of wild birds
- ⇒ Council Directive 92/43/EEC of the Council of 21 May 1992 on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora
- ⇒ Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21
  October 2009 concerning the placing of plant protection products on the market and repealing
  Council Directives 79/117/EEC and 91/414/EEC

All regulations as amended.

The market regulation agency Agrarmarkt Austria (AMA) is responsible for the implementation of this measure.

# 3 DEFINITIONS

**'actual value'** means the greenhouse gas emission saving for some or all of the steps of a specific biofuel, bioliquid or biomass fuel production process, calculated in accordance with the methodology laid down in Part C Annex V or Part B of Annex VI of the Directive (EU) 2018/2001;

'advanced biofuels' means biofuels that are produced from the feedstock listed in Part A of Annex IX of the Directive (EU) 2018/2001;

'agricultural, aquaculture, fisheries and forestry residues' means residues that are directly generated by agriculture, aquaculture, fisheries and forestry and that do not include residues from related industries or processing;

'areas designated': by law or by the relevant competent authority for nature protection purposes; or for the protection of rare, threatened or endangered ecosystems or species recognised by international agreements or included in lists drawn up by intergovernmental organisations or the International Union for the Conservation of Nature, subject to their recognition in accordance with the first subparagraph of Article 30(4);

'average value' is a nationally defined value for the greenhouse gas emissions of a raw material cultivated in Austria, which is published in the AMA communiqué;

'biofuels' are liquid or gaseous fuels for transport which are produced from biomass;

'biogas' means gaseous fuels produced from biomass;

**'bioliquids'** refers to liquid fuels for energy purposes other than for transport, including electricity and heating and cooling, produced from biomass;

**'biomass'** refers to the biodegradable fraction of products, waste and residues with biological origins from agriculture;

'biomass fuels' means gaseous and solid fuels produced from biomass;

**'Conversion factor'** is the factor which is required to convert the quantity of raw materials in kg into the unit of the energy of the fuel produced in megajoules (MJ). The conversion factor states the amount of raw material in kg which is required for 1 MJ of fuel. <sup>1</sup>

'default value' means a value derived from a typical value by the application of predetermined factors and that may, in circumstances specified in the Directive (EU) 2018/2001, be used in place of an actual value;

'degraded' (Commission Regulation (EU) No 1307/2014), that is to say: it is characterised by long-term loss of biodiversity due to for instance overgrazing, mechanical damage to the vegetation, soil erosion or loss of soil quality.

'First purchasers' are companies which purchase sustainably produced agricultural raw materials directly from agricultural holdings. It is compulsory as a first purchaser of sustainable agricultural raw materials to submit a 'registration as an economic operator in accordance with the sustainable production of biofuels, bioliquids and biomass fuels' form to the AMA.

'Grassland' means terrestrial ecosystems dominated by herbaceous or shrub vegetation for at least 5 years continuously. It includes meadows or pasture that is cropped for hay but excludes land cultivated for other crop production and cropland lying temporarily fallow. It further excludes continuously forested areas as defined in the Directive (EU) 2018/2001 unless these are agroforestry systems which include land-use systems where trees are managed together with crops or animal production systems in agricultural settings. The dominance of herbaceous or shrub vegetation means that their combined ground cover is larger than the canopy cover of tree

'ligno-cellulosic material' means material composed of lignin, cellulose and hemicellulose, such as biomass sourced from forests, woody energy crops and forestbased industries' residues and wastes;

'natural highly biodiverse grassland' means grassland that: would remain grassland in the absence of human intervention; and maintains the natural species composition and ecological characteristics and processes;

grassland".

these definitions apply to both "highly biodiverse forest and other wooded land" and "highly biodiverse

'Non-food cellulosic material' means feedstock mainly composed of cellulose and hemicellulose, and having a lower lignin content than ligno-cellulosic material, including food and feed crop residues, such as straw, stover, husks and shells; grassy energy crops with a low starch content, such as ryegrass, switchgrass, miscanthus, giant cane; cover crops before and after main crops; ley crops; industrial residues, including from food and feed crops after vegetal oils, sugars, starches and protein have been extracted; and material from biowaste. Where ley and cover crops are understood to be temporary, short-term sown pastures comprising grass-legume mixture with a low starch content to obtain fodder for livestock and improve soil fertility for obtaining higher yields of arable main crops;

'non-natural highly biodiverse grassland', means grassland that would cease to be grassland in the absence of human intervention and that is species-rich and not degraded and has been identified as being highly biodiverse by the relevant competent authority, unless evidence is provided that the harvesting of the raw material is necessary to preserve its status as highly biodiverse grassland;

'NUTS II cultivation values' may be derived from the use of averages calculated for smaller geographical areas than those used in the calculation of the default values, as an alternative to using actual values – in Austria at a state level.

'primary forest and other wooded land', namely forest and other wooded land of native species, where there is no clearly visible indication of human activity and the ecological processes are not significantly disturbed

**'reduction of greenhouse gases'** is the saving of greenhouse gas emissions by using biofuels or bioliquids or biomass fuels compared to fossil fuels;

'Registered farmers' are the producers of agricultural raw materials in accordance with Directive (EU) 2018/2001, who have submitted "confirmation of the registered farmer";

'residue' means a substance that is not the end product(s) that a production process directly seeks to produce; it is not a primary aim of the production process and the process has not been deliberately modified to produce it;

"species-rich" (Commission Regulation (EU) No 1307/2014), that is to say it is: (i) a habitat of significant importance to critically endangered, endangered or vulnerable species as classified by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature Red List of Threatened Species or other lists with a similar purpose for species or habitats laid down in national legislation or recognised by a competent national authority in the country of origin of the raw material; or (ii) a habitat of significant importance to endemic or restricted-range species; or (iii) a habitat of significant importance to intra-species genetic diversity; or (iv) a habitat of significant importance to globally significant concentrations of migratory species or congregatory species; or (v) a regionally or nationally significant or highly threatened or unique ecosystem. (1)

'typical value' means an estimate of the greenhouse gas emission and greenhouse gas emissions savings for a particular biofuel, bioliquid or biomass fuel production pathway, which is representative of the Union consumption;

'waste' means waste as defined in point (1) of Article 3 of Directive 2008/98/EC, excluding substances that have been intentionally modified or contaminated in order to meet this definition:

# 4 REQUIREMENTS FOR REGISTERED FARMERS

Registered are agricultural holdings that have applied for a collective application (formerly MFA!) according to CAP Strategic Plan Application Ordinance - GSP-AV BGBI. II Nr. 403/2022 as amended: 403. Austrian Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Regions and Water Management with Rules for the Application of the CAP Strategic Plan (CAP Strategic Plan Application Ordinance - GSP-AV).

Agricultural holdings which have not submitted a summary application (former MFA!) have the opportunity to obtain registration by submitting an application. The AMA charges the applicant an appropriate fee for this registration.

A registered farmer of sustainable raw materials must fulfil these criteria (Art. 29 of Directive (EU) 2018/2011):

- Biofuels, bioliquids and biomass fuels produced from waste and residues derived not from forestry but from agricultural land shall be taken into account only where operators or national authorities have monitoring or management plans in place in order to address the impacts on soil quality and soil carbon. Information about how those impacts are monitored and managed shall be reported pursuant to Article 30(3) of the Directive.
- Biofuels, bioliquids and biomass fuels produced from agricultural biomass taken into account for the purposes referred to in points (a), (b) and (c) of the first subparagraph of paragraph 1 shall not be made from raw material obtained from land with a high biodiversity value, namely land that had one of the following statuses in or after January 2008, whether or not the land continues to have that status:
  - (a) primary forest and other wooded land, namely forest and other wooded land of native species, where there is no clearly visible indication of human activity and the ecological processes are not significantly disturbed;
  - (b) highly biodiverse forest and other wooded land which is species-rich and not degraded, or has been identified as being highly biodiverse by the relevant competent authority, unless evidence is provided that the production of that raw material did not interfere with those nature protection purposes;

#### (c) areas designated:

- (i) by law or by the relevant competent authority for nature protection purposes; or
- (ii) for the protection of rare, threatened or endangered ecosystems or species recognised by international agreements or included in lists drawn up by intergovernmental organisations or the International Union for the Conservation of Nature, subject to their recognition in accordance with the first subparagraph of Article 30(4),

unless evidence is provided that the production of that raw material did not interfere with those nature protection purposes;

#### **Examples of designated areas in Austria:**

National parks, Natura 2000 sites, nature reserves, landscape protection areas, nature conservation areas, nature parks, protected landscape areas, Ramsar sites, UNESCO biosphere reserves, biogenetic reserves of the Council of Europe

#### National nature reserves in Austria:

Danube-Auen National Park, Lake Neusiedl, Hohe Tauern, Nationalpark Kalkalpen, Gesäuse National Park, National Park Thayatal; the wetlands of Lake Neusiedl including the so-called 'Lacken' in the Seewinkel, Danube-March-Auen, Lower Lobau, Unterer Inn reservoirs, Rhine delta in Lake Constance;

- (d) highly biodiverse grassland spanning more than one hectare that is:
  - (i) natural, namely grassland that would remain grassland in the absence of human intervention and that maintains the natural species composition and ecological characteristics and processes; or
  - (ii) non-natural, namely grassland that would cease to be grassland in the absence of human intervention and that is species-rich and not degraded and has been identified as being highly biodiverse by the relevant competent authority, unless evidence is provided that the harvesting of the raw material is necessary to preserve its status as highly biodiverse grassland.

- Biofuels, bioliquids and biomass fuels produced from agricultural biomass taken into account for the purposes referred to in points (a), (b) and (c) of the first subparagraph of paragraph 1 shall not be made from raw material obtained from land with high-carbon stock, namely land that had one of the following statuses in January 2008 and no longer has that status:
  - (a) wetlands, namely land that is covered with or saturated by water permanently or for a significant part of the year; Retaining the wetland status means that this state may not be actively changed or adversely affected. Evidence of verification should reflect seasonal changes within a year.
  - (b) continuously forested areas, namely land spanning more than one hectare with trees higher than five metres and a canopy cover of more than 30 %, or trees able to reach those thresholds in situ; continuously forested areas do not include land that is predominantly under agricultural or urban land use. In this context, agricultural land use refers to tree stands in agricultural production systems, such as fruit tree plantations, oil palm plantations and agroforestry systems when crops are grown under tree cover.
  - (c) land spanning more than one hectare with trees higher than five metres and a canopy cover of between 10 % and 30 %, or trees able to reach those thresholds in situ, unless evidence is provided that the carbon stock of the area before and after conversion is such that, when the methodology laid down in Part C of Annex V and/or Part B of Annex VI is applied, the conditions laid down in paragraph 10 of this Article would be fulfilled.

These provisions shall not apply if, at the time the raw material was obtained, the land had the same status as it had in January 2008.

 Biofuels, bioliquids and biomass fuels produced from agricultural biomass shall not be made from raw material obtained from land that was peatland in January 2008.

An exception is possible if evidence is provided that the cultivation and harvesting of that raw material does not involve drainage of previously undrained soil. This means that for peatland that was partially drained in January 2008, a subsequent deeper drainage, affecting soil that was not fully drained, would constitute a breach of the criterion.

# Directive (EU) 2018/2001 EC Article 29

#### Which areas can be used for growing sustainable biomass?

- ▶ On areas which were used for agricultural purposes prior to 01.01.2008.
- On areas which have not the status highly biodiverse grassland in the meaning of the Regulation (EU) No 1307/2014 unless evidence may be provided that the harvesting of the raw material is necessary to preserve the corresponding grassland status.
- The areas must be in compliance with all notable provisions of the Austrian federal states nature conservation regimes and EU law (e.g. "Natura 2000" areas)

Which areas cannot be used for growing sustainable biomass?							
Status of land	Characteristics	Exceptions, if following applies	Occurrence in Austria	Regulated by			
	Primary forests  - natural areas  - areas with native species  - no clearly visible indication of human activity  - ecological processes are not significantly disturbed	no exceptions	<ul><li>Rothwald (Lower Austria)</li><li>Lammertaler Urwald (Salzburg)</li></ul>	- Forestry Act 1975			
Areas with high biological diversity	Designated areas  by law or by the authorities for nature protection purposes  for the protection of rare, threatened or endangered ecosystems or species	Growing or harvesting sustainable biomass must not be contrary to the stated nature protection purposes	<ul> <li>Natura 2000 sites</li> <li>Nature conservation sites</li> <li>National parks</li> <li>Areas of protected landscape</li> </ul>	<ul><li>State</li><li>Countryside</li><li>Protection</li><li>Acts</li></ul>			
Areas with	Natural grassland  - maintenance without human intervention  - natural species composition  - ecological characteristics are intact	no exceptions	all over Austria	<ul><li>Regulation 1307/2014;</li><li>DIR 92/43/EEC;</li><li>DIR 2009/147/EC</li></ul>			
	Non-natural grassland  - regional biodiversity	harvesting biomass serves to preserve grassland status		<ul><li>Regulation 1307/2014;</li><li>DIR 92/43/EEC;</li><li>DIR 2009/147/EC</li></ul>			
bon stocks	<ul> <li>Wetlands</li> <li>Areas which are covered with or saturated by water permanently or for a significant part of the year</li> </ul>	no exceptions	all over Austria	<ul><li>State</li><li>Countryside</li><li>Protection</li><li>Acts</li></ul>			
Areas with high carbon stocks	Continuously forested areas  - Areas which cover more than 1 ha with trees over 5 m and a canopy cover • of more than 30% • or 10%–30%	Cultivation must not alter the status of the land	all over Austria	- Forestry Act 1975			
Peatlan ds	Significant carbon reservoirs with high nature value	Cultivation or harvesting must not affect drainage	all over Austria	<ul><li>State</li><li>Countryside</li><li>Protection</li><li>Acts</li></ul>			

# 5 CONFIRMATION OF THE REGISTERED FARMER

In order to sell agricultural raw materials with origin Austria as sustainable, a 'Confirmation of the registered farmer' form must be given in Original to the first purchaser. This Confirmation has to be hand over with the beginning of the deliveries.

With this form the agricultural holding verifys that he fulfils the above-mentioned requirements of a registered farmer. The "Confirmation of the registered farmer" must be given for every harvest year.

The form is available on the AMA website.

Note: If foreign land is farmed, the raw materials harvested on such land must adhere to a corresponding other voluntary scheme of sustainability used by the Member State or any third country concerned.

In any case, when dealing with cross-border farmland or land which is located in another Member State or a third country, the benefits from those areas not located on Austrian state territory may NOT be confirmed using a confirmation of the farmer form which was issued in Austria.

Note: If the agricultural raw materials originate from land on which land-use changes have taken place since 01.01.2008, the corresponding areas have to be excepted.

# 6 CALCULATION OF GREENHOUSE GASES REDUCTION

The following options for indicating greenhouse gas emissions are available to every registered farmer:

- 1. Using disaggregated default values
- 2. Using NUTS2 values
- 3. Using actual calculated values

#### Regarding 1: The use of disaggregated default values:

Disaggregated default values are available for cultivation, processing and transport and distribution. The disaggregated default values for cultivation are set down in Annex V, part D or E and Annex VI part C of Directive (EU) 2018/2001. Disaggregated default values can only be applied where the el value for those biofuels or bioliquids calculated in accordance with point 7 of Part C of Annex V and for those biomass fuels calculated in accordance with point 7 of Part B of Annex VI is equal to or less than zero, by using that default value.

#### Regarding 2: The use of NUTS II values where available and appropriate:

As an alternative to disaggregated default cultivation values, it is possible to use the respective NUTS II values if the respective types of biomass correspond with official data submitted in the reports form Member States in accordance with their fulfilment of provisions in Article 31 paragraph 2 of Directive (EU) 2018/2001. NUTS2 values (or equivalent in third countries) can only be applied if these have been published in the unit g CO2eq/dry-ton of feedstock on the Commission website (Biofuels (europa.eu).

In case of using the NUTS II values take the federal state as origin country (NUTS II-region) (EC) No 1059/2003).

For processed goods (e.g. vegetable oil, molasses) enter the cultivation country of the respective primary product.

#### Regarding 3: The use of actual calculated values:

It is assumed in Austria that, the disaggregated default values or average values from cultivation are used.

If farmers in Austria wishes to use another approach to prove that the emissions resulting from their methods of production are lower than the corresponding default values/average values, they must do so using an actual calculation of greenhouse gas emissions. Greenhouse gas emissions must be calculated according to the methodology laid down in part C of Annex V for biofuels and bioliquids and in part B of Annex VI for biomass fuels) of the Directive (EU) 2018/2001. Auditing of actual values is not in the scope of AACS. Where actual GHG emissions calculations are used, the provisions of (draft) Commission Implementing Regulation on rules to verify sustainability and greenhouse gas emissions saving criteria and low indirect land-use change–risk criteria (in particular Art. 11 and 14) have to be observed by the economic operators.

If the agricultural raw materials originate from land on which a land-use change has taken place since 01.01.2008 or the factor for emissions savings from soil carbon accumulation via improved agricultural management referred to in Annex V and VI of Directive (EU) 2018/2001 was used, actual calculated values must be applied. The registered farmer must bear the costs for determining and auditing such individually calculated actual values.

#### 7 PENALTIES

If the requirements under point 4 on the production of raw materials are not met by the respective agricultural holding, the AMA can classifiy the quantities delivered as unsustainably produced and thus deny. This can happen on Basis of the available inspection results or the information from the summary application.

In such case, the registered farmer and the buyer will be informed written by the AMA. In future, deliveries from such land cannot be classified as sustainable. Such land has to be excepted in the "confirmation of the registered farmer".

# 8 DIFFERENT CALCULATIONS AND REGULATIONS

Annualised emissions from carbon stock changes caused by land-use change, el, shall be calculated by dividing total emissions equally over 20 years. For the calculation of those emissions, the following rule shall be applied:

$$el = (CSR - CSA) \times 3,664 \times 1/20 \times 1/P - eB, (2)$$

#### where

eļ	=	annualised greenhouse gas emissions from carbon stock change due to land-use change (measured as mass (grams) of CO <sub>2</sub> -equivalent per unit of biofuel or bioliquid energy (megajoules)). 'Cropland' ( <sup>3</sup> ) and 'perennial cropland' ( <sup>4</sup> ) shall be regarded as one land use;
CSR	=	the carbon stock per unit area associated with the reference land-use (measured as mass (tonnes) of car- bon per unit area, including both soil and vegetation). The reference land-use shall be the land-use in January 2008 or 20 years before the raw material was obtained, whichever was the later;
CSA	=	the carbon stock per unit area associated with the actual land-use (measured as mass (tonnes) of carbon per unit area, including both soil and vegetation). In cases where the carbon stock accumulates over more than one year, the value attributed to CS <sub>A</sub> shall be the estimated stock per unit area after 20 years or when the crop reaches maturity, whichever the earlier;
P	=	the productivity of the crop (measured as biofuel or bioliquid energy per unit area per year) and
eB	=	bonus of 29 g CO <sub>2</sub> eq/MJ biofuel or bioliquid if biomass is obtained from restored degraded land under the conditions laid down in point 8.

The calculation of greenhouse gas emissions related to 'cultivation' comprises the following data:

- Seeds Production costs for the provision of seeds
- Fertiliser and plant protection products (calcium, potassium, phosphorus, nitrogen, biocide, etc.) this also includes all steps necessary, including the necessary energy demand and supply routes.
- ▶ Machinery used in the field including the fuel used by agricultural machinery to process the field (including applying fertiliser and plant protection products). In addition, the production of the machinery is taken into account (including the production of the necessary materials, etc)
- Crop yield

If additional emissions arise, they must also be recorded and included in the calculation of greenhouse gas emissions.

Steps in the working process which must be included in the calculation:

**Planting:** Ploughing, grubbing, harrowing

Sowing

**Maintaining:** Fertiliser

Plant protection products

**Harvesting:** Harvest

Stubble breaking/cultivation

The respective greenhouse gas emissions produced from transport to the storage site must also be taken into account.

Calculation of	Values in
Amount of energy used	litres or kWh / ha
Yields per hectare by plant species	dt (decitonne) / ha (dry weight)
Application of fertiliser and plant protection products	kg or litres / ha
Quantity of seed	kg/ha

# 9 ACCESS AND INSPECTION RIGHTS

The observance of the mentioned criterias concerning the registered farmer or supplier, is controlled randomly and annually by the AMA as a part of the audits.

In such cases, the registered farmer must permit the agents and delegates of the AMA; the Austrian Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Regions and Water Management; and the European Union (referred to below as monitoring bodies) to access the operating and storage areas as well as the agricultural land during business and operating times or by appointment.

The monitoring bodies are authorised to inspect books, records, contracts, receipts and any other business documents which they deem necessary for the inspection.

The registered farmer is obliged to arrange for a suitable and informed respondent to be present during the inspection. The respondent must submit the respective documents for perusal at the request of the monitoring bodies; they must also provide information and any assistance requested by the monitoring bodies during the inspection.

The monitoring bodies may demand the temporary surrendering of records and documents – in which case they must confirm this transfer in writing.

In the case of electronic records, the registered farmer must provide printouts of the information at the request of the monitoring bodies at his expense.

### 10 RECORD KEEPING OBLIGATIONS

The registered farmer must keep proper records which are in accordance with the applicable legal documents provided for registration for seven years from the end of the calendar year, they agree to keep these securely, in full and in an orderly manner, provided longer retention periods are not required by other regulations. If these documents are stored electronically, it must be ensured that a copy which is true to the original can be produced at any point during the entire safekeeping period, eg using a printer.

# 11 ADVICE AND HELP

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