



natureplus e.V.

Guideline 5001

Chemicals Directive

Version: 22-05, July 18, 2022

for the awardance of the eco-label

The natureplus®-Quality Label should serve a special role in protecting the environment and the health of users and consumers. Therefore products certified with the natureplus®-Quality Label should offer an above average level of safety performance in respect to the dangers posed to the environment and health by chemicals. To this end, two exclusion lists have been compiled which stipulate substances which may not be used in certified products. In these lists of prohibited substances, the substances are named or reference is made to other lists in which they are specified. The references to lists of national or international regulations or scientific committees, enables the automatic adjustment of the natureplus prohibited substance lists to legal classifications and scientific findings. In each case the highest national classifications are generally binding.

In so far as exceptions to the prohibited substances lists are permissible, these are only justified for reasons of sustainability and may only be approved subject to the constraints of the strictest national legal requirements applicable. An ecological benefit justifying the approval of the exception must be specified. Any exceptions granted are only applicable to particular product types and are explicitly listed in the corresponding award guidelines. Exceptions are not possible if the prohibited substance can be emitted by the product. The exceptions are issued in individual cases by the natureplus criteria commission.

The manufacturer has to declare all input materials to Natureplus. For this purpose, safety datasheets are essential for the evaluation of the substances. The manufacturer must have available the current safety data sheets according to EU Regulation No. 1907/2006 Annex 2 (REACH) updated as per EU Regulation 453/2010. The safety data sheets must not more than two years old. The manufacturer must establish a system which ensures a regular update of all safety datasheets.

The general list of prohibited substances covers substances which, according to CLP-Regulations⁽¹⁾, as per Directive 67/548/EEC⁽²⁾ or national law, are prohibited or classified by the named institutions as carcinogenic, causing mutations or toxic to reproduction. Furthermore, additional individual substances may be specified by natureplus as non-desirable due to their environmental and health dangers and which one would not expect to find in a certified product.

Any exceptions to the exclusion of substances contained within the general list of prohibited substances are only possible on the basis of a comprehensive scientific justification which must be presented in a scientific evaluation report which has been commissioned by natureplus. The general list of prohibited substances covers all the substances specified in the following lists:

- Prohibited substances as per CLP-Regulations, DSD 67/548/EEC or national law (e.g. GefStoffVO, TRGS 905 (German standards))
- CLP-Regulations: Carcinogenic Cat. IA and IB. Mutagenic Cat. IA and IB, Toxic to reproduction Cat. IA and IB
- Substances as per DSD 67/548/EEC C1 and C2, M1 and M2, R1 and R2 and as per national law (e.g. TRGS 905)
- Substances as per MAK-lists III1 and III2 (German occupational exposure limits)
- Substances in IARC groups I and 2a (International Agency for Research on Cancer)
- Substances requiring official approval as per Appendix XIV of the REACH regulations

In addition, the general list of prohibited substances includes the following named substances and compounds, as long as they have not already been included in the aforementioned lists:

- Persistent Organic Pollutants: Aldrin, Dieldrin, DDT, Endrin, Heptachlor, Chlordan, HCB, Mirex, Toxaphen, PCB, Dioxine und Furane
- Arsenic and arsenic compounds
- Lead and lead compounds
- Cadmium and cadmium compounds
- Organotin compounds

- Antimony trioxide
- Hydro-fluorocarbons (HFC)
- Organic halogen phosphates

The special list of prohibited substances includes substances, according to CLP-Regulations, as per Directive 67/548/EEC, national law or classified by the named institutions as suspected of being carcinogenic, causing mutations or toxic to reproduction, toxic or sensitizing or classified as harmful to the environment. Furthermore, additional individual substances may be specified by natureplus as non-desirable due to their environmental and health dangers and which one would not expect to find in a certified product.

The exclusion of the substances specified in the special list of prohibited substances goes beyond those of legal requirements and is thereby a special justification for the award of a quality label.

Furthermore, there is a requirement that the use of substances with hazardous characteristics should be kept to an absolute minimum. The possible availability of alternative replacement substances must always be checked before any exceptions to the exclusion of substances contained within the special list of prohibited substances can be considered. If an alternative is not possible, then appropriate measures must be taken to ensure both occupational health and safety during production and that of the consumer/user.

The special list of prohibited substances includes all input substances which must be labelled with the H-statements contained within the following table. This also applies to substances in intermediate/preliminary products or formulations which are present in the end product at a proportion of >0.1 M-%.

Classification	H-Statement
Acute toxicity	H300, H310, H330
Specific target organ toxicity	H370, H304, H372, H373
Toxic	H301, H311, H331
Sensitization of the skin and respiratory tract	H334, H317
Carcinogenic Cat. 2	H351
Germ cell mutagenicity Cat. 2	H341
Toxic for Reproduction Cat. 2	H361
Reproductive toxicity on or via lactation	H362
Hazardous to the aquatic environment – Acute Hazard	H400
Hazardous to the aquatic environment – Chronic Hazard	H410, H411
Hazardous to the ozone layer	EU H059

Furthermore, the special list of prohibited substances includes all the substances contained in the following lists:

- Substances as per DSD 67/548/EEC C3 M3, R3 and as per national law (e.g. TRGS 905 K3)
- Substances listed in Candidate list (SVHC) – ECHA

- Substances as per MAK-lists III3 (German occupational exposure limits)
- Sensitizing substances as per MAK IV, BgVV-List Cat. A, TRGS 907 or the applicable national law (BgVV = German Federal Office for Consumer Health Protection)

In addition, the special list of prohibited substances includes the following named substances and compounds, as long as they have not already been included in the afore mentioned lists or the general list of prohibited substances:

- Organic halogen compounds
- Pyrethroids
- Phthalic acid ester (except polyethylene terephthalate (PET))
- Substances classified as Water Hazard Class 3 (German standard)

Synthetic nano-materials with a size range of 1 – 100 nm, as based upon the preliminary definition in DIN-CEN-ISO TS 27687⁽³⁾, may, as a precautionary measure, only be employed when the following conditions have been satisfied:

- An evaluation of the advantages: The increased benefits and/or the reduction in the environmental impact by the addition of nano-materials must be proven.
- Risk evaluation: Based upon the available data and literature references, the safe use of the product, by humans and in terms of the environment, over the whole product life-cycle must be demonstrated.
- Transparency: All nano-materials contained within the product must be declared on the product packaging with the substance designation (nano) - analogue to the EU-Cosmetic Regulations⁽⁴⁾.

The threshold limits for harmful substances and emissions into the indoor air, as specified within the product award guidelines, must be complied with.

(1) Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 December 2008 on classification, labelling and packaging of substances and mixtures, amending and repealing Directives 67/548/EEC and 1999/45/EC, and amending Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006.

(2) Council Directive 67/548/EEC Annex VI of 27 June 1967 on the approximation of laws, regulations and administrative provisions relating to the classification, packaging and labelling of dangerous substances including the associated technical amendments

(3) Definition of synthetically manufactured nano-materials based upon the Working-Definition of the OECD and DIN-CEN-ISO TS 27687: The nanoscale is a size range from approximately 1 nm to 100 nm. (Properties that are not extrapolations from a larger size will typically, but not exclusively, be exhibited in this size range. For such properties the size limits are considered approximate.). Nano materials are divided into nano-objects and nano-structured materials. Nano-objects are confined in one (nano-plates), two (nano-tubes and nano-fibres) or three dimensions (nano-particles) at the nanoscale. Nano-structured materials contain components which have one or more dimensions within the nanoscale. These also include agglomerates and aggregates of nano-objects.

(4) Regulation (EC) No 1223/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 November 2009 on cosmetic products.