

About Nordic Swan Ecolabelled
Coffee services



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This is a translation of the Norwegian original. The original document takes precedence in the event of any discrepancies.

Contact information

In 1989, the Nordic Council of Ministers decided to introduce a voluntary official ecolabel, the Nordic Swan Ecolabel. These organisations/companies operate the Nordic Ecolabelling system on behalf of their own country's government. For more information, see the websites:

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Summary

The criteria consist of 27 obligatory requirements and 6-point score requirements.

Coffee services that meet the Nordic Swan Ecolabel's strict environmental requirements have taken a holistic approach to their environmental work and are among the best in their sector in this regard. The product group covers all deliveries of coffee machines, raw materials, machine service, and maintenance.

The requirements have been updated based on a dialogue with the industry, as well as an updated analysis of the relevance, potential, and steerability.

The most significant changes compared to generation 1:

- A change to the product group definition. In the past, the coffee service was able to offer a Nordic Swan Ecolabel service “line” in its range, where selected coffee machines and parts of the coffee supply had to meet the requirements. The entire service must now meet the requirements, i.e., the requirements are set for the coffee service, and thus all coffee machines and all raw materials must fulfil the requirements.
- Requirement for a high proportion of certified and organic raw materials, where the requirement applies to all sales of raw materials. By certified we here mean among others, organic, Rainforest Alliance and Fairtrade.
- Introduction of motivational point score requirements to increase flexibility. The business receives points for the purchase of certified and organic coffee, tea, cocoa, and milk above the limit values, the purchase of coffee grown in an agroforestry system, if they don't sell disposables items and the purchase of ecolabelled products and services.
- Opening requirement for information about the business.
- Energy requirement for new coffee machine purchases will be introduced when new test standard is published in 2024.
- Introduction of circular requirements with a focus on reusing coffee machines and their components.
- Updated requirement for transport relating to the coffee service.
- Updated chemical requirements.
- Requirement to prevent the use of disposable items.
- Introduction of environmental management requirement.

1 Environmental impact of the coffee service

The coffee service’s environmental impact is mainly linked to the coffee machines, coffee and other raw materials, transport, cleaning chemicals, disposable items, and other consumables.

In the criteria for coffee services, all significant environmental conditions in the life cycle are assessed. Nordic Ecolabelling has analysed relevance, potential, and steerability (RPS analysis). The purpose of the RPS analysis has been to clarify where the greatest environmental benefit can be achieved by setting requirements. The results of the analysis are shown in the table below, and they underpin Nordic Ecolabelling’s decisions on which areas to assign requirements for coffee services and the extent of these requirements.

Table 1 Summary of the RPS analysis for coffee services

Overall priority	Area Assessment of RPS: High, Medium or Low	Comments
Raw materials		
Coffee: High	Raw materials: Coffee R: High P: High S: Medium	The coffee used by the coffee service’s customers has a high RPS. Coffee is an important value chain in the world’s food system, but also an environmental problem and a victim of climate change. It is a climate-impacting raw material with regard to greenhouse gas emissions per kg produced and a raw material that requires a lot of land to grow. The coffee plant is sensitive to temperature, humidity, and heat, and due to climate change, farming is moving to new areas at higher and higher altitudes. Coffee is a leading cause of deforestation in the world. The RPS for coffee is assessed as high, and Nordic Ecolabelling therefore sets requirements in several areas. The potential for coffee grown responsibly and sustainably has been assessed as medium, since coffee services need large quantities of coffee and predictable deliveries. There are many stages, from purchasing to production, and strict requirements need to be set in order to maintain control over the value chain. Steerability is considered to be high, and Nordic Ecolabelling sets requirements to ensure that those who focus on responsible coffee production meet the requirements.
Coffee certified as socially responsible: High	Coffee certified as socially responsible: R: High P: High S: Medium	Coffee production has a significant environmental impact and is also linked to social challenges. The potential is also high here, as there are credible certification schemes linked to coffee production in terms of sustainable production, ecology, and social responsibility. The potential for certified coffee is high with regard to social responsibility. The potential for organic coffee is medium, as the supply of organic coffee is lower and its price is higher. Global challenges have led to a sharp increase in the price of coffee generally (up 20–55%), and the price gap between organic coffee and coffee certified as socially responsible has closed somewhat in this context. Steerability is considered to be medium, as the coffee service’s customer makes the final decision on which coffee they want to buy. Nevertheless, the range of coffee services and pricing help determine the customer’s choices.
Organic certified coffee: Medium	Organic certified coffee R: High P: Medium S: Medium	Although certification of coffee is positive and important, it should be noted that obtaining coffee certification can be expensive and resource-intensive. Certification may, therefore, not be an option for many coffee farmers, even though they operate organic and have good working conditions. As a consequence, “direct trade” with farmers, where traceability, responsible production, fair

<p>Coffee Agroforestry: Medium to low</p>	<p>Coffee: Agroforestry: R: High P: Low S: Medium</p>	<p>pricing, and social conditions are taken into account without a certification scheme, is an increasing trend in the coffee industry. The farmer, in turn, avoids the cost of certification and documents conditions directly with the buyer. This is vital for many small-scale coffee farmers. Direct trade is, first and foremost, a feature of smaller coffee houses and roasteries that offer quality coffee, but it may also be relevant for coffee services in the future.</p> <p>A lack of knowledge about soil depletion in plantations is a challenge. Agroforestry involves planting trees and bushes in with traditional farmland. The planted trees nourish the soil, provide shade, retain moisture and prevent erosion. Relevance is high, and Nordic Ecolabelling wishes to reward those who buy coffee from producers who apply agroforestry principles. Due to the low supply of coffee from agroforestry, the potential is considered too low, but the total RPS is medium to low.</p>
<p>Medium to low</p>	<p>Raw materials: Tea, cocoa, sugar R: Medium P: Medium S: Low</p>	<p>The RPS for raw materials used in addition to coffee, such as tea, cocoa, and sugar, has been assessed as medium to low.</p> <p>The rating for potential corresponds to the assessment for coffee. However, deliveries in kg of these raw materials are only a fraction of the scale of the coffee deliveries for a coffee service, and the relevance is therefore judged to be medium. One reason for the low volumes supplied is that the coffee service's customers often want to buy consumables such as tea, sugar, and milk themselves, and steerability is therefore assessed as low.</p>
<p>Coffee machines</p>		
<p>High</p>	<p>Coffee machine: Energy consumption in operating phase, new purchases R: High P: High S: Medium</p>	<p>There is a high RPS for the energy consumption of the coffee machines in the operating phase concerning newly purchased coffee machines.</p> <p>Using energy-efficient coffee machines reduces the environmental impact of the service, and so the relevance is judged to be high.</p> <p>The energy performance of new coffee machines is constantly improving.</p> <p>However, the amount of energy used by coffee machines varies greatly, depending on the type of coffee machine. Different coffee machines require different amounts of energy. For example, a coffee machine that grinds beans will require more energy than a coffee machine that filters coffee or uses freeze-dried coffee. A coffee machine with a larger water tank requires more energy than a coffee machine with a smaller water tank, and so on. Due to the availability of different options, the potential is considered high. However, steerability is considered to be medium for new purchases since the service will want to offer different sizes of machines, and the customer ultimately decides which coffee machine is chosen.</p>
<p>Medium</p>	<p>Coffee machine: Energy consumption in operating phase, existing machines R: High P: Low S: Low</p>	<p>For coffee machines that the service has already purchased, the RPS is judged to be medium.</p> <p>Using energy-efficient coffee machines reduces the environmental impact of the service, and so the relevance is assessed to be high. Potential and steerability are judged to be low, as the machines have already been purchased, and the environmental impact would be much greater if all the service's coffee machines were replaced. However, it is important to gain an overview of coffee machines with poor energy performance and offer customers more energy-efficient machines when the time comes to replace the coffee machine. Knowing how to use of different functions of coffee machines help managing energy consumption.</p>
<p>High</p>	<p>Coffee machine: Maintenance and repair R: High P: Medium - High S: Medium</p>	<p>There is a high RPS for the maintenance and repair of coffee machines.</p> <p>The relevance is high, as the production of coffee machines has a high environmental impact in terms of the materials used and their extraction, production, and transport. The potential is considered to be medium to high, and experience suggests that a well-maintained coffee machine will last longer. Good</p>

		<p>maintenance routines, regular servicing, and replacing components will prolong the life of a coffee machine.</p> <p>At the same time, a coffee machine in a large office space, which is in continuous operation every working day, will have a limited lifetime as, for example, a coffee grinder with grinder blades, hoses, and gaskets wears out more quickly. Steerability is therefore judged to be medium.</p>
High	<p>Coffee machine: Reuse</p> <p>R: High P: High S: Medium</p>	<p>There is a high RPS for reusing and recycling of coffee machines and their components.</p> <p>Coffee machines that are in continuous operation wear out over time. There is high relevance and potential for reusing parts of the coffee machine that are still in working order. Steerability is judged to be medium since there are major variations as to whether coffee services have their own technicians and workshops where the job can be done or whether the coffee machines need to be sent to external companies that can deal with reusable parts.</p>
Low	<p>Coffee machine: Recycling</p> <p>R: High P: Low S: Medium</p>	<p>The coffee machines contain materials such as metals, plastics, and electronic components. Since the components can be disassembled and recycled, the relevance is considered high.</p> <p>National legislation ensures that the coffee services pass end-of-life coffee machines to companies that accept electronic waste. The potential is assessed as low.</p> <p>Steerability of the material recovery lies in the hands of the companies that receive the coffee machines. Nordic Ecolabelling can encourage a high proportion of material recovery by setting requirements that the machines must be designed to be disassembled.</p>
Medium or low	<p>Coffee machine: Coffee machine components in contact with food</p> <p>R: High P: Low S: Low</p>	<p>The relevance is judged to be high, as components in coffee machines that are in contact with food, such as water and coffee containers, hoses, and pipes, may contain substances that are harmful to health and the environment, such as flame retardants, plasticisers or lead in metal alloys.</p> <p>Coffee machines contain a number of metals, normally stainless steel and aluminium, as well as some small brass components. Brass components may contain lead.</p> <p>The potential is judged to be low as coffee machine manufacturers may have limited opportunities to influence the composition of the coffee machine since the components often come in from external suppliers. Steerability over components is assessed as low since these are a long way back in the chain from the coffee service itself. However, the regulatory requirements for components in contact with foodstuffs do not cover all materials, and Nordic Ecolabelling sets requirements regarding the purchase of new coffee machines.</p>
Low	<p>Coffee machine: Chemicals in production</p> <p>R: Low P: Low S: Low</p>	<p>There is little use of chemicals in the production of coffee machines.</p> <p>The coffee machines consist mainly of aluminium, stainless steel, and various types of plastic. Surface treatment is rare and is a very small part of the coffee service's overall environmental impact.</p> <p>Potential and steerability have also been assessed as low since this is not something over which the coffee service has any control.</p>
Transport		
High	<p>The coffee service's own transport: Coffee machines, raw materials, servicing and maintenance</p> <p>R: High P: Low - High S: Low - High</p>	<p>The relevance of transporting coffee machines, raw materials, service, and maintenance has been assessed as high.</p> <p>The potential is judged to be medium, as transport is necessary for product deliveries to customers and on-site servicing. The environmental impact can be reduced by using vehicles in a high Euronorm class or powered by electricity, biogas, or hydrogen. Potential and steerability are low for vehicles already in the business but high when buying new vehicles.</p> <p>In addition, the environmental impact can be further reduced through economical driving and efficient planning of the transport involved in delivering coffee machines and raw materials,</p>

		servicing, and maintenance. Logistics is an area over which the business itself has steerability. The total RPS for the coffee service's own transport activities is therefore considered to be high.
Chemicals for cleaning the coffee machines		
Low	Chemicals: For cleaning the coffee machines R: Medium P: Low S: Low	The use of chemicals is relevant when cleaning the coffee machines. The chemicals used are usually two types: a cleaning product for coffee machines and a cleaning product for components in contact with milk and milk powder. Relevance has been assessed as medium. The coffee machines need to be cleaned as part of normal maintenance to ensure good-tasting coffee and prolong the life of the machine parts. The products used for cleaning components in contact with milk products must ensure effective cleaning to prevent bacterial growth. However, it is important that the chemicals used do not contain substances that: are harmful to health and the environment, are not readily degradable, or have any negative effect on the person cleaning the coffee machine. The potential has been assessed as low since there is no unnecessary or excessive use of chemicals. The products often come in tablet form or with good instructions concerning the dosage. Steerability is low, as the various coffee machine manufacturers recommend carefully selected products for their coffee machines, which customers need to use for the coffee machine's warranty to apply.
Purchase of products and services		
Medium	Disposable items R: Low P: Medium S: High	The coffee services offer customers disposable items for use when serving coffee. Typical disposable items may be single-use coffee cups, lids, stirrers, and napkins. Large businesses don't always have dishwashing options, which makes them reliant on disposable cups, so we cannot steer them away from using disposables. Nevertheless, the potential and steerability are high because the supplier of the coffee service can offer products consisting of renewable raw materials. Disposable items account for a small proportion of the coffee service's overall environmental impact, and the relevance is low. Nevertheless, the total RPS has been judged as medium since ecolabelled coffee service must consider the environment at all points where the supplier has steerability.
Medium	Ecolabelled consumables R: Low P: Medium S: High	The use of consumables accounts for a small proportion of the coffee service's total environmental impact and, in practice, is only relevant for products used in the service's own offices. Nevertheless, the potential has been assessed as medium and steerability high since the service can easily replace consumables such as copier paper, tissue paper, soap, and cleaning products with ecolabelled alternatives. Products such as fixtures and fittings (furniture, textiles, and similar) have a long lifespan, and relevance, potential, and steerability are considered low.
Medium	Ecolabelled services R: Medium P: Medium S: Medium	The coffee service often uses other services in the operation of its own service. For example, the relevance of vehicle washing is high, as transport accounts for a large proportion of the service's environmental impact. Potential and steerability have been assessed as medium due to the varying availability of Nordic Swan Ecolabel vehicle wash installations in cities and districts, as well as significant differences across the Nordic region. Cleaning services are another example, but here the relevance is considered to be medium to low, as it is only a matter of cleaning the office premises. Nevertheless, potential and steerability are high, as ecolabelled cleaning services are readily available.

2 Justification of the requirements

The Nordic region ranks among the biggest consumers of coffee in the world. Much of the coffee consumed is brewed in coffee machines in workplaces, schools, restaurants, and hotels, and there is a culture of workplaces offering free coffee to employees. In recent years, Nordic consumers have become more conscious of the quality and taste of coffee, creating greater demand for employers to offer quality coffee to their employees. This has also had a knock-on effect on the quality of coffee machines as well as the suppliers of coffee services.

Workplaces that offer coffee to their employees in the office have shown a particular interest in ecolabelling their service. The market for workplace coffee services has grown steadily over the past ten years, with the exception of a downturn during the coronavirus pandemic.

Coffee – an environmental problem and a victim of climate change

Coffee is the second largest commodity traded worldwide after oil. 2.25 billion cups of coffee are consumed every day. While coffee is an important value chain in the food system, it is also an environmental problem and a victim of climate change.

Coffee is a climate-impacting raw material that ranks fifth on the list of the most climate-impacting raw materials in our food system per kg, after beef, chocolate, and lamb, among other things. Coffee is also no. 6 on the list of raw materials that require the most farmland.¹ In addition, coffee production is one of the leading (7–8) reasons for deforestation in the world.

The coffee plant is particularly sensitive to temperature, humidity, and heat, making it a victim of climate change, with cultivation having to be moved to new areas higher up in the mountains. Today, coffee is grown at altitudes of around 1,100 metres for optimum production, whereas ten years ago, it was grown at 8–900 metres, representing an increase of about 30 metres a year. Within a few decades, half of the areas where coffee is currently grown will no longer be suitable for production. For example, 90% of Brazil's coffee may be affected by climate change.

The production of coffee generates enormous amounts of waste, in addition to using a great deal of water, for sorting, washing, and processing. Approximately 4,000–5,000 coffee cherries are used for a kilo of roasted ground coffee², and all the pulp around the coffee bean is waste. In addition, 18 million tonnes of coffee grounds are generated worldwide, which become waste after coffee making. Often this organic waste is not put to any use.

Coffee has become more expensive

Raw coffee beans are traded in the commodities market, and any imbalance between supply and demand affects the price. Coffee is the second most traded commodity in the world after oil, and the players speculate on future price movements when investing. The price of coffee has been artificially low for many

¹ PLATFORM ON SUSTAINABLE FINANCE: TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP PART B – Annex: Technical Screening Criteria, March 2022

² Norsk Kaffeinformasjon, Kaffeplanten: <https://kaffe.no/kaffeplanten/>

years and has not covered the production costs for coffee farmers. This has had consequences for the coffee plantations, as there has been no opportunity to invest in operations (equipment, replanting, fertilisation, and expansion), which has led to lower productivity and reduced crop yields. The paradox now is that coffee farmers are being paid too little to cover production costs, even as the market price of coffee rises.³ A turbulent market has meant that producers and traders have waited to sell in anticipation of greater predictability. Plant diseases and climate challenges, such as extreme weather, droughts, floods, and storms widely experienced in the regions of South and Central America where coffee is grown, have affected global production and led to a significant decline. Lower supply and ever-increasing demand have led to a significant leap in coffee prices.⁴

3 Description of the service

O1 Description of the business

Please provide the following information about your business:

- The coffee service must include the following in order to receive the Nordic Swan Ecolabel: Delivery and installation of coffee machines, delivery of raw materials for the coffee machine, as well as service and maintenance.

Does the business include the above services? Yes/No

- Describe the coffee service

Includes information about the customer segment, to whom the service is offered, where the service is offered, as well as how the transport and regular delivery of raw materials, service and maintenance take place.

- Does your business offer services other than the coffee service? Yes/No
 - If yes, please list the other services offered by your business.
- Link to website
- List the different coffee machines that the service offers

Espresso-based coffee machines, fresh brew coffee machines, filter coffee makers, manual espresso machines, or others?

- Do bulk brewers (urns) make up more than 30% of the coffee machines delivered by the coffee service? Yes/No
- How many coffee machines does the service hire out per year?

An approximate number based on the last 12 months or the last full year.

- Other relevant information you would like to share?

🏠 Please upload documentation according to the requirement.

Background

Nordic Ecolabelling requires a detailed description of the business to obtain an accurate picture of the service. The information provides the basis for correct advice in the application process.

³ The Coffee Collective: <https://coffeecollective.dk/stories/a-series-about-the-coffee-paradox-transparency-in-trading>

⁴ Norsk Kaffeinformasjon: <https://kaffe.no/hvorfor-har-kaffen-blitt-dyrere%ef%bf%bc/>

4 Raw materials: coffee, tea, cocoa and milk

02 Requirement for certified coffee, tea, and cocoa

80% of the total sales of the raw materials coffee, tea, and cocoa per kg per year must be certified in accordance with a scheme that meets Nordic Ecolabelling's "renewable raw material requirement", see below.

The name of the product, manufacturer, supplier, and certification scheme must be stated for all raw materials that the business offers in the future.

The calculation must be made with data from the last full year, or the last 12 months of sales for all existing customer agreements, but as a minimum sales data from three months can be used.

The sheet "Raw materials" in "Template for reporting requirements" may be used in this work.

Alternatively:

If the business has signed agreements that limit the possibility to deliver historical data that shows 80% certified raw materials, the business could comply with the requirement if:

- The business has historical data showing that at least an average of 50% of the total sales of the raw materials coffee, tea, and cocoa per kg per year are certified.

The calculation must be made with data from the last full year, or the last 12 months of sales for all existing customer agreements, but as a minimum sales data from three months can be used.

And

- All new and renewed customer agreements must be delivered with 90% certified raw materials until 80% for the total service is achieved.

This could not take any longer than 24 months from approved licence and will be followed up during the annual follow-up.

Exceptions:

Direct trade: An exception to the requirement for certification may be made if the raw material is purchased through direct trade. Direct trade here means raw materials bought directly from the farmer/coffee farm, or from a local co-operative in the producing country, which has a direct connection to the farmer/coffee farm. Nordic Ecolabelling requires full traceability of the coffee's supply chain, and the price paid for the coffee must be the minimum Fairtrade price at the current time of purchase. Reports must be made on targets and efforts carried out to take care of environment and social conditions in direct trade.

(Fairtrade prices updated 2023: <https://fairtradeanz.org/stories/new-fairtrade-minimum-price-for-coffee-qa>)

Approved certifications include the raw material labels from Rainforest Alliance, UTZ, Fairtrade, Smithsonian Bird Friendly, EU Regulation (EU) 2018/848, KRAV, Luomu, Nyckelpigan, Demeter, Statskontrollert økologisk (Ø-mærket), Demeter and Tún-lífrænt.

Labelling under other standards can be used if Nordic Ecolabelling's "renewable raw material requirement" is met.

If relevant, please see Nordic Ecolabelling's Appendix 1: "Requirement concerning standards for renewable raw materials".

- ☞ Please upload documentation/information showing that 80% of all coffee, tea and cocoa the business purchase is certified. The name of the product, manufacturer, supplier, and certification scheme, where relevant, must be stated. Please use the sheet "Raw materials" in the "Template for reporting requirements" to document the requirement.

Alternatively

- ☞ Historical data showing that at least an average of 50% of the total sales of the raw materials are certified. The name of the product, manufacturer, supplier, and certification scheme, where relevant, must be stated. Please use the sheet "Raw materials" in the "Template for reporting requirements" to document the requirement.

And

- ☞ A confirmation that all new and renewed customer agreements must be delivered with 90% certified raw materials until 80% for the total service is achieved.
- ☞ On-site inspection.
- ☞ If the business buys raw materials through direct trade, please upload documentation/information showing compliance with the requirement.

Background

The requirement concerning certified raw materials is a collective requirement covering a range of certifications, and approves raw materials that are organic certified, sustainability certified, and certified through labelling schemes for social responsibility.

The cultivation and production of raw materials such as coffee, tea, and cocoa affect the environment and nature. For example, coffee is ranked as number 5 on the list of the most climate-impacting raw materials in our food system per kg, after steak, chocolate, and lamb, among other things. Coffee is also no. 6 on the list of raw materials that require the most farmland.⁵ In addition, coffee production is one of the leading (7–8) reasons for deforestation worldwide.⁶ Coffee is grown either in direct sunlight or by growing the coffee plant in the shade of other trees. Coffee grown in direct sunlight yields about three times more coffee than "shade-grown coffee". The challenge is that coffee grown in direct sunlight is cultivated on coffee plantations established in areas that originally was rainforest. Rainforest losses lead to biodiversity loss, as well as a loss of moisture in the soil and negative impacts such as soil depletion.⁷

⁵ PLATFORM ON SUSTAINABLE FINANCE: TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP PART B – Annex: Technical Screening Criteria, March 2022

⁶ Wedeux B, Schulmeister-Oldenhove A (2021): STEPPING UP? THE CONTINUING IMPACT OF EU CONSUMPTION ON NATURE WORLDWIDE

⁷ Amanda L. Varco, A Bitter Brew - Coffee Production, Deforestation, Soil Erosion and Water Contamination: <https://ohiostate.pressbooks.pub/sciencebites/chapter/a-bitter-brew-coffee-production-deforestation-soil-erosion-and-water-contamination/>

Sustainable production is therefore important if the production of these high-demand raw materials is to continue in the future. The coffee plant is particularly sensitive to temperature, humidity, and heat, making it a victim of climate change, with cultivation having to be moved to new areas higher up in the mountains.⁷ Today, coffee is grown at altitudes of around 1,100 metres for optimum production, whereas ten years ago, it was grown at 8–900 metres, representing an increase of about 30 metres a year. Within a few decades, half of the areas where coffee is currently grown will no longer be suitable for production. For example, 90% of Brazil's coffee may be affected by climate change.

Achieving the UN Sustainable Development Goals requires a transition to more sustainable food and farming systems that maintain ecosystems, are better adapted to climate change, and improve soil quality.⁸ Third-party certification of raw materials is therefore important for documenting more sustainable production. There are several different certification schemes for raw materials such as coffee, tea, and cocoa, each of which focuses on one or more factors during the cultivation and production of the raw materials. Some impose a ban on synthetic pesticides and fertilisers, and/or have requirements concerning the introduction of sustainable agricultural practices, working conditions, procedures, monitoring, improvements, prices, and so on. Nordic Ecolabelling has a long-term goal of being able to set a requirement for 100% certification of raw materials. Nevertheless, the limit value is set to 80%. The reason for this is complex, and in principle there is 100% certified coffee available, but in most cases the price of the coffee is decisive. The coffee service's customers prioritize price before certified coffee, which often have higher costs, and to require 100% certified would be unrealistic to demand at the present time. An alternative requirement has also been added as an option for those businesses that do not meet the threshold of 80% immediately. The business then has 24 months to fulfill the requirement.

Although coffee certification is a positive thing, not all coffee farmers are able to certify their coffee for economic reasons. Coffee is commonly grown in countries with widespread poverty, and payment for certification is not an option for everyone, despite the cultivation of the coffee meeting the requirements of a certification scheme. Often, a coffee farmer who cannot afford synthetic fertilisers will instead use their own fertiliser, such as chicken fertiliser, making production organic in principle, even though the coffee is not certified.

In some cases, the term "direct trade" is used to refer to buying directly from the farmer/coffee farm, where the purchaser pays well for the raw materials, and that ethics and the environmental aspects are taken care of, this without being documented with a certification. But there is no definition of "direct trade", and the term is used differently.

Nordic Ecolabelling has decided to be positive to this direct trade approach, if the purchaser ensures

- the traceability of the coffee back to the farmer,

⁸ UN, 'UN Sustainable Development Goals' www.FN.no/Om-FN/FNs-baerekraftsmaal (07.12.2022)

and

- that the price paid is above the standard Fairtrade price

and

- that a report is made on which targets and efforts the business has carried out to take care of environment and social conditions in direct trade of the purchased raw materials.

Note that these are Nordic Ecolabelling's assumptions for accepting direct trade, and not a definition of "direct trade".

Nordic Ecolabelling, therefore, wishes to set an exemption from the requirement concerning certification if the raw material is purchased through direct trade. Direct trade involves purchasing raw materials directly from the farmer/coffee farm. The purchaser must ensure the traceability of the raw materials back to the farmer. By trading directly with the farmers, the purchaser can help to ensure that social and environmental conditions are controlled, managed and taken care of by the farmers. It is therefore desirable that the businesses should report on their work related to this. The price paid should be above the standard Fairtrade price for the area in which the coffee is grown. The price paid for the coffee will reflect its sustainable production. Paying well for the coffee allows farmers to invest in their business with equipment, replanting, fertilising, and expansion. With plant diseases, and climate challenges such as the extreme weather, droughts, floods, and storms widely experienced in the regions of South and Central America where coffee is grown, the farmers need to be paid better to adapt to the effects of the climate change that they face.

Nordic Ecolabelling promotes organic labelling, as such labelling schemes prohibit synthetic pesticides and fertilisers, and organic farming practices increase biodiversity. Rainforest Alliance and Fairtrade standards are not as strict in their environmental requirements as the organic labelling schemes. However, since coffee is a special commodity in terms of production locations and climate and social challenges, we also support the Rainforest Alliance and Fairtrade certification schemes, which contribute positively to the improvement of the coffee industry in general via several important social and environmental requirements. We do not differentiate between these certification schemes in the same way as in Nordic Ecolabelling's other criteria. This only applies to the raw materials coffee, tea, and cocoa. Organic labelling refers to the labelling schemes that mainly drive production in the desired direction from an environmental perspective.

Nordic Ecolabelling will assess standards for raw materials when the licensee wishes to use them.

Coffee standards are the most widely studied of the sustainability standards we have. In a review where 75% of the scientific articles were about coffee, the effects of voluntary sustainability standards were measured using environmental, economic, and social sustainability indicators. The review concluded that "When grouped by case, the indicator results tend to be positive on average (51%), followed by no difference (41%) and negative (8%) outcomes. There are no significant differences among sustainability pillars regarding the

average proportion of positive and negative results.” The effect was strongly dependent on context. Organic certification was underrepresented in the studies, while Rainforest Alliance, UTZ, and Fairtrade were well-represented. As the main subject in 75% of the studies, coffee was generally well-represented. Other summaries of the effect of certifications show that it is difficult to say what delivers the positive effect, the context, or the standard. It turns out that there is a better effect in areas where laws and regulations are enforced by the authorities.⁹

P1 Points for certified raw materials

The business is awarded points based on sold amount certified raw materials (coffee, tea, cocoa) per year, calculated per sold kg. A maximum of 6 points can be achieved in this point score requirement.

≥ 80 - < 83%: 1 point

≥ 83 - < 86%: 2 points

≥ 86 - < 89%: 3 points

≥ 89 - < 92%: 4 points

≥ 92 - < 95%: 5 points

≥ 95%: 6 points

🏠 The points total shall be calculated based on of the requirement concerning certified raw materials. The sheet "Raw materials" in the "Template for reporting requirements" may be used to document the requirement.

O3 Requirement for organic coffee

20% of all coffee the business sells per kg per year must be organic certified.

The calculation must be made with data from the last full year or the last 12 months of sales, but as a minimum, data from three months' sales can be used.

The sheet "Raw materials" in the "Template for reporting requirements" may be used for this work.

* *Organic means raw materials labelled in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2018/848, KRAV, Luomu, Nyckelpigan, Demeter, Statskontrollert økologisk (Ømerket), Demeter or Tún-lífrænt.*

🏠 Please upload documentation and a calculation showing last year's purchases of organic certified coffee calculated as a percentage. The sheet "Raw materials" in the "Template for reporting requirements" may be used to document the requirement.

👤 On-site inspection.

P2 Points for organic coffee

The business is awarded points based on the sale of organic certified coffee per year, calculated per kg. A maximum of 7 points can be achieved in this point score requirement.

⁹ Traldi R (2021) Ecological indicators: [Progress and pitfalls: A systematic review of the evidence for agricultural sustainability standards – ScienceDirect](#)

- ≥ 20 – < 23%: 1 point
- ≥ 23 – < 26%: 2 points
- ≥ 26 – < 29%: 3 points
- ≥ 29 – < 32%: 4 points
- ≥ 32 – < 35%: 5 points
- ≥ 35 – < 50%: 6 points
- ≥ 50%: 7 points

☞ The points total shall be calculated based on of the requirement concerning the proportion of organic certified coffee. The sheet "Raw materials" in the "Template for reporting requirements" may be used to document the requirement.

P3 Points for organic cocoa, tea, and milk

The business is awarded points if 100% of sold cocoa, tea, and / or milk, has organic certification.

Milk includes all milk, such as milk powder and vegan milk.

A maximum of 3 points can be achieved for this point score requirement.

Organic raw materials	Points
Cocoa	2 points
Tea	1 point
Milk	1 point

☞ To achieve points, please upload documentation showing that 100% of sold cocoa, tea, milk, and milk powder is certified as organic. The sheet "Raw materials" in the "Template for reporting requirements" may be used to document the requirement.

ℙ On-site inspection.

Background

Nordic Ecolabelling's approved labelling schemes include organic schemes. The aim of the requirement concerning disclosure and points for purchased raw materials is to encourage an increased proportion of organic raw material purchases.

Organic farming places emphasis on ecological balance, local eco cycles, and ecological, economic, and social sustainability over the long term.¹⁰ Organic methods increase biodiversity and thus help to maintain ecosystem services on

¹⁰ Arbenz M, Gould D, Stopes C (2016) Organic 3.0 – for truly sustainable farming and consumption, IFOAM Organics International, Bonn and SOAAN, Bonn.
www.ifoam.bio/sites/default/files/organic3.0_v.2_web_0.pdf

which agriculture depends.^{11, 12, 13} Such methods also lead to higher numbers of active microorganisms in the soil¹⁴, which give better soil health and soil quality. Synthetic pesticides and fertilisers are not permitted because they have a negative impact on biodiversity and can leach into groundwater, rivers, and seas, thus affecting water quality.

P4 Points for agroforestry

The business is awarded points if they buy from one or more coffee farms that employ agroforestry practices. Coffee certified as Smithsonian Bird Friendly meets the requirement. Buying from a coffee farm gives one point. A maximum of 2 points can be achieved for this point score requirement.

Agroforestry refers to agriculture that is combined with tree/forest planting and/or livestock farming, which has environmental and socio-economic benefits.

- 🏠 If the business purchases from coffee farms that employ agroforestry practices, please upload documentation showing Smithsonian Bird Friendly or equivalent agroforestry requirement is met.

Background

Biodiversity is being lost at a rapid pace, posing just as much of an environmental threat as the climate crisis, according to the UN's Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES).¹⁵ The reasons for the losses are land use change and loss of species habitats, overexploitation of resources, pollution, climate change, and invasive species.

Agroforestry is an example of management methods that promote biological diversity in the forest, the cultural landscape, and surrounding nature. Agroforestry is a system whereby agriculture is combined with tree/forest planting and/or livestock. In tropical and temperate areas, this is an ancient practice with environmental and socio-economic benefits. These modes of operation contribute to the far-reaching change that IPBES calls for. The Nordic Swan Ecolabel award points to businesses that use products from production sources that take this into account.

¹¹ Tuck SL, Winqvist C, Mota F, Ahnström J, Turnbull LA, Bengtsson J (2014) Land-use intensity and the effects of organic farming on biodiversity: a hierarchical meta-analysis. *Journal of Applied Ecology* 51:746-755. <https://doi.org/10.1111/1365-2664.12219>

¹² Rahmann G (2011) Biodiversity and Organic Farming: What do we know? *vTI Agriculture and Forestry Research* 3(61):189-208. Metaanalysis of 766 studies. www.fao.org/fileadmin/user_upload/sustainability/pdf/11_11_28_OA_biodiversity_Rahmann.pdf

¹³ Dainese M et al. (2019) A global synthesis reveals biodiversity-mediated benefits for crop production. *Science Advances* 5(10) eaax0121. <https://doi.org/10.1126/sciadv.aax0121>

¹⁴ Lori M, Symnaczik S, Mäder P, De Deyn G, Gattinger A (2017) Organic farming enhances soil microbial abundance and activity – A meta-analysis and meta-regression. *PLoS ONE* 12(7):e0180442. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0180442>

¹⁵ IPBES (2019): Global assessment report on biodiversity and ecosystem services of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services. E. S. Brondizio, J. Settele, S. Díaz, and H. T. Ngo (editors). IPBES secretariat, Bonn, Germany. 1148 pages. <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.3831673>

Smithsonian Migratory Bird Center's Bird Friendly¹⁶ is the only prevalent coffee and cocoa certification where agroforestry is mandatory. The coffee must also be 100% certified organic and is mainly sold in North America.¹⁷

Some third-party sustainability standards recommend agroforestry and contain prescriptions and guidelines on how to do it, although agroforestry is not mandatory. This includes Rainforest Alliance certification¹⁸ for coffee, tea, cocoa, herbs, spices, flowers, etc., and FairTrade coffee, cocoa, coconut, sugar, tea, wine, flowers, fresh produce, etc. The PEFC forest certification in 2018 included "Trees outside Forests", i.e., trees on agricultural land, in its criteria. The FSC certification also gives the possibility to certify agroforests. Organic coffee, to some extent, can be expected to be grown in agroforestry because synthetic pesticides and fertilizers are forbidden. However, there are no requirements for the type or coverage of trees. Although many coffees are labelled "shade-grown", this is neither a certification nor a regulated designation.

Nordic Ecolabelling further promotes organic certified coffee by rewarding coffee with Smithsonian Bird Friendly certification.

5 Coffee machines

04 Overview of the energy efficiency of the coffee machines

The business is to establish an overview of the energy efficiency of all the coffee machines. The name, model, type of machine, manufacturer, number of coffee machines owned by the business and energy loss or energy consumption must be stated for each machine.

The energy efficiency of the coffee machines may be stated as

- Energy loss in kWh per day in line with DIN 18873-2:2016-02,
- or
- Energy consumption in Wh/L with associated energy class according to the European Vending Association Energy Measurement Protocol (EVA EMP) version 3.1 B.

Bulk brewers and manual espresso machines are exempted from the requirement.

Nordic Ecolabelling will update the requirement as soon as the new testing standard for "Professional and commercial coffee machines" has been published. The new standard is currently under development and is expected to be ready in 2024. Reference to the new standard will replace our existing references to DIN 18873-2:2016-02.

🏠 Please upload an overview of the coffee machines offered by the service. Please use the sheet "Coffee machines" in the "Template for reporting requirements" to document the requirement.

¹⁶ <https://nationalzoo.si.edu/migratory-birds/bird-friendly> (2022-11-18)

¹⁷ <https://nationalzoo.si.edu/migratory-birds/bird-friendly-farm-criteria> (2022-12-07)

¹⁸ Rainforest Alliance and UTZ merged in 2018 and published the revised Sustainable Agriculture Standard in 2020. Currently, products certified by the two old standards and the new standard are all certified as Rainforest Alliance, and there is a transition period during which the old standards are being phased out.

Background

Drawing up an overview of the coffee machines' energy efficiency makes it possible to rank the machines from good to less good. This can then be used to make informed choices when the coffee service purchases new coffee machines. Coffee machines with poor energy performance should be prioritised and phased out when the time comes for replacement.

The applicable criteria refer to DIN 18873-2:2016-02 and the European Vending Association Energy Measurement Protocol (EVA EMP) version 3.1 B.

DIN standard DIN 18873-2 "Methods for measuring the energy use from equipment of commercial kitchens Part 2: Commercial coffee machines" is a testing standard designed to test energy consumption expressed in energy losses from fully-automated coffee machines for public use, as well as the refrigeration system for milk. The company HKI is the German industry organisation for household, heating, and kitchen equipment¹⁹, which includes commercial and private kitchen equipment. HKI has a database, HKI Cert, listing the energy performance of kitchen appliances, including coffee machines²⁰.

EVA EMP is a voluntary testing protocol for measuring all types of vending machines for both chilling fresh food and serving hot beverages. The European Vending Association (EVA) is the European trade association for vending machine providers. EVA EMP has an associated calculation module with a calculation sheet that the coffee machine manufacturer can use to assign its machines an energy class on a scale that ranges from G to A++. This energy scale is an unofficial scale from EVA and should not be confused with the EU's official energy label scheme for appliances. The energy scale makes it possible to compare the energy efficiency of coffee machines. However, this is a calculation that can be made by the manufacturer, not by an independent third party. Nordic Ecolabelling, therefore, requires the testing to be carried out by either an independent testing institute or the manufacturer itself, provided that the manufacturer has a quality management system that includes sampling and analyses and is certified in accordance with ISO 9001 or ISO 9002.

The new EU standard for measuring the energy consumption of professional and commercial coffee machines is under development, with the work being carried out by the Working Group (WG) under the Technical Committee (TC) 59X of CENELEC (CLC) (CLC/TC 59X/WG 21)^{21, 22, 23}. Nordic Ecolabelling will update the requirements concerning energy consumption once the new standard has been published. The draft for EN 50730 was published at the start of 2024, and shows that it cannot apply to hot drinks vending machines fully. An official amendment to exclude vending machines from this standard is going to be made, and a new work item will be introduced to define a standard, based on the

¹⁹ <https://www.grosskuechen.cert.hki-online.de/de/home> (06.12.2022)

²⁰ <https://www.grosskuechen.cert.hki-online.de/en/geraete/typen-liste/geraete-nach-typ-liste?typ=Heissgetraenkebereiter> (06.12.2022)

²¹ CLC TC 59X general web page:

https://standards.cencenelec.eu/dyn/www/f?p=305:7:0:25:::FSP_ORG_ID,FSP_LANG_ID:1257245

²² CLC TC 59X structure web page: https://standards.cencenelec.eu/dyn/www/f?p=305:29:0:::FSP_ORG_ID,FSP_LANG_ID:1257245,25&cs=1B108A01466EEE10BF2A50D948A8CE494#1

²³ CLC TC 59X WG 21 web page: <https://standards.cencenelec.eu/dyn/www/f?p=305:7:0:::>

FSP_ORG_ID:2148490

EN 50730 but specifically for hot drinks vending machines. A process that is expected to take around 2-3 years.

This means that the EVA EMP 3.1b will remain valid as a method to calculate energy consumption at coffee vending machines.

O5 Switching to energy-efficient coffee machines for new purchases

Coffee machines with poor energy performance must be prioritized first, when it is time to replace coffee machines in the coffee service's range, and new coffee machines is purchased.

When purchasing and replacing coffee machines, the business must have routines that ensure that coffee machines with the lowest energy efficiency are phased out and replaced.

- ☞ Please upload a routine that describes how the business ensures that coffee machines with the lowest energy efficiency are phased out and replaced when new coffee machines are purchased.

Background

Coffee machines with poor energy performance should be prioritised first when the time comes for replacement of the coffee services machines. The business must have procedures in place to ensure that coffee machines with high energy losses or energy consumption are phased out. This ensures that the coffee service offers its customers energy-efficient coffee machines over the long term.

Nordic Ecolabelling's intention is not that the coffee service should replace all machines in the range, quite the contrary, it is good that the machines that are already in the range are used. But when it's time for replacements, energy performance must be taken into account.

O6 Limit value for energy consumption when purchasing new coffee machines

This requirement does not apply to version 2.2 of the criteria but will be updated during 2025.

Nordic Ecolabelling will update the "Energy requirement, "limit value for energy consumption when purchasing new coffee machines" for new coffee machine purchases" as soon as the new testing standard for "Professional and commercial coffee machines" has been published and there is sufficient data to base limit values. The new standard is currently under development and is expected to be ready in 2025. Requirements under the new standard will replace our existing requirements, which refer to DIN 18873-2:2016-02.

The requirement will include that the business must have routines that ensure that new purchases of coffee machines meet the limit value for energy consumption. The limit value will be decided after the standard is published.

- ☞ This requirement does not apply to version 2.2 of the criteria but will be updated during 2025. No documentation is currently required.

Background

Energy consumption: Energy consumption during the use phase constitutes a major environmental impact on the life cycle of the coffee machine. By setting requirements for maximum energy consumption according to the new standard

for professional and commercial coffee machines when purchasing new coffee machines, the business ensures that it offers its customers energy-efficient coffee machines, thus reducing their environmental impact.

The new EU standard for measuring the energy consumption of professional and commercial coffee machines is under development, with the work being carried out by the Working Group (WG) under the Technical Committee (TC) 59X of CENELEC (CLC) (CLC/TC 59X/WG 21)^{24, 25, 26}. Nordic Ecolabelling will update the requirements concerning energy consumption once the new standard has been published and there is sufficient data on which to base limit values for new purchases. The new standard will include “manual espresso machines”, which in turn will mean that Nordic Ecolabelling will also be able to set requirements for these types of coffee machines in the future. Until the new standard is in place, there are requirements "Overview of the energy efficiency of the coffee machines" and "Switching to energy-efficient coffee machines" includes reference to DIN 18873–2:2016–02 and EVA EMP version 3.1 B.

The draft for EN 50730 was published at the start of 2024, and shows that it cannot apply to hot drinks vending machines fully.^{27, 28} The standard focuses on professional and commercial coffee machines used in settings like restaurants, hotels, and coffee shops.²⁹ An official amendment to exclude vending machines from this standard is going to be made, and a new work item will be introduced to define a standard, based on the EN 50730 but specifically for hot drinks vending machines. A process that is expected to take around 2-3 years. This means that the EVA EMP 3.1b will remain valid as a method to calculate energy consumption at coffee vending machines.

07 Requirement for coffee machine components in contact with food, for new purchases

For new purchases, the business must have a routine that ensures that the following substances are not present in the components of coffee machines in contact with food:

- Substances classified as CMR (categories 1 and 2) in accordance with CLP.
- Substances on the Candidate List: <http://echa.europa.eu/sv/candidate-list-table>
- The phthalates di-n-octylphthalate/DNOP (CAS:117-84-0) and diisooheptylphthalate/DIHP (CAS:41451-28-9).
- Halogenated organic compounds.
- Antibacterial substances (including silver ions, nanosilver, and nanocopper).
- Tin, cadmium, chromium VI, and mercury, or compounds of these.

²⁴ CLC TC 59X general web page:

https://standards.cencenelec.eu/dyn/www/f?p=305:7:0:25:::FSP_ORG_ID,FSP_LANG_ID:1257245

²⁵ CLC TC 59X structure web page: https://standards.cencenelec.eu/dyn/www/f?p=305:29:0:::FSP_ORG_ID,FSP_LANG_ID:1257245,25&cs=1B108A01466EEE10BF2A50D948A8CE494#1

²⁶ CLC TC 59X WG 21 web page: https://standards.cencenelec.eu/dyn/www/f?p=305:7:0:::FSP_ORG_ID:2148490

²⁷ [FprEN 50730](#)

²⁷ [FprEN 50730 - Professional and commercial coffee machines - Methods for measuring energy consumption](#)

²⁸ [FprEN 50730](#)

²⁹ [NEN-EN 50730:2023 Ontw. en](#)

- Halogenated flame retardants.
- Endocrine disruptors: Substances on the “Endocrine Disruptor Lists”, List I and List III.

List I: <https://edlists.org/the-ed-lists/list-i-substances-identified-as-endocrine-disruptors-by-the-eu>

List III: <https://edlists.org/the-ed-lists/list-iii-substances-identified-as-endocrine-disruptors-by-participating-national-authorities>

Ingoing substances: all substances in the product, including additives in the raw materials. Substances known to be released from ingoing substances (e.g., formaldehyde, arylamine, preservatives) are also regarded as ingoing substances.

Impurities are exempted from the requirement. This means residues from production, including raw material production, which are present in the finished product at concentrations ≤ 100 ppm ($\leq 0.1\%$ by weight, ≤ 100 mg/kg). Examples of impurities are reagent residue, including residues of monomers, catalysts, by-products, cleaning agents for production equipment, etc.

Appendix 2 "Prohibited substances in components in coffee machines that are in contact with food" must be filled in by the coffee machine manufacturer upon new purchase.

☞ Documentation must be provided by annual follow-up. The appendix "Prohibited substances in components in coffee machines that are in contact with food" must be filled in by the coffee machine manufacturer upon new purchase and must be uploaded during annual follow-up.

☞ Please upload the procedure for new coffee machine purchases, which ensures compliance with the requirement.

Background

Nordic Ecolabelling wishes to avoid instances where Nordic Swan Ecolabel services offer products containing substances that are harmful to health and the environment. In this product group, it is relevant to set requirements that chemical substances with problematic properties must not be included in the coffee machine's components that come into contact with food.

The requirement applies to all coffee machines included in the Nordic Swan Ecolabel coffee service, including bulk brewers and manual espresso machines. The requirement applies to all components in the coffee machine that are in contact with food, e.g., containers for coffee beans/coffee, grinding discs/mills, water tanks, pipes, hoses, and any couplings in the machine through which the water or coffee flows. A coffee machine must comply with Regulation 1935/2004 on materials in contact with food. Material-specific regulations for a coffee machine are only available for plastic (10/2011/EU). A corresponding European regulation for metals and alloys, or rubber in contact with food, does not yet exist. Metals and alloys are used in materials in coffee machines that come into contact with food and are, therefore, a possible source of contamination for the drink produced. Migration of substances must not occur in quantities that jeopardise human health.

All substances in the product are counted as ingoing substances, unless otherwise stated, including additives (e.g., preservatives and stabilisers) in the raw materials, but not impurities deriving from production, including raw material production. Impurities are residues from production, including raw

materials production, which may be found in the finished product at concentrations below 100 ppm (0.0100% by weight, 100 mg/kg), but not substances that have been added to a raw material or product actively and for a particular purpose, irrespective of quantity. Raw material impurities accounting for more than 1.0% of the raw material are considered ingoing substances. Products/substances known to be released from ingoing substances are also regarded as ingoing substances. A declaration of ingoing substances is issued by the producer based on the knowledge available at that specific time, using information from raw material producers/suppliers, formulations, and available knowledge of the chemical product. This is subject to new developments and new knowledge. Should such new knowledge arise, the signatory is obliged to submit an updated declaration to Nordic Ecolabelling.

Antibacterial substances may contain nanomaterials. This is not permitted.

Nanomaterials/-particles are defined according to the EU Commission Recommendation on the Definition of Nanomaterial (2022/C 229/01): 'Nanomaterial' means a natural, incidental or manufactured material consisting of solid particles that are present, either on their own or as identifiable constituent particles in aggregates or agglomerates, and where 50% or more of these particles in the number-based size distribution fulfil at least one of the following conditions:

- (a) one or more external dimensions of the particle are in the size range 1 nm to 100 nm;
- (b) the particle has an elongated shape, such as a rod, fibre or tube, where two external dimensions are smaller than 1 nm and the other dimension is larger than 100 nm;
- (c) the particle has a plate-like shape, where one external dimension is smaller than 1 nm and the other dimensions are larger than 100 nm.

O8 Coffee machine water quality

All coffee machines should not supply more than 0.005 milligrams lead/kg water (5 µg/kg).

The business must at the same time have procedures in place to ensure compliance with the requirement when purchasing new coffee machines.

The requirement applies to existing coffee machines and new purchases. The difference is measured between incoming and outgoing water from the coffee machines in line with standard EN 16889.

The risk of lead in water is applicable to coffee machines with brass or other components containing lead that are in contact with incoming and outgoing water.

The requirement can be documented in two alternative ways:

Option A: Test report from the coffee machine manufacturer in accordance with EN 16889 which shows that the requirement is met.

Option B: Documentation regarding the coffee machine which confirms that it does not contain alloys, brass or other components with lead that are in contact with incoming and outgoing water. Appendix 3 "Coffee machine water quality" may be used.

- ☞ Please upload documentation from the coffee machine manufacturers for all coffee machines regarding fulfilment of the requirement. According to option A, documentation/test report from the coffee machine manufacturer, or option B, documentation that the coffee machine does not contain brass or other lead-containing components that are in contact with incoming and outgoing water. The appendix "Coffee machine water quality" may be used.
- ☞ Please upload the procedure for new coffee machine purchases, which ensures compliance with the requirement.

Background

The requirement applies to all coffee machines included in the Nordic Swan Ecolabel coffee service with lead-containing components in contact with foodstuffs. The requirement also applies to bulk brewers and manual espresso machines.

Consumers are exposed to lead through food, water, air, soil, and dust. The main source of exposure is via food. Lead accumulates in the body, primarily in the skeleton, and affects the nervous system. Lead is also toxic to aquatic and soil organisms. Even small quantities of lead are harmful to health. Drinking water always contains a background concentration of lead.

A coffee machine may have brass components, for example, in the connections with the water main. Lead is added to brass to increase its cuttability and resistance to corrosion. These alloys may contain various levels of lead, ranging from 0.8% to 3.5%^{30, 31}. Work is currently underway, for example, in the valves and fittings industry, to develop lead-free brass alternatives. Under suboptimal conditions, there is a risk of lead migrating into stationary water in contact with brass components.

The WHO's recommended limit for lead in drinking water is 10 µg (0,01 mg)/kg water. At the same time, the Swedish Livsmedelsverket (food agency) have lowered the limit value for lead in drinking water to 5 µg (0.005 mg)/L³² due to lead's harmful effects on fetuses and children. The current limit value for lead in drinking water in EU is 10 µg/L. This limit will be reduced to 5 µg/L by January 2036.³³ At the same time is the limit value in Denmark 5 µg/L for water at the entrance to the building and 10 µg/L at the tap.^{34, 35}

If the coffee machine has components containing lead in contact with food, it is required that the machine should not release more than 5 µg (0.005 mg)/kg water in order to minimize the risk of unacceptably high concentrations of lead in the water leaving the machine, tested according to EN 16889. The standard section 4.4.2.4 sets a guideline value for the migration of lead as the following: "The

³⁰ Mikael Hansson, forsknings- & utvecklingschef, Ostnor (2015-02-19)

³¹ Copper Development Association Inc., Leaded Brasses (2015-02-19)

http://www.copper.org/resources/properties/microstructure/lead_brasses.html

³² SLV 2022. Livsmedelsverkets foreskrifter om dricksvatten, LIVSFS 2022:12

³³ Directive (EU) 2020/2184 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 December 2020 on the quality of water intended for human consumption.

³⁴ Administrative considerations for setting a limit value for lead in drinking water:

https://www2.mst.dk/Udgiv/publications/2013/12/notat_978-87-93026-74-2.pdf

³⁵ [Appendix 4 Quality requirements to drinking water, Danish Environmental Protection Agency](#)


migration of lead in test water shall not exceed the guideline value of 0,01 mg/kg". Nordic Ecolabelling's limit value is stricter than the guideline value. This is to ensure that one is not exposed to high amounts of lead supplied by the coffee machine, as coffee is often drunk daily, often several times a day. Exposure to lead is particularly problematic for pregnant women, as lead passes through the placenta to the fetus, and according to EFSA there is no lower limit for lead to affect the cognitive development of fetuses and young children.³⁶

Compliance with the limit value is to be ensured by testing the coffee machine to the European standard EN 16889 – “Food hygiene – Production and dispense of hot beverages from hot beverage appliances – Hygiene requirements, migration test”, which is the most relevant standard for testing newly manufactured machines.

6 Reuse

O9 Reuse of machine parts

When purchasing coffee machines, the business must have procedures in place to ensure that serviceable machine parts are recovered for reuse.

 Please describe how the requirement is fulfilled.


Alternatively

 Please upload the procedure(s) for the reuse of machine parts.


O10 Reuse of coffee machines

The business must have procedures in place for the reuse of used coffee machines.

The procedures ensure that used coffee machines are offered to customers as long as the machines are in good condition, and there is potential for sale/rental. The same service agreement must be offered for the selection of newly purchased coffee machines, and there must not be a maximum limit to the number of times a coffee machine can be reused.


 Please describe how the requirement is fulfilled.

Alternatively


 Please upload procedures for reusing coffee machines.

O11 Marketing of reused coffee machines

The business must have clear marketing in place for the range of reused coffee machines.

 Link to the website that shows clear marketing in accordance with the requirement.

Alternatively

 Description of how the requirement is fulfilled.

³⁶ EFSA 2010. Scientific Opinion on Lead in Food. EFSA Journal 2010; 8(4):1570. DOI:<https://doi.org/10.2903/j.efsa.2010.1570>.

Background

Nordic Ecolabelling wishes to promote reuse. From a circular perspective, it is important that the coffee machines are designed in a way that facilitates the reuse and replacement of parts and sorting of the various components at the end of life for recycling.

To optimise the lifetime of the coffee machines, it is important that the machines are repaired and that parts can be replaced. A longer service life has direct positive effects on the environmental impact and protects society from exposure to adverse environmental conditions related to producing new coffee machines. Machines that can no longer be used for various reasons can be disassembled and the parts reused.

A rental agreement for a coffee machine can often extend over several years. Once the rental agreement has expired, customers may want to change the coffee machine, even if the machine still works. Ensuring opportunities to reuse these used machines will help reduce the environmental impact. These are machines that can still be offered to customers, preferably at a reduced price compared to new machines. Therefore, Nordic Ecolabelling requires that the reuse of machines be communicated to customers so that they can actively make sustainable choices when it comes to reusing coffee machines.

7 Transport

O12 Information on the coffee service's vehicles

Overview of all vehicles which is used by the coffee service with registration numbers, Euronorm, and information on fuels, e.g., electricity, biogas, hydrogen, petrol, diesel, or hybrid.

- 🏠 Please upload an overview covering all vehicles, with information according to the requirement. Please use the sheet "Vehicle" in the "Template for reporting requirements" to document the requirement.

Background

Drawing up a vehicle overview tells the business what fuel types are being used, making it possible to rank the vehicles from good to less good. Vehicles that meet older Euronorm standards should be phased out when the time comes to replace them and switch to new ones.

O13 New vehicle purchases

The business must have procedures in place to ensure that newly purchased and leased vehicles are either powered by electricity, biogas, or hydrogen or meet the latest applicable Euronorm at the time of purchase.

The requirement concerns the applicant's own and leased vehicles driven in the provision of the service, e.g., for customer visits, servicing, and deliveries of raw materials.

New vehicles will always comply with the currently applicable Euronorm. As of 2023, the latest Euronorm is Euro 6. Euro 7 is expected to be introduced in 2025.

The Euronorm/Euroclass system does not cover electric vehicles.

- 🏠 Please upload the procedure which ensures that newly purchased and leased vehicles are either powered by electricity, biogas, or hydrogen or meet the latest applicable Euronorm/Euroclass standard.

Background

Nordic Ecolabelling sets requirements concerning new purchases and leasing of vehicles. Requiring that newly purchased or leased vehicles either comply with the latest applicable Euronorm/Euroclass standard or run on electricity, biogas, or hydrogen ensures that the business applies relevant environmental criteria to its vehicle acquisitions. Euronorm/Euroclass is a European classification system that specifies the highest permitted emissions of a wide range of air pollutants for cars, goods vehicles, and buses. This, together with requirements for training in environmentally adapted driving, will reduce in the business's environmental impact from transport.

The uptake of electric vehicles is showing a rapid growth in the areas of cars and light commercial vehicles. Heavy goods vehicles are not as easy to electrify and currently require other solutions. The charging options for electric vehicles are good in central areas but challenging in some districts and parts of the Nordic region. This is why we do not set a 100% requirement for electrically powered vehicles.

O14 Transport optimisation

The business must have procedures in place to optimise transport.

As a minimum, the procedures must include a description of how the business optimises its routes by providing good servicing planning and customer follow-up.

- 🏠 Please upload procedures for optimising transport.

Background

Transport optimisation and good route planning make transport more resource efficient. As the distance travelled is optimised, the number of vehicles used can be reduced, the number of stops per trip increases, and the load factor increases. Routine optimization can be planned in advance for businesses with a large proportion of fixed routes. On the other hand, businesses with varying routes need to run the optimisation over the course of the day.

Businesses with a digital planning system can save a great deal by using this to optimise transport and plan routes.

O15 Training in environmentally adapted and economical driving

All employees who use the business's vehicles must undergo training in environmentally adapted and economical driving (Eco-driving).

The training must take place no later than two months after licensing.

New employees must receive training within three months.

The theory behind environmentally adapted and economical driving should then be repeated annually.

Training in environmentally adapted and economical driving (Eco-driving) can be carried out as a course via authorised driving schools or their equivalent. Alternatively, internal training may be carried out via a course for employees.

Annual repetition of theory does not require an authorized driving instructor or equivalent but can be carried out internally in and by the company.

Environmentally adapted and economical driving is part of basic driver training in Sweden, and all Swedish businesses, therefore, meet the training requirement. The requirement regarding annual repetition of the theory remains relevant.

- 🔗 Please describe how the training in environmentally adapted and economical driving for all employees, new employees, and annual repetition is carried out, according to the requirement.

Alternatively

- 📁 Please upload documentation that verify employee training according to the requirement.

Background

“Eco-driving” is a term used to describe environmentally adapted and economical driving. Training in environmentally adapted and economical driving will result in reduced fuel consumption and carbon emissions, and a focus on greater road safety. Experience indicates that average fuel savings of 16–20%³⁷ can be achieved, which leads to a smaller climate footprint and reduced costs. Courses are often based on a combination of theory and practical driving. Nordic Ecolabelling, therefore, requires the business’s employees to receive training and to repeat the theory for environmentally adapted and economical driving annually.

8 Chemicals

O16 Information on chemicals

Overview of all the chemicals expected to be used to clean the coffee service’s coffee machines. Enter the name, supplier, and cleaning function of the chemicals.

- 📁 Please upload an overview of all the chemicals to be used. Enter the name, supplier, and cleaning function. Please use the sheet "Chemicals" in the "Template for reporting requirements" to document the requirement.

- 👤 On-site inspection.

Background

Nordic Ecolabelling requires a total overview of all the chemicals used to clean the coffee service’s coffee machines. The chemicals’ name, supplier, and cleaning function must be stated. All the chemicals used must meet the classification requirement.

O17 Classification of cleaning products for coffee machines

None of the cleaning products used for cleaning coffee machines may be classified in any of the hazard categories in the table below.

³⁷ NAF, HMS i trafikken: <https://www.naf.no/tjenester/trafikksikkerhet-for-bedrifter/trafikksikkerhet/hms-i-trafikken/>

Prohibited classifications for other chemicals

CLP Regulation 1272/2008		
Hazard statement	Hazard category	Hazard code
Hazardous to the aquatic environment	Acute category 1 Chronic categories 1-4	H400, H410, H411, H412, H413
Acute toxicity	Categories 1-4	H300, H310, H330, H301, H311, H331, H302, H312, H332
Specific target organ toxicity - single exposure/repeated exposure	STOT SE categories 1-2	H370, H371, H372, H373
Aspiration hazard	Category 1	H304
Sensitisation on inhalation or skin contact	Category 1/1A/1B	H334, H317, or labelled with EUH 208: "Contains (name of the sensitising substance) May cause an allergic reaction".
Carcinogenic	Category 1A/1B/2	H350, H351
Germ cell mutagenicity	Category 1A/1B/2	H340, H341
Reproductive toxicity	Category 1A/1B/2/Lact.	H360, H361, H362
Endocrine disruption for human health	ED HH 1 ED HH 2	EUH380 EUH381
Endocrine disruption for the environment	ED ENV 1 ED ENV 2	EUH431 EUH431
Persistent, bioaccumulative and toxic properties	PBT	EUH440
Very persistent, very bioaccumulative properties	vPvB	EUH441
Persistent, Mobile and Toxic properties	PMT	EUH450
Very Persistent, Very Mobile properties	vPvM	EUH451

Note that responsibility for correct classification lies with the manufacturer.

- 🏠 Please upload safety data sheets in accordance with current European legislation (Annex II to REACH Regulation, 1907/2006/EC) for all relevant chemicals used.

Background

All chemicals that the coffee service offers its customers for cleaning coffee machines must meet the requirement concerning hazard classification. The requirement has been set based on Nordic Ecolabelling's objective to reduce ecotoxic substances in the aquatic environment and to safeguard the working environment of those using the products.

The Nordic Swan Ecolabel has included the new CLP classifications to align with the European Green Deal's goal of a toxic-free environment. This inclusion reflects the need to establish hazard identification for endocrine disruptors and addresses criteria for environmental toxicity, persistency, mobility and bioaccumulation. By incorporating these classifications, Nordic Swan Ecolabel ensures that the criteria relate to up-to-date scientific understanding and

regulatory compliance. Additionally, the inclusion of PMT and vPvM substances is crucial due to their persistence, mobility and potential impact on water quality. The Nordic Swan Ecolabel aims for comprehensive hazard identification and protection of the environment and human health.

O18 Safety data sheets and user information

Safety data sheets (in line with Annex II to REACH, Regulation (EC) 1907/2006) and user information must be available for the customers of the coffee service, either electronically or on paper.

🔗 Please describe how the requirement is met.

📍 On-site inspection.

Background

The safety of the employees who will be using the chemicals must be taken seriously, which is why there is a requirement that safety data sheets and user information must be available to the coffee service's customers. User information refers to how the product is to be used and any possible care that must be taken during use – for example, whether gloves or other protective equipment must be worn when using the product and what, if any, are correct first aid measures.

9 Customer's environmental practices

O19 Energy-saving

- The energy-saving function should be activated at installation if appropriate, in consultation with the customer and according to the customer's needs.
- The coffee service's customers must receive information on how the coffee machine is used as energy-efficiently as possible for their needs.

🔗 Please describe how the requirement is met.

Background

Automated coffee machines often come with an energy-saving function. This function must be activated when installing the coffee machine, as it does not switch on by itself. Nordic Ecolabelling, therefore, requires Nordic Swan Ecolabel coffee services to ensure that the energy-saving function is activated on installation time according to the customer's needs. For most people, it will be energy-smart to have the energy-saving function switched on, but for some businesses that needs coffee available around the clock, it will not be appropriate. For example, in hospitals or other businesses where people come around the clock.

Knowing how to use various functions of the coffee machines can help manage energy consumption, and it is therefore required that customers receive information on how to use the coffee machine most efficiently.

O20 Customer instructions

There must be clear customer instructions in written or digital form, which describes that the customer is responsible for the following:

- Cleaning and maintenance

- Description
 - Frequency
 - Which cleaning products to use
 - Refilling the machine
 - Waste management
- 🏠 There must be clear customer instructions in written or digital form, according to the requirement. Please upload an example of the customer instructions showing that the requirement is fulfilled.

Alternatively

- 🔗 Link to an example of digital customer instructions showing that the requirement is fulfilled.

Background

For the coffee machine to function well, it must be regularly maintained and serviced by on-site personnel who have received clear instructions on how to carry out this work. A poorly maintained coffee machine can have higher energy consumption and produce coffee and drinks that do not taste good. If the coffee machine is not cleaned regularly, there may be hygiene issues as the machine handles food. The customer must therefore be provided with written instructions on cleaning/servicing the coffee machine.

O21 Waste management

The business should encourage the recycling of the coffee service's delivered products and packaging by informing its customers about proper waste management.

As a minimum, communication on waste management should include the following information:

- Coffee grounds should be sorted as organic waste and sent for biological treatment.
- Packaging materials, such as plastic and cardboard, should be sorted at source.
- Disposable items should be sorted at source according to local legislation, or as indicated on the items.

Disposable articles in cardboard with or without a laminate of plastic foil should be sorted in cardboard/paper waste. Disposable articles made of biodegradable compostable material should be sorted into residual waste, unless the business has an agreement with an industrial composting facility. Disposable plastic lids should be sorted as plastic waste. Disposable lids and other items made of bagasse shall be marked as cardboard and sorted in cardboard/paper waste.

- Sorting at source should be encouraged if the business does not have an already established system.

- 🔗 Please describe how the business encourage the recycling of the coffee service's delivered products and packaging, according to the requirement.

Alternatively

- 🏠 Please upload documentation showing that the requirement is met.

Background

Nordic Ecolabelling wishes to encourage the correct sorting of the waste fractions generated to ensure the highest possible degree of recycling. The coffee service is in a position to inform and influence its customers on the proper disposal of the waste generated from the products delivered. Coffee production generates enormous amounts of waste. Approximately 4,000–5,000 coffee cherries are used for a kilo of roasted ground coffee³⁸, and all the pulp around the coffee bean is waste. This is not something the service itself can prevent. On the other hand, the service can encourage correct handling of the waste that occurs at the customer's premises and make a positive contribution by encouraging recycling in the final section of the waste cycle over which the customer has steerability.

There are differences in the Nordic region concerning how waste is sorted, which fractions are recycled, and whether food waste is sent for biological treatment. Procedures may also differ between municipalities/districts within the same country. From 2023, for example, the Norwegian authorities will require food and plastic waste to be sorted and processed.³⁹

It is a prerequisite that the municipal waste systems allow for recycling via sorting at source. If they do not, the coffee service does not have steerability over the customer's waste management. Nevertheless, it is worth encouraging sorting at source if the business does not have an established system.

Disposable articles in cardboard laminated with plastic must be sorted as cardboard and are recycled as other food and drink cartons.

Disposable articles in cardboard where the barrier layer is wax, or varnish can unfortunately be recycled and should be sorted as residual waste.

Disposable cups and lids produced with material that is biodegradable and intended for industrial composting does not mean that the packaging can be used in biogas production via organic waste. Such packaging will in most cases be sorted out as incorrect fraction at the facilities and thus go to an incineration plant. There are few facilities in the Nordics that handle industrial compost, and unless the businesses have an agreement locally, these disposable items should be sorted as residual waste.

Disposable items in bagasse must be marked with cardboard and sorted accordingly. Often, cardboard is sorted together with paper, so unless you have separate fractions for "cardboard " and "paper", you can sort bagasse as "cardboard and paper".

P5 Points for no sale of disposable items

The business achieves 2 points if they do not sell disposable items to their customers.

By disposable items it is here ment as articles such as disposable cups, lids and stir sticks.

The business achieves 1 point if they do not sell disposable items other than paper cups to their customers.

³⁸ Norsk Kaffeinformasjon, Kaffeplanten: <https://kaffe.no/kaffeplanten/>

³⁹ <https://www.miljodirektoratet.no/aktuelt/fagmeldinger/2022/juni-2022/nye-krav-til-kjeldesortering-og-materialgjenvinning/> (12.12.2022)

This means no sale of items such as lids and stir sticks.

- ☞ To achieve 2 points, please upload documentation that confirm that disposable items are not sold.
- ☞ To achieve 1 point, please upload documentation that confirm that no other disposable items other than paper cups is sold.

Alternatively

- ☞ Please, describe how the requirement is fulfilled.
- 📍 On-site inspection.

O22 Disposable items

When selling disposable items, the business must at the same time prevent the unnecessary use of disposable items. The coffee service must:

- Encourage the customer to have reusable cups as an alternative to disposable cups.
 - Encourage the customer to prevent the unnecessary use of disposable cups and lids.
 - Inform the customer about the benefits of reduced consumption of disposable items and about the negative environmental impact of disposable items.
 - When using single-use disposable items, efforts must be made to offer Nordic Ecolabelled disposable items, as well as disposable items that can be recycled.
- ☞ Please describe how the business work preventive in accordance with the requirement.

Alternatively

- ☞ Please upload information about the preventive work in accordance with the requirement.

Background

The requirement aims to reduce the unnecessary consumption of disposable items that are only used for a few minutes. Nordic Ecolabelling believes this represents an unnecessary use of resources and that disposable cups can easily be replaced with reusable alternatives such as ceramic cups in workplaces, hotels, etc. However, it is understood that some companies do not have the option of washing cups. There is, therefore, no prohibition on the sale of disposable items, but a point score requirement to motivate to reduced sales. In addition, there is a requirement for the coffee service to inform the customer about options to prevent unnecessary use of disposables.

On 1 January 2024, a Swedish national law enters into force: "Förordning (2021:996) om engångsprodukter"⁴⁰. The aim of this regulation is to reduce littering and promote a circular economy. Everyone who serves take away food and drink/ "fast food" must offer their guests to have the food served in reusable cups and lunch boxes. This means that all businesses that serve coffee to guests as take-away, such as cafes, hotels, catering establishments, etc. must be able to

⁴⁰ [Förordning \(2021:996\) om engångsprodukter: svenskforfattningssamling.se](https://www.svenskforfattningssamling.se)

offer reusable cups. It is therefore not only permitted to offer disposable cups for coffee. In addition, anyone who offers disposable crockery at the point of sale must inform consumers of:

- the option of receiving the food/drinks in a reusable cup/lunch box
- the environmental impact of the use of disposable items
- the benefits of reduced consumption of disposable items. The information must be visible and easily accessible to the consumer.

There are exceptions to the legislation, for example with regards on how many disposable items that are sold per day. The requirement only applies to businesses that sell over 150 units, and the legal requirements only apply to food/drinks that are resold/served.

Nordic Ecolabelling has chosen to include the parts of the legislation that may be relevant to the coffee service, so that a Nordic Swan Ecolabelled coffee service meets the requirements of the Swedish legislation. Note that the legislation covers more than the serving of coffee and that a food and drink service must comply with the legislation as a whole and not just the parts that are relevant to coffee.

10 Purchasing of ecolabelled goods and services

P6 Points for purchasing ecolabelled products and services

The business receives points for purchasing ecolabelled products and services relevant to the coffee service. 100% of each category must be ecolabelled to obtain points at this requirement unless otherwise specified. In addition, points can be achieved for the use of electric cars. A maximum of 5 points can be achieved in this requirement.

In this instance, ecolabelled means products with the Nordic Swan Ecolabel or the EU Ecolabel.

Products and services which are points-giving:

Ecolabelled products and services	Points
Nordic Swan Ecolabelled vehicle wash installation for 50% of the business's vehicles	3 points
Nordic Swan Ecolabelled fuel for 50% of the business's vehicles	2 points
A minimum of 50% of the company's cars are electric cars	2 points
Ecolabelled workwear	1 point
Ecolabelled office furniture, one category	1 point (max 1 category)

🏠 To achieve points, please upload relevant documentation showing the purchase, supplier, and licence number.

🔍 On-site inspection.

Background

Ecolabelled products and services meet rigorous environmental requirements and have taken a holistic approach to their environmental work. This means that they are among the best in their category or industry in terms of the environment. Nordic Ecolabelling, therefore, rewards the use of ecolabelled goods and services that are relevant to the coffee service. 100% of the total purchase of the product or service in question must be ecolabelled to be eligible for points unless otherwise specified. For example, points are awarded if 100% of all purchased workwear are ecolabelled, if the service uses Nordic Swan Ecolabelled vehicle wash installations for 50% of its vehicles, and if 100% of one category of furniture, such as office chairs, is ecolabelled. In addition to the purchase of ecolabelled products and services, points are achieved for the use of electric cars. In requirement regarding disposable items, it is encouraged to buy ecolabelled disposable items. At the same time, there we do not reward with points for the purchase of ecolabelled disposable items, because we want the coffee service to actively work on prevention and reduced consumption of disposable items.

11 Environmental management

O23 Responsible person

The requirement has been removed because it is covered in the initial application information.

Background

A responsible person is required to ensure that Nordic Ecolabelling's requirements are fulfilled throughout the entire validity period of the licence and that the annual follow-up and reporting are completed. The business may comprise several departments but should, in the first instance, appoint just one person to be responsible for the licence and contact with Nordic Ecolabelling. The business may internally split responsibility between different departments and several people.

O24 Communication with staff

The business must have a procedure that ensures that all employees who participate in the day-to-day operation of the business must complete basic training on the environmental work of the business.

The training should include, as a minimum:

- Information on what holding the Nordic Swan Ecolabel means for the business.
- Communication about the environmental work, which can be used in dialogue with customers.
- Coffee's environmental impact.
- What the employees can and must do to help with the environmental work.

Training must take place no later than two months after obtaining the Nordic Swan Ecolabel licence. After that, all employees must annually repeat/update their basic training. New employees must receive the necessary training within two months.

Nordic Ecolabelling's "Training material", can be used for these training purposes.

- 🏠 Please upload the business's basic training showing how employees are trained, in accordance with the requirement. Nordic Ecolabelling's "Training material", can be used for these training purposes.
- 🏠 Please upload the procedure that ensures the training for all employees and new employees and describes how the annual repetition is carried out.
- 🔗 On-site inspection.

Background

Knowledge of the business's environmental work and what it means to hold the Nordic Swan Ecolabel is important in giving employees a shared understanding of their environmental work. With proper training, employees will be able to use information about the business's environmental work in their communication, which can be a major competitive advantage in dialogue with potential and existing customers.

O25 Annual follow-up

The business must ensure that Nordic Ecolabelling's requirements are fulfilled throughout the licence period. In the event of changes and new purchases, the business must submit and update information about the following:

- Certified raw materials
- Coffee machines, information on energy efficiency, water quality and prohibited substances
- Vehicles

The business will review and document information annually in accordance with the requirement. The follow-up from Nordic Ecolabelling may involve a review of either all information or only selected elements. Information about any follow-up and deadline for reporting is provided in advance.

- 🏠 Please describe how the requirement is met.

Background

The business must ensure that the requirements set out in the criteria are fulfilled at all times during the validity period of the licence. An internal follow-up and reporting to Nordic Ecolabelling must be conducted once a year. Nordic Ecolabelling may conduct a review of either all the information reported or only selected elements. A decision on this is made year by year. Information is provided on the checks and the deadline for submission of information well in advance of an annual follow-up. Information about the annual follow-up is usually given before the end of the year, with a deadline in the spring of the following year.

The purpose of the annual follow-up is to ensure compliance with the requirements at all times. It is always the latest version of reported data that forms the basis for fulfilling the licence. If the annual report reveals deviations or changes that result in no longer meeting the requirements, this must be reported to Nordic Ecolabelling. We will then jointly try to find a solution.

O26 Complaints

The licensee must guarantee that the quality of the service is maintained throughout the licence period. The licensee must therefore keep an archive of customer complaints.

🏠 Please upload the business's procedure for handling and archiving complaints.

Background

Nordic Ecolabelling requires the business to have a system for handling complaints. To document this, the procedure for complaints handling must be submitted. The procedure must be dated and signed and will normally be part of the business's quality management system. If the business does not have a procedure for handling complaints, it is possible to submit a description of how the business handles this matter. Nordic Ecolabelling checks, on-site, that complaints handling is implemented in the business as described. The complaints archive will also be checked during the visit.

12 Summary of points

O27 Obligatory requirement concerning points achieved

The coffee service must achieve a minimum of 7 points.

Calculation of points

Point score requirement	Number of points scored	Maximum no. of points
P1 Points for certified raw materials		6 points
P2 Points for organic coffee		7 points
P3 Points for organic cocoa, tea, and milk		3 points
P4 Points for agroforestry		2 points
P5 Points for no sale of disposable items		2 points
P6 Points for purchasing ecolabelled products and services		5 points
Total		25 points

🏠 Please upload a summary of points calculation. The sheet "Summary of points" in the "Template for reporting requirements" can be used to document the requirement.

13 Changes compared to the previous generation

Main changes

Based on the updated RPS, the main changes are as follows:

- Change to the product group definition; the entire service must meet the requirements.
- Opening requirement for information about the business.
- Introduction to the section on “environmental management”.
- 80% of all raw materials for beverages must be certified, where “certified” includes all certification schemes approved by Nordic Ecolabelling.
- 20% of all coffee must be organic certified.
- Introduction of motivational point score requirement for the purchase of certified, as well as organic certified coffee, tea, cocoa, and milk.
- Introduction of motivational point score requirement for coffee grown in agroforestry.
- Adapted energy requirement to ensure that the entire service can carry the Nordic Swan Ecolabel.
- Introduction of circular requirement with a focus on reuse.
- Updated requirement for transport, inspired by the criteria for cleaning services and e-commerce logistics.
- Updated chemical requirement.
- Requirement aimed at preventing the use of disposable items.
- Introduction of motivational point score requirement for the purchase of ecolabelled products and services.