

List of sanctions (International agriculture)

What happens, if infringements/non-conformities are determined during an inspection?

Sanctions to be provided for violations of the Regulation (EC) No 834/2007 and 889/2008 in the current version.

Level	Sanction	Deadline	Consequence	Example
1	Warning	4 Weeks	The warning is given with conditions to be improved and have to be fulfilled within a certain deadline.	Minor offences in the sections crop production, animal husbandry, feeding etc. (e.g. not enough litter in the stable)
2	Increased record-keeping and reporting obligations	10 Days	This sanction is also given with conditions to be improved and have to be fulfilled within the deadline.	Minor offences regarding recording, which result in handing in documents subsequently (e.g. to complete reports)
3	Follow-up inspections at the client's expense		Due to offences against the guidelines a follow-up spot check takes place. A service fee will be charged.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Constant repeat of offences resulting in S1 and S2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Serious offences have to be corrected within a short period, which has to be checked
4	Downgrading of a product	immediately	<p>In agreement with the Authority the following can happen:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extension of the conversion time • Downgrading of a product • Downgrading of a production unit or farm into conversion period • Follow-up inspection at the client's expense <p>Charging a service fee</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Utilisation of forbidden pesticides or fertilizers • Contamination of pesticides or fertilizers with third party fault • Severe feeding offence • Repeated failure to comply with deadlines • Repeated serious offences <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Offences regarding animal purchase; recipes/formulations; false labelling
	Downgrading of a production unit	immediately		
	Downgrading of the whole farm into conversion period	immediately		
5	Termination of the inspection contract		<p>This is an issue under private law between the farm and inspection body.</p> <p>Informing relevant authorities.</p>	

Please consider: Even slight deficiencies may lead to a tightening of sanctions in case of repetition.

Remark: If a sanction has to be imposed, the respective number (1 to 5) appears on the inspection report. ABG's inspectors have to explain the imposed sanction and its consequences. Each imposed sanction will be checked and confirmed or corrected by a member of ABG staff once more.