

NATRUE Criteria

NATRUE certification is possible for finished products, raw materials and formulations.

For finished products, at least 75% of the products within a brand (brand or sub-brand) must be certified. There are 2 certification levels: natural cosmetics and organic cosmetics. In the case of organic cosmetics, 95% of the natural and near-natural raw materials of organic origin must be certified organic.

Raw materials are divided into natural, derived-natural (Annex 3), nature-identical raw materials (Annexes 2 and 4) and water. All raw materials used in NATRUE finished products must be either NATRUE certified or NATRUE approved and thus meet the criteria. Products and raw materials are marked with the NATRUE logo and listed in a database.

The use of accepted raw materials is regulated in the NATRUE technical guide and must be verified by the certification body.

Terms of the NATRUE classification:

Product	Classification	Category
Cosmetic Finished Product	Certification	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organic Cosmetic or Natural Cosmetic
Raw material	Raw Material Approval	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Natural derived natural nature-identical Water
Raw material	Raw Material Certification	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Natural with organic content derived natural with organic content
Raw material	Raw Material Acceptance for NATRUE, evaluated by Certified Body of organic certified substances according IFOAM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Natural organic substances Derived natural organic substances <p>-from controlled organic farming under the scope of IFOAM</p>
Raw material	Acceptance	- Defined in the technical guidelines

= published in NATRUE database = recognized by certified body

The current criteria for using the label can be found here:

<http://www.natrue.org/de/our-standard/natrue-criteria/>

A description of the certification and approval process can be found here:

<https://www.natrue.org/de/our-standard/certification-process-step-step/>

More detailed explanations of the NATRUE criteria can be found here: [NATRUE Technical Guide](#)

Requirements for certification or approval

bio.inspecta would like to support you in ensuring that the NATRUE product or raw material certification/approval process runs successfully and efficiently with manageable effort. You will find a list of the necessary steps and requirements, although some steps can also be carried out at the same time.

In order to be able to use our service, we need a registration and an up-to-date business description from each company. We will send you the appropriate forms.

You can use the logo and the designation NATRUE after an *Agreement on the Usage of the NATRUE Label* has been concluded with NATRUE (see documents under Finished Product or Raw Material Certification on the [NATRUE homepage](#)).

NATRUE certification process (Procedure for authorization on p. 5)

1. Documentation for certification:

For each brand or per company, in the case of raw material certification, you must submit documentation *NATRUE products or documentation NATRUE raw materials* (23_125 or 23_126, see [Orders, Application Forms](#) or via the bio.inspecta website [Documentation NATRUE](#)).

2. Recipe approval for finished products

Submit the recipe to us using Form 23_124EN or as a NATRUE form Calculation sheet for Finished Products certification level (see [orders Application Forms](#) via [orders](#) or [Calculation sheet for Finished Products certification level](#)). We need at least the raw material name, the INCI designation, the manufacturer or supplier and the proportion in the product (columns B-E). Columns F and G are filled in by bio.inspecta. In this form, please use one line per INCI in a raw material. If you need more than 30 rows (1st spreadsheet), simply use the 2nd spreadsheet for the complete recipe. We check the recipe and give you feedback on the classification of the product (natural cosmetics or organic cosmetics).

Please note that all raw materials used must be either NATRUE approved or NATRUE certified and listed in the database (<https://www.natrue.org/de/our-standard/natrue-certified-world/>).

3. Raw Material Approval

All raw materials used in NATRUE finished products are subject to at least one approval, for which the respective supplier is responsible. Organic raw materials are exempt from this, organic raw materials with a valid organic certificate are approved by the certification body. Further exceptions for accepted raw materials are listed in the [NATRUE technical guide](#) and are checked and, if necessary, released by the certification body in accordance with the NATRUE criteria. The finished product manufacturers only need to check whether the raw materials are already approved in NATRUE's database.

For finished products registered before 01.07.2024, the grandfathering rule applies. All raw materials used in these products are accepted as long as the recipe is unchanged. Details are explained in the [NATRUE technical guide](#) under Chapter C NATRUE Raw Materials Scheme.

For more information on raw material approval for raw material manufacturers, see NATRUE approval process on page 3.

4. Label/packaging and marketing document approval

Submit the good-to-print to bio.inspecta via [orders](#) (can be in the same order as the recipe and any associated raw materials). All labels/packaging materials must be approved before printing. Marketing materials with the NATRUE logo or reference to "NATRUE" must also be approved.

5. Preliminary certification

In the case of a new brand to be certified, bio.inspecta can issue a provisional certificate after the successful approvals of the first 4 steps. From this point on, NATRUE products can be marketed. The audit must be carried out no later than 6 months after the date of issue of this provisional certificate.

6. Audit

The audit takes place at the production site and assembly site. To prepare, you can use the preparation checklist 23_372, which is sent out in advance of the audit.

7. Definitive certification

After successful completion of the audit, the definitive certificate can be issued. The certification is valid for 2 years from the final certification after successful inspection or from the expiry of the previous certification.

8. Adding new products

If a product within an existing brand - or a raw material - is newly applied for via orders, this can be certified. If the last audit was less than 12 months ago, we can add the newly certified product to your product list after successful steps 1-4. You can download the product list in [Easy-Cert](#) on a daily basis and according to your needs.

In the case of a new brand, or if the last audit was more than 12 months ago, a provisional certificate can be issued and an audit within 6 months is required for final certification. In this audit, of course, other products that are to be recertified can also be looked at, so costs can be saved.

Summary of the steps leading up to initial certification:

1. Registration:
 - a. Send registration form (23_022EN) to bio.inspecta
 - b. Send Agreement on the usage of the NATRUE Label to NATRUE
 - c. Send company description (23_083EN) and documentation NATRUE (23_125EN / 23_126EN) to bio.inspecta
2. Product registration via orders with 23_124EN and other necessary documentation for raw materials and packaging material
3. Once all documents are complete, we can issue the provisional certificate
4. On-site audit
5. Definitive certification

NATRUE Raw Material Approval Procedure (Certification Process on p. 3)

1. Raw Material Approval

In all finished products newly registered from 01.07.2024, the raw materials used are subject to at least one approval, for which the respective supplier is responsible. To do this, register for our service and submit the required information about the raw material to us via [orders](#) (you will receive the login after registering with bio.inspecta). The easiest way to do this is with the RMDF (Raw Material Documentation File, see also [RMDF Explanation](#)) with any additional documents such as organic certificate, GMO-free confirmation, RSPO certificate (Minimum MB quality) ISO 9235 for perfume substances, etc. If the raw material is already listed in the NATRUE database, no further approval is required.

Organic raw materials from the IFOAM Family of Standards are approved by us with a valid organic certificate.

Other accepted raw materials that are tested and approved by us are explained in the [NATRUE technical guide](#) under Chapter C NATRUE Raw Materials Scheme.

2. Documentation for approval

For each company, you submit a *documentation NATRUE raw materials* (23_126EN, see [Orders, Application Forms](#)).

3. Label/packaging and marketing document approval

In the case of a NATRUE claim, submit the good-for-print to bio.inspecta via [orders](#) (can be in the same order as the documentation of the raw material). All labels/packaging materials with a NATRUE claim must be approved before printing. Marketing materials with the NATRUE logo or reference to "NATRUE" must also be approved.

4. Approval

After successful completion of the tests, the raw materials can be approved. At this point, they will be added to the NATRUE database (<https://www.natrue.org/de/our-standard/natrue-certified-world/>) and you will receive a certificate of approval from us.

5. Audit

An audit may be necessary, which takes place at the production site and assembly site. To prepare, you can use the preparation checklist 23_372, which is sent out in advance of the audit.

6. Adding new raw materials

If a new raw material is applied for via [orders](#), it can be approved after successful steps 1 – 4. We will then enter the new raw material into the NATRUE database.

Summary Steps to Approval:

1. Registration:
 - a. Send registration form (23_022EN) to bio.inspecta
 - b. Send Agreement on the usage of the NATRUE Label to NATRUE
 - c. Send company description (23_083EN) and documentation NATRUE (23_126EN) to bio.inspecta
2. Product registration via orders with the necessary documentation for raw materials and packaging material
3. If all documents are complete, we can approve the raw material
4. In exceptional cases there is an inspection on site.

For more information, visit www.bio-inspecta.ch or contact our experts directly:

cosmetics@bio-inspecta.ch

Monika Mönks +41 (0) 62 552 10 01

Mirjam Quendt +41 (0) 62 865 63 05

Nomen Böttcher +41 (0) 62 865 63 47

bio.inspecta AG

q.inspecta GmbH

Ackerstrasse 117CH-5070 Frick

+41 (0) 62 865 63 00

info@bio-inspecta.ch