

**Nordic Ecolabelling of
Grocery stores**

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Nordic Ecolabelling

In November 1989, the Nordic Council of Ministers adopted a measure to implement an official voluntary ecolabelling scheme, the Nordic Ecolabel, also known as the Swan. The organizations/companies listed below administer the Nordic Ecolabelling scheme on assignment from their national governments.

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Quotations may be made provided that Nordic Ecolabelling is stated as the source.

Nordic Ecolabelling of grocery stores

Draft for comment

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What is a Nordic Ecolabelled grocery store?

The Nordic Ecolabelling of a grocery store means adopting a comprehensive approach to environmental measures to reduce environmental impact. The store shall comply with environmental requirements within a number of different areas including its product range, energy conservation, packaging, waste management, transport and consumables.

Why choose the Nordic Ecolabel?

- The Nordic Ecolabel effectively communicates the measures taken to reduce environmental impact regarding the product range, energy, refrigeration equipment and waste.
- The store may use the Swan trademark for marketing purposes. The Nordic Ecolabel, the Swan, is a very well-known and well-reputed trademark.
- The Nordic Ecolabel is a cost-effective and simple way of communicating environmental work and commitment to customers and suppliers.
- Reducing environmental impact often creates scope for lowering costs, for example by lowering energy consumption and reducing the amount of packaging and waste.
- Environmentalised operations prepare the store for future environmental legislation.
- Environmental issues are complex. It can take a long time to gain a sound understanding. The Nordic Ecolabel is an aid in this work.

On-site inspection

During the application process, Nordic Ecolabelling performs an on-site inspection to ensure adherence to the requirements. For this inspection, data used for calculations, original copies of submitted certificates, test records, purchase statistics, and similar documents that support the application must be available for examination.

Enquiries

Please contact Nordic Ecolabelling if you have any queries or require further information. See page 2 for addresses.

Which stores can be Nordic Ecolabelled?

Grocery stores in which groceries account for more than 50% of turnover on an annual basis can apply for the Nordic Ecolabel.

Examples of grocery stores include traditional shops, web shops, wholesalers and large kiosks.

If the store also has a restaurant, the restaurant cannot be marketed as Nordic Ecolabelled unless a separate licence exists for this.

How to apply

The simplest way to apply is to submit an application over the internet using the Nordic Ecolabel guide for grocery stores. This criteria document can also be used as a checklist with the exception of target and “actual” energy requirements in Section 1.3.

The application comprises an application form and a check list (i.e. the criteria document or the web application and associated documentation). The application shall be sent to Nordic Ecolabelling in the country in which the grocery store is located. See page 2 for addresses.

What are the requirements for the Nordic Ecolabel?

To qualify for the Nordic Ecolabel, the store must fulfil various requirements. Each requirement in this document is indicated with an O or a P and a number. O means that the requirement is obligatory and P means that points are awarded.

In Section 1.2, the points for organic and ecolabelled products are scored. This total shall not be included in the total score.

The award of a Nordic Ecolabel licence requires:

- Fulfilment of all obligatory requirements.
- A point score of 67%, i.e. 33 out of a maximum score of 49.5 points. *Observe that Section 1.2 has its own points calculation which must not be included in the total score.*
- An approved inspection visit by Nordic Ecolabelling.

Each requirement has an icon that indicates how the applicant must demonstrate compliance. These icons are:

- ☒ Submit.
- ☺ Requirement checked on site.

Note that the requirement to submit documentation can often be fulfilled through the online application.

1 Environmental requirements

1.1 Description of the store

Obligatory requirements

O1 Description of the store

Description of the store including:

Number of employees.

Floor area in m² (retail space, offices, staff rooms, stock rooms (including cold storage) and technical areas).

Location: Is the store located in a densely populated area? Does the store stand alone or is it one of several retail units in a building? If applicable, who owns the retail complex?

Type of store: Is the store a small convenience store, a discount store, a supermarket, a hypermarket or something else?

Is the store part of a retail chain or a group? (If yes, which?)

Annual turnover exclusive of VAT, and sales of groceries as a percentage of total sales.

Number of products.

Description of the store as specified above.

1.2 Product range

Points for ecolabelled and organic products

Use Table 1 to calculate the store's point score. A maximum of five points can be awarded for each individual product category (Pc), dependent on how many organic or ecolabelled products the store holds. The greater the number of organic and ecolabelled products, the better the score.

Make an inventory of the product categories and how many ecolabelled products there are in each category. It is permitted to make regular changes to the product range in the store so long as it can be guaranteed that the store fulfils the score and product range requirements under O2.

Note that this points system, i.e. Table 1 and 2, is independent of the total points calculation. It is the points achieved under P3 that are included in the total point score.

A product is defined by its trade name and commodity number. A single product must only have one commodity number. A product must only be included once. On the other hand, a product which is marked with both Fairtrade and an organic label, for example KRAV, may receive points under both Pc1-21 and Pc24. For example, a banana which is marked with both KRAV and Fairtrade labels receives points under Pc1 and Pc24.

Table 1 Calculation of product category scores

Product category (Pc)	Score for no. of different products					
Organic foodstuffs	0p	1p	2p	3p	4p	5p
Fresh produce						
1. Fruit and vegetables incl. fresh herbs	0-4	5-9	10-18	19-25	26-35	36 -
2. Meat: fresh; Processed meats: meatballs, sausages; Fish (incl. MSC labelled): fresh, pickled herrings; Fresh pasta; Ready-made food: pea soup, porridge, pancakes, Swedish curd cake	0	1-3	4 - 6	7 - 10	11-13	14 -
3. Sandwich toppings: cheese, tofu, brawn, liver paste, ham, sausage, savoury butter, caviar.	0	1-4	5-7	8-11	12-15	16 -
4. Dairy: milk, soured milk, yoghurt, soured cream, cooking yoghurt, crème fraiche, butter, eggs and juice.	0-3	4-7	8-15	16-22	23-30	31 -
5. Bread: fresh, crisp bread, biscuits, cakes, bread crumbs.	0-3	4-6	7-10	11-15	16-20	21 -
Colonial products						
6. Drinks: beer, soft drinks, cordials; soya, rice and oat drinks.	0	1-2	3-4	5-7	8-10	11 -
7. Coffee, tea, cocoa powder	0-1	2-4	5-8	9-12	13-16	17 -
8. Preserved foods in glass/tins/cardboard, herbs and spices, dry ready-made food	0-3	4-7	8-15	16-21	22-29	30 -
9. Children's food incl. porridge, gruel, snacks and drinks	0-3	4-7	8-15	16-21	22-29	30 -
10. Meal, flour, rice, pasta, cereals, sugar, icing sugar, syrup, honey. Baking ingredients: vanilla, nuts, almonds, dried fruits: raisins, dates, figs; quinoa, couscous, etc.	0-6	7-15	16-25	26-37	38-49	50 -
11. Sweets, chocolate, snacks on display rack	0	1-2	3-4	5-7	8-10	11 -
Deep frozen foods						
12. Frozen: vegetables, fish (incl. MSC-labelled), meet, ready-made meals	0	1-2	3-4	5-6	7-8	9 -
13. Frozen: ice cream and berries	0	1-2	3-5	6-7	8-9	10-
Ecolabelled products (Swan and EU Flower)						
Special						
14. Paint	0	1-2	3-4	5-6	7-8	9-
15. Office paper, writing pads, envelopes, games: watercolour paper, books, greeting cards, wrapping paper, newspapers.	0	1-2	3-4	5-8	9-12	13 -
16. Lamps, Batteries: disposable and rechargeable	0	1-2	3-5	6-8	9-11	12 -

17. Textiles: clothes, towels, bed linen	0	1-1	2-2	3-4	5-6	7 -
Colonial products						
18. Tissue paper: kitchen towel, toilet paper, tissues, napkins	0-1	2-6	7-15	16-30	31-45	46 -
19. Miscellaneous ecolabelled products: Baking parchment, paper cake cups, coffee filters, etc.	0-2	3-6	7-10	11-14	15-20	21 -
20. Chemicals: cleaning agents, household chemicals, laundry detergent, dishwasher detergent	0-5	6-20	21-40	41-60	61-90	91-
21. Hygiene: Shampoo, soap, shower gel, cosmetics, tampons, sanitary towels, nappies, cotton wool, cotton wool buds	0	1-2	3-4	5-6	7-8	9 -
Other products						
22. Bulbs, fluorescent tubes, low energy lamps (energy class A or B). LED and other low-energy reflector light sources. (You can not score points here for lamps that have points in Pc 16)	0	1-2	3-7	8-12	13-17	18 -
23. Plant soil, plant food, seeds, flowers, charcoal (FSC), garden furniture (min. 90% FSC wood)	0	1	2-4	5-8	9-12	13-
24. Fairtrade products	0	1-4	5-8	9-15	16-25	26 -
25. Other organic products following approval from Nordic Ecolabelling	0	1-2	3-4	5-6	7-8	9-

Obligatory requirements

O2 Point score

Table 2: Minimum point score that stores in Denmark and Sweden must achieve for their product range.

Number of product categories stocked	€0-1 million	>€1-3 million	>€3-7 million	>€7-12 million	>€12-20 million	>€20-35 million	>€20-35 million	Over €50 million
9-13 Pc	18	21	26	31	35	38	40	45
14-18 Pc	25	29	36	43	49	52	56	63
19-24 Pc	34	39	48	58	65	70	76	85

Table 3: Minimum point score that stores in Finland must achieve for their product range.

Number of product categories	€0-1 million	>€1-3 million	>€3-7 million	>€7-12 million	>€12-20 million	>€20-35 million	>€20-35 million	Over €50 million

stocked								
9-13 Pc	10	14	18	22	26	30	32	34
14-18 Pc	16	20	24	28	32	34	36	38
19-24 Pc	20	24	28	32	36	40	42	44

Table 4: Minimum point score that stores in Norway must achieve for their product range.

Number of product categories stocked	€0-1 million	>€1-3 million	>€3-7 million	>€7-12 million	>€12-20 million	>€20-35 million	>€20-35 million	Over €50 million
9-13 Pc	18	20	24	28	35	38	40	45
14-18 Pc	24	26	30	34	43	50	56	63
19-24 Pc	33	35	39	43	52	67	76	85

This requirement is based on the store's turnover and the number of product categories that it holds. This means that a small store with few product categories needs to achieve fewer points than a large store with a high turnover and many product categories. The exchange rate between euro and Norwegian krone is 8.1 and between euro and Swedish krona is 9.2.

At least nine of the product categories Pc1-21 must be included in the store's product range. At least five of the product categories must be foodstuffs.

A minimum of 70% of the product categories the store sells must contain at least one organic or ecolabelled product.

☒ Documentation of the number of goods within each product category.

03 Clear display of ecolabelled and organic products

Customers must be able to see clearly whether a product is organic or ecolabelled. This can be marked clearly on the shelf for each product or for an entire product group comprising organic or ecolabelled products.

Exceptions: If it is not practically feasible to use shelf markings, the product can be exempted if the ecolabel is clearly shown on the front of the product so that it is easy for the customer to see the label. A maximum of 10% of the number of organic/ecolabelled products may be exempted from the requirement.

☒ Short description as to how customers can clearly identify whether a product is organic or ecolabelled. Explanation of why shelf marking is not feasible in such cases.

☺ Checked on site.

Point score requirements

P1 Points for product range – Denmark, Norway and Sweden

- The store's total score exceeds the limit value by >17 points: 6p
- The store's total score exceeds the limit value by 14-16 points: 5p
- The store's total score exceeds the limit value by 11-13 points: 4p
- The store's total score exceeds the limit value by 8-10 points: 3p
- The store's total score exceeds the limit value by 4-7 points: 2p
- The store's total score exceeds the limit value by 3 points: 1p

Points for product range – Finland

- The store's total score exceeds the limit value by >12 points: 6p
- The store's total score exceeds the limit value by 10-12 points: 5p
- The store's total score exceeds the limit value by 8-9 points: 4p
- The store's total score exceeds the limit value by 6-7 points: 3p
- The store's total score exceeds the limit value by 4-5 points: 2p
- The store's total score exceeds the limit value by 2-3 points: 1p

Same as for O2 "Point score".

P2 Monitoring of sales of organic/ecolabelled products

The store has up-to-date sales statistics over the proportion of total sales of organic food and ecolabelled products (including organic products that are not food): 1p

Example of sales statistics.

Other products

To gain points under "Other products", the products must be included in the store's written and implemented procedures, which are documented in full under O19 and O23.

P3 Active chlorine

The store does not sell products containing more than 0.5% active chlorine (for example laundry detergents and cleaning products): 1p

Same as for requirements O19 "Follow-up" and O23 "Sales direction".

P4 Biocides

The store does not sell weed killer: 0.5p

Exceptions to this requirement are moss killer and products approved for organic cultivation.

Same as for requirements O19 "Follow-up" and O23 "Sales direction".

P5 PVC

The store does not sell the following products containing PVC; rain clothes, rubber boots, beach accessories, toys, camping mattresses, outdoor furniture and parasols: 0.5p

Same as for requirements O19 "Follow-up" and O23 "Sales direction".

P6 Fish

The store does not sell fish or shell fish that has red light in the latest version of WWF's fish guide. See the WWF website in the Nordic country in question: 1p

Same as for requirements O19 "Follow-up" and O23 "Sales direction".

Maximum total score for product range: 10 p

1.3 Energy and climate impact

Obligatory requirements

O4 Energy efficiency and reporting energy consumption and TEWI

The store must report its target values and “actual” (calculated) values for energy consumption and total equivalent warming impact (TEWI) that result from energy consumption, refrigerant leakage and refrigerant reuse. The refrigerant types and length of refrigerator/freezer units shall also be specified.

The store’s energy consumption must be lower than **2.00** times the target value that is calculated using the energy tool.

This requirement is new in this new in this version and Nordic Ecolabelling is not sure which level the requirement should. It should be under 2.00 but Nordic Ecolabel will do more tests during the time for comments for this draft.

Nordic Ecolabelling provides a tool to calculate these values:

<http://evaluation.svanen.nu/Energytool/>. See appendices for a description of the calculation tool.

- Specification of the store’s target and calculated values. Calculations must be documented using the energy tool.

O5 Lighting

Store lighting must be switched off or dimmed (as required by activities) when the store is closed.

- Description of lighting conditions when the store is closed. Routines for reducing or switching off the light.

Point score requirements

P7 Evaluation of energy consumption

Points are awarded for the difference between the store’s target and calculated values.

Difference factor for energy consumption values:

less than 1.10: 6 p

between 1.10 and 1.25: 5 p

between 1.26 and 1.40: 4 p

between 1.41 and 1.55: 3 p

between 1.56 and 1.70: 2 p

between 1.71 and 1.95: 1 p

- Specification of the store’s target and calculated values.

P8 Evaluation of TEWI

Points are awarded for the difference between the store’s target and calculated values.

Difference factor for TEWI values:

less than 1.25: 4 p

between 1.26 and 1.50: 3 p

between 1.51 and 1.75: 2 p

between 1.76 and 2.00: 1 p

Specification of the store's target and calculated values.

P9 Monitoring of energy consumption (max 1 point)

The store monitors and records a significant and clearly defined part of the store's energy consumption (e.g. refrigeration compressors, lighting and ventilation). The part that is measured must be included in the store's energy audit system: 0.5p

Points are not awarded for the main water or electricity meter.

An energy analysis of the store by a competent third party gives 0.5 points.

Description and records of the energy consumption and/or energy analysis.

1.4 Refrigeration and freezer equipment

Obligatory requirements

O6 Covered refrigerator and freezer counters

Refrigerator and freezer counters that are linked to a central refrigeration unit must be covered or closed when the store is closed to customers and staff, if the design of the units allows for this.

An air curtain to the cold storage room is counted as covering.

If the proportion of stand-alone refrigerators and freezers exceeds 10% by length, at least 80% of these must be covered when the store is closed to customers and staff.

Description of refrigeration counters with length in meters and a description of how these are covered.

Point score requirements

P10 Refrigerant (Max. 2p)

More than 90% by weight of the refrigerant in central refrigeration units has a GWP factor lower than 1: 2p

More than 50% by weight of the refrigerant in central refrigeration units has a GWP factor lower than 1: 1p

The proportion is calculated in meters of refrigeration units.

More than 90% by weight of the refrigerant in units with a built-in compressor has a GWP factor lower than 1: 1p

Proportion calculated in number of units.

- ☒ Central refrigeration system: Specify which refrigerants are used and where these are used. The refrigerant types, quantity in kg and length of refrigerators/freezers are specified under O4.
- ☒ List of refrigerator and freezer counters with built-in compressors and which refrigerants are used.

Maximum total score for energy: 13 p

1.5 Waste

Obligatory requirements

07 Unsorted waste (to landfill or incineration)

The quantity of unsorted waste must be lower than the following limits.

Denmark: 8,500 kg per million euros of turnover (exclusive of VAT).

Finland and Sweden: 9,750 kg per million euros of turnover (exclusive of VAT).

Norway: 7,500 kg per million euros of turnover (exclusive of VAT).

Alternatively, the store can demonstrate that a maximum of 25% of the store's waste is unsorted. Transport waste and returnable packaging shall be included in the calculations of waste quantities.

Waste from the store's preparation of food or from a restaurant open to the public may be deducted if the store can declare quantities.

Nordic Ecolabelling is not definitely sure about the level in the requirement and the levels can be changed after the hearing. During the hearing data for waste volumes from grocery stores will be collected so the requirement can be set properly. We kindly ask you to comment the requirement O7 and P11.

The exchange rate between euro and Norwegian krone is 8.1 and between euro and Swedish krona is 9.2.

- ☒ Summary from the store or waste management company of the quantity of unsorted waste and waste sent to landfill.

08 Sorting at source of store waste

The store shall clearly display the waste fractions into which store waste is sorted.

The store must sort waste into at least four of the following fractions:

corrugated cardboard, soft plastics, glass, metals, organic waste, wood.

- ☒ Description from the waste management company of the waste fractions.
- ☺ Signage checked on site.

09 Sorting at source of customer waste

Through in-store notices or brochures, the store must inform its customer as to where packaging (glass, paper, plastic, metal, etc.) and batteries can be deposited for recycling, for example the location of the nearest recycling station.

If different types of packaging are collected in different places, the fractions and locations must be specified on the notices or in the brochures.

- ☒ Description/copy of the information.
- ☺ Signage checked on site.

Point score requirements

P11 Unsorted waste (to landfill or incineration)

Quantity of unsorted waste

Denmark:

less than 3,200 kg/turnover in million euros: 5p

3,200 – 4,349 kg/turnover in million euros: 4p

4,350 – 5,499 kg/turnover in million euros: 3p

5,500 – 6,649 kg/turnover in million euros: 2p

6,650 – 7,800 kg/turnover in million euros: 1p

Finland and Sweden:

less than 3,650 kg/turnover in million euros: 5p

3,650 – 4,975 kg/turnover in million euros: 4p

4,976 – 6,299 kg/turnover in million euros: 3p

6,300 – 7,624 kg/turnover in million euros: 2p

7,625 – 8,950 kg/turnover in million euros: 1p

Norway:

less than 2,800 kg/turnover in million euros: 5p

2,800 – 3,799 kg/turnover in million euros: 4p

3,800 – 4,799 kg/turnover in million euros: 3p

4,800 – 5,799 kg/turnover in million euros: 2p

5,800 – 6,800 kg/turnover in million euros: 1p

☒ Same as for requirement O7 “Unsorted waste (to landfill or incineration)”.

P12 Sorting at source (max. 2p)

Waste is sorted into more than four fractions: 0.5p per fraction in addition to those required by the authorities.

The fractions are: coloured soft plastic, clear soft plastic, thermosetting plastic, paper, corrugated cardboard, wood, cardboard, metal, coloured glass, uncoloured glass, batteries, organic waste, wood, non-combustible waste and cooking oil for material recycling. No points are awarded if the fraction is required by national legislation, e.g. hazardous waste. Nor are points awarded if the fraction features under O8. For example, only 0.5 points are awarded if both coloured and clear soft plastic are sorted if soft plastic is one of the fractions specified under O8.

The store shall clearly display the waste fractions into which store waste is sorted.

☒ Same as for requirement O8 “Sorting at source of store waste”.

☺ Checked on site.

P13 Sorting at source of customer waste (max. 1p)

Customers are provided the possibility (clearly signposted) in-store or nearby to sort waste for recycling into two or more fractions: 1p

Customers are provided the possibility to sort waste for recycling into one fraction: 0.5p

The fractions are: plastic, paper, corrugated cardboard, cardboard, metal, coloured glass, uncoloured glass and other waste such as electronic waste. Points are not awarded if the fraction is a national requirement. A recycling station adjacent to the store, such as in the car park or within walking distance, is sufficient to comply with the requirement.

✉ Description of waste sorting.

😊 Signage checked on site.

P14 Organic waste

Organic waste is sent for biological treatment such as composting or use in biogas production: 1p

An external party, such as the municipality, may also take care of the organic waste.

✉ Same as for requirement O8 “Sorting at source of store waste”.

😊 Checked on site.

Maximum total score for waste: 9 p

1.6 Transport and distribution

Obligatory requirements

O10 Transport and distribution

The following plans/policy must be established for the store's own vehicles used to transport goods and vehicles carrying the store's name that are owned by the store:

How drivers can minimise fuel consumption (e.g. ecodriving or by the equivalent amount).

Regular vehicle servicing.

Purchasing of vehicles and accessories, including cleaning. The policy must favour vehicles with a low fuel consumption, tyres with low rolling resistance (Nordic Ecolabelled if possible) and that run on renewable fuel.

How efficiency can be maximised with regard to distances and capacity utilisation.

The requirement applies to stores that deliver more than 5% of sold goods to the customer and vehicles carrying the store's name that are owned by the store.

- Description of the above. We recommend using the appendix for transport and distribution. If a course other than ecodriving is taken, the equivalent saving must be documented.

Point score requirements

P15 Own vehicles (max. 1.5p)

At least one vehicle that is driven runs on Nordic Ecolabelled fuel: 1p

At least one vehicle is powered by renewable fuel (e.g. ethanol, biogas) or electricity: 0.5p

At least one vehicle that is driven has Nordic Ecolabelled tyres: 0.5p

Points are awarded for both transport and passenger vehicles. So-called flexifuel and hybrid vehicles qualify as vehicles powered by renewable fuel or electricity.

- Specification of vehicles and types of fuel.

P16 Carriers (max. 2p)

The store's three major carriers or more than 70% of all goods transports fulfil O10 "Transport and distribution": 2p

Two of the store's three major carriers or more than 50% of all goods transports fulfil O10 "Transport and distribution": 1p

Goods transport refers to goods carried from stocks and warehouses to the store, including by the store's own vehicles. The size of carriers is measure by volume (m³).

- Description of the above. We recommend using the appendix for transport and distribution. A carrier's ISO 14001 and EMAS certificate can be used as documentation if the above plans are carried out within one of these environmental management systems.

P17 Diesel trucks (max. 2p)

For each of the three major carriers, or more than 70% of goods trucks, more than 15% of trucks comply with Euro 5 standards. 2p

For each of the three major carriers or more than 30% of goods trucks, more than 5% of trucks comply with Euro 5 standards. 1p

One of the three major carriers has more than 15% of goods trucks complying with Euro 5 standards: 0.5p

Carriers refers to operators carrying goods from stocks and warehouses to the store, including the store's own vehicles, measured by volume (m³).

Declaration from the carriers.

P18 Fuel (max. 1.5p)

One of the store's three major suppliers uses at least 30% Nordic Ecolabelled fuel in vehicles supplying the store: 1.5 p

One of the store's three major suppliers uses at least 30% renewable fuel in vehicles supplying the store: 0.5 p

Declaration from the carriers.

P19 Refrigerant in goods vehicles

One of the store's three major carriers of refrigerated or frozen goods uses at least 95% refrigerant with a global warming potential (GWP) <5 and ozone depletion potential (ODP) = 0: 0.5 p

Declaration of the refrigerant charge from the carrier of frozen and refrigerated goods.

P20 Electric power connection on refrigerator and freezer vehicles

All refrigerator and freezer vehicles run by one of the store's three major carriers can be connected to mains electricity for loading and unloading: 0.5 p

Declaration from the carrier.

P21 Charging station for electric vehicles

It is possible to charge an electric vehicle at the store: 0.5p

Description of the location of the charging station.

Checked on site.

Maximum total score for transport and distribution: 8.5 p

1.7 Consumables

Obligatory requirements

O11 Ecolabelled products

The following products that the store uses must be ecolabelled:

floor cleaner, sanitary cleaner, general purpose cleaner, washing-up liquid, hand soap, toilet paper, paper towelling and printer paper.

The requirement does not apply if ecolabelled products are not available. Special cleaning agents are not included, such as drain cleaner, degreasant, oven cleaner and disinfectants. Exception can be made if the authorities have special requirements for cleaning.

☺ A list of products and their licence numbers.

☺ Checked on site.

O12 Plastic film

PVC or PVDC plastic film must not be used for centrally packaged own-brand products.

PVC and PVDC film that is used for in-store packaging must not contain phthalates.

☒ Product information for the plastics used for in-store packaging and for own-brand products.

☺ Checked on site.

O13 Plastic gloves

The store must not use PVC or PVDC plastic gloves.

☒ Product information for the plastic gloves used in the grocery store.

☺ Checked on site.

O14 Cleaning agents

Reactive chlorine compounds must not be used.

Exception can be made if the authorities have special requirements for cleaning.

☒ Documented through requirement O15 “Environmental policy” and/or O19 “Follow-up”.

☺ Checked on site.

Point score requirements – consumables

P22 Plastic film

No PVC or PVDC film is used in the store for packaging: 1p

☒ Declaration.

☺ Checked on site.

P23 Cleaning without chemicals

Staff areas and office space are cleaned without the use of chemicals, such as using microfiber cloths (water may be used): 1p

Copy of written cleaning plan.

Checked on site.

P24 Fittings, fixtures, consumables and services (max. 4p)

Table 4 lists the required proportion and the score for ecolabelled consumables and services. Products awarded points in other requirements in the criteria may not receive points under this requirement.

If nothing else is specified, ecolabelled refers to a product labelled with the Nordic Ecolabel, EU-Flower or Good Environmental Choice label. See also Glossary.

Table 4: Ecolabelled products and services:

Consumables \geq 90% of purchase volume	Score
Toner cartridges	0.5
Envelopes	0.5
Batteries	0.5
Microfiber cloths and mops	0.5
Floor care agent	0.5
Laundry detergent	0.5
Dishwasher detergent	0.5
Soaking agent	0.5
Shampoo	0.5
Organic coffee and tea	0.5
<u>Coffee filters</u>	<u>0.5</u>
<u>Baking paper (grease-proof)</u>	<u>0.5</u>
<u>Printed matter, e.g. pads and booklets (excluding printed advertising)</u>	<u>0.5</u>
<u>Work clothes</u>	<u>0.5</u>
Other (following approval by Nordic Ecolabelling)	0.5 per item
	Max. 4p
Services \geq 90% of purchase volume	Score
Laundry services	1
Cleaning services	1
Vehicle washing	1
Hotel accommodation	1
Printing	1
Other	1
	Max. 1p

Equipment ≥ 50% of units	
Office machines incl. cash registers (also TCO and Energy Star)	1
Furniture	1
Television sets	1
Other	Max. 1p

Description regarding the store.

Checked on site.

P25 Renewable electricity

100% of the store's electricity comes from renewable sources: 1 p

Ecolabelled energy is counted as a 100% renewable source according to the supplier's specification. The national energy mix is insufficient evidence.

Supplier's description of the purchased electricity.

P26 Printed advertising (max. 2p)

Direct mail sent by the store or chain is Nordic Ecolabelled: 1p

The store or chain does not send direct mail: 1p

Addressed advertising mail and customer information (such as customer magazines) are Nordic Ecolabelled: 1p

The store or chain does not send addressed advertising mail: 1p

The store's other printed advertising is Nordic Ecolabelled: 1p

The store does not have any other printed advertising: 1p

Advertising in newspapers is not included.

List of the store's printed advertising and which printing companies are used.

Maximum total score for consumables:

9 p

1.8 Environmental management

Obligatory requirements

To meet Nordic Ecolabel requirements, the store must have a written environmental management system in which the following procedures are documented.

O15 Environmental policy

The store must have a policy for the environment and purchasing (goods and services used for operating the store). If the store is associated with a retail chain, the chain's policy may be used if it also covers the store's operations.

Policy for environment and purchasing.

O16 Environmental targets and action plan

The store must have environmental targets and an action plan specifying responsibility and the timetable. The targets and plan must be reviewed at least once every 18 months for:

Waste: How the quantity of unsorted (combustible or landfill) waste shall be reduced.

Energy: How the store's energy efficiency will be improved.

Sales: How the store will increase sales of organic and ecolabelled products.

Purchase of ecolabelled consumables: Which products and services will be changed to ecolabelled such.

Environmental targets with action plan

O17 Organisation and responsibility

The store must appoint:

- An environmental manager with responsibility for day-to-day environmental work, environmental targets and training.
- A licence manager responsible for the observance of the criteria. The licence manager must also contact Nordic Ecolabelling if a requirement is not followed.
- A quality manager responsible for quality, the working environment, fire safety, hygiene and claims.

Description of the above.

O18 Regulatory requirements

The store shall ensure the observance of legislation in force including legislation on the working environment, external environment, hygiene and health. Nordic Ecolabelling may revoke the licence if this requirement is not fulfilled.

Signed application form.

O19 Follow-up

The store must have a documented system for the continual follow-up of compliance with criteria.

- ☒ Documented procedure for the follow-up of criteria. We recommend using Nordic Ecolabelling's appendix for follow-up.

O20 Maintenance

The store must have a contract for the annual servicing of the central refrigeration system and ventilation system. This contract must at a minimum include preventative maintenance to minimise refrigerant leakage and to ensure energy efficiency.

The ventilation system can be exempted if the store does not own the system.

- ☒ Service report or equivalent documentation.

O21 Information to staff regarding the store's environmental status

All permanent staff must receive information on:

- The store's environmental targets.
- The estimated proportion of organic/ecolabelled products.
- How the store displays organic and ecolabelled goods.
- The two most common ecolabels and the two most common organic labels.
- Sales direction

- ☒ Description of how the information is communicated.

O22 Customer communication

The store must communicate that it holds the Nordic Ecolabel through clear information such as flags, decals or signs.

The store must at least once a year hold a manned customer activity that promotes organic and ecolabelled products.

- ☒ Description of how the store communicates that it is a Nordic Ecolabelled store. Completed customer activities are documented in the store's follow-up for Nordic Ecolabelling, see O15 "Environmental policy".

O23 Sales direction

The store must have a documented sales direction covering at a minimum the following product areas: Seafood, weed killer, non-ecolabelled household chemicals, and PVC products. If the store has applied for points under P3-P6, the strategy must also cover these areas.

The sales direction shall ensure that the store actively adopts a position regarding the products that it sells.

- ☒ Documented sales direction.

1.9 Total score

Observe that points score requirements do not reflect the importance of each individual environmental parameter. There are also mandatory requirements that must be included in the overall picture.

Product range (transfer score from P1-P6) max. 10p

Energy and climate impact (transfer score from P7-P10) max. 13p

Waste management (transfer score from P11-P14) max. 9p

Transport and distribution (transfer score from P15-P21) max. 8.5p

Consumables (transfer score from P22-P26) max. 9p

Total score:

The store must achieve at least 67% of the total possible score (i.e. a minimum of 33 out of 49.5 possible points).

Design of the ecolabel

Design of the Nordic Ecolabel:

XX

Grocery Store

Each licence has a unique, six-digit licence number that must be displayed along with the label. More information on the design of the label can be found in "Regulations for Nordic Ecolabelling".

Validity of the criteria document

The validity period of these criteria has not yet been set. Generally, criteria are valid for a period of 3 years.

An ecolabel licence is valid providing the requirements are fulfilled and until the associated criteria expire. The validity period of the criteria may be extended or adjusted, in which case the licence is automatically extended and the licensee informed.

Revised criteria shall be published at least one year prior to the expiry of the present criteria. The licensee is then offered the opportunity to renew their licence.

Glossary

Term	Explanation or definition
Area	The total indoor area of the establishment.
Ecolabelled	Ecolabelled: a product marked with the Nordic Ecolabel (Swan), the EU-Flower, Bra Miljöval (Good Environmental Choice) or TCO 99 or later versions - unless otherwise specified. Other ecolabels of Type 1. Økotex does not score points for textiles.
FSC	The Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) is a joint initiative from environmental organisations, social organisations, forest owners and timber merchants who together have established regulations for an international ecolabel for wood and forestry products: FSC.
Groceries	Goods that, unlike durable goods, are designed to be consumed or used over a limited period. Groceries include foodstuffs, hygiene articles, tissue paper and flowers.
Household chemicals	Chemical products for cleaning and washing.
Organic	Organic refers to food and/or drink labelled according to Council Regulation (EEC) No 2092/91 or KRAV, the Finnish "Sun label" (Luomu) – controlled organic production, Debio, Statskontrolleret økologiskt (Ø-label), and Tún-liffrænt. MSC-labelled fish is also classed as organic.
Organic waste	Organic waste refers to waste that decomposes biologically through rotting, composting or some other biological treatment.
Own brands	Products produced by or for a grocery store/retail chain and which are sold under the store's/retail chain's own name/own brand in the store's/retail chain's own stores.
Own vehicles	Own vehicles: refers to vehicles used in the running of the store, e.g. to carry goods to the customer. Leased cars are also counted as own vehicles.
Printed matter	Printed matter refers to, for example, advertising, brochures, writing paper and other stationery carrying the hotel logo. The requirement also covers printed matter the store chain may order centrally.
PVC	Polyvinyl chloride (PVC) is used in many areas within industry as a plastic material with characteristics which can be used for many purposes. Environmental problems in connection with PVC are discussed (see background document).
Recycling	The material in the product is reused.
Refrigerant	<p>A refrigerant is the working fluid in refrigeration equipment. Refrigerant that evaporates and condenses at suitable temperatures and pressures is used to generate temperature differences. In grocery stores, the primary need is for cooling. Refrigerant should not be confused with coolant that may be used to cool condensers and reject heat from the sales area. Nor should it be confused with the secondary coolant in remote systems, which is pumped in a secondary loop to the food displays for thermal transfer.</p> <p>Examples of refrigerants:</p> <p>Hydrofluorocarbons (HFC): These gases do not have an ozone depletion potential but contribute to the greenhouse effect (the atmosphere's ability to absorb heat radiation from the earth, which leads to the earth's surface heating up the greater the absorptive capacity).</p> <p>Hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HCFC): Gases which were commonplace as refrigerants in refrigeration and freezer equipment. These gases have a relatively high ozone depletion potential.</p> <p>Chlorofluorocarbons (CFC): Gases that are often used as refrigerants in refrigeration and freezer equipment. These gases have a relatively high ozone depletion potential.</p> <p>Hydrocarbons (HC): Gases that have recently been introduced as refrigerants in refrigeration and freezer equipment. These gases do not have ozone depletion potential and have a relatively small significance with regard to the greenhouse effect.</p> <p>Natural refrigerants: For example hydrocarbons and ammonium, which neither deplete the ozone layer nor cause climate change.</p>

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Renewable energy sources	Energy from renewable, non-fossil sources: wind, solar, geothermal, aerothermal, hydrothermal, wave , tidal, hydropower, biomass, landfill gas, sewage treatment plant gas and biogases.
Renewable fuel	Fuel that is produced from biomass. Biomass is defined as the biodegradable fraction of products, waste and residual products from agriculture (vegetable and animal), forestry and similar industries, and the biodegradable fraction of industrial and municipal waste.
Restaurant	A restaurant where food is prepared, rather than simply re-heated.
Reuse	The product in its entirety is reused several times. Returnable glass bottles must be washed and refilled.
Turnover	Turnover refers to the revenue from store sales. Turnover to be indicated in euro, excluding VAT, unless specified otherwise.
Unsorted waste	Unsorted waste refers to the fraction which is not sorted by the store and is either burned or disposed of at a landfill site. Waste that is sorted with the intention of combustion or landfill is also classified as unsorted waste.
Wholesaler	A firm that sells groceries in large quantities. Wholesalers do not sell directly to the consumer. Their product range shall comprise several product groups.
WWF fish guide	Fish and shellfish that are threatened by extinction or that, through their cultivation, impact negatively on the environment and should therefore be avoided. These species can be found on a list published by WWF for the Nordic region. This list is based on the international list at www.iucnredlist.org .

Appendix "Stores" - Declaration regarding plans for transport and distribution

The store (or retail chain of which the store is a part) must (for its own vehicles) or together with the person responsible for transport and distribution, answer the following questions:

- Is there a training programme for the drivers which includes guidelines for efficient driving and engine idling (Ecodriving)?
- Are the vehicles serviced regularly?
- Is there a plan for logistics planning?
- Are there guidelines for the purchase of new vehicles, tyres and refrigerants? Is preference given, wherever possible, to vehicles with good fuel returns, the use of renewable fuels and the use of ecolabelled tyres?
- Is there a plan for the utilisation of the volume capacity in relation to the vehicle's maximum capacity (%)?
- Do new trucks comply with Euro 5 standards?

Location and date

Store and, if applicable,
retail chain

Store manager

Phone

Carrier (if applicable)

Phone

Appendix “Stores” - Calculation tool for assessing the energy consumption and TEWI of grocery stores

The purpose of this calculation tool is to evaluate stores based on their actual energy consumption independent of the equipment and technology that is used. By assessing the end results, rather than how these are achieved, allows the store greater freedom while still requiring that equipment functions efficiently.

The tool for energy calculation is based on key ratios that have been established through simulations and observations. It is designed to provide a fair assessment taking into regard various parameters that can vary between stores.

1.10 Energy consumption

The calculation tool calculates the store’s target energy consumption for heating, lighting, refrigeration and ventilation. The value is calculated in terms of primary energy. Primary energy is the energy that is used for electricity production, heat production and similar. 1 kWh of electricity produced by a power station with an efficiency of 33% means 3 kWh of primary energy consumption.

In the calculation tool, primary energy is calculated as 2.5 times the electricity consumption. A factor of 1.1 is used for primary energy used for district heating.

If the store states that heating energy or electricity for ventilation is not included in the specified energy consumption, the equivalent primary energy is added in the same way as for the TEWI calculation and using the same standard values.

1.11 TEWI

TEWI – Total Equivalent Warming Impact – takes into consideration the emission of greenhouse gases that can be attributed to the facility over its entire service life. Emissions are divided into three categories - refrigerant leakage, refrigerant recycling (i.e. how much refrigerant is not recovered when equipment/installations are retired) and energy consumption (direct and indirect emissions from power and heat production). These factors are totalled to an annual carbon dioxide emission equivalent.

For more information, refer to the background document to the Nordic Ecolabelling of grocery stores.

Appendix "Stores" – Follow-up of Nordic Ecolabel for grocery stores

Product range	No. follow-ups per year	Status and date of inspection OK = store fulfils the requirement X = store does not fulfil the requirement → date of rectification			
Organic and ecolabelled product range The store achieves the minimum number of product points specified at the time of application.	4				
Products not sold by the store If the store has been awarded points for certain products it does not sell, this has been checked.	4				
Signage					
The store clearly marks/displays all organic and ecolabelled products.	4				
There is clear signage that the store holds the Nordic Ecolabel.	4				
Signage for in-store waste sorting facilities is clear.	2				
Energy and refrigeration system					
The curtains and lids used for covering refrigeration equipment are whole and used.	4				
The store has entered possible changes into the energy calculation tool. Specify the store's new factors for difference in energy consumption and TEWI values.	1				
Waste management					
Store procedures for waste sorting are observed.	4				
How much unsorted waste does the store produce?	2				
Consumables					
Mandatory products The following products, if used by the store, are ecolabelled: floor cleaner, sanitary cleaner, general purpose cleaner, washing-up liquid, toilet paper, paper towelling and printer paper.					
Point scoring products The store uses the ecolabelled and organic products for which it was awarded points at the time of application.	4				