

CONTROVERSIAL CRITERION

HAZARDOUS CHEMICALS

Forum ETHIBEL position statement

Chemicals are an essential part of contemporary life. However, a number of hazardous chemicals have negative consequences for human and animal health as well for environment. Such chemicals are not always essential. Forum ETHIBEL therefore includes hazardous chemicals as a controversial criterion in its methodology.

Eligibility

Controversial criterion	Sub-category	Not eligible	Case-by-case
Hazardous chemicals	Producers or suppliers of chemicals restricted by international agreement	> 0%	/
	Producers or suppliers of chemicals subject to controversy	/	> 0%
	Producers or suppliers of pesticides	> 5%	0-5 %

Definitions

In terms of hazardous chemicals, a distinction is made between the following categories:

Restricted chemicals	Chemicals listed by one of these international agreements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The UNEP 21 Stockholm convention (POPs), ○ The OSPAR priority list ○ The Protocol on Ozone Depleting Chemicals.
Chemicals subject of controversy	Chemicals that have been subject to NGO campaigns.
Pesticides	Pesticides including insecticides, herbicides, fungicides and nematicides that are used in agriculture not certified as 'organic' or 'bio'.