

Nordic Ecolabelling for Candles



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This document is a translation of an original in Danish. In case of dispute, the original document should be taken as authoritative.

Contact info

In 1989, the Nordic Council of Ministers decided to introduce a voluntary official ecolabel, the Nordic Ecolabel, also known as 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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It may be quoted from provided that Nordic Ecolabelling is stated as the source.

What is a Nordic Swan Ecolabelled Candle?

Nordic Swan Ecolabelled Candles/oil candles require a high proportion of renewable raw materials, traceability and control of vegetable raw materials and a requirement for prohibiting the use of raw materials from palm- and soybean oil. There are also requirements for prohibiting the use of spray-tolerant and insect-resistant genetically modified agricultural commodities (GM) crops in the raw materials.

Burning candle/oil candle causes air pollution and there is a high risk of exposure via inhalation of particles, volatile organic compounds, PAH mm. The criteria therefore set tough requirements on soot index, and chemicals used in the candle production (e.g. requirements for classification of chemical products as well as VOC, heavy metals, halogenated organic solvents and fragrances).

The criteria also set requirements to the quality and fire safety for candles.

With Swan labelled Candles, you are assured that there are strict requirements for:

- health and environmentally hazardous emissions during burning
- chemicals e.g., CMR classified substances, heavy metals, phthalates, perfume, and fragrances
- use of renewable- and recycled raw materials
- good quality and fire safety

Why choose the Nordic Ecolabel?

- The producer may use the Nordic Ecolabel trademark, the Swan, for marketing. The Nordic Swan Ecolabel is a very well-known and well-reputed trademark in the Nordic region.
- The Nordic Swan Ecolabel is a cost-effective and simple way of communicating environmental work and commitment to customers and suppliers.
- Environmental issues are complex. It can take a long time and extensive resources to gain an understanding of a specific area. Nordic Ecolabelling can be seen as aid in this work.
- The Nordic Swan Ecolabel not only covers environmental issues but also quality requirements since the environment and quality often go hand in hand. This means that a Nordic Swan Ecolabel licence can also be seen as a mark of quality.

What can carry the Nordic Swan Ecolabel?

The product group comprises candles/oil candles made up of one or more wicks surrounded by a solid or liquid material. These two areas are detailed below:

Solid material: Candles comprising one or more wicks, surrounded by a material that is solid/semi-solid at room temperature (20°C – 27°C). The candle is to comprise at least 90% renewable materials by weight.

Paraffin is by definition not a renewable raw material (see O2) and therefore candles that contain a high proportion of paraffin cannot be Nordic Swan Ecolabelled. Scented candles and aromatherapy candles can also not be Nordic Swan Ecolabelled, since requirement O17 does not permit aroma compounds, as they are potentially allergenic.

Liquid material: Candles comprising one or more wicks, surrounded by a material that is liquid at room temperature (20°C – 27°C), generally known as oil candles/-lamps. The liquid material (the oil) must be made from 100% renewable raw materials by weight. The oil's flash point must be at least 65°C. The oil candle must be in a single-use container such that it cannot be refilled. The wick must not be adjustable.

It is thus possible to Nordic Swan Ecolabel taper candles, pillar candles, tea light candles, graveyard candles, garden candles, candles for decoration and oil candles/-lamps.

How to apply

Application and costs

For information about the application process and fees for this product group, please refer to the respective national web site. For contact information, see first in this document.

What is required?

The application must consist of an application form/web form and documentation showing that the requirements are fulfilled.

Each requirement is marked with the letter O (obligatory requirement) and a number. All requirements relevant for the product must be fulfilled to be awarded a licence.

The text describes how the applicant shall demonstrate fulfilment of each requirement. There are also icons in the text to make this clearer. These icons are:

☒ Enclose

📍 The requirement checked on site

All information submitted to Nordic Swan Ecolabelling is treated confidentially. Suppliers can send documentation directly to Nordic Swan Ecolabelling, and this will also be treated confidentially.

Licence validity

The ecolabel licence is valid providing the criteria are fulfilled and until the 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.

On-site inspection

In connection with handling of the application, Nordic Swan Ecolabelling normally performs an on-site inspection to ensure adherence to the requirements.

For such an 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.

Queries

Please contact Nordic Swan Ecolabelling if you have any queries or require further information. See contact information first in this document. Further information and assistance (such as calculation sheets or electronic application help) may be available. Visit the relevant national website for further information.

What are the requirements of the Nordic Swan Ecolabelling?

To be awarded a Nordic Swan Ecolabel licence, all requirements must be fulfilled.

1 Description of the product

01 Description of the product

The applicant must submit the following information about the product(s):

1. Brand/trading name.
2. Description of product(s) included in the application. The candle/oil candle is to be described (thickness, wick, height, coloured or non-coloured).
3. The raw materials in the candle/oil candle are to be described (stearin, paraffin, wax, oil, fat, or other raw material), such that it is, clear which raw materials have been used, where these materials come from and what percentage of the candle they account for.
4. The material in the wick (cotton, paper, plastic or other) and in the wick sustainer/holder (metal, plastic or other) must also be described.
5. Any other materials (e.g., cup/container encasing the candle) and packaging must also be described, if they form part of the product as sold.
6. Description of manufacturing process of the product. Suppliers must be described with the name of the company, production site, contact, and the production processes performed (such as candle dyes).
7. State a list of materials and chemical products used in the production of the candle/oil candle or other components included with the product. Safety data sheets for each chemical product must be included.

- Description of the points above. Appendix 1 may be used.
- Safety data sheet (less than three years old) for each chemical product.

2 Environmental requirements

2.1 Resources

02 Amount of raw material produced from renewable raw materials

Candles made from raw materials that are solid/semi solid at room temperature (20°C – 27°C):

The amount of raw materials in the candle produced from renewable raw materials must exceed 90% of the total weight of the candle.

Oil candles/oil lamps made from raw materials that are liquid at room temperature (20°C – 27°C):

The amount of raw materials in the oil candle/oil lamp (the oil) must be made from 100% renewable raw materials.

Renewable raw materials are biological materials that are reproduced continuously in nature. This includes the degradable part of products, waste and residues from agriculture (both vegetable and animal), sustainable forestry and similar industries and the biodegradable fraction of industrial waste and municipal waste. Paraffin is by definition a synthetic petroleum product and is therefore never renewable.

- Description from the manufacturer of the renewable raw material and declaration from the manufacturer of the candle/oil candle giving the percentages of raw materials in the candle. Appendix 1 may be used.
- If raw materials of animal origin is used, name of production site(s) and approval number (EU Code) must be disclosed.

03 Vegetable raw materials from palm- and soy oil

Vegetable raw materials from palm- and soy oil must not be used in Nordic Swan Ecolabelled candles/oil lights.

- There are no specific documentation requirements, as this is documented in requirement O1.

04 Traceability and control of vegetable raw materials

Vegetable raw materials other than palm oil and soy oil must meet the following requirements:

1. State name (Latin and an English language) and geographical origin (country/state and region/province) and suppliers of the vegetable raw material used. Appendix 2 may be used.
2. There must also be a written procedure in place for the purchase of vegetable raw materials that also ensures all vegetable raw materials come from legal sources. The raw materials must not be sourced from:
 - protected areas or areas under preparation as protected areas
 - areas where ownership or usage rights are unclear
 - illegally harvested crops

Nordic Ecolabelling may require further documentation in the event of uncertainty about the raw materials origin.

If the vegetable raw material comprises waste or residues, there must be traceability to the production/process from which the waste or residue derived.

For a definition of residues and waste, see Terms and definitions at the back of the criteria.

- Name (Latin and an English language) and geographical origin (country/state and region/province) of the vegetable raw materials used. Appendix 2 can be used for documentation purposes.

- Description of the system for traceability of vegetable raw materials.
- A written procedure from the producer/supplier of the vegetable raw material or the manufacturer of the candle, documenting how the requirement is fulfilled. A requirement for a Chain of Custody certificate from a supplier may be used as part of the procedure.

05 Genetically modified plants

Raw materials from biocide-tolerant and insect-resistant genetically modified plants are not permitted in Nordic Swan Ecolabelled candles.

The requirement does not apply to the wick in the candle.

- Declaration from the raw material supplier that the requirement concerning genetically modified plants is fulfilled. Appendix 3 may be used. Nordic Ecolabelling reserves the right to require further documentation in the event of uncertainty about fulfilment of the requirement.

06 Fossil raw materials (paraffin wax)

All paraffin's used in Nordic Swan Ecolabelled candles must be fully refined (i.e. hydrogenated), or match the hydrogenated grade stated in the standard Quality Assurance RAL-GZ 041, September 2014 or later.

- Invoice or similar documentation from the manufacturer of the candle showing that the requirement is fulfilled.

07 Wick and Wick sustainer

The wick must not contain any kind of metal.

The cotton in the wick must be Öko-Tex 100 certified. The use of alternative materials such as paper, flax or other vegetable fibre is permitted to stabilise or improve the burning properties of the wick.

The following metals must not be actively added to the wick sustainer:

Aluminium (Al), lead (Pb), mercury (Hg), chromium VI (Cr^{VI}), cadmium (Cd), cobalt (Co), antimony (Sb), zinc (Zn), copper (Cu) or nickel (Ni). The requirement does not apply to steel.

- Copy of Öko-Tex 100 certificate.
- Declaration from the manufacturer of the wick that the requirement is fulfilled. Appendix 4 may be used.
- Declaration from the manufacturer of the wick sustainer that the requirement is fulfilled. Appendix 5 may be used.

2.1.1 Container encasing the candle

The requirements O8 to O10 applies to Nordic Swan Ecolabelled candles/oil candles/oil lamps, sold with a container. Requirement O8 applies to containers intended only to be used once, while O9 applies to containers, which are intended to be used several times. Containers containing plastic must additionally also apply to requirement O10.

O8 Materials in the container encasing the candle/oil

Containers that are sold together with the candle/oil candle/oil lamp, and that are only intended to be used once, must not contain:

- glass or ceramic
- metal

- polyvinyl chloride (PVC) and polyvinyl dichloride (PVDC)

If plastic* is included in the container, at least 75% by weight of the plastic materials used must be made from either bio-plastic or post-consumer recycled raw materials, as defined in ISO 14021.

** Silicone is not subject to the requirement for bioplastics or post-consumer recycled raw materials.*

Constituents added to bio, virgin- or recycled plastic has to comply with requirement O10.

Exception:

Lid* on graveyard candles and Oil candle are exempted from the requirement for metal. However, the lid must not contain aluminium (Al), lead (Pb), mercury (Hg), chromium VI (Cr^{VI}), cadmium (Cd), cobalt (Co), antimony (Sb), zinc (Zn), copper (Cu) or nickel (Ni). The requirement does not apply to steel.

** See annex 12 for what that meant by a lid.*

- Overview of material composition with information on material types.
- Declaration from the manufacturer of the container, showing that the requirement is fulfilled. Appendix 6 may be used.
- Declaration from the manufacturer/supplier of the plastic that the requirement is fulfilled. Appendix 7 may be used.

09 Materials in the container encasing the candle

Containers that are designed to be used multiple times for the same purpose, is to be sold/marketed together with at least two candles (refills). It is not possible to Swan label containers alone.

Containers that are sold together with the candle, and that are designed to be used multiple times for the same purpose, must not contain:

- The following metals: aluminium (Al)*, lead (Pb), mercury (Hg), chromium VI (Cr^{VI}), cadmium (Cd), cobalt (Co), antimony (Sb), zinc (Zn), copper (Cu) or nickel (Ni). The requirement does not apply to steel.
- Polyvinyl chloride (PVC) and polyvinyl dichloride (PVDC).

If fireproof glass is used in the container, then it must be referenced in the information requirements for the consumer (O20), that the glass may not be sorted in the waste phase with regular glass.

** It is allowed to use aluminum in the container if the amounts is less than 15% of the container's total weight.*

If plastic** is included in the container at least 50% by weight of the plastic materials used must be made from either bioplastic or post-consumer recycled raw materials, as defined in ISO 14021.

*** Silicone is not subject to the requirement for bioplastics or post consumer recycled materials.*

Constituents added to bio, virgin- or recycled plastic has to comply with requirement O10.

- Overview of material composition with information on material types.
- Declaration from the manufacturer of the container, showing that the requirement is fulfilled. Appendix 6 may be used.
- Declaration from the manufacturer/supplier of the plastic that the requirement is fulfilled. Appendix 7 may be used.

O10 Additives in bio-, virgin- and recycled plastic

The following substances must not actively be added in the plastic/plastic parts (both bio-, virgin- and recycled plastic):

- halogenated organic compounds in general (including chlorinated polymers, chlorinated paraffin's, fluorinated compounds, and flame retardants)
- pigments and substances based on aluminium (Al), lead (Pb), mercury (Hg), chromium VI (Cr^{VI}), cadmium (Cd), cobalt (Co), antimony (Sb), zinc (Zn), copper (Cu) or nickel (Ni) and their compounds
- phthalates
- substances on the EU's candidate list*

*EU's candidate list is located on ECHAs webpage: <http://echa.europa.eu/sv/candidate-list-table>.

The requirement concerns constituents added to master batches or compounds. The requirement does not concern the actual polymer production.

Recycled plastic granules must not contain halogenated flame retardants in concentrations above 100 ppm.

The requirements concerning laboratories are stated in Appendix 11.

- ☒ Declaration from the manufacturer/supplier of the plastic/plastic container, showing that the requirement is fulfilled. Appendix 7 may be used.
- ☒ Declaration from the manufacturer/supplier of the recycled plastic granules, showing that the requirement to halogenated flame retardants is fulfilled. Appendix 7 may be used.

2.1.2 Product and transport packaging

011 Product and transport packaging

Chlorine-based plastic must not be used in product and transport packaging.

- ☒ Description of the product and transport packaging.

2.2 Chemicals

The requirements cover all chemical products used in the manufacture of candles/oil candle/oil lamps at the candle/oil candle/oil lamp factory/production centre or by suppliers.

The requirements apply to chemical products such as stearin, paraffin, wax, oil, fat, printing inks, dyes, lacquers, adhesives, pigments, hardeners and similar.

The requirements do not cover:

- Containers encasing the candle/oil, wicks, and wick sustainers.
- Auxiliary chemicals used during manufacture, such as lubricants, cleaning chemicals and so on.
- The requirements also do not cover refining processes, i.e., refining of vegetable or fossil oil.
- Packaging such as printing inks and adhesives

Requirements in the Nordic Ecolabelling criteria are set e.g. for the classification of chemical products as well as ingoing substances in the chemical product.

Ingoing substances and impurities are defined below:

- **Ingoing substances:** All substances in the chemical product, including additives (e.g., preservatives and stabilisers) in the raw materials. Substances known to be released from ingoing substances (e.g., formaldehyde and arylamine) are also regarded as ingoing substances.
- **Impurities:** Residuals, pollutants, contaminants etc. from production, including production of raw materials that remain in the chemical product in concentrations less than 100 ppm (0.0100 w-%).
- However, the following applies specifically to printing inks used to print on candle surface: Residuals, pollutants, contaminants etc. from production, including production of raw materials that remain in the chemical product in concentrations less than 1000 ppm (0.100 w-%).

Examples of impurities are residues of the following: residues or reagents including residues of monomers, catalysts, by-products, scavengers, and detergents for production equipment and carry-over from other or previous production lines.

This declaration is based on best knowledge at the time of application, based on the test and/or declarations from the manufacturer of raw materials. With reservations for developments and new scientific findings. If such new knowledge should be made available, the undersigned is required to submit an updated declaration to Nordic Ecolabelling.

012 Chemical products, classification

Chemical products used in the manufacture of candles/oil candles must not be classified in any of the following hazard classes or with any of the associated hazard codes, as set out in Table 1 below.

Table 1: List of non-permitted classifications of the chemical products used in the manufacture of candles/oil candles, in accordance with CLP Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008, or later.

Signal words (Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008 ^a)	Hazard code (Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008)	Hazard class (Directive No 67/548/EEC ^b)	Risk phrase (Directive No 67/548/EEC)
Warning, Aquatic acute 1 Warning, Aquatic chronic 1 Aquatic chronic 2 Aquatic chronic 3 Aquatic chronic 4 Warning, Ozone	H400 H410 H411 H412 H413 H420	Toxic to the environment N N N - - N	R50 R50/53 R51/53 R52/53 R53 R59
Danger, Carc. 1A or 1B Danger, Carc. 1A or 1B Warning, Carc. 2	H350 H351	Carcinogenic T T Xn	R45 and/or R49 R40
Danger, Muta. 1A or 1B Warning, Muta. 2	H340 H341	Mutagenic T Xn	R46 R68
Danger, Repr. 1A or 1B Danger, Repr. 1A or 1B Warning, Repr. 2 Warning, Repr. 2 - Lact.	H360 H360 H361 H361 H362 H362	Reprotoxic T T Xn Xn - -	R60 R61 R62 and/or R63 R33 R64

Signal words (Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008 ^a)	Hazard code (Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008)	Hazard class (Directive No 67/548/EEC ^b)	Risk phrase (Directive No 67/548/EEC)
Danger, Acute Tox. 1 or 2 Danger, Acute Tox. 1 Danger, Acute Tox. 2 Danger, STOT SE 1	H330 H310 H300 H370	Very toxic Tx Tx Tx Tx	R26 R27 R28 and/or R39
Danger, Acute Tox. 2 or 3 Danger, Acute Tox. 3 Danger, Acute Tox. 3 Danger, STOT SE 1 Danger, STOT RE 1	H330 or H331 H331 H301 H370 H372	Toxic T T T T T	R23 R24 R25 R39 and/or R48
Hazardous, Resp. Sens. 1 Warning, Skin sens. 1	H334 H317	Sensitising Xn Xi	R42 R43
Hazardous, Asp. Tox. 1	H304	Harmful Xn	R65

a) Applies from Dec 2010.

b) Applies during period of transition to Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008 from Dec 2010 to June 2015.

Paraffin classified as H412 and/or H350 is exempted from the requirement.

- Declaration from the manufacturer/supplier of the chemical product that the requirement has been fulfilled. Appendix 8 may be used.
- Safety data sheets for the chemical products used in the manufacture of the candle/oil candle, in line with prevailing legislation.

013 Classification of constituent substances

Chemical products used in the manufacture of candles/oil candles must not contain substances* that are classified in any of the following hazard classes or with any of the associated hazard codes, as set out in Table 2 below.

* See definition in the introduction under 2.2 Chemicals.

Table 2: List of non-permitted classifications for the constituent substances in the chemical products used in the manufacture of candles/oil candles, in accordance with CLP Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008, or later.

Signal words (Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008 ^a)	Hazard code (Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008 ^a)	Hazard class (Directive No 67/548/EEC ^b)	Risk phrase (Directive No 67/548/EEC ^b)
Danger, Carc. 1A or 1B Danger, Carc. 1A or 1B Warning, Carc. 2	H350 H351	Carcinogenic T T Xn	R45 and/or R49 R40
Danger, Muta. 1A or 1B Warning, Muta. 2	H340 H341	Mutagenic T Xn	R46 R68
Danger, Repr. 1A or 1B Danger, Repr. 1A or 1B Warning, Repr. 2 Warning, Repr. 2 - Lact.	H360 H360 H361 H361 H362 H362	Reprotoxic T T Xn Xn - -	R60 R61 R62 and/or R63 R33 R64

a) Applies from Dec 2010.

b) *Applies during period of transition to Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008 from Dec 2010 to June 2015.*

- Declaration from the chemical manufacturer/supplier that the requirement has been fulfilled. Appendix 9 may be used.

014 Substances that must not be included in the candle/oil candle

The following substances must not be included* in the chemical products used in the manufacture of candles/oil candle:

- substances on the EU's Candidate List**
- substances considered to be potential endocrine disruptors in category 1 or 2 on the EU's Candidate List**
- aromatic organic solvent***
- phthalates
- halogenated organic solvent****
- lead (Pb), mercury (Hg), chromium VI (Cr^{VI}), cadmium (Cd), cobalt (Co), antimony (Sb), zinc (Zn), copper (Cu) or nickel (Ni) and their compounds

* See definition in the introduction under 2.2 Chemicals.

** The Candidate List can be found on the ECHA website at: <http://echa.europa.eu/candidate-list-table>

*** An exception is the content of the possible paraffin fraction.

**** Solvents defined in accordance with Directive 1999/13/EC: Organic compounds with a steam pressure exceeding 0.01 kPa, at 20°C.

- Declaration from the chemical manufacturer/supplier that the requirement is fulfilled. Appendix 9 may be used.

015 Total amount of organic solvent

The content of organic solvents must not exceed 1,0% by weight of the candle/oil (in the oil candle/-lamp).

Alternatively, reference may be made to test results, which show the Total Volatile Organic Compounds (TVOC) in the candle to be less than 1200 µg/m³ of air using ISO 16000-6:2012.

(Organic solvents are defined as organic compounds with a vapour pressure above 0.01 kPa at 293.12 K in accordance with the EU VOC directive).

- Declaration from the candle/oil candle manufacturer that the requirement is met. Appendix 1 may be used. Alternatively, test report, which shows that TVOC is less than 1200 µg/m³ of air using ISO 16000-6:2012.

016 Azo dyes and azo lacquers

Azo dyes and azo lacquers that may cleave to any one of the following aromatic amines giving a concentration above 30 ppm shall not be used:

Table 3: List of aromatic amines.

Aromatic amines cleaved from azo dyes and azo lacquers	CAS number
4-aminodiphenyl	92-67-1
Benzidin	92-87-5
4-chlor-o-toluidin	95-69-2
2-naphthylamin	91-59-8
o-amino-azotoluen	97-56-3
2-amino-4-nitrotoluen	99-55-8
p-chloranilin	106-47-8

2,4-diaminoanisol	615-05-4
4,4'-diaminodiphenylmethan	101-77-9
3,3'-dichlorbenzidin	91-94-1
3,3'-dimethoxybenzidin	119-90-4
3,3'-dimethylbenzidin	119-93-7
3,3'-dimethyl-4,4'-diaminodiphenylmethan	838-88-0
p-cresidine	120-71-8
4,4'-oxydianiline	101-80-4
4,4'-thiodianiline	139-65-1
o-toluidine	95-53-4
2,4-diaminotoluene	95-80-7
2,4,5-trimethylaniline	137-17-7
4-aminoazobenzene	60-09-3
o-anisidine	90-04-0
2,4-Xylidine	95-68-1
2,6-Xylidine	87-62-7

- Declaration from the chemical manufacturer/supplier that the requirement is fulfilled. Appendix 10 may be used.

017 Perfume, aromas, and other aroma compounds

Perfume, aromas, or other aroma compounds (e.g., essential oils, plant oils and plant extracts) may not be included in chemical products used to manufacture candles/oil candles.

- Declaration from the raw material producer/supplier of all constituents' raw materials/chemical products, showing that the requirement has been fulfilled. Appendix 9 may be used.
- Declaration from the candle/oil candle manufacture showing that the requirement has been fulfilled. Appendix 1 may be used.

3 Use and quality requirements

Candles with the same candle mass, wick and thickness, but which is found in many different colours, only need to test one coloured candle according to O18 (soot-index), O19 (fire safety) and O20 (burning time).

018 Soot index

The requirement applies to candles/oil candles/-lamps comprising one or more wicks, surrounded by a material that is solid/semi-solid or liquid at room temperature (20°C – 27°C).

Candles for indoor use:

Taper/dinner candles:

The average value for the soot index from 3 tests must be ≤ 0.3 per hour. No single test must exceed 0.6 per hour. Testing to EN 15426:2018.

Pillar candles:

The average value for the soot index from 3 tests must be ≤ 0.2 per hour. No single test must exceed 0.4 per hour. Testing to EN 15426:2018.

Tea-light candles/oil candles/oil lamps:

The average value for the soot index from 3 tests must be ≤ 0.1 per hour. No single test must exceed 0.2 per hour. Testing to EN 15426:2018.

Candles for outdoor use:

The average value for the soot index from 3 tests must be ≤ 1.0 per hour. No single test must exceed 2.0 per hour. Testing must be in line with EN 15426:2018.

Oil candles/oil lamps comprising a wick surrounded by a material that is liquid at room temperature (20°C – 27°C) must meet the requirements concerning dimensions and burning periods that currently apply to candles comprising a wick surrounded by a material that is solid/semi-solid at room temperature (20°C – 27°C).

The requirements concerning laboratories are stated in Appendix 11.

- Full report.

O19 Fire safety

Candles comprising one or more wicks, surrounded by a material that is solid/semi-solid/liquid at room temperature (20°C – 27°C) must comply with the standard EN 15493:2019 (Candles – Specification for Fire Safety). For outdoor use, the standard EN 17616 (Outdoor candles - Specification for fire safety) must be used.

If other materials (see O8, O9 and O10) accompany the candle/oil candle, there must be documentation that such material does not pose a risk in terms of fire safety.

Taper/ dinner candles with the same candle mass, wick, and thickness, but with varying length, only need to test one white and one coloured candle.

The requirements concerning laboratories are stated in Appendix 11.

- Test report from a technical service showing fulfilment of this requirement.
- Documentation from the producer of the container showing that the material in the container does not constitute a risk in terms of fire safety.

O20 Consumer information

The following information must be included on the candle's/oil candle's label/packaging:

- the candle's/oil candle's burning time (burning time expressed in hours of burning)

The burning time is to be measured at room temperature (20°C – 27°C) in accordance with EN 15493:2019. In addition, point 9 in EN 15493:2019 regarding the test method for burning must also be followed. The candle/oil candle manufacturer conducts the test.

Taper/ dinner candles with a burning time of more than 12 hours: Burn test cycle of 3 times 4-hour periods with a pause of 1 hour between the burn periods. The candle burning time is calculated as; (Number of centimetre candle burned per. hour/ candle length). Moreover, the EN 15493: 2007 must be met.

- if used, fireproof glass (container encasing the candle/oil) must not be sorted with normal waste glass.

Candles made up of one or more wicks, surrounded by a solid/semi-solid material at room temperature:

- safety information in accordance with EN 15494:2019 Annex A, figs. A1, A2, A5 and A6, must also be provided, even though this is optional supplementary safety information in the standard. For outdoor use, EN 17617 Outdoor candles - Product safety labels, must be used.
- safety labelling and warnings in accordance with EN 15494:2019. For outdoor use, EN 17617 Outdoor candles - Product safety labels, must be used.

Oil candles/-lamps made up of one or more wicks, surrounded by a liquid material at room temperature:

- safety information, labelling and warnings in accordance with EN 14059:2002.

- Copy of the candle's packaging text.

- Statement of the candle's burning time as set out in the requirement.

4 Quality and regulatory requirements

To ensure that the Nordic Swan Ecolabel requirements are met, the following procedures must be implemented.

If the manufacturer has a certified environmental management system in accordance with ISO 14 001 or EMAS in which the following procedures are implemented, it is sufficient for the accredited auditor to confirm that the requirements are being implemented.

021 Licence administrators

The company shall appoint an individual responsible for ensuring the fulfilment of Nordic Ecolabel requirements, and a contact person for communications with Nordic Ecolabelling.

- Organisational chart showing who is responsible for the above.

022 Documentation

The licensee must be able to present a copy of the application and factual and calculation data supporting the documents submitted with the application (including test reports, documents from suppliers and suchlike).

- On-site inspection.

023 Product quality

The licensee must guarantee that the quality of the Nordic Swan Ecolabelled candle is maintained throughout the validity period of the licence.

- Procedures for collating and, where necessary, dealing with claims and complaints regarding the quality of the Nordic Swan Ecolabelled product.

024 Planned changes

Written notice of planned product and marketing changes that affect the Nordic Swan Ecolabelling requirements must be given to Nordic Ecolabelling.

- Procedures detailing how planned product and marketing changes are dealt with.

025 Unforeseen non-conformities

Unforeseen non-conformities that affect the Nordic Ecolabel requirements must be reported in writing to Nordic Ecolabelling and logged.

- Procedures showing how unforeseen non-conformities are handled.

026 Traceability

The licensee must have a traceability system for the production of the Nordic Swan Ecolabelled product.

- Description/procedures for how the requirement is to be met.

027 Take-back system

The Nordic Ecolabelling's Criteria Group decided on the 9 October 2017 to remove this requirement.

028 Laws and regulations

The licensee must ensure compliance with the applicable legislation on health and safety, environmental legislation, and installation-specific terms/permits at all the production sites for the Nordic Swan Ecolabelled product.

Documentation is not required. However, Nordic Ecolabelling may revoke the licence if the requirement is not fulfilled.

Regulations for the Nordic Ecolabelling of products

When the Nordic Swan Ecolabel is used on products the license number shall be included.

More information on graphical guidelines, regulations and fees can be found at www.nordic-ecolabel.org/regulations/

Follow-up inspections

Nordic Ecolabelling may decide to check whether product fulfils Nordic Ecolabel requirements during the licence period. This may involve a site visit, random sampling, or similar test.

The licence may be revoked if it is evident that the product does not meet the requirements.

Random samples may also be taken in-store and analysed by an independent laboratory. If the requirements are not met, Nordic Ecolabelling may charge the analysis costs to the licensee.

How long is a licence valid?

Nordic Ecolabelling adopted the criteria for Candles, generation 2.0, on 5 November 2015. The revised criteria generation 2.0 were approved, with validity until 30 June 2020. In the revision, new material requirements were added and the threshold values for soot index were tightened.

On 20 January 2016, the requirement regarding emissions of fine and ultrafine particles was removed from the criteria. The validity of the criteria document was also shortened with one year, ie to 30 June 2019. The new version is called 2.1.

On 15 February 2017, the decision was taken to allow use of aluminum in the container (containers that are designed to be used multiple times for the same purpose O9), if it amounts is less than 15% of the container's total weight. It is also stated that silicone is not subject to the requirement for bioplastics or post consumer recycled raw materials (O9). Furthermore, the document is updated with a number of former interpretation requirements. The new version is called 2.2.

On the 9 October 2017 Nordic Ecolabelling's Criteria Group decided to remove O29 Take-back system. This has been done as an editorial change the version has not been changed.

Nordic Ecolabelling's Criteria Group decided on 7 February 2018 to prolong the criteria with 16 months to the 31 October 2020. Version 2.3.

Nordic Ecolabelling decided on 19 December 2018 to prolong the criteria with 20 months to the 30 June 2022. Version 2.4.

Nordic Ecolabelling decided on 21 January 2021 to prolong the criteria with 18 months to the 31 December 2023. Version 2.5.

Nordic Ecolabelling decided on 30 November 2021 to prolong the criteria with 12 months to the 31 December 2024. Version 2.6.

Nordic Ecolabelling decided on 13 September 2022 to adjust the definition of impurities (chemicals) in printing inks used to print on candle surface. Version 2.7.

Nordic Ecolabelling decided on 29 November 2022 to prolong the criteria with 12 months to the 31 December 2025. Version 2.8.

Nordic Ecolabelling decided on 9 April 2024 to include standards for outdoor candles as option for fire safety and label pictograms in requirements O19 Fire safety and O20 Consumer information. Version 2.9.

New criteria

As part of any future evaluation of the criteria, it will be relevant to consider the following points:

- Requirements concerning renewable and fossil raw materials
- Requirements concerning substances in bio-, virgin- or recycled plastic
- Requirements concerning chemicals
- Requirement level for emissions, in the form of the soot index
- The possibility of setting requirements for emissions of small particles

Terms and definitions

Term	Explanation or definition
CO	Carbon monoxide.
OGC	Organic gaseous carbon.
PAH	Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons.
NO _x	Nitrogen oxides.
VOC	Volatile organic compounds.
RPS	Relevance, Potential and Steerability: tool for analysing whether environmental problems are relevant, whether there is potential for improvement, and whether the licensee has the steerability to be able to achieve these environmental improvements.
PVC	Polyvinyl chloride.
CMR substances	CMR substances are substances that are known to be Carcinogenic, Mutagenic and/or Reprotoxic.
PM _{2.5}	The limit value for fine particles.
PET	A thermoplastic product of the polyester family. The material is known for its great strength and rigidity and being a good barrier against oxygen and carbon dioxide. It comes either transparent or opaque.
GMO	Genetically modified organisms.
Residues	A residue is something other than the end product that the manufacturing process directly seeks to produce. It is not the main purpose of the manufacturing process, and the process has not intentionally been modified to produce it ¹ .
Waste	Waste is any substance or object which the holder discards or intends or is required to discard. Raw materials that have been intentionally modified to count as waste (e.g. by adding waste material to a material that was not waste) should not be considered as qualifying.
Primary packaging	Primary packaging is paperboard, paper and plastic foil, the function of which is to protect the candles, present them (visual design) and allow space for consumer information.
Transport packaging	Transport packaging refers to packaging for the handling and transport of a number of sales units or multipack consignments, e.g., pallets and boxes made from paperboard and corrugated board.

¹ Meddelande från kommissionen om det praktiska genomförandet av EU:s hållbarhetssystem för biodrivmedel och flytande biobränslen och om beräkningsregler för biodrivmedel (2010/C 160/02).

Appendix 1 **Description of the candle/oil candle/-lamp and material overview**

Product: Brand/trading name:	The candle's/oil candle's (oil) total weight in kg:	Thickness of the candle	Height	Coloured or non- coloured	Share of renewable raw materials (%) total weight

The raw materials in the candle/oil candle are to be described (stearin, paraffin, wax, oil, fat or other raw material), such that it is clear which raw materials have been used, where these materials come from and what percentage of the candle they account for:

The material in the wick (cotton, paper, plastic or other) and in the wick sustainer/holder (metal, plastic or other) must also be described:

Any other materials (e.g. cup/container encasing the candle) and packaging must also be described, if they form part of the product as sold:

Description of manufacturing process of the product. Suppliers must be described with the name of the company, production site, contact, and the production processes performed (such as candle dyes):

State a list of materials and chemical products used in the production of the candle/oil candle or other components included with the product:

(O15) Total amount of organic solvent

The content of organic solvents in the candle or oil candle/-lamp accounts for _____% of the candle's/oil's (in the oil candle/-lamp) total weight.

(O17) Perfume, aromas or other aroma compounds

Is the candle/oil candle/-lamp added perfume, aromas or other aroma compounds (e.g. essential oils, plant oils and plant extracts)? Yes No

Candle/oil candle/-lamp manufacturer's signature:

Date	Company name
Person responsible	Telephone

Appendix 2 Traceability and control of vegetable raw materials

Product (vegetable raw material):
Producer:
Supplier:

For documentation of vegetable raw materials, provide the following in the table below:

- Name (Latin and a English language) and geographical origin (country/state and region/province) of the vegetable raw materials used

Vegetable raw material (name)	Geographical origin (country/state and region/province/municipality)	Possibly traceability system on the raw material

Signature of the producer/supplier of the vegetable raw materials or the candle/oil candle/-lamp producer:

Date	Company name
Person responsible	Telephone

Appendix 3 Declaration for GMO

Name on vegetable raw materials:
Producer/supplier of the vegetable raw materials:

The requirement does not apply to the wick in the candle.

Does the vegetable raw materials contain biocide-tolerant and insect-resistant genetically modified plants? Yes No

Nordic Ecolabelling reserves the right to require further documentation in the event of uncertainty about fulfilment of the requirement.

Signature of the raw material producer/-supplier:

Date	Company name
Person responsible	Telephone

Appendix 4 Declaration for the wick

Name of the wick:
Producer of the wick:

Does the wick contain any kind of metal? Yes No

Is the cotton in the wick Öko-Tex 100 certified? Yes No

Does the wick contain alternative materials such as paper, flax, or other vegetable fibre to stabilise or improve the burning properties of the wick? Yes No

If yes, state what other vegetable fibre:

Signature of the wick manufacturer:

Date:	Company name:
Person responsible:	Telephone:

Appendix 5 Declaration for the wick sustainer

Name of the wick sustainer:
Producer/supplier of the wick sustainer:

Does the wick sustainer contain any of the following metals:

Lead (Pb), mercury (Hg), chromium^{VI} (Cr^{VI}), cadmium (Cd), cobalt (Co), antimony (Sb), zinc (Zn), copper (Cu), nickel (Ni) or aluminium (Al)? (The requirement does not apply to steel.)? Yes No

Does the wick sustainer contain other metals? Yes No

If yes, state which other metals:

Signature of the wick sustainer manufacturer:

Date:	Company name:
Person responsible:	Telephone:

Appendix 6 **Materials in the container encasing the candle/oil**

Materials in the container:
Producer of the container:

Containers intended to be used once

Does the container contain glass or ceramic? Yes No

Does the container contain any metals? Yes No

If yes, state which other metals:

Exception: Lid* on graveyard candles and Oil candle are exempted from the requirement for metal. However, the lid must not contain aluminium (Al), lead (Pb), mercury (Hg), chromium VI (Cr^{VI}), cadmium (Cd), cobalt (Co), antimony (Sb), zinc (Zn), copper (Cu) or nickel (Ni).

Does the container contain PVC or PVDC? Yes No

Containers intended to be used multiple times

Does the container contain the following metals: aluminium (Al), lead (Pb), mercury (Hg), chromium VI (Cr^{VI}), cadmium (Cd), cobalt (Co), antimony (Sb), zinc (Zn), copper (Cu) or nickel (Ni)? Yes No

Does the container contain PVC or PVDC? Yes No

Signature of container producer:

Date:	Company name:
Person responsible:	Telephone:

Appendix 7 Declaration for plastic in the container

Name of the raw material (plastic):
Producer/supplier of the container:

Plastic in the container encasing the candle/oil

Containers intended to be used once: is at least 75% by weight of the plastic materials used must be made from either bio-plastic or post-consumer recycled raw materials, as defined in ISO 14021? Yes No

Containers intended to be used multiple times: is at least 50% by weight of the plastic materials used must be made from either bio-plastic or post-consumer recycled raw materials, as defined in ISO 14021? Yes No

Below applies to bio-, virgin- and recycled plastic

The requirement concerns constituents added to master batches or compounds. The requirement does not concern the actual polymer production.

Have halogenated organic compounds (including chlorinated polymers, chlorinated paraffins, fluorinated compounds and flame-retardants) generally been added to the plastic? Yes No

Have pigments and substances based on aluminium (Al), lead (Pb), mercury (Hg), chromium VI (Cr^{VI}), cadmium (Cd), cobalt (Co), antimony (Sb), zinc (Zn), copper (Cu) or nickel (Ni) and their compounds actively been added to the plastic? Yes No

Have phthalates actively been added to the plastic? Yes No

Have substances on the EU's candidate list* actively been added to the plastic? Yes No

* EU's candidate list is located on ECHA's webpage: <http://echa.europa.eu/sv/candidate-list-table>.

Below applies only to recycled plastic

Does the recycled plastic granules contain halogenated flame retardants in concentrations above 100 ppm? Yes No

Signature of the producer/supplier.

Date:	Company name:
Person responsible:	Telephone:

Appendix 8 Declaration for chemical products used in the manufacture of candles/oil (in the oil candle/-lamp)

The product's name and area of use:
Producer/importer of the chemical product:

Classification of chemical products used in the manufacture of candles/oil candle/oil lamps at the candle/oil candle/oil lamp factory/production centre or by suppliers (such as stearin, paraffin, wax, oil, fat, dyes, lacquers, adhesives, pigments, hardeners and similar).

Are the chemical products classified in accordance with the table below?

Yes No

If yes, state which chemical and its classification:

Signal words (Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008 ^a)	Hazard code (Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008)	Hazard class (Directive No 67/548/EEC ^b)	Risk phrase (Directive No 67/548/EEC)
Warning, Aquatic acute 1 Warning, Aquatic chronic 1 Aquatic chronic 2 Aquatic chronic 3 Aquatic chronic 4 Warning, Ozone	H400 H410 H411 H412 H413 H420	Toxic to the environment N N N - - N	R50 R50/53 R51/53 R52/53 R53 R59
Danger, Carc. 1A or 1B Danger, Carc. 1A or 1B Warning, Carc. 2	H350 H351	Carcinogenic T T Xn	R45 and/or R49 R40
Danger, Muta. 1A or 1B Warning, Muta. 2	H340 H341	Mutagenic T Xn	R46 R68
Danger, Repr. 1A or 1B Danger, Repr. 1A or 1B Warning, Repr. 2 Warning, Repr. 2 - Lact.	H360 H360 H361 H361 H362 H362	Reprotoxic T T Xn Xn - -	R60 R61 R62 and/or R63 R33 R64
Danger, Acute Tox. 1 or 2 Danger, Acute Tox. 1 Danger, Acute Tox. 2 Danger, STOT SE 1	H330 H310 H300 H370	Very toxic Tx Tx Tx Tx	R26 R27 R28 and/or R39

Signal words (Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008 ^a)	Hazard code (Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008)	Hazard class (Directive No 67/548/EEC ^b)	Risk phrase (Directive No 67/548/EEC)
Danger, Acute Tox. 2 or 3 Danger, Acute Tox. 3 Danger, Acute Tox. 3 Danger, STOT SE 1 Danger, STOT RE 1	H330 or H331 H331 H301 H370 H372	Toxic T T T T T	R23 R24 R25 R39 and/or R48
Hazardous, Resp. Sens. 1 Warning, Skin sens. 1	H334 H317	Sensitising Xn Xi	R42 R43
Hazardous, Asp. Tox. 1	H304	Harmful Xn	R65

a) Applies from Dec 2010

b) Applies during period of transition to Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008 from Dec 2010 to June 2015

Paraffin classified as H412 and/or H350 is exempted from the requirement.

The declaration is made to the best of the signatory's knowledge and according to the knowledge held at the time, based on tests and/or declarations from raw material producers/suppliers. Reservation is made for new developments and knowledge. If such new knowledge should come to light, the signatory is obliged to submit an updated declaration to Nordic Ecolabelling.

Signature of producer/supplier of the chemical product:

Date:	Company name:
Person responsible:	Telephone:

Appendix 9 Declaration for constituent substances in chemical products

The product's name and area of use:
Producer/importer of the chemical product:

Conditions for declaration

Unless otherwise stated, constituent substance covers all substances in the product, including additives to the raw materials (such as preservatives or stabilisers), but not impurities from the production, inkl. the raw material production.

Ingoing substances and impurities are defined below:

- **Ingoing substances:** All substances in the chemical product, including additives (e.g., preservatives and stabilisers) in the raw materials. Substances known to be released from ingoing substances (e.g., formaldehyde and arylamine) are also regarded as ingoing substances.
- **Impurities:** Residuals, pollutants, contaminants etc. from production, including production of raw materials that remain in the chemical product in concentrations less than 100 ppm (0.0100 w-%).
- However, the following applies specifically to printing inks used to print on candle surface: Residuals, pollutants, contaminants etc. from production, including production of raw materials that remain in the chemical product in concentrations less than 1000 ppm (0.100 w-%).

The declaration is made to the best of the signatory's knowledge and according to the knowledge held at the time, based on tests and/or declarations from raw material producers/suppliers. Reservation is made for new developments and knowledge. If such new knowledge should come to light, the signatory is obliged to submit an updated declaration to Nordic Ecolabelling.

If the information concerning the composition of the raw materials is confidential, the information can be sent directly to the environmental labelling organisation.

Classification of constituent substances (O13)

Are the constituent substances classified in accordance with the table below?

Yes No

If yes, state which substances, which classification and the amount:

Signal words (Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008 ^a)	Hazard code (Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008 ^a)	Hazard class (Directive No 67/548/EEC ^b)	Risk phrase (Directive No 67/548/EEC ^b)
Danger, Carc. 1A or 1B Danger, Carc. 1A or 1B Warning, Carc. 2	H350 H351	Carcinogenic T T Xn	R45 and/or R49 R40
Danger, Muta. 1A or 1B Warning, Muta. 2	H340 H341	Mutagenic T Xn	R46 R68
Danger, Repr. 1A or 1B Danger, Repr. 1A or 1B Warning, Repr. 2 Warning, Repr. 2 - Lact.	H360 H360 H361 H361 H362 H362	Reprotoxic T T Xn Xn - -	R60 R61 R62 and/or R63 R33 R64

a) Applies from Dec 2010

b) Applies during period of transition to Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008 from Dec 2010 to June 2015

Note that the producer of the constituent substance is responsible for the correct classification.

Content and substances in the chemical product

(O14) Does the chemical product contain substances from the EU Candidate (The Candidate List can be found on the ECHA website at: <http://echa.europa.eu/candidate-list-table>)? Yes No

If yes, state which substances and the amount (wt%):

(O14) Does the chemical product contain substances considered to be potential endocrine disruptors in category 1 or 2 on the EU's Candidate List? Yes No

If yes, state which substances and the amount (wt%):

(O14) Does the chemical product contain aromatic organic solvent? Yes No

If yes, state which substances and the amount (wt%):

(O14) Does the chemical product contain phthalates? Yes No

If yes, state which substances and the amount (wt%):

(O14) Does the chemical product contain halogenated organic solvents? Yes No

If yes, state which substances and the amount (wt%):

(O14) Does the chemical product contain lead (Pb), mercury (Hg), chromium VI (Cr^{VI}), cadmium (Cd), cobalt (Co), antimony (Sb), zinc (Zn), copper (Cu) or nickel (Ni) or compounds of these? Yes No

If yes, state which substances and the amount (wt%):

(O17) Perfume, aroma and other aroma compounds

Does the chemical product contain perfume, aroma or other aroma compounds (e.g. essential oils, plant oils and plant extracts)? Yes No

Signature of producer/supplier of the chemical product:

Date:	Company name:
Person responsible:	Telephone:

Appendix 10 Azo dyes and azo lacquers

The product's name and area of use:
Producer/importer of the dyes/lacquers:

Does the azo dyes or azo lacquers cleave to any one of the following aromatic amines giving a concentration above 30 ppm listed in the table below? Yes No

Aromatic amines cleaved from azo dyes and azo lacquers	CAS number
4-aminodiphenyl	92-67-1
Benzidin	92-87-5
4-chlor-o-toluidin	95-69-2
2-naphthylamin	91-59-8
o-amino-azotoluen	97-56-3
2-amino-4-nitrotoluen	99-55-8
p-chloranilin	106-47-8
2,4-diaminoanisol	615-05-4
4,4'-diaminodiphenylmethan	101-77-9
3,3'-dichlorbenzidin	91-94-1
3,3'-dimethoxybenzidin	119-90-4
3,3'-dimethylbenzidin	119-93-7
3,3'-dimethyl-4,4'-diaminodiphenylmethan	838-88-0
p-cresidine	120-71-8
4,4'-oxydianiline	101-80-4
4,4'-thiodianiline	139-65-1
o-toluidine	95-53-4
2,4-diaminotoluene	95-80-7
2,4,5-trimethylaniline	137-17-7
4-aminoazobenzene	60-09-3
o-anisidine	90-04-0
2,4-Xylidine	95-68-1
2,6-Xylidine	87-62-7

Signature of producer/supplier of the azo dyes or azo lacquers:

Date:	Company name:
Person responsible:	Telephone:

Appendix 11 **Analysis and test laboratories**

Test of sod index, fire safety and possible contain of halogenated flame retardants in recycled plastic granules must be performed by laboratories which fulfil the general requirements in standard EN ISO/IEC 17025 or have official GLP status. A non-accredited laboratory may perform tests if the laboratory has applied for accreditation according to the current testing method, but has not yet been granted approval, or if accreditation is not available for the technical specification or proposed standard. In such case, the laboratory must prove that it is an independent, competent laboratory.

The candle/oil candle/-lamp manufacturer's own laboratory may be approved to perform these test if

- Collection of test samples and analysis is monitored by the authorities, or
- The manufacturer's quality assurance system covers analysis and sampling and is certified according to ISO 9001 or ISO 9002 or
- The manufacturer can demonstrate consistency between "first-time" test conducted at the manufacturer's own laboratory and testing carried out in parallel at an independent institution where the testing procedure will take place according to a standardized process

Appendix 12 **Type of lid covered by the exception in requirement O8**

The figure below shows the type of lid covered by the exception in requirement O8.



Date and place	Company
Signature, contact person	
Clarification of name	Phone
Signature, marketing director	
Clarification of name	Phone

In case of a change in personnel, a new declaration must be submitted to Nordic Ecolabelling.