

Training 4 - Organic food products and markets
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EU organic policy

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Objectives

- Understand the principles of the legal framework for organic farming
- Get an insight into regulatory concerns

Agenda

- Definition of organic products
- History of development of organic EU regulation
- News concerning the new organic EU regulation
- Import regulation
- Overview of labels

Confusing declarations

“integrated“

“pesticide-free“

“controlled“

“environmentally friendly“

“controlled contracted farming“

“nature-orientated“

“environment-friendly“

“extensive“

“eco-friendly“

Definitions

Article 2

Definitions

For the purposes of this Regulation, the following definitions shall apply:

- (a) 'organic production' means the use of the production method compliant with the rules established in this Regulation, at all stages of production, preparation and distribution;

“Organic farming” describes forms of land use where farmers voluntarily renounce on the use of chemically synthesised inputs, following compulsive guidelines.

“Organic products” are those produced by organic farming or by defined forms of wild collection.

Both terms are defined by national and international legislation (e. g. EU-regulation 834/2007 or US-OFPA (Organic Foods Production Act))

EU legislation

Legislative acts of the European Union

Directives

- need to be transposed into national law
- require member states to achieve a particular result without dictating the means of achieving that result

Regulation

- becomes enforceable as law immediately and simultaneously in all member states
- is self-executing and does not require any implementing measures

COUNCIL REGULATION (EEC) No 2092/91

of 24 June 1991

on organic production of agricultural products and indications referring thereto on agricultural products and foodstuffs

- based on the IFOAM organic farming principles
- influenced by the French law for “agricultural orientation” (1981)
- objective: Protection of consumers and producers
- implementation in all EU countries since 1992
- only for plant production



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Council regulation (EC) No 2092/91 (II)

- August 1999: rules concerning the production, labelling and inspection of the most relevant animal species (Council regulation (EC) No 1804/1999 of July 1999)
- March 2000: the European Commission introduces a logo which can be used voluntarily on products referring to the EEC 2092/91



Council regulation (EC) No 2092/91 (III)

BG: биологичен.
ES: ecológico, biológico.
CS: ekologické, biologické.
DA: økologisk.
DE: ökologisch, biologisch.
ET: mahe, ökoloogiline.
EL: βιολογικό.
EN: organic.
FR: biologique.
GA: orgánach.
IT: biologico.
LV: bioloģisks, ekoloģisks.
LT: ekologiškas.
LU: biologesch.
HU: ökológiai.
MT: organiku.
NL: biologisch.
PL: ekologiczne.
PT: biológico.
RO: ecologic.
SK: ekologické, biologické.
SL: ekološki.
FI: luonnonmukainen.
SV: ekologisk.

- official recognition of organic agriculture
- detailed rules on organic production and processing and labelling of organic products; lists of fertilizers, additives, ingredients allowed in the Annex

6.1.9. For poultry, the minimum age at slaughter shall be:

81 days for chickens,
150 days for capons,
49 days for Peking ducks,
70 days for female Muscovy ducks,
84 days for male Muscovy ducks,
92 days for Mallard ducks,
94 days for guineafowl,
140 days for turkeys and roasting geese.

- the term “organic” (in all languages) and its abbreviations are protected by law



Council regulation (EC) No 2092/91 (IV)

- no genetic engineering
- precise directives of declaration – code number of the control body

Example Germany:



- equal standard for imports from non EU-countries
- minimum standard – member states and private organizations are allowed to formulate stricter standards

Example of organic farming advice

ANNEX VIII

Minimum surface areas indoors and outdoors and other characteristics of housing in the different species and types of production

1. BOVINES, OVINE AND PIGS

	Indoors area (net area available to animals)		Outdoors area (exercise area, excluding pastu- rage)
	Live weight minimum (kg)	M ² /head	M ² /head
Breeding and fattening bo- vine and equidae	up to 100	1,5	1,1
	up to 200	2,5	1,9
	up to 350	4,0	3
	over 350	5 with a minimum of 1 m ² / 100 kg	3,7 with a minimum of 0,75 m ² /100 kg
Dairy Cows		6	4,5
Bulls for breeding		10	30
Sheep and goats		1,5 sheep/goat	2,5
		0,35 lamb/kid	2,5 with 0,5 per lamb/kid
Farrowing sows with piglets up to 40 days		7,5 sow	2,5
Fattening Pigs	up to 50	0,8	0,6
	up to 85	1,1	0,8
	up to 110	1,3	1
Piglets	over 40 days and up to 30 kg	0,6	0,4
Brood pigs		2,5 female	1,9
		6,0 male	8,0

EU support for organic farming

Government aid in the member states became possible:

- 1989 EU extensification scheme - banned the use of synthetically produced chemical fertilisers and pesticides, animal husbandry has to adhere to basic rules of organic farming
- 1994 Council regulation (ECC) No. 2078/92 - incentives for agricultural production methods compatible with requirements for the protection of the environment and the maintenance of the countryside
- 2000 Council Regulation (EC) 1257/1999 - support for rural development from the European Agricultural Guidance and Guarantee Fund (EAGGF)



Increase in organic production

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Council Regulation (EC) No 834/2007

of 28 June 2007

on organic production and labelling of organic products and repealing Regulation (EEC) No 2092/91

- published on July 20, 2007, came into force on January 1, 2009
- on September 18, 2008 the implementing rules were published as Commission Regulation (EC) No 889/2008 of September 5, 2008
- shorter (23 pages <> 41 pages), text comprehensible
- clearly defined goals, principles and general rules for organic production
- includes seaweed, organic aquaculture, organic yeast, organic wine

Import regulation

Article 32

Import of compliant products

1. produce:

produced according to the organic production rules formulated of the EU regulation

control:

control authorities and control bodies recognized by the Commission

Article 33

Import of products providing equivalent guarantees

produce:

produced according to organic farming rules similar to the rules of the EU regulation

control:

2. list of third countries recognized by the Commission: Argentina, Australia, Costa Rica, India, Israel, New Zealand, Switzerland

3. list of control authorities and control bodies in third countries recognized by the Commission

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Modifications

- genetic engineering still not allowed, only “unintentional” contamination of up to 0.9%
- at least 95% of the agricultural ingredients have to be organic
- flexibility for regional differences to respect local climatic, cultural or structural differences
- use of EU organic logo mandatory from July 1, 2010, onwards!
plus declaration of the origin of the ingredients

Logos

1st draft



Aldi organic label

voting



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Sources

Council Regulation (EC) 834/2007: <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2007:189:0001:0023:EN:PDF>

Council Regulation (EEC)2092/91: <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/site/en/consleg/1991/R/01991R2092-20070101-en.pdf>

Council Regulation (EEC) 2078/92 : <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=CELEX:31992R2078:EN:HTML>

Council Regulation (EC) 1257/1999: <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:1999:160:0080:0080:EN:PDF>

Organic farming (website of the EU): http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/organic/home_en

Thank you!

Questions?

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