



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Directorate B. Quality, Research & Innovation, Outreach
The Director

Brussels
NV/sn/agri.ddg1.b.4(2020)5601362

SUMMARY RECORD

MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE ON ORGANIC PRODUCTION

via videoconference (Webex)

**on Wednesday 16 September from 10:30 until 17:30 and
on Thursday 17 September from 09:15 until 17:45**

Chair: VERLET Nicolas

Delegations present: All Member States.

1. PROPOSED MEASURES ON WHICH AN OPINION MAY BE REQUESTED

N/A

2. POINTS FOR DISCUSSION AND/OR FOR INFORMATION

2.1. Production rules – discussions on working documents

COM informed on the outcomes of the delegates consultation on working documents circulated in the COP meeting of June concerning juveniles derogation and withdrawal period for veterinary treatments in livestock.

COM presented a working document for discussion on the notion of “same ingredient” in the context of the organic rule preventing the concomitance of the same ingredient under organic and non-organic forms.

COM presented a document with the legal provisions of Regulation 2018/848 related to pet food, confirming that the organic feed rules apply and there is no possibility to impose other rules at national level.

2.2. Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) .../... of XXX concerning the authorisation of products and substances for use in organic production and the complementary certificate on the non-use of antibiotics in organic livestock production and repealing Regulation (EC) No 889/2008 (Article 24) (PLAN/2020/7799; D067068)

COM presented the text and the annexes in track changes highlighting the last modifications following the comments sent by the delegates. A new Article and an Annex were introduced to establish a complementary certificate on the non-use of antibiotics in organic livestock production. COM confirmed that the text should now be finalised and the procedure for adoption launched soon. It was recalled that the basic act provides that the authorisation for products and substances should be reviewed regularly.

2.3. Implementing act on production rules amending Regulation 889/2008

COM presented the Implementing act amending Regulation 889/2008. This implementing act aims at extending by one year the derogations regarding non organic pullets and non organic protein feed and at authorizing new products and substances examined recently by EGTOP in organic production.

The potential vote and the adoption of this Implementing act is subject to the adoption by the Council and the European Parliament of COM proposal on the postponement of Regulation (EU) 2018/848.

2.4. EGTOP

COM presented the state of play on EGTOP work and on pending requests submitted. Delegates asked for further discussions to be carried out in the COP on the criteria for cleaning and disinfection.

COM explained that priorities will have to be established for the future work of EGTOP considering the number of topics that need to be covered.

There will be a subgroup Food/Feed organised end October/begin November

For that Member States were requested to submit information on substances on which EGTOP was inconclusive: Steviol glycosides and Xylitol

2.5. Implementing act amending Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/464 laying down certain rules for the application of Regulation (EU) 2018/848 of the European Parliament and of the Council on organic production as regards its date of application and certain other dates referred to in that Regulation

COM presented the Implementing act amending Regulation (EU) 2020/464. This act postpones the date of entry into application of Regulation (EU) 2020/464 by one year to 1 January 2022. Other dates in this act regarding the transmission of information to the COM by MS and the end of transitional periods are postponed by one year. The potential vote and the adoption of this Implementing act is subject to the adoption by the Council and the European Parliament of COM proposal on the postponement of Regulation (EU) 2018/848.

2.6. Letters of interpretation and other issues

COM brought the attention to the content of recent replies uploaded in CIRCA BC concerning: seedlings provisions under current rules, use of pesticides in organic production, clarifications pre-packed trade and wholesalers exemption, use of non organic corn gluten in feed, procedure dossier of active substances for EGTOP, use of flavouring yeast extract, use of EU logo, new rules under Reg.2018/848 clarifications limit 170 kg N/ha livestock manure and others.

2.7. Commission Implementing Regulation laying down detailed rules for implementation of Regulation (EU) 2018/848 of the European Parliament and of the Council on controls and other measures ensuring traceability and compliance in organic production and the labelling of organic products (PLAN/2018/3297; D065042)

- Main changes from the version presented in March; discussion
- Outcome of the feedback mechanism

COM presented the changes introduced to the draft Implementing Act on controls since its last version in March 2020. Afterwards, COM presented the outcome of the feedback mechanism. MSs were invited to send their comments to the draft act until 9 October.

COM also informed that TBT consultations will start on 18 September.

2.8. Template for the organic data in the Annual Reports to be submitted by each Member State in accordance with Article 113(1) of Regulation (EU) 2017/625

COM presented the draft template regarding the organic data in the Annual Reports to be submitted by each Member State in accordance with Article 113(1) of Regulation (EU) 2017/625 that will replace section 9 of the part II of the annex of Regulation (EU) 2019/723 .

The MS were invited to send their comments until the 15th of October

2.9. TRACES

COM informed the COP concerning the progress of registration for the e-seal.

2.10. Implementing act on trade

- Certificate of operators- art. 45(4)

COM presented the provisions and the model of the third country operator certificate highlighting the differences in comparison with the EU operator certificate. .

- List of recognised CB under compliance – art. 46(1)

COM has shared with all delegations the comments it received from EOCC, IT and DE.

2.11. Amendments of the Regulation 1235/2008

COM updated the committee about the upcoming amendment of Regulation 1235/2008.

2.12. International issues

COM informed about the guidelines on additional controls and the current situation in the third countries involved. Due to COVID 19, COM proposed to extend the partial suspension of the guidelines until the end of the year.

COM informed that the exceptional measures due to COVID 19 out put in place by Korea finish next 30 September 2020.

COM updated the COP on the ongoing discussions with Mexico on a future equivalency agreement on organics. .

2.13. OFIS EU / INTC irregularities

- INEU 380/2018 DE-PL, linseed from PL
- OFIS INEU 442/2019 DE-CZ, 471/2019 CZ-SK, 140/2020 SK-HU, rapeseed from SK
- INEU-51/2018 (INEU 424/2017) & INEU 3/2020 (INEU 453/2019) PL-BG, honey from BG
- Xylitol (OFIS INEU 121/2020, 187/2020 and INTC 242/2020)

2.14. AoB

On production rules, AOBs on derogations for seedlings, on immunocastration in pig production and on ion resins exchange were raised.

On controls the AOBs concerned the absence of definition of the “inspection” in the ARs and also the “electronic signature” in the new electronic system for certificates.



Nathalie SAUZE- VANDEVYVER

List of participants– Summary Record

MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE ON ORGANIC PRODUCTION
via videoconference (Webex)

on Wednesday 16 September from 10:30 until 17:30 and
on Thursday 17 September from 09:15 until 17:45

MEMBER STATE	MINISTRY OR ORGANISATION	NUMBER OF PERSONS
BELGIUM	Service Public de Wallonie – ARNE	1
	VO, Departement Landbouw en Visserij	1
BULGARIA	Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Forestry	2
CZECH REPUBLIC	Ministry of Agriculture	2
DENMARK	Ministry of Environment and Food	2
GERMANY	Bundesministerium Für Ernährung Und Landwirtschaft	4
	Landesamt Fur Natur, Umwelt Und Verbraucherschutz	1
ESTONIA	Ministry of Rural Affairs	1
	National Food Authority	1
IRELAND	Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and the Marine	3
GREECE	Ministry of Rural Development and Food	2
SPAIN	MINISTERIO DE AGRICULTURA, PESCA Y ALIMENTACIÓN	3
FRANCE	DGCCRF Ministère de l'économie et des finances	1
	INAO	2
	Ministère de l'Agriculture, de l'Agroalimentaire et de la Forêt	2
CROATIA	Ministry of Agriculture	3
ITALY	Ministero delle Politiche Agricole e Forestali	2
CYPRUS	Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development and Environment	3
LATVIA	Ministry of Agriculture	2
LITHUANIA	Ministry of Agriculture	1
LUXEMBOURG	Administration des Services Techniques de l'Agriculture (ASTA)	2
	MINISTERE DE L' AGRICULTURE, DE LA VITICULTURE ET DU DEVELOPPEMENT RURAL	1
HUNGARY	Ministry of Agriculture	1
MALTA	Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Animal Rights	2

NETHERLANDS	Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality	1
	Ministry of Economic Affairs and Climate	1
AUSTRIA	Austrian Agency for Health and Food Safety	1
	Institute of Organic Farming and Farm Animal Biodiversity	1
POLAND	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development	1
	Main Inspectorate of Agriculture and Food Quality	1
PORTUGAL	Directorate-General of Agriculture and Rural Development	2
ROMANIA	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development	2
SLOVENIA	Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food Administration For Food Safety	2
SLOVAKIA	Central Control and Testing Institute in Agriculture	2
FINLAND	Finnish Food Authority	1
	Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry	1
SWEDEN	Swedish Food Agency	1
	Swedish Board of Agriculture	2
EFTA SECR.		
ICELAND		
NORWAY	Norwegian Food Safety Authority	1
	Ministry of Agriculture and Food	1
SWITZERLAND	Federal office for Agriculture	1