



**EUROPEAN COMMISSION**  
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
Directorate H - Sustainability and Quality of Agriculture and Rural Development  
**H.3. Organic farming**

Brussels, 23 January 2012  
AGRI H.3/SC/sm agri.ddg3.h.3(2012)73488

**Subject: Request for amendment of technical Annexes of Regulation (EC) 889/2008**

Dear Isabelle Mellier,

Thank you for your e-mail of 9 December 2011.

In particular, with regards to the dossier dated 06/12/2011 and concerning the possible inclusion of acetic acid in Annex VIII part B among the processing aids, I regret to inform you that, after discussion with the DG Health and Consumers, it would appear that your request to use acetic acid on fish would fall under Article 3 of Regulation 853/2004.

As you know, in Article 1.4 of Council Regulation (EC) No 834/2007 it is mentioned that: "This Regulation shall apply without prejudice to other community provisions or national provisions, in conformity with Community law concerning products specified in this Article, such as provisions governing the production, preparation, marketing, labelling and control, including legislation on foodstuffs and animal nutrition."

Therefore, it will not possible to proceed with the evaluation of this substance according to the principles criteria and objectives of the organic legislation, before that its status has been clarified with the relevant Commission Services i.e. DG Health and Consumers Unit G4 and E3.

We suggest you to contact the colleagues in DG Health and Consumers and in particular Mr Koen Van Dyck (G4) and Mr Michael Flueh (E3) who can confirm this information and explain how to proceed in this regard. This is the reason why I am copying this letter to Unit G4 and E3 in DG Health and Consumers, together with a copy of the relevant dossier as received from you.

Yours sincerely,

Jean-François HULOT

Copy: delegates for SCOF, Barbara Moretti, Koen Van Dyck, Michael Flueh (SANCO)

**Mrs Isabelle MELLIER**

3, rue Barbet de Jouy  
F-75349 PARIS 07SP  
FRANCE

[isabelle.mellier@agriculture.gouv.fr](mailto:isabelle.mellier@agriculture.gouv.fr)