



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Directorate H - Sustainability and Quality of Agriculture and Rural Development
H.3. Organic farming

16 MARS 2011

Brussels,
AGRI / H.3/MF /rm D(2011) 277593**Subject: Astacus astacus**

Dear

We can confirm that the aquatic species *Astacus astacus* is not part of the species covered by Annex XIIIa of Commission Regulation (EC) No 889/2008.

The species in question is considered a freshwater crayfish and most often collected in the wild. In that case Article 1(2) of Council Regulation (EC) No 834/2007 applies, where it is stated that products of hunting and fishing of wild animals shall not be considered as organic production. Consequently, Article 42 of the same Regulation cannot be applied.

However, if the rearing or cultivation of that species for its entire life cycle is

"using techniques designed to increase the production of the organisms in question beyond the natural capacity of the environment; the organisms remain the property of a natural or legal person throughout the rearing or culture stage, up to and including harvesting;

as defined in Article 3(d) of Council Regulation (EC) No 1198/2006, national rules may be set up in accordance with Article 42 of Regulation (EC) No 834/2007.

Yours sincerely,

Jean-François HULOT
Head of Unit