



EUROPEAN COMMISSION  
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

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

Brussels,  
PP/sn/agri.ddg1.b.4(2019)3617728

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your e-mail of 25 April 2019 (Int. Ref. ARES (2019)2805348) asking whether your product “Growcoon” which is a biodegradable plant plug could obtain the organic logo.

To address your question, I refer to Regulation (EC) No 834/2007<sup>1</sup> laying down the general rules on organic production and labelling. In particular, Article 1(2) lays down the scope of the organic legislation in the following terms: “*This Regulation shall apply to the following products originating from agriculture, including aquaculture, where such products are placed on the market or are intended to be placed on the market:*

- (a) *live or unprocessed agricultural products;*
  - (b) *processed agricultural products for use as food;*
  - (c) *feed;*
  - (d) *vegetative propagating material and seeds for cultivation.*
- The products of hunting and fishing of wild animals shall not be considered as organic production.”*

Consequently, “biodegradable plant plugs” are not in the scope of organic legislation and cannot be certified as organic under Regulation (EC) No 834/2007 nor be labelled or advertised using the EU organic logo.

The present opinion is provided on the basis of the facts as set out in your e-mail of 25 April 2019 and expresses the view of the Commission services and does not commit the European Commission. In the event of a dispute involving Union law it is, under the

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<sup>1</sup> 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. <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:02007R0834-20081010&qid=1396976187958&from=EN>

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Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, ultimately for the European Court of Justice to provide a definitive interpretation of the applicable Union law.

Yours sincerely,



Nathalie SAUZE- VANDEVYVER