



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Directorate B. Quality, Research & Innovation, Outreach
B.4. Organics

Brussels,
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[redacted]

Thank you for your email of 31 January 2017 and the information provided concerning the labelling of organic products.

In relation to your first question on whether the labelling on the product of the photo you sent, is correctly done, please note that according to Article 25(1) of Regulation (EC) No 834/2007 the EU organic logo may be used in the labelling, presentation and advertising of products which satisfy the requirements set out under this Regulation.

Article 24 of Regulation (EC) No 834/2007 and Articles 57 and 58 of Regulation (EC) No 889/2008 also contain detailed rules on the use of the EU organic logo, including mandatory indications, such as the code number of the control body or the place of origin of the agricultural raw material when the EU logo is used.

Article 24, paragraph 1(c) of Council Regulation (EC) No 834/2007 establishes that whenever a product has the EU organic logo, there should be an indication of the place where the agricultural raw materials of which the product is composed have been farmed. That means that one of the following should appear in the same visual field: 'EU Agriculture', (the agricultural raw material has been farmed in the EU); 'non-EU Agriculture', (the agricultural raw material has been farmed outside the EU); and 'EU/non-EU Agriculture', (part of the agricultural raw materials has been farmed in the Community and a part of it has been farmed outside the EU). Nevertheless the indication 'EU' or 'non-EU' may be replaced or supplemented by a country in the case where all agricultural raw materials of which the product is composed have been farmed in that country.

If you would like to get more information on the specific characteristics of the referred product you may get in touch with the responsible Control Body. On the following link you can find the list of the control bodies:

http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/ofis_public/r8/ctrl_r8.cfm?targetUrl=home&lang=en . :

Regarding your second question on possible measures in case of non-compliance please note that Article 30, paragraph 1 of the Council Regulation (EC) No 834/2007 states an irregularity is found as regards compliance with requirements laid down in the Regulation (EC) No 834/2007, the control authority or control body shall ensure that no reference to the organic production method is made in the labelling and advertising of the

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entire lot of production run affected by this irregularity, where this would be proportionate to the relevance of the requirement that has been violated and to the nature and particular circumstances of the irregular activities. Where a severe infringement or an infringement with prolonged effect is found, the control authority or control body shall prohibit the operator from marketing organic products for a period to be agreed with the competent authority of the Member State.

Regarding your third question on the information showed on the food packaging, I invite you to check this webpage where you shall find all the necessary information on food packaging labelling.

http://ec.europa.eu/food/safety/labelling_nutrition/labelling_legislation_en

Yours sincerely,

