



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Directorate B. Quality, Research & Innovation, Outreach
Director

Brussels,
MRP/sn/agri.ddg1.b.4(2018)577280

Subject: Your email of 22 January 2018

Dear Ms Nentcheva,

Thanks for your email of 22 January 2018 in which you enquire about the possibility to certify tea tree oil and rose essential oil under Regulation (EC) No 834/2007¹.

Council Regulation (EC) No 834/2007 applies to processed agricultural products for use as food (Article 1(2)(b)). Therefore, essential oils produced from agricultural ingredients intended *for food consumption* can in principle be certified as organic, provided the requirements set out in that Regulation are complied with. Furthermore, essential oils used as food also need to respect the relevant requirements laid down in EU legislation on foodstuffs, such as Regulation (EC) No 178/2002².

Finally, I would like to point out that cosmetic products, i.e. essential oils not intended for human consumption, are not covered by the scope of the EU 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 email of 22 January 2018 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 Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, ultimately for the Court of Justice of the European Union to provide a definitive interpretation of the applicable Union law.

Yours sincerely,

Nathalie SAUZE-VANDEVYVER

¹ 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 (O.J. L 189, 20.7.2007, p.1)

² Regulation (EC) No 178/2002 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 28 January 2002 laying down the general principles and requirements of food law, establishing the European Food Safety Authority and laying down procedures in matters of food safety (O.J. L 31, 1.2.2002, p.1)

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