



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
 DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Directorate B. Quality, Research & Innovation, Outreach
Director

Brussels,
 [redacted]/agri.ddg1.b.4(2017)5463601

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Thank you for your email of 16 September 2017, according to my understanding of which you enquire whether there is an organic label for vitamins sold as food supplements (B12, Vitamin D, multivitamins, Omega 3 from plants), and if so whether a list of the companies producing them exists.

Council Regulation (EC) No 834/2007¹ lays out the rules on organic agricultural production and labelling of organic products. This regulation should be read in conjunction with Commission Regulation (EC) No 889/2008² which lays down detailed rules for its implementation, including production and processing rules.

- Article 1(2) of Regulation 834/2007 states that the Regulation applies to "products originating from agriculture, including aquaculture, where such products are placed on the market [...]: (a) live or unprocessed products; (b) processed agricultural products for use as food".
- Article 19(2)(b) of Regulation 834/2008 provides that "only [...] vitamins [...] in foodstuffs for particular nutritional uses may be used and only in so far as they have been authorised for use in organic production in accordance with the processing criteria outlined under Article 21".
- Article 21(1) provides the products and substances referred to in Article 19(2)(b) above "are to be found in nature and may have undergone only mechanical, physical, biological, enzymatic or microbial processes [...]
- Furthermore, Article 27(1)(f) of Regulation 889/2008 states that "[...] vitamins [...] are only authorised as far as their use is legally required in the foodstuffs in which they are incorporated".

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, OJ L 189, 20.7.2007, p. 1–23](#)

² [Commission Regulation \(EC\) No 889/2008 of 5 September 2008 laying down detailed rules for the implementation of Council Regulation \(EC\) No 834/2007 on organic production and labelling of organic products with regard to organic production, labelling and control. OJ L 250, 18.9.2008](#)

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Therefore, only food supplements produced from agricultural ingredients fall under the scope of Regulation (EC) No 834/2007. As a consequence, food supplements produced from vitamins and minerals do not fall under the scope of the organic legislation and cannot use the EU organic logo.

Please note that the Commission does not have a list of companies producing organic food supplements

Finally, I invite you to consult our website which gives useful general information on EU organic policy: https://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/organic/index_en

The present opinion is provided on the basis of the facts as set out in your e-mail of 16 September 2017 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 European Court of Justice to provide a definitive interpretation of the applicable Union law.

