



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

The Director

Brussels, 08 SEP. 2011
AGRI H.3/MF/mc D(2011) 853405

Subject: organic shrimp production

Dear

Thank you for your letters dated 14 June 2011 to Mr Hulot (DG AGRI) and to Mr Bates (DG MARE) in which you raise several questions in respect of organic shrimp production. I will reply on behalf of both General Directorates.

First of all please let me draw your attention on the fact that the proper application of the organic farming rules at national level is in the hand of the Member State authorities. For that reason you are kindly invited in the first instance to address practical questions to the competent authority of your Member State. In case the Member State identifies further need for interpretation, we will be glad to study such questions and provide the appropriate answers.

So far we are not aware of any inconsistent interpretation of the organic shrimp rules. However, if need be, we may put that subject on the agenda of one of the next meetings of the relevant Committee for organic farming.

As regards your comment on the revision of Regulation (EC) No 889/2008 I would like to underline that for the time being no revision is envisaged. As you know the adoption of the new implementing rules is quite recent. Before changing them again, it appears useful to gain practical experience with the new rules. I consider it of outmost importance to ensure a stable legal framework where the sector and operators can rely on a long-term perspective.

Yours sincerely,


Maria Angeles BENITEZ SALAS

Copy: DG Mare, SCOF delegates