



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
 DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

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

Brussels,
 agri.ddg1.b.4(2017)4144426

Thank you for your enquiry of 7 July 2017 regarding whether loose organic tea received from your supplier can be re-packaged by yourself and still be sold directly to the consumer as organic.

According to EU legislation governing the production and labelling of organic products, if the loose tea received from your supplier is opened, re-packaged and re-labelled, it can only be sold directly to the consumer as organic if you adhere to the control system as outlined below:

- According to Article 28(1) of Council Regulation 834/2007¹, *"Any operator who produces, prepares², stores, or imports from a third country [...] or who places such products on the market shall, prior to placing on the market of any products as organic [...] (a) notify his activity to the competent authorities of the Member State where the activity is carried out;(b) submit his undertaking to the control system [...]."*

Regarding the labelling of organic products:

- The EU organic logo is compulsory on pre-packed food as set out in Article 24(1)(b) of Regulation (EC) No 834/2007.
- According to Article 24(1)(a) of Regulation 834/2007 it is compulsory to indicate *"the code number of the control body/control authority to which the operator who has carried out the most recent production or preparation operation is subject"*. Therefore, the code number of the control body or control authority carrying out the control of the final stage of preparation - for instance labelling or alteration of the labelling - has to appear in the labelling of the product.

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 As defined under Article 2(i) of Regulation (EC) No 834/2007: 'preparation' means the operations of preserving and/or processing of organic products, including packaging, labelling and/or alterations made to the labelling concerning the organic production method.

I therefore invite you to contact the relevant Competent Authority for more information and specific requirements related to the control system (a list of Competent Authorities per Member State can be found on the following link):

https://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/organic/consumer-trust/certification-and-confidence/controls-and-inspections/control-system_en

In addition, you may be interested in consulting our website, which gives general information on the various aspects of the EU organic production scheme:
https://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/organic/index_en

I trust this has answered your question.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lene Naesager', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Lene NAESAGER