



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

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

Brussels,
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SUMMARY RECORD

Meeting of the Committee on Organic Production

Via videoconference (Webex)

Wednesday 28 and Thursday 29 October 2020

Chair: Elena PANICHI

Delegations present: All Member States were present.
Iceland, Switzerland and Norway were present as observers.

Written procedure (vote from 19 to 23 October 2020):

**COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING REGULATION (EU) .../... of XXX amending
Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/977 as regards the period of application of the
temporary measures in relation to controls on the production of organic products**

Positive vote: 27 Member States voted in favour, 0 against, 0 abstained.

A PROPOSED MEASURES ON WHICH AN OPINION MAY BE REQUESTED

N/A

B POINTS FOR DISCUSSION AND/OR FOR INFORMATION

B.1 PRODUCTION RULES – DISCUSSIONS ON WORKING DOCUMENTS

COM confirmed that, from the date of application of Regulation 2018/848, national and private rules on organic pet food must comply with the EU rules on organic feed. These national/private rules on organic pet food can only be stricter and they must remain voluntary for producers.

COM presented the first reactions from the MS on a working document to have a common understanding for “same ingredient” in the context of the prohibition of

mixing an ingredient of organic origin with a same ingredient of non-organic origin.

B.2 COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING REGULATION (EU) .../... OF XXX CONCERNING THE AUTHORIZATION OF PRODUCTS AND SUBSTANCES FOR USE IN ORGANIC PRODUCTION AND REPEALING REGULATION (EC) NO 889/2008 (ARTICLE 24) (PLAN/2020/7799; D067068)

COM presented the last modifications, including the title, of the draft Commission Implementing Regulation authorising certain products and substances for use in organic production and establishing their lists and the model for a complementary certificate on the non-use of antibiotics in organic livestock production. COM explained that this regulation must be published at the latest in the beginning of next year to allow the operators to be ready on the first January 2022. As foreseen in the basic act, the annexes of this implementing Regulation will be revised regularly and COM have taken note about the requests from the MS. With the exceptions on certain provisions related to fertilisers, these modifications, mainly legal drafting, were well received by the MS.

B.3 COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING REGULATION (EU) .../...OF XXX AMENDING REGULATION (EC) NO 889/2008 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 (PLAN/2020/8924)

This IA concerns potential derogations for the use of non organic pullets in egg production and for the use of non organic protein feed with a maximum of 5% for poultry and an update of authorised products and substances under Regulation (EC) No 889/2008. COM informed the MS that the ISC is over for this IA and that the feed back mechanism and the TBT consultation is on going. The IA will be submitted to the vote of the MS by written procedure end of November or early December 2020. The objective of COM is to have this IA published before 31 December 2020.

B.4 EGTOP

COM presented an overview of the activities of EGTOP and the planning of and mandates for future meetings on FOOD /FEED, and PPP/fertilisers. The Committee took note of the mandate.

B.5 IMPLEMENTING ACT AMENDING COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING REGULATION (EU) 2020/464 LAYING DOWN CERTAIN RULES FOR THE APPLICATION OF REGULATION (EU) 2018/848 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL ON ORGANIC PRODUCTION AS REGARDS ITS DATE OF APPLICATION AND CERTAIN OTHER DATES REFERRED TO IN THAT REGULATION (PLAN/2020/8925)

This IA aims to postpone the date of entry into application of Regulation (EU) 2020/464 following COM proposal to postpone to 1 January 2022 the date of entry into application of Regulation (EU) 2018/848. The ISC is over for this act and the TBT consultation is on going. The IA will be submitted to the vote of MS by written procedure end of November or early December 2020.

B.6 LETTERS OF INTERPRETATION AND OTHER ISSUES

COM brought the attention to the content of recent replies uploaded in CIRCA BC concerning: submission of dossier for pesticides in organic production, prohibition use of term bio in hydroponic systems and non organic aquaculture systems, how to consider mushroom activated substrates, use of EU logo, immunocastration prohibition, possible misuse of asparaginase from GM source. In addition, COM referred to AOB point on transplants submitted by IT and AT to be discussed in future meeting.

B.7 COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING REGULATION (EU) .../... LAYING DOWN DETAILED RULES FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF REGULATION (EU) 2018/848 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL ON CONTROLS AND OTHER MEASURES ENSURING TRACEABILITY AND COMPLIANCE IN ORGANIC PRODUCTION AND THE LABELLING OF ORGANIC PRODUCTS (PLAN/2018/3297)

- SUMMARY OF QUESTIONNAIRE RESPONSES AND COMMENTS RECEIVED
- DISCUSSION

COM presented a summary of the comments received to the draft text. The discussion followed. COM explained the further steps.

B.8 TEMPLATE FOR THE ANNUAL CONTROLS

- SUMMARY OF COMMENTS RECEIVED AND DISCUSSION

COM presented a summary of the comments received to the draft template of the annual report. The discussion followed. COM informed that the draft template will be further discussed at the next meetings.

B.9 ASSESSMENT OF ANNUAL REPORTS FOR THE REPORTING YEAR 2018

COM presented an overview of the annual reports under the Multi Annual Control Plan (MANCP) referring to the submission of the reports for 2019 and the assessment results of the reports for 2018. As an outcome of overall conclusions, COM mentioned the constant improvement on a timely submission and the quality content of the reports.

B.10 IMPLEMENTING ACT ON TRADE (PLAN/2020/6783)

- CERTIFICATE OF OPERATORS – ART. 45(4)

COM presented a new version of the provisions and the model of the third country operator certificate taking into account the comments received and highlighting the differences in comparison with the EU operator certificate.

- LIST OF RECOGNISED CBs UNDER COMPLIANCE – ART. 46(1)

COM presented the information that should be contained in the future list of recognised control bodies or control authorities under the compliance regime.

B.11 AMENDMENTS OF REGULATION 1235/2008

COM informed the committee about content and procedure of the upcoming amendment of Regulation (EC) No 1235/2008. Due to issues related to Brexit, the vote has been delayed. The written procedure for voting will be launched as soon as the interservice consultation is completed.

B.12 INTERNATIONAL ISSUES

- COM informed about the meeting that took place with Japan regarding livestock and the current equivalency recognition. The information received from MSs regarding the state of play of the certification today by control bodies of livestock was also presented.
- COM informed about the outcome of the meetings with Korea regarding the changes introduced with the new EU organic regulation in trade and the future international agreement for organics and the annual dialogue meeting for the existing equivalence recognition.
- COM started the discussion on the guidelines for additional controls. COM suggest to put the guidelines in place for next year and if needed due to COVID-19 a partial suspension will be put in place. COM will send the statistics to MS like in previous years.
- COM gave an overview of the input received by MS on the question regarding Switzerland. COM is currently looking at the question internally with the legal department.

- COM informed about the last audio conference of the Organic Equivalency Arrangement Working Group (OEAWG). No physical meeting will take place this year however, a remote meeting will be organized in the first semester of 2021 by the EU.

B.13 IRREGULARITIES

- **THIRD COUNTRY IRREGULARITIES**

COM shared with the MS some issues in the imports of organic products from third countries. For this meeting, COM focused on the imports of goji berries and general investigations by Control Bodies for contaminated imported products.

- **EU IRREGULARITIES**

- **INEU-51/2018 (INEU 424/2017) & INEU 3/2020 (INEU 453/2019) PL-BG, honey from BG**

Feedback by COM in relation to the interpretation and checking requirements for the siting of apiaries.

- **INEU-44/2020 NL-HU, 180/2020 IT-HU, 186/2020 NL-HU, 231/2020 IT-HU, Alert 20/2020**

Presentations by the notified and notifying MS. COM's preliminary assessment.

- **Matrine in products labelled 'organic' and technical inputs used in organic production**

Briefing by COM.

- **Phosphonic acid and Fosetyl-AL**

Briefing by COM following meetings with stakeholders.

B.14 AOB

- PL: Amendment of Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/977
- IE, CZ, DK: Brexit, UK CBs
- CZ: Organic Action Plan
- IT, AT: Interpretation issue seedlings/prm



Nathalie SAUZE- VANDEVYVER

List of participants– Summary Record

*Meeting of the Committee on Organic Production
28 and 29 October 2020*

MEMBER STATE	Ministry or Organisation	NAME
BE	SPW Wallonie	1
	Department of Agriculture and Fisheries	1
BG	Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Forestry	2
CZ	Ministry of Agriculture	1
DK	Danish Veterinary and Food Administration	1
DE	Bundesanstalt für Landwirtschaft und Ernährung	5
	Landesamt für Natur, Umwelt und Verbraucherschutz	1
EE	Ministry of Rural Affairs	2
IE	DAFM	2
EL	Ministry of Rural Development and Food	1
ES	Ministerio de Agricultura, Pesca y Alimentacion	3
FR	INAO	2
	Ministère de l’Agriculture et de l’Alimentation	2
	Ministère de l’Economie	1
HR	Ministry of Agriculture	3
IT	MIPAAF	3
CY	Ministry of Agriculture Rural Development and Environment	2
LV	Ministry of Agriculture	1
	Permanent Representation	1
LT	Ministry of Agriculture	1
LU	Administration des services techniques de l’Agriculture	3
HU	Ministry of Agriculture	1
MT	Ministry for Agriculture, Fisheries and Animal Rights	1
NL	Ministry of Economic Affairs and Climate Control	1
	Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality	1

AT	AGES	1
	BMLRT	1
PL	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development	2
	Inspection of Agriculture and Food Quality	1
PT	DGADR	2
RO	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development	2
SI	MAFF	1
	Administration for Food Safety, Veterinary Sector and Plant Protection	1
SK	Central Control and Testing Institute in Agriculture	1
FI	Finnish Food Authority	1
	Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry	1
SE	Swedish Board of Agriculture	2
	Swedish Food Agency	1
ISL	Icelandic Food And Veterinary Authority	1
NO	Norwegian Food Safety Authority	1
	Norwegian Ministry of Agriculture and Food	1
CH	Federal Office For Agriculture	3