



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Brussels
DdF/sf/agri.ddg1.b.4(2021)7435492

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email¹ of 28 September 2021 on the use of sulphites in organic concentrated grape juices and ozone for conservation of organic fresh fruits.

In accordance with Section A of Annex VIII to Regulation (EC) No 889/2008², sulphur dioxide and potassium metabisulphite are only authorised as additives in organic fruit wines and mead. Consequently a concentrated grape juice with added sulphites is not an organic product and cannot be used in organic jam.

From your description, I understand that ozone is used to prolong the shelf-life of food by protecting against deterioration caused by microorganisms. For organic products, such use would need to be listed in Annex VIII to Regulation (EC) No 889/2008. As Ozone is not listed in that Annex it cannot be used on organic fresh fruits.

Please note that equivalent provisions are laid down in Regulation (EU) 2021/1165³ that will apply from 1 January 2022.

The present opinion is provided on the basis of the facts as set out in your email of 28 September 2021 and expresses the view of the Commission services and does not commit the European Commission.

¹ ARES(2021)5898325

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 \(OJ L 250 18.9.2008, p. 1\)](#)

³ [Commission Implementing Regulation \(EU\) 2021/1165 of 15 July 2021 authorising certain products and substances for use in organic production and establishing their lists \(OJ L253, 16.7.2021, p.13\)](#)

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.

Yours sincerely,

