



**EUROPEAN COMMISSION**  
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Directorate B. Multilateral relations, quality policy  
**B.4. Organics**

Brussels,  
[REDACTED]/ARESAgri.ddg1.b.4(2016)6103061

**Subject:        brewing of organic beer**

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your e-mail of 20/09/2016. You enquire in particular concerning acquiring ingredients for organic production of beer and organic certification.

Please note that the EU legislative framework on organic production is composed by Regulation (EC) No 834/2007<sup>1</sup> and its implementing rules (Regulation (EC) No 889/2008<sup>2</sup>). Specific rules exist also concerning imports of organic products from third countries<sup>3</sup>. The specific rules on organic production apply without prejudice to other EU or national provisions such as the relevant legislation on foodstuffs.

The above mentioned EU legislative framework on organic production applies to live or unprocessed agricultural products, processed agricultural products for use as food, feed and vegetative propagating material and lays down rules covering all stages of production, preparation and distribution of organic products. Rules are laid down as well concerning the use of indications referring to organic production in labelling and advertising. More details concerning the aim and scope of the EU legislative framework on organic production are provided in Article 1 of Regulation (EC) No 834/2007.

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<sup>1</sup> Council Regulation (EC) No 834/2007 on organic production and labelling of organic products – Official Journal of the EU L 189 of 20/07/2007.

<sup>2</sup> Commission 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 – Official Journal of the EU L 250 of 18/09/2016.

<sup>3</sup> Commission Regulation (EC) No 1235/2008 laying down detailed rules for implementation of Council Regulation (EC) No 834/2007 as regards the arrangements for imports of organic products from third countries.

[REDACTED]

With regard to your specific question, the ingredients for production of organic beer have to comply with the requirements of the EU legislative framework on organic production. This is also the case concerning processing as well as labelling and distribution.

Concerning your question on organic certification, please note that any operator who produces, prepares, stores or imports from a third country products falling under the scope of Regulation (EC) No 834/2007 – see Article 1(2), shall, prior to placing on the market of any products as organic or in conversion, notify his activities to the competent authorities of the Member State where the activity is carried out and submit his undertaking to the organic control system. More details are provided in Article 28 of Regulation (EC) No 834/2007.

I suggest that you enter into contact with the competent authority of the Member State where you plan to carry out your activities for information on the specific requirements related to these activities. A list of the EU competent authorities in each Member State is available at [http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/organic/consumer-trust/certification-and-confidence/controls-and-inspections/control-system\\_en](http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/organic/consumer-trust/certification-and-confidence/controls-and-inspections/control-system_en).

You will also find general information on organic production in the EU at [http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/organic/index\\_en](http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/organic/index_en).

I wish you all the best with your activities.

Kind regards,

