

## **EUROPEAN COMMISSION**

DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

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

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Thank you for your email of 8 March 2019, in which you are asking how to obtain the EU organic label on your products.

Kindly note that a product using terms referring to the EU organic production must comply with Council Regulation (EC) No 834/2007<sup>1</sup> and Commission Regulation (EC) No 889/2008<sup>2</sup>, which lay out the rules on organic production and labelling of organic products.

- Article 24(1)(a) of Regulation (EC) No 834/2007 states that 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". Furthermore, Article 24(1)(b) of that Regulation states that the logo is compulsory on pre-packed food.
- Article 28(1) of that Regulation provides that: "Any operator who produces, prepares<sup>3</sup>, [....] 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 [...]".

This means that the operator who has carried out the most recent preparation of the product – for packaging, labelling or alteration of the labelling – must submit the undertaking to the relevant control body/authority where the activity is carried out before placing the product on the market, and the code number of this control body/authority must appear on the packaging in the same visual filed as the EU organic logo.

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.



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

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.18

I invite you to contact the relevant competent authority for more information and specific requirements related to labelling and to the control system, a list of which per Member State can be found on the following link:

http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/ofis public/actor cbeu/ctrl.cfm?targetUrl=home

You may also be interested in consulting our website, which gives general information on the various aspects of the EU organic production scheme, and includes a downloadable user manual with full technical details regarding the EU logo: <a href="https://ec.europa.eu/info/food-farming-fisheries/farming/organic-farming-en">https://ec.europa.eu/info/food-farming-fisheries/farming/organic-farming-en</a>

Yours faithfully,

Nathalie SAUZE- VANDEVYVER