



EUROPEAN COMMISSION  
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Directorate B – Sustainability

Brussels  
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I would like to thank you for your e-mail<sup>1</sup> of 18 October 2021 on the flavourings authorised in organic products. Please accept my apologies for the late reply.

In accordance with point 2.2.2 (b) of Part IV of Annex II to Regulation (EU) 2018/848<sup>2</sup> only some flavourings may be used in the processed organic food:

- they must correspond to the substances and products defined in points (c) and (d)(i) of Article 3(2) of Regulation (EC) No 1334/2008<sup>3</sup>
- they must have been labelled, when sold to the food producers, as natural flavouring substances or as natural flavouring preparations in accordance with Article 16(2), (3) and (4) of Regulation (EC) No 1334/2008.

Flavourings that have been labelled in accordance with Article 16(2), (3) and (4) of Regulation (EC) No 1334/2008 must have the following characteristics as mentioned in that Regulation:

- the flavouring component must comprise only flavouring preparations and/or natural flavouring substances,
- the flavouring component of the flavouring substances must contain exclusively natural flavouring substances, and
- the flavouring component has to be obtained exclusively or by at least 95 % by w/w from the source material that reflect the flavour of taste of the flavouring component.

<sup>1</sup> ARES(2021)4930498

<sup>2</sup> [Regulation \(EU\) 2018/848 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 May 2018 on organic production and labelling of organic products and repealing Council Regulation \(EC\) No 834/2007 \(OJ L 150, 14.6.2018, p. 1\)](#)

<sup>3</sup> [Regulation \(EC\) No 1334/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 December 2008 on flavourings and certain food ingredients with flavouring properties for use in and on foods and amending Council Regulation \(EEC\) No 1601/91, Regulations \(EC\) No 2232/96 and \(EC\) No 110/2008 and Directive 2000/13/EC \(OJ L 354 31.12.2008, p. 34\)](#)

The present opinion is provided on the basis of the facts as set out in your email of 18 October 2021 and expresses the view of the Commission services and does not commit the European Commission. 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,

