



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Directorate B. Quality, Research & Innovation, Outreach
Director

Brussels,
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Dear delegates,

Subject: Authorizations of non-organic agricultural ingredients

The Commission services raised the issue of authorizations of non-organic agricultural ingredients granted on the basis of article 19(2)(c) of Regulation (EC) No. 834/2007 during the Committee's meetings on 7 March 2017 and 18 May 2017. The Commission invited the delegations to verify the authorisations and provide feedback to the Commission on the results of the review. The Commission, on the other hand, examined the active notifications in OFIS.

On the basis of available information the Commission considers that issues remain to be addressed. As a follow up, please find below the first list of ingredients for clarifications.

- 1) ARA and DHA
- 2) DHASCO/ARASCO
- 3) Galacto-oligosaccharide
- 4) Lacprodan
- 5) Hops
- 6) Potato, Fibre, Powder, Starch
- 7) Sugar
- 8) Sunflower, Kernel, Oil

I invite all delegations to provide, on the basis of the above list, replies to the questions below **within 4 weeks after the receipt of the present letter** in an email to AGRI-B4@ec.europa.eu.

- 1) Has your Member State/country authorised any of the above ingredients in non-organic form for use in organic production (active authorisations as of September 2017) (Article 19(2)(c) of Regulation (EC) No 834/2007)?
- 2) How the competent authority has established that the ingredients 1, 2, 3, and 4 are agricultural ingredients (Article 19(2)(c) of Regulation (EC) No 834/2007)?
- 3) How the competent authority monitors compliance with the requirements to issue authorisations only for a limited period, i.e. for a maximum period of 12 months, with

~~To the Members of the Committee on organic Production~~

prolongations maximum three times for 12 months each (Article 29(1) of Regulation (EC) No 889/2008)?

- 4) How the competent authority monitors that the ingredient concerned is not produced in sufficient quantity in the Union or cannot be imported from third countries (Article 29(1)(a) of Regulation (EC) No 889/2008)?
- 5) How the competent authority verifies that for the resulting processed food the terms referring to organic production are only used in the sales description in case at least 95 % by weight of its ingredients of agricultural origin are organic (Article 23(4)(a)(ii) of Regulation (EC) No 834/2007)
- 6) How does the competent authority assess that the quantities required for those ingredients are justified (Article 29(2)(e) of Regulation (EC) No 889/2008)?
- 7) How the competent authority verifies that without having recourse to the ingredient, it would be impossible to produce or preserve the food or, where applicable, to fulfil given dietary requirements provided for on the basis of the EU legislation (Article 21(1)(i) of Regulation (EC) No 834/2007)

Please feel free to provide comments, explanations, and any relevant documents.

The issue is planned to be discussed during the next meeting of the Committee.

I would like to thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Yours sincerely,



Nathalie SAUZE-VANDEVYVER

Contact: György NÉMETH (Gyorgy.NEMETH@ec.europa.eu)