

10 Questions and Answers to the new organic production logo of the European Union



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WORKING FOR ORGANIC FOOD
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Picture: ORA/R.Liebing



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1. What is the new EU organic logo?

The basic organic production logo of the European Union (referred to in this paper as the EU organic logo) is sometimes also called “Euro-leaf”.



It was introduced with the passing of the Commission Regulation (EU) No 271/2010 of 24 March 2010 amending Regulation (EC) No 889/2008 laying down detailed rules for the implementation of Council Regulation (EC) No 834/2007, as regards the organic production logo of the European Union.

The high-quality EU organic logo can be downloaded at the European Commission’s official website on organic food and farming: http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/organic/eu-policy/logo_en.

The specific rules for colour, background, minimum size, shape, etc. are provided in Annex XI A of this regulation. Additionally, the European Commission has published a set of guidelines on the use of the new EU organic logo. The term of use for the EU organic logo provides more information on the use and the copyright related to the EU organic logo: http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/organic/files/eu-policy/logo/terms_use_logo_en.pdf. Detailed information with examples on graphic management are explained in the user manual of the EU organic logo: http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/organic/files/eu-policy/logo/user_manual_logo_en.pdf.

2. When will the use of the new EU organic logo be compulsory?

Application of new EU organic logo will be possible for products placed on the market as of 1 July 2010. There are products that must be labelled with the logo, others that can be labelled voluntarily with the logo, and finally, there is a group of products that cannot be labelled with the logo. All new labelling requirements are fully valid from the 1 July 2010. For more information, see further questions and answers.

For all products placed on the market from the 1 July 2010, the new EU organic logo can be used for packaging and promotional materials in accordance to the Commission Regulation (EU) No 271/2010 of 24 March 2010 amending Regulation (EC) No 889/2008 laying down detailed rules for the implementation of Council Regulation (EC) No 834/2007, as regards the organic production logo of the European Union.

Please, refer to question 7 for information about transitional periods for the use of old packaging material and the transition time for introducing new packaging material.

3. Which products must be labelled with the new EU organic logo?

The EU organic logo has to be used for pre-packed organic food products which are in the scope of Regulation (EC) No 834/2007. The definition of a pre-packed organic food product (according to Article 1 of Directive 2000/13/EC) is: “any product which is put into packaging before being offered for sale (and presented) to the ultimate/final consumer or to mass caterers”. The above-mentioned packaging might enclose the foodstuff completely or only partially, but in any case it must enclose the foodstuff in such a way that the contents cannot be altered without opening or changing the packaging. (according to Article 24 (1) b) and Article 2 (l) of Regulation (EC) 834/2007, Article 57 of Regulation (EC) No 889/2008).



Picture: ORA/R.Liebing

4. Which products cannot be labelled with the new EU organic logo?

- products and food in conversion (according to Article 25 Point 1 of Regulation (EC) No 834/2007),
- processed food with less than 95% of organic ingredients of agricultural origin (according to Article 25 Point 1 and Article 23 Point 4 (b) of Regulation (EC) No 834/2007),
- processed food made of organic ingredients of agricultural origin in which the main ingredient is of hunting or fishing origin (according to Article 25 Point 1 and Article 23 Point 4 (c) of Regulation (EC) No 834/2007),
- organic products produced in accordance with private standards and not being in the scope (no specific standards available) of Regulation (EC) No 834/2007 or Regulation (EEC) No 2092/1992 (according to Article 57 paragraph 2 of Regulation (EC) No 889/2008), particularly:
 - animals not included in the scope of the EU Regulations, like rabbit, snail, deer, etc,
 - products of organic aquaculture produced by the operators, granted authorisation by the competent national authority to produce in accordance with private or national organic aquaculture standards for a transitional period, while phasing in the EU rules until 1 July 2013 (according to Article 57 paragraph 2 and Article 95 point 11 of Regulation (EC) No 889/2008),
 - wine made of organic grapes,
 - textile (e.g. cotton, linen, hemp, wool) and cosmetics,
 - pet food.

The use of the new EU organic logo on organic feed is not clear yet, as the European Commission has not clarified the interpretation of Organic Regulations. This document will be modified as soon as the clear interpretation becomes available.

5. Which products may be labelled voluntarily with the new EU organic logo?

See sections above for which products have to and which cannot be labelled with the new EU organic logo.

The EU organic logo can be used on all products satisfying the requirements set out under Regulation (EC) No 834/2007 and containing at least 95% (by weight) ingredients pertaining from organic agricultural origin (according to Article 25 Point 1 and Article 23 Point 4(a) of Regulation (EC) No 834/2007). In particular, the EU organic logo can be used for:

- non pre-packed organic food,
- organic food imported from third countries (according to Article 24 Point 1 (last paragraph) of Regulation (EC) No 834/2007),
- transport packaging for organic products supplied to other operators (hence not the final consumer) or to mass-catering facilities. The EU organic logo can be used also on accompanying documents of organic bulk products. The labelling on transport packaging must comply primarily with the provisions of Article 31 of Regulation (EC) No 889/2008.

6. Can the new EU organic logo be used for advertisements of organic products?

Yes, the new EU organic logo can be used not only in labelling of organic products produced in accordance with the requirements of Regulation (EEC) No 2092/91 or Regulation (EC) No 834/2007, but also in their presentation and advertising (according to Article 25 Point 1 of Regulation (EC) No 834/2007 and article 57 paragraph 2 of Regulation (EC) No 889/2008.

For the definition of the "advertising" refer to Article 2 (m) of Regulation (EC) No 834/2007).

7. What are the transition periods for the use of old packaging materials and for introducing new packaging materials?

Products produced, packaged and labelled (with the old EU organic logo) before 1 July 2010 can be placed on the market production until stocks are exhausted. (according to Article 95 Point 9 of Commission Regulation (EC) No 889/2008)

Organic products complying with the requirements of Regulation (EC) No 834/2007 can be packaged (“packaging materials may be used”) and brought to the market up to the 30th of June 2012, with packaging material in accordance with Regulation (EEC) No 2092/1991 (with the old EU logo). These packaging materials can be renewed; with or without the old EU organic logo. These products can be sold without any time limit (according to Article 95 Point 10 of Regulation (EC) No 889/2008).

However, all new products placed on the market as of 1 July 2010 must be labelled with new EU organic production logo.

The old EU organic logo will disappear progressively from the market.

8. What additional compulsory requirements related to the labelling of organic products are in place?

The code number of the control authority or control body is compulsory in the labelling of all organic products produced in accordance with the requirements of Regulation (EC) No 834/2007, regardless of whether the EU organic logo is used (according to Article 24 Point 1 (a) of Regulation (EC) No 834/2007).

The indication of the place where the agricultural raw materials of which the product is composed have been farmed is only compulsory in the labelling when the EU organic logo is used (ac-

ording to Article 24 Point 1 (c) of Regulation (EC) No 834/2007).

The code number of the control authority or control body is required whenever the term “organic” is used in the labelling. The product should indicate the code number of the control authority or control body controlling the company, which was the last to prepare, process, pack and/or label the product. If the code number of the control authority or control body controlling the producer is different from the one controlling the manufacturer (who conducted the last processing) or distributor (who did not conduct last processing), the code number related to the manufacturer must be used (according to Article 24 Point 1 (a) of Regulation (EC) No 834/2007 and Article 2 (i),(k),(m) of Regulation (EC) No 834/2007).

Additionally and voluntarily, the code number of the control authority or control body controlling the distributor (who did not conduct the last preparation) can be put on the label.

In case organic products are transported to another operator, including wholesalers and retailers, packages should be labelled with the name and/or the code number of the control body or authority to which the operator is subject to (according to Article 31 of Regulation (EC) No 889/2008).

As of 1 July 2010, the new code numbers of the control authority or control body, established by Regulation (EU) No 271/2010, must be used. The same transition periods as for the use of old packaging materials are applicable here as well (according to Article 95 Point 10 of Regulation (EC) No 889/2008). Please refer to question 7 for more information on transitional periods.

Further, on 1 July 2010 the transitional period expires for the use of the code number and/or the name of the control body or control authority as laid down in Regulation (EEC) No 2092/91 (according to Article 95 Point 8 of Regulation (EC) No 889/2008). After 1 July 2010, the use of the name of the control authority or control body alone



Picture: ORA/R.Liebing

is not sufficient anymore. From this date on the code number is the only form of identification to be used on packages. The name of the control authority or control body may be added.

In general, the code number of the control authority or control body is not required for presentation and advertising purposes (in case of general information on the product range or company's environment).

Indication of the place where the agricultural raw materials of which the product is composed have been farmed (according to Article 24 Point 1(c) and following paragraphs of Regulation (EC) No 834/2007).

The indication of the place where the agricultural raw materials of which the product is composed have been farmed can take the following forms:

- 'EU Agriculture', where at least 98% of the agricultural raw material has been farmed in the EU,
- 'non-EU Agriculture', where at least 98% of the agricultural raw material has been farmed in third countries,
- 'EU/non-EU Agriculture', where a part of the agricultural raw materials has been farmed in the Community and a part of it has been farmed in a third country.
- 'XXX-Agriculture' (where XXX is the name of the country) might be used instead or additional to the above-mentioned indications "EU" and "non-EU". E.g. EU – United Kingdom - Agriculture, Poland – Agriculture, Non-EU - Australia - Agriculture. Turkey - Agriculture.

The country in this indication can be mentioned as a country name, country adjective or ISO country code. E.g. Denmark-Agriculture, Danish Agriculture or DK-Agriculture.

The 98% rule (disregarding up to 2% of ingredients) applies for the "EU" and "Non-EU" indications and the same rule applies also for the country indication, in cases where a country indication replaces "EU" and "Non-EU" indication. The 'XXX-Agriculture'

(where XXX is the name of the country) can be used for products where at least 98% of the agricultural raw material is farmed in that country. (according to Article 24 Point 1(c) and following paragraphs of Regulation (EC) No 834/2007).

As labelling of the raw material is not obligatory, producers should request information on the origin of the raw materials from their suppliers, to be able to label their own products correctly.

9. Can national and private logos be used for labelling and advertising organic products?

Yes, national and private logos can be used on organic products next to the EU organic logo (according to Article 25 Point 2 of Regulation (EC) No 834/2007). The use of private/national logos is regulated by the individual private/national rules.

10. How should the EU organic logo and other required elements be placed on the label?

The EU organic logo, the code number and place of farming do not always have to be placed on the front side of the packaging material. They shall be marked in a conspicuous place in such a way as to be easily visible, clearly legible and indelible (according to Article 24 Point 2 of Regulation (EC) No 834/2007).

The code number of the control authority or control body:

- shall appear in the same visual field as the logo, if the EU organic logo is used (according to Article 58 Point 1(d) of Regulation (EC) No 889/2008).

The indication of the place where the agricultural raw materials of which the product is composed have been farmed (like 'EU Agriculture'):

- shall be placed immediately below the code number of the control authority or control body (according to Article 58 point 2 of Regulation

(EC) No 889/2008) in the same visual field as the logo (only if the EU organic logo is used (according to Article 24 Point 1 (c) of Regulation (EC) No 834/2007).

- shall not appear in a colour, size and style of lettering more prominent than the sales description of the product (according to Article 24 Paragraphs 3 following Point 1(c) of Regulation (EC) No 834/2007).

If the EU organic logo is placed on the package twice, the code number and place of farming can be displayed only once.

Detailed information with examples on graphic management are explained in the user manual of the EU organic logo: http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/organic/files/eu-policy/logo/user_manual_logo_en.pdf.


Label examples

EXAMPLE 1: Organic product with at least 95% of organic ingredients of agricultural origin (according to Article 23 Point 4(a) of Regulation (EC) No 834/2007).

Organic fennel salami ¹

Ingredients: pork* ², salt, fennel seed (1 %)*, spices*, sugar* and garlic*.

*from organic agriculture ²



FR -BIO-999 ⁴

EU-Agriculture ⁵

can be decided by the producer.

³ The EU organic logo for products with at least 95% organic ingredients of agricultural origin and with a reference to organic production.

⁴ Code number must be in the same field of view as the logo.

⁵ Origin labelling must be placed directly under the code number. For this product, more than 98% of the agricultural raw materials came from the EU.

Explanation

¹ Reference to organic production in the product name is possible only for products with at least 95% of organic ingredients of agricultural origin

² Organic agriculture ingredients must always be indicated. This information can be done by use of an asterisk „*“ or by using the prefix “bio”, “organic”, etc. The way of indicating this information



Picture: ORA/R.Liebing

EXAMPLE 2: Organic product with less than 95% of organic ingredients of agricultural origin (according to Article 23 Point 4(b) of Regulation (EC) No 834/2007).

Oat cake ¹

Ingredients: organic² oat flakes, vegetable fat, organic² wheat flour, milk powder, cornstarch, malt extract, sea salt, baking agent (Sodium hydrogen carbonate) and spices.

*² 29 % of the agricultural ingredients derive from organic agriculture ³

PL-EKO-999 ⁴

Explanation

¹ Reference to organic production in the product name is not allowed for products with less than 95% of organic ingredients of agricultural origin.

² Organic agriculture ingredients must always be indicated. This information can be done by use of an asterisk „*“ or by using the prefix “bio”, “organic”, etc. The way of indicating this information can be decided by the producer.

³ The percentage of organic ingredients of agricultural origin must be declared.

⁴ Code number must be presented in a well visible place.

!!! EU organic logo is not allowed.

!!! Origin labelling is not required, as it is only mandatory in case where the logo is used.

EXAMPLE 3: Product where main ingredient is of hunting or fishing origin, while all other ingredients of agricultural origin are organic (according to Article 23 Point 4(c) of Regulation (EC) No 834/2007).

Cured wild salmon wrapped in organic dill ¹

Ingredients: Wild salmon ², vegetable oil* ³, dill*, salt and smoke.

*15% of the agricultural ingredients derive from organic agriculture ⁴

DE-ÖKO-999 ⁵

Explanation

¹ Reference to organic production is possible in the same visual field as the sales description and may only relate to organic ingredient in case of products where the main ingredient is a product of fishing or hunting.

² Main ingredient is a product of fishing or hunting origin and is regarded as an ingredient of agricultural origin.

³ Organic agriculture ingredients must always be indicated. This information can be done by use of an asterisk „*“ or by using the prefix “bio”, “organic”, etc. The way of indicating this information can be decided by the producer.

⁴ The percentage of organic ingredients of agricultural origin must be declared.

⁵ Code number must be presented in a well visible place.

!!! EU organic logo is not allowed.

!!! Origin labelling is not required, as it is only mandatory in cases where the logo is used.

Regulation extracts

Below only texts of the EU regulations and directive referred to in this document are listed. This text is only presented for information; for legal purposes please refer to the texts published in the Official Journal of the European Union.

Council Regulation (EC) No 834/2007

Article 2 Definitions (parts)

(i) 'preparation' means the operations of preserving and/or processing of organic products, including slaughter and cutting for livestock products, and also packaging, labelling and/or alterations made to the labelling concerning the organic production method;

(k) 'labelling' means any terms, words, particulars, trade marks, brand name, pictorial matter or symbol relating to and placed on any packaging, document, notice, label, board, ring or collar accompanying or referring to a product;

(l) the definition of 'pre-packaged foodstuff' is that given in Article 1(3)(b) of Directive 2000/13/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 March 2000 on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to the labelling, presentation and advertising of foodstuffs (2); {See text of the Article 1(3)(b) of Directive 2000/13/EC of below}

(m) 'advertising' means any representation to the public, by any means other than a label, that is intended or is likely to influence and shape attitude, beliefs and behaviours in order to promote directly or indirectly the sale of organic products;

(aa) 'mass catering operations' means the preparation of organic products in restaurants, hospitals, canteens and other similar food business at the point of sale or delivery to the final consumer.

Article 23 Use of terms referring to organic production

1. For the purposes of this Regulation a product shall be regarded as bearing terms referring to the organic production method where, in the labelling, advertising material or commercial documents, such a product, its ingredients or feed materials are described in terms suggesting to the purchaser that the product, its ingredients or feed materials have been obtained in accordance with the rules laid down in this Regulation. In particular, the terms listed in the Annex, their derivatives or diminutives, such as 'bio' and 'eco', alone or combined, may be used throughout the Community and in any Community language for the labelling and advertising of products which satisfy the requirements set out under or pursuant to this Regulation.

In the labelling and advertising of live or unprocessed agricultural products terms referring to the organic production method may be used only where, in addition, all the ingredients of that product have also been produced in accordance with the requirements laid down in this Regulation.

2. The terms referred to in paragraph 1 shall not be used anywhere in the Community and in any Community language for the labelling, advertising and commercial documents of a product which does not satisfy the requirements set out under this Regulation, unless they are not applied to agricultural products in food or feed or clearly have no connection with organic production.

Furthermore, any terms, including terms used in trademarks, or practices used in labelling or advertising liable to mislead the consumer or user by suggesting that a product or its ingredients satisfy the requirements set out under this Regulation shall not be used.



Picture: ORA/R.Liebing

3. The terms referred to in paragraph 1 shall not be used for a product for which it has to be indicated in the labelling or advertising that it contains GMOs, consists of GMOs or is produced from GMOs according to Community provisions.

4. As regards processed food, the terms referred to in paragraph 1 may be used:

(a) in the sales description, provided that:

(i) the processed food complies with Article 19;

(ii) at least 95 % by weight, of its ingredients of agricultural origin are organic;

(b) only in the list of ingredients, provided that the food complies with Article 19(1), 19(2)(a), 19(2)(b) and 19(2)(d);

(c) in the list of ingredients and in the same visual field as the sales description, provided that:

(i) the main ingredient is a product of hunting or fishing;

(ii) it contains other ingredients of agricultural origin that are all organic;

(iii) the food complies with Article 19(1), 19(2)(a), 19(2)(b) and 19(2)(d).

The list of ingredients shall indicate which ingredients are organic.

In the case where points (b) and (c) of this paragraph apply, the references to the organic production method may only appear in relation to the organic ingredients and the list of ingredients shall include an indication of the total percentage of organic ingredients in proportion to the total quantity of ingredients of agricultural origin.

The terms and the indication of percentage referred to in the previous subparagraph shall appear in the same colour, identical size and style of lettering as the other indications in the list of ingredients.

5. Member States shall take the measures necessary to ensure compliance with this Article.

6. The Commission may in accordance with the procedure referred to in Article 37(2) adapt the list of terms set out in the Annex.

Article 24 Compulsory indications

1. Where terms as referred to in Article 23(1) are used:

(a) the code number referred to in Article 27(10) of the control authority or control body to which the operator who has carried out the most recent production or preparation operation is subject, shall also appear in the labelling;

(b) the Community logo referred to in Article 25(1) as regards prepackaged food shall also appear on the packaging;

(c) where the Community logo is used, an indication of the place where the agricultural raw materials of which the product is composed have been farmed, shall also appear in the same visual field as the logo and shall take one of the following forms, as appropriate:

— ‘EU Agriculture’, where the agricultural raw material has been farmed in the EU,

— ‘non-EU Agriculture’, where the agricultural raw material has been farmed in third countries,

— ‘EU/non-EU Agriculture’, where part of the agricultural raw materials has been farmed in the Community and a part of it has been farmed in a third country.

The abovementioned indication ‘EU’ or ‘non-EU’ may be replaced or supplemented by a country in the case where all agricultural raw materials of which the product is composed have been farmed in that country.

For the abovementioned ‘EU’ or ‘non-EU’ indication, small quantities by weight of ingredients may be disregarded provided that the total quantity of the disregarded ingredients does not exceed 2 % of the total quantity by weight of raw materials of agricultural origin.

The abovementioned ‘EU’ or ‘non-EU’ indication shall not appear in a colour, size and style of lettering more prominent than the sales description of the product.

The use of the Community logo as referred to in

Article 25(1) and the indication referred to in the first subparagraph shall be optional for products imported from third countries. However, where the Community logo as referred to in Article 25(1) appears in the labelling, the indication referred to in the first subparagraph shall also appear in the labelling.

2. The indications referred to in paragraph 1 shall be marked in a conspicuous place in such a way as to be easily visible, clearly legible and indelible.

3. The Commission shall, in accordance with the procedure referred to in Article 37(2), lay down specific criteria as regards the presentation, composition and size of the indications referred to in paragraph 1(a) and (c).

Article 25 Organic production logos

1. The Community organic production logo may be used in the labelling, presentation and advertising of products which satisfy the requirements set out under this Regulation.

The Community logo shall not be used in the case of in-conversion products and food as referred to in Article 23(4)(b) and (c).

2. National and private logos may be used in the labelling, presentation and advertising of products which satisfy the requirements set out under this Regulation.

3. The Commission shall, in accordance with the procedure referred to in Article 37(2), lay down specific criteria as regards presentation, composition, size and design of the Community logo.

Directive 2000/13/EC

Article 1 (part)

(3)(b) 'pre-packaged foodstuff' shall mean any single item for presentation as such to the ulti-

mate consumer and to mass caterers, consisting of a foodstuff and the packaging into which it was put before being offered for sale, whether such packaging encloses the foodstuff completely or only partially, but in any case in such a way that the contents cannot be altered without opening or changing the packaging.

Commission Regulation (EC) No 889/2008

Article 31 Packaging and transport of products to other operators or units

1. Operators shall ensure that organic products are transported to other units, including wholesalers and retailers, only in appropriate packaging, containers or vehicles closed in such a manner that substitution of the content cannot be achieved without manipulation or damage of the seal and provided with a label stating, without prejudice to any other indications required by law:

(a) the name and address of the operator and, where different, of the owner or seller of the product;

(b) the name of the product or a description of the compound feedingstuff accompanied by a reference to the organic production method;

(c) the name and/or the code number of the control body or authority to which the operator is subject; and

(d) where relevant, the lot identification mark according to a marking system either approved at national level or agreed with the control body or authority and which permits to link the lot with the accounts referred to in Article 66.

The information referred to in points (a) to (d) of the first subparagraph may also be presented on an accompanying document, if such a document can be undeniably linked with the packaging, container or vehicular transport of the product. This accompanying document shall include information on the supplier and/or the transporter.



2. The closing of packaging, containers or vehicles shall not be required where:

- (a) transportation is direct between an operator and another operator who are both subject to the organic control system, and
- (b) the products are accompanied by a document giving the information required under paragraph 1, and
- (c) both the expediting and the receiving operators shall keep documentary records of such transport operations available for the control body or control authority of such transport operations.

Article 57 Organic logo of the EU

(introduced by Regulation (EU) No 271/2010 and applied as of 1st of July 2010):

In accordance with Article 25(3) of Regulation (EC) No 834/2007, the organic production logo of the European Union (hereinafter “Organic logo of the EU”) shall follow the model set out in Part A of Annex XI to this Regulation.

The Organic logo of the EU shall only be used if the product concerned is produced in accordance with the requirements of Regulation (EEC) No 2092/91 and its implementing regulations or Regulation (EC) No 834/2007 and the requirements of this Regulation.

Article 58 Conditions for the use of the code number and place of origin

1. The indication of the code number of the control authority or control body referred

- (a) start with the acronym identifying the Member State or the third country, as referred to in the international standard for the two letter country codes under ISO 3166 (Codes for the representation of names of countries and their subdivisions); (points (b) – (d) introduced by Regulation (EU) No 271/2010 and applied as of 1st of July 2010):
- (b) include a term which establishes a link with the organic production method, as referred to in Article 23(1) of Regulation (EC) No 834/2007 in accordance with Part B(2) of Annex XI to this Re-

gulation;

- (c) include a reference number to be decided by the Commission or by the competent authority of the Member States in accordance with Part B(3) of Annex XI to this Regulation; and
- (d) be placed in the same visual field as the Organic logo of the EU, where the Organic logo of the EU is used in the labelling.

2. The indication of the place where the agricultural raw materials of which the products is composed have been farmed, as referred to in Article 24(1)(c) of Regulation (EC) 834/2007, shall be placed immediately below the code number referred to in paragraph 1.

Article 95 Transitional measures (parts)

8. For a transitional period expiring on the 1 July 2010, the operators may continue to use in the labelling the provisions as laid down in Regulation (EEC) No 2092/91 for:

- (i) the system for calculation the percentage of organic ingredients of food;
- (ii) the code number and/or the name of the control body or control authority.

(introduced by Regulation (EU) No 271/2010 and applied as of 1 of July 2010):

9. Stocks of products produced, packaged and labelled before 1 July 2010 in accordance with either Regulation (EEC) No 2092/91 or Regulation (EC) No 834/2007 may continue to be brought on the market bearing terms referring to organic production until stocks are exhausted.

10. Packaging material in accordance with either Regulation (EEC) No 2092/91 or Regulation (EC) No 834/2007 may continue to be used for products placed on the market bearing terms referring to organic production until 1 July 2012, where the product otherwise complies with the requirements of Regulation (EC) No 834/2007.

(introduced by the Commission Regulation (EC) No 710/2009 and applied as of 1 of July 2010):

11. The competent authority may authorise for a period expiring on 1 July 2013, those aquaculture animal and seaweed production units which are established and produce under nationally accepted organic rules before entry into force of this Regulation, to keep their organic status while adapting to the rules of this Regulation, provided there is no undue pollution of the waters with substances not allowed in organic production. Operators benefiting from this measure shall notify the facilities, fishponds, cages or seaweed lots which are concerned to the competent authority'.

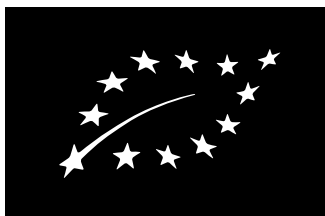
Annex XI. A. Organic logo of the EU, referred to in Article 57 (introduced by Regulation (EU) No 271/2010 and applied as of 1 of July 2010):

1. The Organic logo of the EU shall comply with the model below:



2. The reference colour in Pantone is Green Pantone No 376 and Green (50 % Cyan + 100 % Yellow), when a four-colour process is used.

3. The Organic logo of the EU can also be used in black and white as shown, only where it is not practicable to apply it in colour:



4. If the background colour of the packaging or label is dark, the symbols may be used in negative format, using the background colour of the packaging or label.

5. If a symbol is used in colour on a coloured background, which makes it difficult to see, a delimiting outer line around the symbol can be used to improve contrast with the background colours.

6. In certain specific situations where there are indications in a single colour on the packaging, the Organic logo of the EU may be used in the same colour.

7. The Organic logo of the EU must have a height of at least 9 mm and a width of at least 13,5 mm; the proportion ratio height/width shall always be 1:1,5. Exceptionally the minimum size may be reduced to a height of 6 mm for very small packages.

8. The Organic logo of the EU may be associated with graphical or textual elements referring to organic farming, under the condition that they do not modify or change the nature of the Organic logo of the EU, nor any of the indications mentioned at Article 58. When associated to national or private logos using a green colour different from the reference colour mentioned in point 2, the Organic logo of the EU may be used in that non-reference colour.

9. The use of the Organic logo of the EU shall be in accordance with the rules accompanying its registration as Organic Farming Collective Mark in the Benelux Office for Intellectual Property and in the Community and International Trademark Re-

The IFOAM EU Group is the European working level of IFOAM, the International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movements. It has more than 300 member organisations from the EU and EFTA countries, representing production, processing, trade, research, certification, inspection, and consulting: all stages of the organic production chain and all areas of the organic sector. Members also include environmental and consumer NGOs. This network of national representatives unites organic competence across the EU.

The IFOAM EU Group undertakes activities to promote and advocate for organic farming in the context of EU policy, regulation and research. One of IFOAM EU's core roles is to help shape EU regulations relating to organic farming by transmitting its members' views and experiences to European institutions. To do this, representatives participate in the European Commission's Advisory Groups, expert meetings, hearings and consultations as well as advocating directly amongst Parliament and Commission members.

The new Organic Regulation (EC) No 834/2007 and its implementing rules are examples of legislation on which the IFOAM EU Group has had a strong influence. Another aspect of the Group's role is to communicate legislation and its implications to stakeholders and to provide a platform for discussion and development; this dossier is part of such a process. By facilitating two-way communication, the IFOAM EU Group aims to help the organic sector to operate more smoothly, and raise its profile in EU food and farming.

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