5 | Import Procedures 6 | Further Information and Contact

Import Procedures

At present, there are two different import procedures for organic products:

1 Import from recognised third countries EC Regulation (EC) No. 834/2007, Art. 33 Par. 2

Currently, 13 countries are listed in Annex III of EC Regulation No. 1235/2008, namely: Argentina, Australia, Costa Rica, India, Israel, Japan, Canada, New Zealand, Switzerland, Tunisia, the USA, South Korea* and Chile. The EU has recognized the national organic regulations of these countries as being equivalent – partly with restrictions. A Certificate of Inspection is required for every shipment.

2 Import of products certified by recognised control bodies EC Regulation (EC) No. 834/2007, Art. 33 Par. 3

All control bodies recognised by the EU-Commission are listed in Annex IV of EC Regulation (EC) No. 1235/2008. Here, too, a Certificate of Inspection is required for every shipment.

Codenumbers assigned for third countries or rather control bodies acting in those countries, vary according to the import procedure and can be found in annex III an annex IV of EC Regulation (EC) No. 1235/2008.

Information on the Internet

Consolidated versions of all EU regulations for the import of organic products are available on the website of the Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture:

www.bmel.de > Starke Landwirtschaft > Nachhaltigkeit, Ökolandbau > Ökologischer Landbau > EU-Rechtsvorschriften für den ökologischen Landbau

Further helpful information is available on the BLE website:

www.ble.de > Kontrolle > Ökologischer Landbau > Importverfahren

Contact

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Import of Organic Products from Third Countries

Guidelines and decision support tools to import from countries outside the European Union



2 | Basic details for importing

Basic details for importing



Organic products imported from countries outside the European Union (EU) – so-called third countries – may be labelled with an indication on organic farming and the EU organic farming label. These products have to meet the EU requirements. Compliance has to be controlled on-site, and at all stages of production, processing, storage as well as marketing and products have to be certified.

country control bodies

The essential EU regulations on organic farming are:

- » Regulation (EC) No. 834/2007
- » Regulation (EC) No. 889/2008 and
- » Regulation (EC) No. 1235/2008.

Importers established in Germany and importing organic products from third countries must be certified by a private control body accredited in Germany for import controls.

For a current list of control bodies, please refer to

www.oekolandbau.de > Service > Adressen > Öko-Kontrollstellen

Presently, there are two different import procedures for organic products:

- » Procedure 1 Import from recognised third countries
- » Procedure 2 Import according to the list of control bodies

The adjacent matrix will help you with the choice of the proper import procedure for your organic products. You will find detailed instructions for these procedures on page 5 of this flyer.

3 | Matrix to aid with the choice of the proper import procedure Obtain three essential details: Before importing Register your import company Contact the third country exporter with the competent authority and 1 third country from where products have it certified by a control body are imported, accredited in Germany products to be imported, (3) responsible control body/bodies of the exporter, processors, retailers and producers Do all ingredients of your product Does the product fall in a product category Are the control bodies of the exporter, Procedure 1 **Import** listed in Annex III of EU Regulation comply with the requirements of origin processors, retailers and producers listed Import of organic products from recognised third ria TRACES NT, with a from the recognized third country? 1235/2008 for the recognised third country? in Annex III of EU Regulation 1235/2008 for the recognised third country? EU Regulation (EC) No. Are the control bodies of all establish-Procedure 2 Are all control bodies for Import ments involved listed the product category in which the respec-Import of organic products according to the **list of third** via TRACES NT, with a for the third country in Annex IV tive product falls approved in Annex IV of EU Regulation 1235/2008? of EU Regulation 1235/2008?

No Import