



PORT PARTNERS

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Trading and labelling
organic foods



Source: www.gov.uk/guidance/trading-and-labelling-organic-food-if-there-s-no-Brexit-deal



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Introduction

In view of the continued uncertainties surrounding the Withdrawal Agreement, UK businesses trading in organic foods should prepare for a no-deal exit from the European Union (EU).

In the event of a no-deal exit, EU food laws and rules on quality and labelling will no longer apply to the UK. The UK will implement its own laws for the production, processing, labelling and trading of organic produce but will keep them as similar as possible to the EU's.

Certificates and labelling

You will still need to be registered by an approved UK organic control body if you grow, process or import organic food for trade within the UK.

Organic food you produce, sell or import must be labelled with details of your organic control body.

UK Control bodies:

Organic Farmers & Growers CIC	GB-ORG-02
The old estate yard Shrewsbury Road Albrighton Shrewsbury Shropshire SY4 3AG	➤ 01939 291 800 ➤ info@oforganic.org ➤ www.oforganic.org
Organic Food Federation	GB-ORG-04
31 Turbine way Eco tech business park Swaffham Norfolk PE37 7XD	➤ 01760 720 444 ➤ info@oegfoodfed.com ➤ www.orgfoodfed.com

Soil Association Certification Ltd	GB-ORG-05
Spear House 51 Victoria street Bristol BS1 6AD	<p>Farmers and Growers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 0117 914 2412 ➤ Prod.cert@soilassociation.org <p>Processors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 0117 914 2411 ➤ Prod.cert@soilassociation.org
Biodynamic Association Certification	GB-ORG-06
Painswick inn project Gloucester street Stroud GL5 1QG	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 01453 766 296 ➤ certification@biodynamic.org.uk ➤ www.bdcertification.org.uk
Irish Organic Association	GB-ORG-07
Unit 13 Inish carrig Golden island Athlone Co.Westmeath Republic of Ireland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ + 353 090 643 3680 ➤ info@irishoa.ie ➤ www.irishorganicassociation.ie
Organic Trust Limited	GB-ORG-09
Vernon house 2 Vernon avenue Clontarf Dublin 3 Republic of Ireland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 00 353 185 302 71 ➤ organic@iol.ie ➤ www.organic-trust.org
Quality Welsh Food Certification Ltd	GB-ORG-13
Gorseland North road Aberystwyth Ceredigion SY23 2WB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 01970 636 688 ➤ info@wlbp.co.uk ➤ www.wlbp.co.uk

OF&G (Scotland) Ltd	GB-ORG-17
The old estate yard Shrewsbury road Albrighton Shrewsbury Shropshire SY4 3AG	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 01939 291 800 ➤ certification:@sopa.org.uk ➤ www.oforganic.org

Displaying logos

You must not use the EU organic logo on any UK organic food after the UK leaves the EU, unless:

- Your control body is authorised by the EU to certify UK goods for export to the EU;
- The UK and the EU agree to recognise each other's standards (Known as an equivalency agreement)

Although the EU has equivalency arrangements with a number of non-EU countries there is currently no such arrangement with the UK (Correct at 29th September 2019).

In an effort to provide some continuity, the UK have secured equivalency agreements with a number of non-EU countries so that UK exporters can continue to trade organic foods with these countries after we leave the EU.

The UK Government is also seeking to fast track such an arrangement between the UK and the EU.

EU emblem

You must not use the EU emblem on goods produced in the UK after the UK leaves the EU.

Fruit and vegetables

You must replace any reference to the EU with UK on the label of mixes of UK fruit and vegetables. For example, “a mix of UK and non-EU origin” in place of “a mix of EU and non-EU origin”

Approved Trader Status

If you are an Approved Trader, you must remove the EU emblem from your UK food labels and use the replacement UK label instead.

Importing organic food

Imports from the EU, EEA and Switzerland

The UK government has confirmed legislation is in place to allow the continued import of organic produce from the European Union (EU), European Economic Area (EEA) states and Switzerland after the UK leaves the EU:

- You will not require a Certificate of Inspection (COI) from these countries until the 1st January 2021;
- Physical checks will not be carried out at point of entry, unless there has been a specific risk identified for a particular raw ingredient;

Imports from non-EU countries

Whilst the UK government seeks to transition existing EU Commission Regulation (EC) no 1235/2008 into UK law, the UK will continue to recognise products from the non-EU countries which:

- Have continued equivalency agreements, and;
- Any other non-EU country where the certifier of the product has EN1235 approval.

We recommend you read DEFRA's guidance on new UK Organic Certificates of import via: https://www.dropbox.com/sh/9d5z788c8gcq7b9/AAAfWPh8_8dyfqn-IrKRxBkKa?dl=0

- All imports of organic foods must have a Certificate of Inspection (COI);
- The EU's Trade Control and Expert System New Technology (TRACES NT) will no longer be used. A temporary manual UK import organic system will be used until a new system is in place;

Exporting organic food

Exporting to the EU

You will not be able to export organic food produced in the UK or non-EU goods cleared into free circulation in the UK, to the European Union (EU), unless either:

- Your control body is authorised by the EU to certify UK goods for export to the EU under 1235/2008;
- The UK and the EU agree to recognise each other's standards (Known as an equivalency agreement). Although the EU has equivalency arrangements with a number of non-EU countries, there is no such arrangement with the UK. The UK cannot apply for an equivalency agreement with the EU until we leave.

Exporting to non-EU countries

The UK is currently negotiating continued equivalency agreements with the countries that are currently recognised by the EU. See organic equivalency arrangements at the end of this booklet.

- You may require an export certificate for each consignment;
- Exporting to non-EU countries that accept UK goods without an equivalency agreement should remain the same;
- Non-EU countries with an equivalency agreement will continue to accept UK organic products.

You should contact your control body for more specific details.

Goods in Transit through the UK

On the 17th December 2018 the UK government confirmed that the UK will remain in the Common Transit Convention (CTC) after leaving the EU. Membership of the CTC will continue regardless of whether the UK leaves the EU with or without a deal.

Remaining in the CTC enables non-EU organic produce to be moved through the UK to an EU country.

You will need:

- The importer of the goods to be an EU EORI registered business;
- The certificate of inspection (COI) in the name of an EU registered business;
- The certificate of inspection (COI) to confirm the produce is certified to EU regulations;
- The Certificate of inspection (COI) to confirm the produce is imported from a third country equivalent to the EU;
- A separate certificate of inspection (COI) to be issued at origin for each truck;
- A separate EUR1 preference certificate to be issued at origin for each truck;
- Port Partners to raise a separate T1 transit document for each truck.
- To declare the certificate of inspection (COI) on TRACES NT in the name of the EU registered business;
- To clear the goods into free circulation in the name of the EU EORI registered business.

Non-EU organic importing scenarios

The following chart gives some guidance on the various importing scenarios of non-EU organic produce:

Importer	Country of arrival	Country of destination	COI to be issued	Comments
UK EORI registered	Direct into UK	UK	Certified to UK regulation	Manual COI; Physical checks at UK point of entry
UK EORI registered	UK - free circulation moved to EU	EU	Certified to UK regulation	You cannot export these goods to the EU – See exporting to the EU
UK EORI registered	EU in transit to UK	UK	Certified to UK regulation	Manual COI; Physical checks at UK point of entry
EU EORI registered	UK in transit to EU	EU	Certified to EU regulation	COI on TRACES; See goods in transit through UK
EU EORI registered	EU free circulation to the UK	UK	Certified to EU regulation	COI on TRACES; Cleared at EU point of entry
EU EORI registered	Direct into UK	UK	Certified to EU regulation	This cannot be done. The goods must be cleared into the EU before exporting to the UK

Organic equivalency arrangements

The following is a list of countries where the UK Government has already, or is in ongoing discussions to secure continued equivalency arrangements:

COUNTRY	Will this be in place for 31 st October 2019?
Argentina	Yes
Australia	Yes
Canada	Yes
Chile	Expected to be in place
Costa Rica	Yes
India	Yes
Israel	Yes
Japan	Expected 30 day delay after leaving
New Zealand	Yes
South Korea	Expected to be in place
Tunisia	Expected to be in place
United States of America	Yes
Switzerland	Expected to be in place

Correct at 2nd November 2019



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