Date: 06 August 2014



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# Part 1 European Union: Organic Products

# **Overseas Market Access Requirements**

Amendment: 2

Date: 06 August 2014

# 1.1 Application

- 1.1.1. This organic OMAR applies to operators participating in the Official Organic Assurance Programme (OOAP) exporting, or supplying products for export, to the European Union with an Official Organic Assurance (Export Certificate). It also applies to MPI recognised Third Party Agencies (TPAs) operating under this programme. Failure to comply with these requirements will result in Official Assurances being withheld.
- 1.1.2. The European Union (EU) recognises New Zealand's OOAP as equivalent to their organic regulations.
- 1.1.3. New Zealand is listed as a 'third country' with equivalence with the EU for the following product categories:
  - A. Unprocessed plant products, with the exception of seaweed.
  - B. Live animals or unprocessed animal products. With the exception of livestock and livestock products, bearing or intended to bear indications referring to conversion.
  - D. Processed agricultural products for use as food. With the exceptions of yeast, and livestock products, bearing or intended to bear indications referring to conversion.
  - F. Vegetative propagating material and seeds for cultivation.

#### 1.2 Standards to be met

- 1.2.1 Organic products exported to the European Union (EU) under the OOAP must be produced in accordance with the requirements of the current version of the Technical Rules. The current version is the one listed on the MPI website:
  Organics Documents
  - MPI Standard OP3, Appendix Two: MPI Technical Rules for Organic Production
- 1.2.2 Operators under the OOAP must meet the requirements of the current version of MPI Organic Products Standard OP3. The current version is the one listed on the MPI website: Organics Documents
  - Registration and Performance Measurement Criteria for Operators Organic Products (MPI Standard OP3)

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1.2.3 Third Party Agencies recognised by MPI under the OOAP must meet the requirements of Organic Products Standards
OP1 and OP2. The current versions of these standards are those listed on the MPI website: Organics - Documents

Accreditation, Recognition, and Performance Measurement Criteria for Third Party Agencies and Their Personnel - Organic Products (MPI Standard OP1)

Third Party Agency Responsibilities - Organic Products (MPI Standard OP2)

# 1.3 Additional requirements

## 1.3.1 TPA code numbers

The code number of the MPI recognised Third Party Agency the operator is certified by must appear on the label of all organic products exported under the OOAP. The code numbers are:

Code Number	Name
NZ-BIO-002	AsureQuality Limited
NZ-BIO-003	BioGro New Zealand

#### 1.3.2 Use of the Organic logo of the EU

Use of the Organic logo of the EU is not compulsory for products exported to the EU from New Zealand.

If a producer decides to use the Organic logo of the EU on their packaging, the following indications must also be used:

- 1. The code number of the TPA the operator is certified by
- 2. The indication of place of farming where the agricultural raw materials have been farmed. Where this is New Zealand, either 'non-EU agriculture' or 'New Zealand agriculture' may be used.

The Organic logo of the EU and further information on its use can be downloaded from the following link:

Organic logo of the EU

## 1.3.3 Organic wine

## 1.3.3.1 Prohibited practices

The following oenological practises, processes and treatments are prohibited in the production of organic wine exported to the EU:

Enrichment of wine by partial concentration through cooling

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- Elimination of sulphur dioxide by physical processes
- Electrodialysis treatment to ensure the tartaric stabilisation of the wine
- Partial dealcoholisation of wine
- Treatment with cation exchangers to ensure the tartaric stabilisation of the wine.

#### 1.3.3.2 Restricted Practices

The following oenological practises, processes and treatments are subject to the following restrictions:

- The temperature for heat treatments must not exceed 70°C
- The pore size for centrifuging and filtration with or without an inert filtering agent must not be smaller than 0.2 micrometer.

#### 1.3.3.3 Practices to be reviewed before 1 August 2015

The following oenological practises, processes and treatments are permitted, but will be reviewed with a view to phasing them out, or further restricting them:

- Heat treatments
- Use of ion exchange resins with grape must intended for the manufacture of rectified concentrated grape must
- Enrichment of grape must, by partial concentration using reverse osmosis

# 1.3.3.4 Prohibited Inputs

The following processing aids are prohibited for organic wine exported to the EU.

Lysozyme

# 1.3.3.5 Exporting stocks of wine from the 2012 vintage and earlier

Stocks of wine labelled as 'wine made from organic grapes' from the 2012 vintage or earlier, produced in accordance with the OOAP Technical Rules may continue to be exported under the OOAP until these stocks are exhausted.

Wine labelled as "wine made from organic grapes" must not use the EU organic logo.

#### 1.3.3.6 Exporting wine labelled as 'wine made from organic grapes'

Wine from the 2013 vintage onwards must not be exported labelled as 'wine made from organic grapes'.

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## 1.3.3.7 Exporting stocks of wine from the 2013 and 2014 Vintages

Wine labelled as 'organic wine', may be issued with an Official Assurance and exported under the OOAP where the TPA is confident that there is sufficient evidence to show that all production and post-production activities have been in full and continuous accordance with:

- i. Chapter 8A of the OOAP Technical Rules, or
- ii. The implementing rules laid down in (EU) Reg. 203/2012

## **1.4** Official Assurances

An export certificate (official assurance) from MPI is required for each consignment of organic products exported to the EU under the OOAP.

Apply for an export certificate using the form in the link below.

Organics - Export certificate application form

## 1.5 Links to other relevant OMAR

Animal Products - Overseas Market Access Requirements (OMAR), Countries and Amendments

Dairy Products - Overseas Market Access Requirements (OMAR), Countries and Amendments

Plant Products – MPI Importing Countries Phytosanitary Requirements Search System

Wine - Overseas Market Access Requirements - European Union (EUN)