

## Organic market and what to know about export to Italy

Bologna

Italy is probably not the most famous organic market in EU, although the demand of organic products is growing and growing year by year.

Bari

To have a clear idea about the Italian market of organic products, can help companies to focus the attention on a place where to export different from the "usual" Germany or UK.

Roma

Twenty-four percent of the world's organic land is in Europe. The countries with the largest organic area are Italy (1'150'253 hectares), Spain (988'323 hectares) and Germany (865'336 hectares).

Chieti

The biggest market for organic products in 2007 was Germany with a turnover of 5.3 billion Euros (2008: 5.8 billion Euros), followed by UK (2.6 billion Euros), France and Italy (both 1.9 billion Euros).

Matera

Salerno

Udine

ICEA is a certifier with an international experience (active in at least 28 Countries), that normally manages the chain of custody for hundreds organic products every year, that has daily communications with companies (importers and exporters) in one hand and with public departments on the other.

Catania

Firenze

The following notes are based on ICEA experience in the market of organic products.

Trento

If a company is thinking to produce organic and to export to EU, there are some specific requirements that ave to be known, related to the EU Regulation in general, but also to specific local regulation that can become an important tool to evaluate its marketing and other subjects.

Padova

Sassari

Based on Reg CE 834/07, Art 2, to import organic products in Italy, the importer is obliged to apply to the Ministry of Agricultural, Food and Forestry Policies - Mi.P.A.A.F, in order to obtain authorization for such activities (to import from equivalent and non-equivalent countries).

Vignola

Zagarolo

The same application and the related annexes have to be sent also to the importer's CB.

Trofarello

Mi.P.A.A.F., after the positive assessment of importer dossiers, will register the operator in the "National List of Importers of organic products from Third Countries" and will issue a proper authorization form.

Sant'Onofrio

The role of the CB is to ensure that the import activities respect the Reg CE 834/07.

Ellera di Corchiano

Castelvetro Pc

The equivalent Third Countries are: *Argentina, Australia, Israel, Switzerland, Costa Rica e New Zealand, India, Tunisia.*

Costanza

From those countries the product conformity is granted by the local recognised CB (and by the local authority supervision system), and so no other information is required. The importer applies to be listed as recognised importer, but there is no "import project" to be presented.

Izmir

Omisalj

For those exporters based on Third Countries not in equivalence, the application has to be presented together with a list of required forms in order to permit the evaluation of conformity by the Mi.P.A.A.F.

Atene

Tirana

Damasco

Talking from the exporter point of view (coming from a non-equivalent Third Country), what kind of forms are required to be included in an import application?

Chisinau

Together with the application, the importer is obliged to attach the following forms, that will be required to the exporter and/or related CB.

- demonstration that producers/processors/exporters are subject to control standards by the local or foreign CB (organic conformity certificate)
- CB certificate of ISO65 accreditation





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- Exporter organic conformity certificate
- Copy of the more recent inspection reports for all the chain of custody (note that usually in other EU member states just the inspection report of the exporter is required); about the reports, Mi.P.A.A.F. attention is focused on the annual production estimation (at production and processing level) that has to be clearly related to the quantity required in the import application

#### Bologna

Bari All the documentation must be submitted in the original form or as copy in conformity to the original (copy authentication made by the CB) and it must be accompanied by a translation in Italian (usually for the other Member States a translation in English is enough).

Roma

Chieti One main difference from the other Member States is that in Italy application and related declarations are under the responsibility of the importer itself (it means that the importer has to prepare and sign the application) instead of the exporter CB.

Matera

Salerno Based on the previous information, Mi.P.A.A.F. will evaluate the "import project" equivalence to the EU Reg and will issue the import authorization.

Udine

Catania The authorization will be referred to the quantity and type of products to be imported on Italian territory in the period of one year (12 months) starting from the date the authorization itself.

Firenze

Trento For each shipment, a specific export certificate (inspection certificate) must be issued by the exporter CB, where all the relevant information (related to the product and to the import authorization) must be listed.

Padova

Sassari Recently (in the last 6 months) a specific request is coming from the Mi.P.A.A.F. about organic products: in each import authorization form, analysis of organic products are required for each shipment! Until now there are no clarifications about it, for example what kind of analysis are requested (multi residual or just one active principle, etc) and if it has to be done by the CB or the exporter itself (the actual interpretation is that the exporter can do it); the only clear point is that for each shipment lot (not production lot) they have to be done.

Vignola

Zagarolo

Trofarello The unclear situation was created because no specific law was issued about it, but it was indicated as a specific requirement listed in each recently issued import application and so any kind of interpretation can be done.

Sant'Onofrio

A specific regulation is expected in the next months.

Ellera di Corciano

Castelvetro P. In the future the import situation will change; with the updated EU Reg 834/07, 889/08 and so on, a list of recognised Countries and CBs (in equivalence or in compliance) will be published by the EU Commission and so all this "import system" will be simplified. There will be no necessity of an import authorization, but the recognised CBs will issue the certificate with all the necessary information.

Costanza

Izmir

More simple? More clear? We will see...

Omisalj

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