
	<h2>Summary</h2>	
INFORMATION ON THE NEW EU REGULATION 2018/848 ON ORGANIC FARMING		

Information for operators in third countries (outside the European Union) of the new EU [Regulation 2018/848](#) on organic farming.

1. Summary

On May 30, 2018, the new Regulation (EU) 2018/848 was published. In the member states of the EU, this regulation entered into force in the European Union as of January 1, 2022, replacing Regulation (EC) 834/2007.

Should operators from countries located outside the European Union, and who produce for the European Union market, implement reg. 2018/848 right now?

For third countries (countries outside the European Union) there is a three-year transition period, so the new regulation will be mandatory only from January 1, 2025.

Mayacert has the obligation to inform that all operators must apply the EU regulation 2018/848 and may not use the Mayacert Ecological Regulation as an equivalent regulation and there is a period until December 31, 2024 for the transition. EU regulation 2018/848 must be applied in accordance with and repeals EU regulation 834/2007.

Do operators from third countries need a certificate that demonstrates compliance with regulation 2018/848 in order to export to the EU?

No not yet. By January 1, 2025, third country operators need a certificate ("MC") showing compliance with 2018/848. This is regulated by art. 57 of the new organic regulation 2018/848.

What does the change from equivalent certification to compliant certification (according to regulation 2018/848) mean for operators?



Operators are not yet required to implement new requirements. However, it is important that all operators assess their own production systems and check if they need to adapt their production system to the new organic certification requirements.

What's new for exports to the EU, from January 1, 2022?

The format of the Certificate of Inspection (COI) certificate for export to the European Union in TRACES (Trade and Control Expert System) has changed slightly.

Relevant information on COI can be found in [regulation \(EU\) 2021/2306](#). In the annex of (EU) 2021/2306, you can find the new COI format. Which now must be created electronically through the TRACES system, and not as a paper version.

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This is a requirement of regulation 2021/2306. It is also important to note that regulation 1235/2008 is no longer valid.

2. Brief introduction to the new regulation

2.1 Objectives of the regulation

Its objective is to review and strengthen the existing rules in the European Union (EU) relating to organic production and the labeling of organic products with regard to:

- the control system
- the trading system
- production standards.

In this way, it is proposed:

- establish a level playing field for operators
- harmonize and simplify standards
- increase consumer confidence in organic products and in the EU organic production logo.


2.2 Scope of application

It applies to the following products originating from agriculture, including aquaculture and beekeeping, (as listed in Annex I to the TFEU) and to products originating from them, when such products are produced, prepared, labelled, distributed, or marketed, imported into, or exported from the Union, or when destined for any of the foregoing:

- Live or unprocessed agricultural products, including seeds and other plant reproductive material
- processed agricultural products intended for human consumption
- cattle feed

It also applies to certain products closely linked to agriculture, listed in Annex I of EU Regulation 2018/848, when they are produced, prepared, labelled, distributed, marketed, imported into, or exported from the Union, or are going to be. And it also applies to any operator who, at any stage of production, preparation, and distribution, develops activities related to the aforementioned products.

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2.3 Important Changes.

- The Regulation extends the scope of the current legislation on the production and labeling of organic products ([Regulation \(EC\) No 834/2007](#)) to cover other products that are closely linked to agriculture, such as cork, salt, essential oils, cotton or wool.
- Harmonizes the rules applicable to organic operators in EU Member States and third countries by introducing the **compliance system**.
- Simplifies access to the regime for small operators.
- Revises organic livestock production standards and introduces standards for new species such as rabbits.



2.4 Requirements

- maintain and enhance natural soil life and fertility, stability, water-holding capacity, and soil biodiversity
- use seeds and animals with a high degree of genetic diversity, resistance to disease and longevity
- choose plant varieties considering the particularities of specific organic production systems and paying special attention to agronomic performance and disease resistance
- choose animal breeds based on their genetic value, longevity, vitality and resistance to diseases or health problems
- apply a reproduction adapted to the place and linked to the soil.

3. Structure of changes in the EU regulation 2018/848.

Regulation (EU) 2018/848 is the basic standard, for which the European Parliament and the European Council are responsible. However, many details are defined in so-called "secondary legislation", made up of "delegated regulations" or "executing regulations", for which the European Commission is responsible. As of November 8, 2021, work began. The number of such "side acts" makes the current situation very confusing, but the Commission has promised that they will work on consolidating some of these rules over the next few months.

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3.1 Implementing acts

Commission Implementing [Regulation \(EU\) 2020/464](#) establishes certain rules to apply Regulation (EU) 2018/848 with regard to:

- the documents necessary for the retroactive recognition of the periods for conversion purposes.
- the production of organic products.
- the information that Member States must provide to the European Commission.

Commission [Implementing Regulation \(EU\) 2021/279](#) establishes rules for:

- official investigations in cases of suspected non-compliance.
- the size of the groups of operators and the documentation of their system of internal controls.
- minimum control requirements.
- the national catalog of measures in case of non-compliance.
- the exchange of information between the Member States and the Commission.


3.2 Delegated Acts

The Commission has adopted several delegated acts amending the annexes to Regulation (EU) 2018/848.

- [Delegated Regulation \(EU\) 2020/427](#) amending Regulation (EU) 2018/848, Annex II, with regard to certain detailed production standards applicable to organic products. Which, in turn, was modified by Delegated Regulation (EU) 2021/269.
- [Delegated Regulation \(EU\) 2020/1794](#) amending Regulation (EU) 2018/848, annex II, part I, regarding the use of plant reproductive material in conversion and non-organic.
- [Delegated Regulation \(EU\) 2021/642](#) amending Regulation (EU) 2018/848, Annex III. with regard to certain information that must appear on the labeling of organic products.
- [Delegated Regulation \(EU\) 2021/715](#) amending Regulation (EU) 2018/848 with regard to the requirements applicable to groups of operators.
- [Delegated Regulation \(EU\) 2021/716](#) amending Regulation (EU) 2018/848, annex II, in relation to organic production standards applicable to germinated seeds and endive buds, to feed for certain aquaculture animals and antiparasitic treatments in aquaculture.

Likewise, two delegated regulations complement the rules of Regulation (EU) 2018/848.

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- [Delegated Regulation \(EU\) 2020/2146](#) that completes Regulation (EU) 2018/848 of the European Parliament and of the Council with regard to exceptional production standards applicable to organic production.
- [Delegated Regulation \(EU\) 2021/771](#) supplementing Regulation (EU) 2018/848 by establishing specific criteria and conditions for documented accounting controls within the framework of official controls of organic production and controls operators group officers.

3.4 RELATED DOCUMENTS

- [Delegated Regulation \(EU\) 2021/771](#) of the Commission of January 21, 2021, which complements Regulation (EU) 2018/848 of the European Parliament and of the Council by establishing specific criteria and conditions for accounting controls documented in the framework of the official controls of organic production and the official controls of groups of operators (OJ L 165, 11.5.2021, pp. 25-27)
- [Delegated Regulation \(EU\) 2021/715](#) of the Commission of January 20, 2021, which modifies Regulation (EU) 2018/848 of the European Parliament and of the Council with regard to the requirements applicable to groups of operators (OJ L 151 of 3.5.2021, pp. 1-4)
- [Delegated Regulation \(EU\) 2021/716](#) of the Commission of February 9, 2021, which modifies Regulation (EU) 2018/848, annex II, of the European Parliament and of the Council, in relation to production standards applicable to the germinated seeds and buds of endives, to the feed for certain aquaculture animals and to antiparasitic treatments in aquaculture (OJ L 151, 3.5.2021, pp. 5-7)
- [Delegated Regulation \(EU\) 2021/642](#) of the Commission of October 30, 2020, which modifies Regulation (EU) 2018/848, annex III, of the European Parliament and of the Council with regard to certain information that must be appear on the labeling of organic products (OJ L 133 of 20.4.2021, pp. 1-4)
- [Delegated Regulation \(EU\) 2020/2146](#) of the Commission of September 24, 2020 that completes Regulation (EU) 2018/848 of the European Parliament and of the Council with regard to the exceptional production rules applicable to organic production (DO L 428 of 12.18.2020, pp. 5-8)
- [Delegated Regulation \(EU\) 2020/1794](#) of the Commission of September 16, 2020 that modifies Regulation (EU) 2018/848, annex II, part I, of the European Parliament and of the Council regarding the use of plant reproduction in conversion and non-ecological (OJ L 402 of 1.12.2020, pp. 23-26)

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- [Implementing Regulation \(EU\) 2020/464](#) of the Commission of March 26, 2020, which establishes certain rules for the development of Regulation (EU) 2018/848 of the European Parliament and of the Council with respect to the documents necessary for the retroactive recognition of conversion periods, the production of organic products and the information that Member States must provide (OJ L 98, 31.3.2020, pp. 2-25)
- [Commission Delegated Regulation \(EU\) 2020/427](#) of January 13, 2020 amending Annex II of Regulation (EU) 2018/848 of the European Parliament and of the Council with regard to certain detailed production standards applicable to organic products (OJ L 87 of 23.3.2020, pp. 1-3)
- [Regulation \(EU\) 2017/625](#) of the European Parliament and of the Council, of March 15, 2017, regarding the controls and other official activities carried out to guarantee the application of the legislation on food and feed, and of the regulations on health and animal welfare, plant health and plant protection products, and amending Regulations (EC) No 999/2001, (EC) No 396/2005, (EC) No 1069/2009, (EC) No 1107/2009, (EU) No 1151/2012, (EU) No 652/2014, (EU) 2016/429 and (EU) 2016/2031 of the European Parliament and of the Council, Regulations (EC) No 1/2005 and (EC) No 1099/2009 of the Council, and Directives 98/58/EC, 1999/74/EC, 2007/43/EC, 2008/119/EC and 2008/120/EC of the Council, and repealing the Regulations (CE) no 854/2004 and (CE) no 882/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council, Directives 89/608/CEE, 89/662/CEE, 90/425/CEE, 91/496/CEE, 96/ 23/CE, 96/93/CE and 97/78/CE of the Council and Decision 92/438/CEE of the Council (Regulation on controls officials) (OJ L 95 of 7.4.2017, pp. 1-142)
- [Regulation \(CE\) no 834/2007](#) of the Council, of June 28, 2007, on the production and labeling of organic products and by which Regulation (CEE) no 2092/91 is repealed (DO L 189 of 20.7.2007, pp. 1-23)

See the consolidated version.

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