

# Organic Exporting

## A Global Regulatory Overview



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# Overview of key global regions



# European Union



EU regulation 834/2007 covers entire community

Free movement of organic goods within the community

One common organic mark

Exporters can encounter private standards e.g. Soil Association

Consider national organic labels – e.g Bio Siegel (Germany) or AB logo (France)



# North America



Equivalence with EU as of 1st June, so products certified to US NOP or EU standards may be sold in both territories.

NOP Certification no longer required for EU products

US producers must not export to the EU crop products where antibiotics have been used

EU producers must not export to the US livestock products where antibiotics have been used.

Canadian COR is equivalent to US system

# Latin America



Several Central American countries (Costa Rica, Guatemala, Nicaragua, El Salvador) have laws on organic agriculture. All in various stages of implementation.

Costa Rica, Honduras, Guatemala, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Panama along with Panama and the Dominican Republic have developed a final draft of a harmonized regional organic standard.

## Colombia :

- No standards yet, but permits from Colombia Agriculture institute may be required for organic

# Latin America



No regional standard on horizon for South America,

Bolivia, Chile, Mexico, Peru, Paraguay, Brazil, Argentina also have regulations as well as laws.

Some nation regulations for special mention:-

- Brazil
- Argentina

# Latin America



## Brazil:

- National Regulations cover imported Product
- Certification must be in place with body accredited by Brazilian Gov.
- Checks /Certification needed through the supply chain
- SA Certification have signed agreement with main certifier IBD to deliver inspections to Brazilian Regulations

# Latin America



## Argentina:

- First Latin American country to develop a National Organic Regulation
- Considered equivalent to the EU regulations
- Imported organic products must come from a country or region with standards recognised by SENASA (nation food health & quality service)
- Products must be certified by an Argentine SENASA approved certifier prior to export.



# Middle East



No regional standards, little decided in this region specifically relevant to organic.

Both United Arab Emirates and Saudi Arabia are developing organic regulations which are based on the EU regulation

UAE expecting regulation by 2013, which could effect import.



No common regional standard, but GOMA are developing AROS (Asia Regional Organic Standard)

Region showing very strong growth (Vietnam, Taiwan, S.Korea, Indonesia and Thailand. Few of these markets have any organic regulation.

National regulations for special mention:

- China
- Japan
- South Korea



## China:

- National regulations in force - overseen by Government department CNCA
- Imported product must be certified to Chinese regulations
- Certification to Chinese regulation only possible by a Chinese registered body
- Chinese certifiers are able to work with only one foreign certifier
- Inspection by Chinese certifier required in UK
- SA Certification is currently exploring partnership opportunities with certifiers in China



## South Korea:

- Regulatory scheme launch aborted of new by KFDA/ MIFAFF in 2009 .
- New regulation due in 2013
- Current system based on a mix of EU and IFOAM systems
- Imports have grown year on year - 20 - 30% but new import controls likely to slow growth
- Imports of finished goods less important, more focus on sub-ingredients
- SACL currently developing relationship with S Korean certifier to for product destined for South Korea



## Japan:

- Japanese standard - OJASS
- All products must have JAS certification at point of origin
- Much like outgoing US system
- Many EU (inc. Soil Assoc. )certifiers offer JAS accreditation modules
- Key differences relate to composition and systems/implementation.

# Oceania



No specific domestic regional organic regulation, but are country standards

Australia:

- Government (AQIS) controls organic exports from Australia, and accredits a list of organic certifiers approved to certify organic exports (for example to the EU or Japan), but
- Canada, European Union, Japan, New Zealand, Switzerland, Taiwan, United States and certifiers following IFOAM basic standard all considered equivalent to their own cert QA system (AS6000)
- Situation changing rapidly so check with certifiers such as ACO

# Oceania



## New Zealand:

- Similar situation to Australia – regulation of exporter certifiers only
- Products certified as organic overseas may be sold in New Zealand labelled as organic
- In New Zealand, the use of the term 'organic' is controlled through the Fair Trading Act 1986, organic claims must be 'truthful' i.e. product must be made largely from organically grown ingredients.

# Thank you

For more information please visit:

[www.sacert.org](http://www.sacert.org)

<http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/organic>

or

<http://gain.fas.usda.gov/Lists/Advanced%20Search/AllItems.aspx>