

Organic Product Re-Certification

Organic requirements are in addition to other statutory requirements
Statutory information is for guidance only and is correct at time of going to print

Organic products can only be marketed in the UK if they have been certified, at point of manufacture, by one of the EU-approved organic control bodies, as being compliant with the EC Regulation (EC) No. 834/2007 and (EC) No. 889/2008.

There may however be circumstances where the marketing company wishes the product to be identified as being approved by a UK certification body such as Organic Farmers & Growers Ltd. (OF&G) and this is where product re-certification is appropriate, because it saves the costs of an additional inspection, travel and subsistence.

To do this, OF&G sets up a re-certification agreement with the organic control body that has certified the product at manufacture. This gives OF&G the right to review the report of the inspection carried out by the non-UK organic certifier and examine proof that corrective action has been taken to resolve any non-compliances raised during the inspection and certification process. (Note: The non-UK certifier will contact the manufacturer to confirm that they are happy for their inspection report to be released to OF&G.)

Once OF&G is satisfied that all the requirements of the EC organic regulation have been complied with, an OF&G certificate can be issued and the approved products can then bear the OF&G logo. Any packaging or marketing materials that bear the OF&G mark or logo must be forwarded to OF&G for approval before final print.

The OF&G certificate is normally valid for 12 months and the re-certification process is repeated annually, for as long as the marketing company requires, based on a review of that year's organic inspection report and resolution of non-compliances.

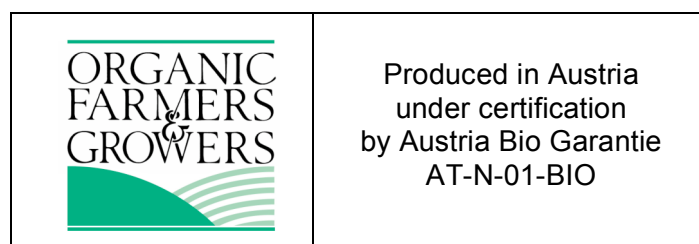
Labelling

Organic goods packed and labelled abroad, must carry the identifying mark of the organic certifier in the exporting country. (This mark may be the name and/or logo and/or code as appropriate.)

In addition, the goods may carry OF&G's logo but without the member state code (i.e. "Organic Certification UK2" or "GB Organic Certification 2") as the manufacture of the product has undergone product re-certification. (The production or processing of the goods are not being inspected and Certified by OF&G).

The OF&G logo may only appear on the label with the written agreement of the original certifier.

Example:



Charges

During the first year, OF&G charges an administration fee for setting up the contract with the non-UK organic control body and a certification fee for carrying out a review of the inspection report, resolution of non-compliances and packaging checks. The non-UK control body may also charge an administration fee for supplying the reports to OF&G.

Fees are typically £300 for the first year and £250 for subsequent years but can vary depending on the number of products to be certified, whether the non-UK certifier charges an administrative fee and the amount of packaging to be reviewed. An estimate of the likely fee will be given on application.

Organic Farmers & Growers Ltd

Organic Farmers & Growers Ltd (OF&G) was established in 1973 and was the first organic inspection body registered by DEFRA

- The company operates certification programmes for producers, processors and importers. Most operators request OF&G /EU Certification, which is recognised throughout the EU and most other countries.
- Other certification programmes available include NOP (USDA) and the Partnership Programme.

Further Information

For further information or an application pack, please contact OF&G

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