



कृषि और प्रसंस्कृत खाद्य उत्पाद
निर्यात विकास प्राधिकरण
(बाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार)

**Agricultural and Processed Food Products
Export Development Authority**
(Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Govt. of India)

Dated: 20th July 2021

Advisory on more Additional Control Measures to mitigate detection of ETO residue in Organic Products

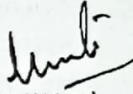
In continuation to the Advisory dated 27th November 2020 regarding detection of Ethylene oxide (ETO) in organic shipments followed by the Circular dated 24th December 2020 on issuance of Transaction Certificate and the second Advisory on dated 24th May 2021 on additional control measures to mitigate detection of ETO residue in Organic Products wherein the requirements have been indicated for compliance in certification and trade of organic products. It is to update that the ETO detection have been reported in few more Organic Products recently. Hence, it is necessary that the risk assessment of organic products need to be more expanded by the Certification Bodies to various products and risk categorization needs extreme attention.

Though the Advisory of 24th May 2021 clearly indicated that the requirements of additional control measures have to be applied for particular products such as Sesame seed, Ginger, Amaranthus Seed, Psyllium husk powder, Quinoa Seed, Flax Seed during preparing, processing, handling, storing, trading and exporting. Hence, following have been decided:

1. Certification Bodies shall carry out 2 physical inspections per year of each operator involved in preparing, storing, trading and export of the mentioned organic products. Further it shall be required that one of these inspections shall be unannounced.
2. Certification Bodies shall ensure verification of the product flow and traceability established by each operator. Certification Bodies shall verify the quantities involved, the means of storage and transport of the products, the possible presence of pesticides, including Ethylene Oxide and biocides.
3. Certification Bodies shall analyse in depth the book keeping and financial documentation of each operator, for which it intends to certify products.
4. Certification Bodies shall also verify the quantities harvested and prepared the means of storage and transport of the products, including the possible application of pesticides and biocides at these stages.
5. Certification Bodies shall follow sampling procedure as described in Commission Regulation (EU) No. 691/2013 on the sampling methods to be used for official control of feed and Commission Directive 2002/63/EC establishing community methods of sampling for the official control of pesticides residue in and on products of plant and animal origin. These samples should analyzed for the presence of pesticides residue by validated methods (including single residue method where relevant) in accredited laboratories. The scope of the analysis should cover all the relevant pesticides including ETO. The sampling report should contain the identification of consignment: lot number and, when available, number of the Certificate of Inspection.

6. The sampling report of consignment should be introduced in TRACES and accompany the Certificate of Inspection for that consignment to ensure that at the time of issuing the Certificate of Inspection, Certification Bodies have documented the operator and product traceability completely. Certification Bodies shall not issue the Certification of Inspection before they have received and assessed the result of these analyses. Each Certificate of Inspection shall be accompanied with a valid certificate of the operators involved, with the guarantee that the scope of the recognition of such operators is in line with the EU/India arrangement.

The above requirements are as per the directives received from European Commission in addition to APEDA advisories. Hence, the compliance of the above shall be viewed seriously.



(U K Vats)
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