

Wine
Australia
for
Australian
Wine

Organic Wine

Export Requirements



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Updates

September 2021 updates:

- Australia's new agricultural export legislation commenced 28 March 2021
- Example labels demonstrating organic claims for the purposes of the Organic Rules
- Information on the UK's post-BREXIT export controls
- EU organic legislation references updated
- Australia – Taiwan organic equivalency arrangement
- New organic guidance on Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Hong Kong India, Indonesia, Israel, Mongolia, Peru

February 2022 updates:

- New guidance for New Zealand
- Updated contact information

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Disclaimer

The information contained in this guide represents Wine Australia's interpretation of the regulatory requirements in these markets as they apply to Australian wine. Whilst due care and diligence has been exercised in preparing this guide it is not intended to be a substitute for legal advice and should not be relied upon as such. Information provided may not be completely accurate as regulations may have changed since its publication or because clear information is not available. Wine Australia recommends exporters consider seeking local independent advice prior to exporting products to market.

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Exporting organic and biodynamic goods

The Department of Agriculture Water and the Environment (DAWE) administers the export program for the export of organic and biodynamic goods in Australia. The primary objective of the program is to ensure that organic and biodynamic produce exported from Australia meets the requirements of importing countries, ensuring that international market access is maintained.

Australia's new agricultural export legislation began on 28 March 2021. It comprises the *Export Control Act 2020* and the *Export Control (Organic Goods) Rules 2021* (the Organic Rules). The Organic Rules replaced the previous legislation under the *Export Control (Organic Produce Certification) Orders*.

The Organic Rules specify the certification requirements that must be complied with for the export of organic goods. Any product described as 'organic' or 'biodynamic' (or indication of similar meaning, including 'biological', 'ecological' and 'in-conversion to organic or biodynamic') in a wine's description and presentation is considered an organic claim and is captured by the export controls.

Organic and bio-dynamic produce for export must be certified by an [approved certifying body](#), verifying that the produce has been prepared in accordance with the [National Standard for Organic and Bio-Dynamic Produce—Edition 3.7 September 2016](#).

For export, wines with organic claims require an Organic Goods Certificate (OGC) issued by their approved certifying body prior to obtaining export approval. Exporting wines presented as organic without an OGC is an offence under the Organic Rules and can attract significant penalties.

Requirements for the export of organic product vary dependent on the level of recognition between trading countries of certification and product origin. For example, there are specific requirements for the export of products to China, Korea and the US, where stand-alone national organic programs are administered. Additional requirements apply for EU and UK shipments. For the EU and UK, all stages of the supply chain must be certified, including manufacturers, importers, exporters and wholesalers.

There are four types of organic certificates:

1. EU Certificate of Inspection (CoI)
2. UK Certificate of Inspection (CoI)
3. Switzerland Certificate of Inspection (CoI)
4. OGC for all other countries (EX1399).

What is an organic claim?

The Organic Rules defines an organic claim as any claim that describes a product, or which describes the ingredients used to make a product, as organic, biodynamic, biological, ecological (or any other similar description), and includes products that are described as 'in-conversion' to organic or biodynamic. For example, 'organic wine', '100% biodynamic', 'made using organic grapes' or 'certified organic'.

Wine Australia has provided the following examples of label claims that are or are not considered 'organic claims' for the purposes of the Organic Rules. This is based on our own interpretation of the rules and should not be considered authoritative. For a definitive ruling on your label please contact DAWE.

Example labels that are considered organic claims



Claims including 'organic shiraz', 'in-conversion to organic' and 'made with organic grapes' are considered organic claims for the purposes of the Organic Rules and require an OGC for export.

Market Overviews

United Kingdom

From 1 January 2021, all organic goods imported from non-EU countries must be accompanied by a valid GB Certificate of Inspection (Col). The UK will no longer use the EU's Trade Control & Expert System (TRACES) to import organic food. An interim manual GB organic import system will be operational from 1 January 2021 (similar to the paper-based system that was in place prior to 2017). This is a temporary solution that will be replaced with an electronic system as soon as available.

Great Britain will retain the EU organic regulations in the domestic legal framework in the UK, although with minor amendment to ensure they are operable. Northern Ireland will continue to operate under EU rules and regulations for organics, including TRACES.

For consignments arriving after 1 January 2021, a hardcopy GB Col will be required to be sent to the relevant Port Health Authority in Great Britain in order to complete the import clearance process. The GB Col will require signing by an Approved Certifying Body prior to export from Australia.

The following information was obtained from the Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment:

GB COI process for export from Australia

1. For products certified on or after 1 January 2021, the GB COI is to be completed in advance by the exporter and emailed to the relevant Australian certifying body to verify the consignment is organic.
2. The certifying body signs and stamps box 18 of the GB COI. The endorsed GB COI is then scanned and emailed to the exporter AND the original endorsed GB COI is returned to the exporter.
3. The exporter sends the original endorsed GB COI to the destination address and emails a copy of the GB COI to the importer.

GB COI process for importer on or prior to arrival in GB

4. The importer is to phone or email the GB Port Health Authority (PHA) at least 24 hours in advance of the arrival of the consignment. The importer must also email the GB COI, organic certificate and shipping documents.
5. If the consignment is to be split, the importer shall submit an extract of the certificate of inspection to the relevant PHA.
6. The PHA will check documents and carry out any necessary physical checks or testing. If the consignment passes, they will endorse by signing and stamping Box 20 or Box 13 of the extract of the certificate of inspection and clear the goods for onward movement. (A copy can be endorsed, as long as the original is also endorsed within 10 working days).
7. If the goods are cleared, the importer shall indicate the number of the GB COI in the customs declaration for free circulation.
8. First consignee will collect the goods, sign Box 21 or Box 14 of the extract of the GB COI and ensure the importer receives the endorsed GB COI. The consignee of a batch shall keep the extracts of the GB COI for no less than 2 years.

9. The importer shall keep the original endorsed COI and copies of the endorsed extracts of the GB COI on file for at least 3 years.
10. The organic control body in Great Britain may check GB COI during routine inspections of importers.

The Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment's website includes a GB Col template as well as detailed information on how to complete the template – www.agriculture.gov.au/export/controlled-goods/organic-bio-dynamic/organic-notice/2020/2020-07

European Union

Organic products are regulated by [EU Regulation 2018/848](#) on organic production and labelling of organic products and [EC Regulation 1235/2008](#) on rules for import of organic products from third countries into the EU. [EU Implementing Regulation 203/2012](#) outlines the specific rules applicable to wine.

Australia has been recognised as a third country whose rules on organic production and control are equivalent to the EU's under the Australia – EU equivalence arrangement, however, this excludes wine. A number of Australian certifying agents are listed under the Australian-EU equivalency recognition. For organic wine exporters, operators need to be certified with either NASAA (NCO) or Australian Certified Organic (ACO) who have direct EU recognition for certifying Organic Wine recognised as equivalent to the EU organic Wine Regulations.

Specific rules are set for organic wine-making, including a technical definition of organic wine which is consistent with the organic objectives and principles. Organic wine has to be made with organic grapes and yeast, however, there are a number of other restrictions that also apply. These include

- a prohibition on the use of sorbic acid and desulphurisation
- the level of sulphites in organic wine must be lower than their conventional equivalent (depending on the residual sugar content)

The regulations establish a subset of oenological practices and substances for organic wines.

Organic labelling

Products certified by an EU recognised certifying agent may use the term 'organic wine' on their labels in conjunction with the EU leaf logo and the mandatory code number of the certifier. The logo and labelling guidelines can be downloaded here – ec.europa.eu/agriculture/organic/downloads/logo

To qualify for use of the EU logo the following conditions must be met:

- At least 95% of the product's ingredients are of agricultural origin and have been organically produced to a standard recognised by the EU.
- Products comply with the control measures of their EU recognised certifying agent.
- Labels must declare the name of the producer.
- Labels must declare the EU code of the inspection body (obtained from your EU recognised certifying agent).

Products in conversion are not permitted to use the EU leaf logo or refer to the product as organic. Wines labelled as organic must have a Certificate of Inspection (COI) validated via TRACEs before it can be accepted at the EU port of discharge. Wine Australia now accepts this document for export applications.

Further information can be seen on the EU Organic Farming website – ec.europa.eu/agriculture/organic.

Analytical parameters

Wines must comply with the specification in Annex VIIIa of Regulation 203/2012. This can be viewed [here](#).

Analytical Parameter	Specification Maximum
Total Sulphur dioxide	
• Organic red wine	100 mg/l
• Organic white and rosé wine	150 mg/l
• Other organic wine	Limits above reduced by 30 mg/l
For wines containing at least <u>5 g/l</u> sugar, or <u>2 g/l</u> sugar for organic wine (expressed as the sum of glucose + fructose):	
• Organic red wine	130 mg/l
• Organic white and rosé wine	80 mg/l
• Other organic wine	Limits above reduced by 30 mg/l

EU organic logo



United States

The [National Organic Program \(NOP\)](#) is a stand-alone certification program developed by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) which came into effect in October 2002 to regulate organic production, processing and marketing in the US.

NOP certification is required for organic wine exporters to access the US market. All operations of the supply chain except for operations that don't produce/process/repack products need to be NOP accredited. This includes the following:

- Producers
- Processors/Contract processors
- Re-packers

NCO, AUS-QUAL and ACO are accredited by the USDA NOP as organic certifiers. A specific USDA NOP application form is required to be submitted to the certifying agent and must be accompanied by your Organic Management Plan with noted inputs for the last three years, and a Statutory Declaration.

Accreditation includes a document review which assesses management and inputs for the last three years; on-site audit and review of report; and a Licence Agreement.¹

The NOP standard can be viewed [here](#).

Labelling category: 'Organic'

Wine in the 'organic' labelling category must be overseen by a certifier, who will verify that the wine meets all appropriate specifications in the USDA organic regulations, such as:

- Yeast must be certified organic unless the desired strain isn't available in organic form.
- All agricultural ingredients (such as grapes) must be certified organic except per the National List of Allowed and Prohibited Substances (National List).
- Added sulphites are prohibited.
- Non-agricultural ingredients must be specifically allowed on the National List and may not exceed a combined 5 percent of the total product (excluding salt and water).

Wine in this category is permitted to use the USDA organic logo.

Labelling category: 'Made with' organic grapes

Wine in the 'made with' labelling category must be overseen by a USDA recognised certifier, who will verify that the wine meets all appropriate specifications in the USDA organic regulations. Unlike 'organic' wine, wine 'made with organic grapes' may contain up to 100 ppm of sulphur dioxide. All grapes must be certified organic, but other agricultural ingredients (such as yeast) are not required to be organic. Non-agricultural ingredients must be specifically allowed on the National List.

This category is not permitted to use the USDA organic logo.

The TTB has published a document titled 'Labeling Organic Wine'. It can be downloaded from the TTB website – www.ttb.gov/alfd/alcohol-beverages-labeled-with-organic-claims

The US Department of Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) is proposing to amend the USDA organic regulations to strengthen oversight and enforcement of the production, handling and sale of organic agricultural products. The proposed amendments are intended to strengthen organic control systems, improve farm to market traceability and provide robust enforcement of the USDA organic regulations.

USA organic logo



¹ See aco.net.au/standard/usa-nop

Argentina

Wine labels may make organic, ecological or biological claims provided the wine has obtained the necessary organic certification. The certification must cover from the grape production chain to the production in the winery. The labels may include the 'Organic Argentina' logo and the name of the authorised certifying entity. Further information should be obtained from your agent.

Brazil

Certified single ingredient organic products may be labelled as an 'organic product'. Products made of more than one ingredient, including additives, in which not all of the ingredients are of certified-organic origin must be labelled in the following manner:

- a. minimum of 95% certified organic ingredients = 'organic products'
- b. minimum of 70% and maximum of 95% certified organic ingredients = 'products with organic ingredients'. The label must list the proportions of the organic and non-organic ingredients.
- c. products with less than 70% certified organic ingredients are not eligible to be labelled as organic.

All operators in the supply chain must be certified to the Brazilian organic regulation. Brazil uses a mandatory national organic logo for certified organic products that applies to both domestic and imported products. The official label (SisOrg - Selo do Sistema Brasileiro de Avaliação da Conformidade Orgânica) is mandatory, with two versions (one for audit certification and one for the Participatory Guarantee Systems (PGS)) as shown below:



In order for imported organic products to be sold in Brazil the product must be certified by an organic conformity assessment body accredited by MAPA or the Federal Agency INMETRO. Brazil does not have equivalence agreements with any country. Therefore, anyone wishing to export organic produce to Brazil must be certified by a third-party certification body approved to operate in Brazil. Organic certification must be submitted at the time of product registration

Canada

Any agricultural product that is labelled organic is regulated by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA). Organic products are regulated under the *Organic Products Regulation 2009*.

Products cannot use the term ‘organic’ or another term which infers the product is organically grown unless it has been certified under the Canadian Organic Standard (COS). It is possible to obtain an equivalency agreement with Canada; however, Australia’s certification system is not currently recognised.

Biodynamic products are not covered by the *Canadian Organic Products Regulations*, however, any ‘biodynamic’ label claims must be accompanied by a certificate issued by a competent body supporting such a claim.

Wines which have been certified under COS may be labelled with the words ‘Vin biologique/organic wine’ (in both French and English) and must identify the complete name of the certification body.

Imported organic products

Organic products imported from countries with whom Canada has established an equivalency arrangement must be certified by a body accredited by that foreign country and recognised in Canada. Such products are eligible to display the Canada Organic logo.

The CFIA has accredited a number of certification bodies located outside Canada that have been accredited to certify organic products under the *Organic Products Regulations 2009*. For Australia, the certified body is nominated as Soil Association Certification Limited, based in the United Kingdom.

Australia

Soil Association Certification Limited

South Plaza, Marlborough Street

Bristol, BS1 3NX United Kingdom

Telephone: 0117 314 5000

Facsimile: 0117 314 5001

E-mail: goorganic@soilassociation.org

W: www.soilassociation.org/certification

United States NOP certification

Alternatively, exporters wishing to access the Canadian Organic Market can do so with a US National Organic Program (NOP) certification and an Equivalence Attestation from their Australian organic certifier (ie, NASAA Certified Organic (NCO) or Australian Certified Organic (ACO)).

According to NCO, the Equivalence Agreement signed between the US and Canada (USCOEA) enables operators certified under the US NOP to label organic goods for export to Canada providing the following conditions are met:²

- The Chain of Custody must be fully NOP compliant – this means that for any product to be exported to Canada, each part of the chain must be NOP certified.
- An Equivalence Attestation is required to accompany organic raw and processed products shipped to Canada under the NOP Organic Certification. This is obtained from your certifier and is in the

² See www.nasaacertifiedorganic.com.au/certprograms/steps-to-certification/export-requirements

form of a letter or certificate. This is a requirement so that products crossing the borders are verified to meet the terms of the USCOEA and must appear on documentation travelling with the shipment.

- Organic labelling rules in Canada are different to that of the US. US labels can have '100% Organic' and 'Made with Organic' on the front panel, but Canada does not allow this. Canadian labels also have to be bilingual (French and English).

NCO can produce an Equivalence Attestation upon inspection of the product to be exported and the label. NCO may authorise use of the Canadian label or the NOP label may be used.

Analytical requirements

Analytical Parameter	Specification Maximum
Sulphur Dioxide Organic wines	
Free	
• < 50 g/L residual sugar	30 mg/L
• 50-99 g/L residual sugar	35 mg/L
• >99 g/L residual sugar	45 mg/L
Total	
• < 50 g/L residual sugar	100 mg/L
• 50-99 g/L residual sugar	150 mg/L
• >99 g/L residual sugar	250 mg/L

Canada organic logo

Imported products that bear the logo must include:

- the statement 'Product of', immediately preceding the name of the country of origin, or
- the statement 'Imported', in close proximity to the logo

These statements must appear on the label in both French and English.



Further information can be seen here – www.inspection.gc.ca/food/organic-products

The organic standards can be viewed here – www.inspection.gc.ca/food/organic-products/standards

Chile

Chile's technical standard (Law No. 20,089) on agricultural organic products came into force in 2016.

Imported organic products may be marketed in Chile provided the SAG recognises the organic production

standards in the country of origin as equivalent to Chile's organic standard. This may be achieved by an equivalency agreement between Chile and the relevant authority in the country of origin. To date, only the EU has gained such equivalency. Only countries which have obtained equivalency are permitted to use the Chilean official seal.

To import Australian wines with organic claims the importer must submit to SAG:

- A copy of the organic certificate for the wine;
- Evidence that the organic certifier is accredited by the competent authority (the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources in Australia). The evidence may require a transaction certificate in a format established by the SAG;
- Any other information deemed necessary by SAG to prove the validity of the organic claim. This may include expert reports on the production standards and control measures applied in the country of origin.

Wines made from 100% organic grapes can be labelled as 'Organic Wine' on the main label of the bottle. The name of the organic certification body must be indicated on the back label.

China

Chinese certification systems and foreign organic certification systems are not mutually recognised. Organic products that have not been certified by China or products that have only been certified by an overseas organic certifying body cannot be labelled as 'organic' or 'in-conversion to organic' or other labelling terms claiming to be organic.³

Products may only be labelled as organic if they have been produced and processed in accordance with the requirements of the China organic standard GB/T 19630-2019 '*Organic Products – Requirements for Production, Processing, Labelling and Management System*' and certified in accordance with the standard. Australian Certified Organic (ACO) and NASAA (NCO) have partnered with Chinese Certification Company COFCC to offer certification to the Chinese standards including access to a Chinese Inspector based in Australia (see below).

In order to ensure the quality of imported organic products and to reinforce the regulation on organic produce, Chinese authorities have advised they will verify consignments in accordance with the [New Certification Regulations on Domestic Organic Products](#) (PDF). The State Administration for Market Regulation (SAMR) is now the responsible authority for managing organic food certification and accreditation, including the issuance of national standards and certification regulations for organic food.

Import procedures for organic products

If imported products are declared as organic or imported products are found at inspection to be labelled as 'organic' on their packages, labels, instructions or promotion materials; import verification shall apply which includes:

- verification of the certificate and logo

³ Austrade – www.austrade.gov.au/China/Industries/Food-and-beverage

- consistency evaluation between the product and its label
- determination of whether the product logo used is within the product scope
- for single and multiple entries, verification of the quantity identified on the certificate
- determination of compliance of any dual logo requirements.

A Chinese organic certificate can be verified using China's Food and Agriculture Products Certification Information System. Chinese port officials utilise a 'case-by-case' reporting system based on the entry of organic products. Each batch of imported organic products is reported to the Certification Supervision department within three days of inspection. Information reported includes inspection number, product name and quantity (weight), trading value, organic certificate number and the result of the inspection. If imported organic products have not received a Chinese organic certificate, but display 'organic' on product packages, labels, instructions, or promotion materials it will be reported as a 'major issue'.

Organic products that have not been issued a Chinese organic certificate can be imported as conventional products after they have been modified and comply with the relevant regulations and standards. If this is not possible, these products will be destroyed or re-exported.

It typically takes three to six months and over A\$10,000 to apply for and obtain a Chinese organic food certificate. An increasing number of Australian companies have chosen to make the investment, as organic products such as infant formula, beef and wine, sell at a premium price in China.

According to [CNCA](#), there are 25 certification agencies in China approved by the Administration to certify organic labels.

Australian certification

NCO and ACO have partnered with Chinese certification company China Organic Food Certification Center (COFCC) to offer certification to the Chinese *Organic Regulation GB/T 19630*. They can offer access to a Chinese Inspector based in Australia to ensure timely and cost-effective certification for exporters of organic products to China.

The Chinese *Organic Regulation GB/T 19630* requires certification of the entire supply chain from farm through to manufacture. Certification includes submission and review of application documents and an audit of the facility. COFCC completes a review and issues certification. Re-certification requires a new application and audit.

According to ACO, the following documents are required for certification.⁴

New application

- Application form
- Questionnaire
 - Documents required
 - Business licence
 - Food licence (if applicable)
 - Map (locational, farm/processing/storage)

⁴ See aco.net.au/standard/china

- Water test, soil and product test results
- Organic management plan
 - Quality Management plan
 - Environmental management plan
 - Procedures and templates
- Sample records of inputs, seeds, planting, harvest, sales, livestock, cleaning, pest control, ingredient purchases, ingredient transport, product recall, complaints, staff training, internal audits, production records,
- Pictures of the business

Chinese organic logos



Hong Kong

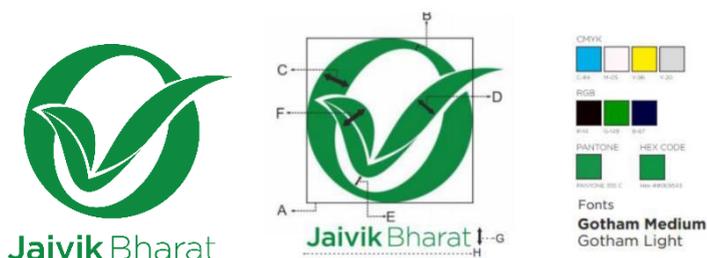
Consumers in Hong Kong are becoming more aware of the adverse effects of chemical fertilizers, preservatives and pesticide residues in food. As such, bio-dynamic, natural, vegan-friendly, organic and sustainable products are seeing significant growth in Hong Kong. Domestically, Hong Kong has approximately 130 organic-certified farms, aqua-farms and food processing plants, however, local suppliers have difficulty meeting demand. Hong Kong consumers have the desire and capacity to pay for high-quality imported organic food and wine.

Currently, Hong Kong has not imposed any legislation regarding organic certification and labelling, for local or imported organic products. Australian wine producers should follow domestic organic labelling rules and consult with their importer regularly for any changes.

India

The *Food Safety and Standards (Organic Foods) Regulations 2017* regulate organic food production. Any food which claims to be organic must be certified under either the National Programme for Organic Production (NPOP) or the Participatory Guarantee System for India (PGS-India). The two systems provide for third-party certification to India's National Standards for Organic Production. Only additives or processing aids permitted in the national standard are permitted in organic food.

Organic food which has been certified against India’s National Standards for Organic Production may carry a certification or quality assurance mark of the certifier in addition to the Food Safety and Standard Authority of India’s organic logo. ‘In-conversion’ to organic foods are not permitted to use the logo.



Food Safety and Standard Authority of India’s organic logo

Indonesia

Processed foods that meet Indonesia’s organic processed foods requirements may use the words organic and Indonesia’s organic logo on their labels as below. Domestic and imported organic food must have an organic certificate issued by an Indonesian Organic Certifier or a Foreign Organic Certifier domiciled in Indonesia and accredited by National Accredited Committee (KAN). Imported organic product is also allowed to have an organic certificate issued by the certifier in the country of origin that is recognised by KAN. Foreign organic logos can be placed next to the Indonesian logo.



Israel

Israel follows European Union organic standards and requirements. Israel’s organic standard is contained in the *Law for the Regulation of Organic Produce*, however, it is not mandatory for imported organic food to be certified against this standard unless the imported product wishes to use Israel’s uniform organic symbol. In such cases, applications must be submitted to Israel’s Plant Protection and Inspection Service (PPIS). Refer to the Organic Products section in the EU Export Market Guide for further details.

Japan

The Japanese Agriculture Standard (JAS) is administered by the Japanese Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF). JAS includes organic food and farming standards, however, alcoholic beverages are excluded from the JAS scope and do not require JAS certification.

MAFF has recognised the Australian National Standard as equivalent to JAS and has additionally approved ACO and NCO as organic certifying bodies for Australian producers. The equivalency means that exporters of organic wine need to obtain an Organic Goods Certificate from ACO or NCO to verify that the wine has been produced in accordance with the National Standard. This declaration must accompany the goods. Wine may be sold in Japan and labelled with the word 'organic' in English or Japanese, but cannot use the JAS Organic seal.

Korea

The Korean Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (MAFRA) administers the *Korean Organic Act 2013*. The [Korean Organic Standard](#) requires all domestic and imported organic produce and processed products to be certified by a MAFRA-accredited certifying agent. MAFRA may enter into equivalency agreements with foreign trade partners, however, Australia has not as yet obtained an agreement with Korea.

Presently ACO is the only Australian certification body to gain accreditation to the Korean organic standard.⁵ NCO can provide organic certification to the Korean Organic Standard in association with Ecocert Korea.⁶

Products must have a minimum 95% organic ingredients to be labelled as 'organic' or 'organic processed food'. The Korean organic logo may be used on products compliant with the Korean organic standards. The logo can be obtained from ACO or NCO. The label must also indicate the following:



Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (MAFRA)

Environmentally Friendly Agriculture Division

Director: Kim Wan-su,

Deputy Director: Park Sang-hee

T: +82-44-201-2435

W: www.mafra.go.kr/english

Korea organic logo

⁵ aco.net.au/standard/korea

⁶ www.nasaacertifiedorganic.com.au/certprograms



Malaysia

Wines must not be labelled with words including ‘organic’, ‘biological’, ‘ecological’, ‘biodynamic’ or similar unless they have been certified to the Malaysian Organic Food Certification Scheme. Companies may apply for organic food certificates only if they meet the following criteria:

1. The company is registered with the Companies Commission of Malaysia (SSM);
2. The processing premises have been in operation with organic food process controls for at least 3 months;
3. The premises has a license or approval from a government authority or a letter of authentication from any government agency;
4. The premises is registered with the Ministry of Health Malaysia (MOH);
5. The premises has a manual for controlling organic food processes;
6. The premises has implemented a food safety assurance system and adheres to the requirements of the *Food Act 1983* and the *Regulations*;
7. The organic raw materials have obtained organic certification from an agency or body recognised by MOH.

Applications must be completed on the approved [form](#) and submitted to MOH. Fees are payable (RM 2,530.00 at June 2019). Applications must be accompanied by the premises manual for controlling organic food processes and details of the organic certification. Certificates are issued with a three-year validity period. Renewal certificates must be submitted at least three months before the date of expiry. A renewal fee of RM 1,600.00 is payable.

The Malaysian scheme utilises the following food labelling categories:

Criteria	Logo and labelling
1. Products that contain 100% organic ingredients	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Logo of organic food certifier • An organic statement such as ‘100% organic’
2. Products that contain at least 95% organic ingredients	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Logo of organic food certifier • An organic statement • List of organic ingredients on the panel
3. Products that contain less than 95% but more than 70% of organic ingredients	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Logo of organic food certifier • A statement such as ‘produced with organic grapes’

Further information can be seen on the Safety and Food Quality Division [website](#).

Mexico

Mexico has developed legislation for the certification and inspection of organic products. In the absence of an equivalency agreement between the Australian and Mexican governments, exporters can apply for certification under Mexico's organic scheme. The scheme is regulated by the National Health Service for Food Safety and Quality (SENASICA). Further information can be seen on Mexico's organic program (in English) here – www.gob.mx/senasica/documentos/39618.

Mongolia

Mongolia's framework for organic food is outlined in the *Law on Organic Food* of 2016. Refer to the Mongolia Export Market Guide for details on Mongolia's List of Substances Used in Organic Agricultural Industry and Industrial Food Production.

Labels of certified food products and raw materials specified in the *Law on Organic Food* may be marked as 'organic', 'pure natural' or 'naturally pure'.

No Australian certification agencies have been approved under the Mongolian standard as yet. Further information can be seen here – organic.gov.mn/#/home

New Zealand

There is no official standard set for organic food products in New Zealand. In Australia, the Export Control Rules specific to organic products are made under the *Export Control Act 2020*, but organic goods for export to New Zealand are not prescribed under this Act.

Australian Export Controls require that products exported as organic be certified by an [approved certifying organisation](#). However, by virtue of the Trans-Tasman Mutual Recognition Agreement, an Organic Goods Certificate issued by the Australian Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment is not a requirement for the export of organic products to New Zealand, unless it is required by the importer. Australian products certified by an [approved certifying organisation](#) can lawfully be sold as organic in New Zealand because they are unlikely to fall foul of the New Zealand consumer law.

In New Zealand, marketing claims and use of the term 'organic' on food labels is controlled through the *Fair Trading Act 1986*. This means that:

- representations about food must be truthful and accurate, and they must not mislead a consumer
- you must be able to demonstrate that products labelled as 'organic' are produced organically
- if you claim that your products are 'certified organic', you must be able to back this claim up with a certificate.

There are no mandatory labelling requirements for organic products imported into New Zealand. Marketing food domestically in New Zealand as 'organic' is regulated by the Commerce Commission.

Further information on importing organic products can be found here:

www.mpi.govt.nz/importing/food/organics/steps-to-importing

Peru

SENASA (the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation) administers *Supreme Decree 010-2012-AG* which registers and approves accreditation bodies for organic production. *Supreme Decree 061-2006-AG* establishes the National Registry of Organic Production Accreditation Entities (NROPA). Under the technical regulations for organic production (*Supreme Decree 044-20006-AG*), foreign organic products must comply with the Peruvian organic standard and be certified by an authorised entity of the NROPA.

In order to export wines with organic claims to Peru, exporters must provide their importer with their organic accreditation status in the country of origin in order to obtain SENASA's validation.

Russia

On 3 August 2018, Russia published its new Federal Law No. 280-FZ 'On Organic Products and Amendments to Certain Legislative Acts of the Russian Federation'. The law will come into force on **1 January 2020**. This is Russia's first legal framework on organic food production. Below is an unofficial translation of the relevant aspects of the new law. It is advisable to seek further advice from an accredited organic certifying body.

The Federal Law will regulate the manufacture, storage, transportation, labelling and marketing of organic products. The law provides the following basic definitions:

1. **Organic products** – eco-friendly agricultural products, raw materials and foodstuffs produced in compliance with the organic law.
2. **Organic agriculture** – a set of economic activities carried out using practices, methods and technologies that strive to ensure favourable ecological situation, promote human health and to maintain and restore soil fertility.
3. **Manufacturers of organic products** – legal entities and physical persons who are involved in the manufacture, storage, labelling, transportation and marketing of organic products and included in the unified state register of organic product manufacturers.

The following basic requirements must be met during the manufacture of organic products:

1. The manufacture of organic products is separated from the manufacture of non-organic products;
2. Ban on the use of agrichemicals, pesticides, antibiotics, growth stimulators, hormones, genetically modified organisms, hydroponic plant culturing and ionizing radiation;
3. Use of agents of biological origin to control pests and plant and the implementation of measures to prevent losses inflicted by pests to plants or products of plant origin that are based on the protection of entomophages (natural enemies of plant pests), the selection of plant species and varieties, and the choice of crop rotation, optimal plant raising techniques, and methods of thermal treatment of organic products;

4. The use of food additives, processing aids, flavouring agents, taste enhancers, enzymatic preparations, microelements, vitamins, amino acids envisaged in the national, interstate and international standards in the sphere of manufacture of organic products that are effective in the Russian Federation*.
5. Ban on mixing organic products with non-organic products during storage and transportation;
6. Ban on the use of containers, shipping and retail packages which may cause contamination of the organic products and the environment, e.g., the use of polyvinylchloride for containers, shipping and retail packages.

Organic products must be certified with a 'Conformity Certificate' by certification bodies accredited by the Rosaccreditaciya of the Russian Federation. Organic product manufacturers will be listed on the unified state register of organic product manufacturers.

Three Russian certification companies currently operate in the market: Organic Expert (<http://organik-expert.ru/>), the Ecological Union (<http://ecounion.ru/>) and Eco Control (<http://eco-control.ru/>). There are also 15 international certification companies with EU permits for conducting inspection work in Russia. These companies include ABCert AG (www.abcert.de) and Lacon Institut (www.lacon-institut.com) from Germany, Bio Inspecta (www.bio-inspecta.ch) from Switzerland, and Ecocert (www.ecocert.com/en) from France. Under the new law all certification bodies will be required to be certified by Rosaccreditaciya which is currently not mandatory.

Certified organic products may use the designated organic logo and describe the product as 'organic'.

* Currently the national standards (GOSTs) include GOST R 56104-2014 'Organic Food Products: Terms and Definitions'; GOST R 56508-2015 'Organic Products: Production, Storage and Transportation Rules'; GOST R 57022-2016 'Organic Products: Guidelines for Voluntary Certification of Organic Production. Interstate standards include GOST 33980-2016/CAC/GL 32-1999, NEQ 'Organic Products: Rules for Production, Labelling and Sale'. It is unclear whether these standards will remain in force from 1 January 2020.

Singapore

Labels must not include the word 'organic', or any word of the same significance, unless the food is certified organic under an inspection and certification system that complies with s 6.3 of the *Codex Guidelines for the Production, Processing, Labelling and Marketing of Organically Produced Foods* (GL 32-1999) or a similar system approved by the Singapore Director-General.

Switzerland

Australia has obtained equivalency recognition for Plant and Plant product (excluding wine) by the Swiss Federal Department of Economic Affairs, Education and Research. The list of approved certifying bodies includes Australian Certified Organic (ACO), AQIS, Bio-dynamic Research Institute, NASAA (NCO), Organic Food Chain and AUS-QUAL. NCO and ACO have direct recognition for certifying organic wine. Switzerland does not have an official organic logo. Products sold as organic may use any logo for which they are compliant with the associated standards. If the EU seal is used, you must comply with all EU labelling requirements.

Switzerland's organic standard lists the permitted products and substances, practices and processes for wine production. The standard can be viewed here – [Ordinance on Organic Farming of the Swiss Federal Department of Economic Affairs, Education and Research \(EAER\) – PDF](#)

See also the [Ordinance on Organic Farming and the Labelling of Organically Produced Products and Foodstuffs \(Organic Farming Ordinance\) – PDF](#).

Since 1 January 2019 Switzerland uses the EU TRACeS program and requires a validated Certificate of Inspection (COI).

Further information relating to Swiss import requirements of organic products can be found at [Imports of Organic Products Guidance – PDF](#).

Taiwan

Australia-Taiwan Organic Equivalency Arrangement (2020-01)

Following representations by the Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment, negotiations on the Taiwan-Australia organic equivalency have been concluded, and a new bilateral organic equivalency arrangement entered into effect on 23 January 2020. The arrangement establishes regulatory requirements for organic produce sent from Australia to Taiwan and vice-versa.

Australian agricultural products are not allowed to use the Taiwan agricultural organic logo as Taiwan's legal requirements only permit the logo to be used for products produced in Taiwan.

Products produced before 23 January 2020 are accepted provided they are accompanied with a valid organic goods certificate and any other export certification.

Agricultural products that are produced in the organic conversion period or processed products that use agricultural products produced during organic conversion period as raw material or an ingredient are not included in the scope of the equivalence arrangement.

Importing country requirements

1. Application process for obtaining an approval number for the labelling of organic produce in Taiwan (affects importers in Taiwan only):

Importers within Taiwan must submit an application to the central competent authority (the Council of Agriculture Executive, Taiwan) and obtain an approval number for labelling.

Products must be labelled with the approval number before being able to be sold within Taiwan.

2. Use of imported ingredients under the arrangement:

Products produced using raw ingredients imported from a third-country (other than Taiwan and Australia) that are certified to the National Standard for Organic and Biodynamic Produce and then mixed with organic raw materials of Australian origin, must undergo substantial transformation in Australia to be eligible for this equivalency recognition.

Labelling

Products are required to carry a 'serial' number approved by the Taiwan Agriculture and Food Agency (AFA) of the Council of Agriculture on a batch basis for every organic product shipment to Taiwan. The AFA will authorise importers to create their own 'serial' number for the organic products they bring into Taiwan. The number must include 16 digits as follows (XXX-XXXXXXXXXXXX): code #1-3 represents the Taiwan calendar year, code #4-11 represents the importer company's ID number, code #12-16 represents the non-duplicated sequential number the importer applies for starting from 00001.

NOTE: Taiwan's official calendar year is 11 years behind the international calendar year. For example, the current international calendar year of 2018 is 107 in Taiwan's official calendar year. Therefore, for code #1-3, the importer should state 107.

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About Wine Australia

Wine Australia supports a competitive wine sector by investing in research, development and adoption (RDA), growing domestic and international markets, protecting the reputation of Australian wine and administering the Export and Regional Wine Support Package (ERWSP).

Wine Australia is an Australian Commonwealth Government statutory authority, established under the *Wine Australia Act 2013*, and funded by grape growers and winemakers through levies and user-pays charges and the Australian Government, which provides matching funding for RDA investments.