

Brief information about organic labeling according to Reg. (EC) 834/07, NOP and JAS

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1. Introduction

The present document provides an overview of labeling requirements for organic products, addressing especially the EU organic logo introduced in 2010. For further information on labels for different multi-ingredient products, please also see our Brief Info on NOP (CERES document 3.2.10). For more information on the use of the CERES seal, please see the annex to our certification contract (document 7.2.1.1).

2. Overview of requirements for wholesale labels (non-retail containers):

	Reg. EC 834/07	NOP	JAS
Mandatory	<p>The label must ensure traceability and allow to identify the entity responsible for the product (producer or trader)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Certifier code number (see below) • Refer to "organic" 	It is highly recommended to identify the product as "organic"	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organic JAS mark, certificate number (see below) • Refer to term "organic" or "in conversion"
Optional	EU organic logo and certifier logo	USDA logo, certifier logo, certifier name	No provisions

3. Overview of requirements for retail labels (consumer packages)

	Reg. EC 834/07	NOP	JAS
Official logo			
Design details	Defined in Reg. (EC) 271/2010	Defined in §205.311	Not. 920 (2021)
Download	E.g. at http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/organic/eu-policy/logo_en (different languages; you also find Reg. (EC) 271/2010 there).	https://www.ams.usda.gov/rules-regulations/organic/organic-seal	(Will be provided by the certifier once the company has achieved certification)
Mandatory	For organic food produced <u>inside</u> the EU, use of the seal is compulsory.	USDA seal not mandatory	JAS seal mandatory
Optional	For organic food produced <u>outside</u> the EU, use of the seal is voluntary	Voluntary on "100 % Organic" and "Organic" products	No provisions
Not allowed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For products "in conversion" • For products which may refer to organic only in the ingredient list • For wine "made from organic grapes" 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For products "made with organic ingredients" • For products which may refer to organic only in the ingredient list 	For products with less than 95 % organic ingredients
National, certifier and other private logos	Allowed	(National logos are not applicable) Certifier and other private logos are allowed, but must not be more prominent than USDA logo	
			Certifier and private logos are allowed

	Reg. EC 834/07	NOP	JAS
Certifier identification	The certifier <u>code number</u> must be indicated (see Sections 4 and 5 below)	The certifier <u>name</u> must be mentioned. It must be placed below the producer or handler name, using the words "Certified organic by..." (See Section 6)	(Is assured through the JAS organic seal)
Other mandatory information	<p>The company which is responsible for placing the product on the market must be identified</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If the EU logo is used: An indication of origin: "EU Agriculture", "Non-EU Agriculture", or combined "EU / non-EU Agriculture". If the product is from one single country, the country name can be used instead. (See examples below) <p>For multi-ingredient products: Identification of organic ingredients (see examples below)</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Certificate number (see certificate) Information about product name, ingredients, organic status etc. must be written in Japanese (please verify with your Japanese customer and with CERES)

4. The certifier code number for the European Union

The following table should make clear which Code numbers are to be used:

Countries / Conditions	Code Numbers are assigned by	Details / Examples
EU member countries	Competent national authorities	RO-ECO-24 for CERES in Romania, BG-BIO-04 for CERES in Bulgaria
Non member countries for which CERES is listed by the European Commission (Reg. EC 1235/2008, Annex IV)	European Commission	XY-BIO-140 ("XY" must be replaced by the official ISO abbreviation for the respective country. For example: Clients certified organic in China use CN-BIO-140, in Ethiopia ET-BIO-140, in Mexico MX-BIO 140)
Non member countries, which are approved by the EU Commission as "equivalent" (Reg. EC 1235/2008, Annex III)	Competent national authorities	CL-BIO-005; US-ORG-62 (for Chile and the USA, which have an "equivalent" control system, CERES is approved by the national authorities)

5. Examples EU retail labeling

5.1 Organic honey

Produced by ApiEco

Use of the CERES seal is voluntary. For further information see the CERES document "Certification Seal"

RO-ECO-024
EU Apiculture



This is the CERES code number in Romania (EU member country). Code number and indication of origin should be "in the same visual field" with the logo



5.2 Organic Coffee

Produced by CoffeeComp

This operator decided to use the black / white version and not to use the CERES seal

UG-BIO-140
Non-EU-Agriculture



UG-BIO-140 is the CERES code number in Uganda. "In the same visual field" (see 5.1).

5.3

TR-BIO-140
EU/non-EU
Agriculture

Organic Lentils
Produced by PulsComp





This Turkish company has mixed lentils from Eastern European EU member countries with Turkish lentils.

TR-Bio-140 is the CERES code number in Turkey

5.4

CN-BIO-140
China Agriculture

Organic Frozen Strawberries
Produced by Organic Exports Ltd.



Since the product is from one single country, the label may mention the country instead of "Non-EU"

CN-BIO-140 is the CERES code number in China

5.5 Organic Wine

Produced by Grandes Vinos S.A.

CL-BIO-005
Non EU Agriculture

Chile is on the list of recognised third countries. We have a different code there

(For further details on wine labelling, please see the CERES Brief Info on Organic Wine!)

5.6 Cucumbers in Conversion to Organic

BG-BIO-04

Produced by Vegetables d.o.o.

Neither CERES nor EU logo on products in conversion

This is the CERES code number in Bulgaria (EU member country)

5.7 Grandma's old style organic pickles

Organic Products SRL



EU/Non EU Agriculture
RO-ECO-24

Ingredients:
Gherkins 42 %*
Red peppers 17 %*
Onions 12 %*
Carrots 11 %*
Redbeets 8 %*
Vinegar 5 %*
Sugar 3 %*
Salt
Citric acid
* Organic ingredients

EU logo can be used for organic multi-ingredient products

This is the CERES code number in Romania

Each organic ingredient must be identified as such

5.8 Johnson's Breakfast Cereals

Johnson's Inc., Guadalajara, Mexico

 **MX-BIO-140**

Ingredients:
Oats 32 %
Wheat flakes 15 %
Corn flakes 18 %
Freeze dried apples 8 %*
Freeze dried strawberries 7 %*
Raisins 5 %
Glucose syrup 10 %
Honey 5 %*
* Organic ingredients

The product as such may not be called "organic"

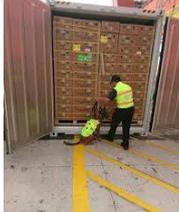
No use of EU logo on products which contain only certain ingredients from organic origin. CERES logo may be placed on the ingredient list but must not be prominent and not insinuate the product as such is organic.

This is the CERES code number in Mexico

(For further details on multi-ingredient product labelling, please see the CERES Brief Info on Reg. EC 834/07!)

6. Some additional specific instructions for EU (equivalent) labels

The certifier code number must be the one for the entity responsible of the **last physical handling** of the product. "Last physical handling" **can** also be the labeling itself. But if e.g. the final seller is a trader who does not make any changes to the product, then the last processor's certifier code must appear on the label, not the trader's certifier code. This rule applies to **both retail and wholesale** labels. If e.g. the product is packed in the final retail packages provided by the distributor inside the EU – still the code number of the "last operator" who physically handles the product must be on the label. It is allowed, however, to also place the CB code of the importer or distributor inside the EU.

Producer	Last processor	Exporter (last owner)	CB Code
 Certified by CERES	 Certified by CERES	 Certified by CB X	EC-BIO-140 (CERES in Ecuador)
 Certified by CERES	 Certified by CB X	The winery exports the wine itself 	ZA-BIO-XXX (CB X in South Africa)

7. Examples NOP retail labeling

<p>Use of the USDA and CERES seal is voluntary. For further information regarding CERES seal, see the document "Certification Seal"</p>	<p>7.1 100 % organic honey Produced by ApiEco Certified organic by CERES</p>  	<p>Honey, if not further processed, can be labeled as "100% organic"</p> <p>Statement "Certified organic by..." must be placed <u>under</u> producer, processor or distributor name</p>
<p>This company has decided to use the black / white version of the USDA seal and not to use the certifier seal.</p>	<p>7.2 Organic apple juice Produced by Organic Juices Ltd. Certified organic by CERES</p> 	<p>Since the apple juice in this example is produced with the help of enzymes, it is only "organic", not "100% organic"</p>
<p>No use of USDA logo on products which are only "made with", not fully organic</p>	<p>7.3 Wine made with organic grapes Produced by Grandes Vinos S.A. Certified organic by CERES GmbH</p> 	

(For further details regarding wine and different labelling categories under NOP, please see the CERES Brief Infos about organic wine and NOP!)

<p>NOP logo may be used for organic multi-ingredient products</p>	<p>7.4 Grandma's old style organic pickles Productos Ecológicos S.A. Certified organic by CERES</p> 	<p>Ingredients: Gherkins 42 %* Red peppers 17 %* Onions 12 %* Carrots 11 %* Redbeets 8 %* Vinegar 5 %* Sugar 3 %* Salt Citric acid * Organic ingredients</p>	<p>Each organic ingredient must be identified as such</p>
<p>No use of NOP logo on products "made with" organic ingredients. CERES logo may be placed on the ingredient list but must not be prominent and not insinuate the product as such is organic.</p>	<p>7.5 Johnson's Breakfast Cereals made with 72% organic ingredients</p>	<p>Ingredients:  Oats 42 %* Wheat flakes 30 %* Honey 28 % * Organic ingredients Johnson's Inc., Guadalajara, Mexico Certified organic by CERES</p>	<p>All organic ingredients must be identified as such. Minimum 70% organic ingredients for products labeled as "made with". Maximum three different agricultural ingredients (or groups of ingredients) on the label of such products</p>

8. The JAS certificate number

<p>Both wholesale and retail products must carry not only the JAS seal, but also a certificate number. This number can be found on your latest certificate. Please do not include the "-1", "-2" etc. extensions in the labeling, because these extensions will be changing every year!</p>	<p>Organic Green Tea China's Pride Best Natural Teas</p>  <p>CERES Cert. 49741</p>	<p>This is the certificate number assigned by CERES to this tea factory. Every year, an extension will be added to the number (49741-1, then 49741-2). These extensions should not be included in the labeling. As opposed to the EU system, the number is different for each client.</p>
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