

THE DEVELOPMENT OF ORGANIC FARMING IN THE EU AND IN ROMANIA- BIG OPPORTUNITY FOR REDUCING THE RISKS AND THE HAZARDS THAT OCCUR IN THE FOODS PRODUCTION

**SAVESCU PETRE¹, ANA-MARIA DODOCIOIU¹, CRISTINA MANUELA VLADU²,
BORUZ SORIN¹**

¹University of Craiova, Faculty of Agriculture and Horticulture, psavescu@gmail.com

²The County Agricultural Department of Dolj

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ABSTRACT

In the last years, in Romania, organic farming has experienced a strong development; are becoming more and more in conversion organic operators or operators that are certificates-knew how to capitalize on the rich agricultural potential of Romania. One of the greatest results produced by organic agriculture is the obtained quality for food as raw materials, raw materials that can develop the innocuous foods and functional foods.

The environmental protection and the conservation of biodiversity are other big important issues that characterize the organic agriculture system.

This paper is a synthesis that aims to evident the organizational settled of this area of Romania, the main requirements imposed on manufacturers and the updated changes in organic agriculture, and the big connection that exists between the risk management systems applicable in organic farming systems and specific food safety management.

INTRODUCTION

In Romania, in accordance with the article 27 of Regulation (EC) 834/2007, for the organic agriculture sector, have been designated as the competent authority the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MADR). The Authority work like as the General Directorate of Agricultural Policies and Strategies (the Department of Organic Agriculture and Processed Products) and the Direction of Agriculture of the County and the municipality of Bucharest. In each of these locations is a compartment for the implementation of policies in the field of organic agriculture.

In accordance with article no 1 of the Order of the Minister no. 181/2012 in Romania and in accordance with the provisions of article no. 27 of Regulation (EC) No. 834/2007, the check powers have been delegated to Control of Inspection and Certification Bodies (CB). This is made possible by the article 5 paragraph (2) of Regulation (EC) No. 882/2004 of European Parliament and of the Council (from 29 April 2004). According those the official controls performed to ensure the verification of compliance with the legislation on feed and food and animal health standards and animal welfare.

For obtaining approval as Inspection and Certification Bodies in Organic Agriculture (OA), M.A.D.R. check how compliance with the requirements laid down in Regulation (EC) No. 834/2007 and the Order of the Minister no. 181/2012. List of approved Inspection and Certification Bodies shall be published annually on the website of MADR. The Certificate of Approval is valid for 4 years and is awarded for their production, processing, distribution for the following product groups:

- A: unprocessed plant products
- B: Live animal or unprocessed products of animal origin
- C: Aquaculture products and seaweed
- C1: Aquaculture products
- C2: Seaweed
- D: processed agricultural products for use as food

E: processed agricultural products for use as animal feed

F: vegetative propagating material and seeds for cultivation.

With the accreditation of Inspection and Certification Bodies according to SR EN ISO/IEC 17065: 2013, MADR together with the National Accreditation Body RENAR, will modify the legislation (in next future) so that there is a continues standing agreement between the accreditation and approval of Inspection and Certification Bodies.

The annual growth rate of the organic farming sector was 13% during 2002-2011 and the number of holdings held in the organic farming system increased almost tenfold between 2003 and 2011[4,5].

MATERIALS AND METHODS

In order to develop the work paper(in the synthesis), have been studying National Legislation, European and International Regulations in this field and we analyzed the practical results achieved. For to develop the practical study and interpretation of the obtained results the essential contribution give the first author as approved responsible for certification in the field of organic farming in the National Inspection and Certification Body for the organic food products[1].

For a good documentary, were studied all EC Regulations: Reg. (EC) No 834/2007, Reg. (EC) No. 889/2008, Reg. (EC) No 1151/2012 and the national legislation Emergency Ordinance 34/2000 (with additions and attachments in 2006), Ministry Order no. 181/2012- in terms of the field of Organic Farming and Quality Schemes (with the national legislation and Regulations related to) who treat topics related these organic products [2], [3].

The Quality Package is part of the Quality Policy-which is one of the 16 under-policies of Community in the field of agriculture[6,7]. For a complete study were identified the occurring changes after the passage of the National Inspection and Certification Bodies to the new Standard: ISO/IEC 17065 SR/2013 (Standard that governs conformity assessment and establishes requirements for Bodies that certifying products, processes and services). The certification of products, processes and services is to provide confidence to all parties concerned that a product, process or service fulfils specified requirements.

The new Standard keeps the requirements of ISO/IEC Guide 65 but they are also improved when they deem it necessary.

With the accreditation of Inspection and Certification Bodies according to SR ISO/IEC 17065/2013, the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD), on the basis of the collaboration with the National Accreditation Body RENAR, will change the laws-in the following period (2014-2020) to be a permanent accreditation and approval of the Inspection and Certification Bodies.

Also, were carefully studied the basic principles that are applied in organic agriculture[8]:

- the applying rotating plan of organic crops so,the local resources can be used efficiently

- Restricting of chemical pesticides, the synthetic fertilizers, antibiotics and other synthetic substances

- Ban in use for the Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs)

- Better awareness of resources such as manure- organic fertilizer –and the feed produced on the farm

- Priority use of species of plants and animals that are resistant to disease and adapted to local environment

- Increased Livestock in an area as free, in a free environment and feeding only organic feed

- Adapting of farming practices in different animal species

-Ensure animal welfare.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

The aim of certification of products, processes and services is to provide confidence to all parties concerned that a product, process or service fulfils specified requirements.

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According to the latest report of the EU in October 2013, the E.U. organic sector has developed rapidly in recent years. According to Eurostat Data System, in 2011, the EU-27 had a total area of 9.6 million hectares organically cultivated, compared to 5.7 million in 2002 [figure 1, a] [3, 9, 10]. Although this is a large increase in the area of organic agriculture as a whole is only 5.4% of the total utilized agricultural area in Europe [figure 1, b]. The organic farming is practiced in more than 186 000 farms in Europe (more than 15 500 organic farms in Romania) [figure 2]. Most organic land (78%) and organic farms (83%) are located in EU Member States that joined the EU before 2000 and the national and European legislation, among other things, helped to stimulate the development of this sector.

The advantages of production in organic farming system in reducing the risks and dangers to food production are grouped into five broad categories.

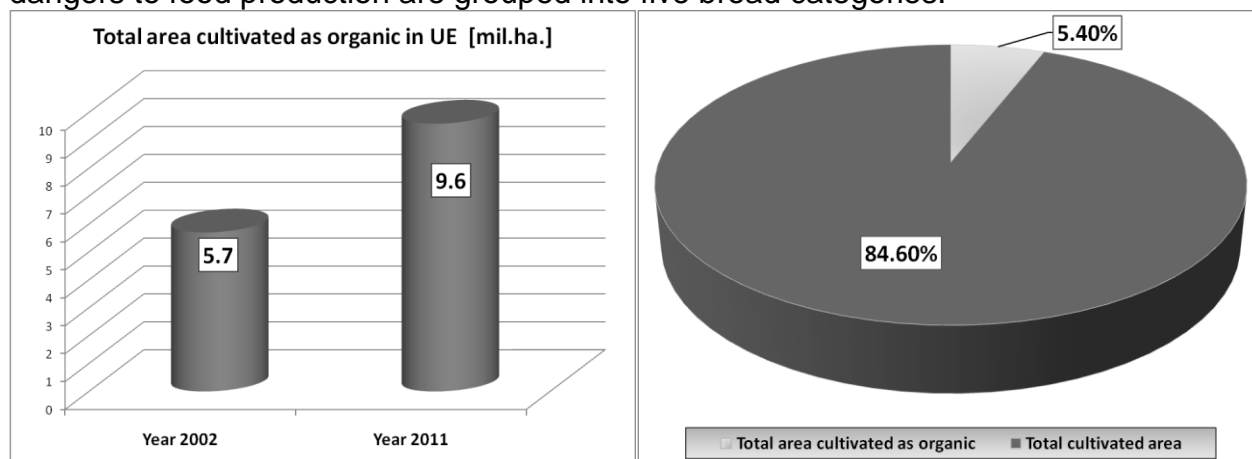


Figure 1-Total area cultivated as organic in UE (a, b)

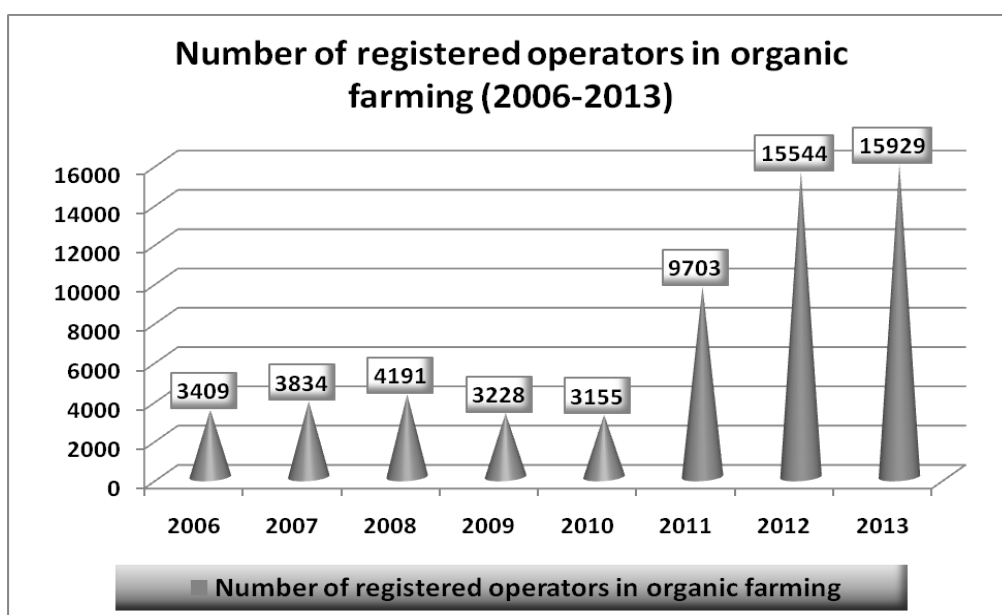


Figure 2-The number of registered operators in organic farming

The main results of production in organic farming systems:

- gives trust for consumers
- complies with the Environmental conservation principles
- produce of healthy food, exceptional quality
- Short supply chain, characteristic for sustainable production
- respect animal welfare

The applied of specific rules for organic farming system can lead to the elimination of hazards, microbiological, physical and chemical properties by:

-The management of food additives (removal of some additives that may create a risk to the health of consumers and to those who can produce various toxic compounds as a result of the processing, the use of natural food additives),

- The use of health raw materials, deprived of toxicity (which originated in the area of organic agriculture, the area certified agricultural products, agricultural products which are obtained in areas free from contamination or pollution)

-The management of Operations, equipment and machinery, management of the phenomena of heat transfer, mass, impulse

- the removal of some processing steps that are Critical Control Points, using natural additives (e.g. Some thermal treatments removed using natural preservatives and/or effects that can facilitate and maintain food preservation)

- The introduction of specific processes of Bioengineering and biotechnology and valuable results of the research-development-innovation from these fields

-The application of special systems for further evaluation of the risk according to the zoning of agricultural and processing of food products

- The establishment of a continuous system of measurements of parameters of the process by introducing combined physical and chemical analyses (such as thermo-stability, free) and automation

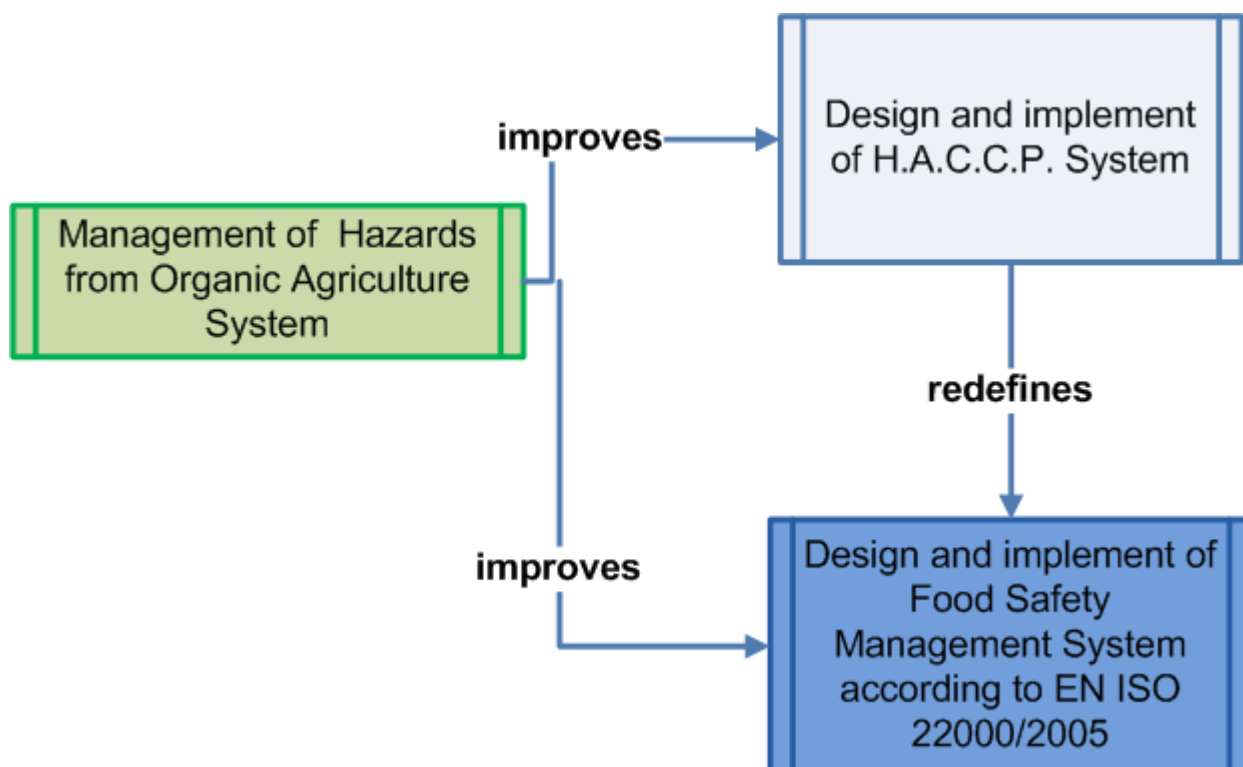


Figure 3-The influence of Organic Agriculture System in improvement of Food Safety Management Systems

CONCLUSIONS

- The Organic Agriculture is very important for Romania; it is an economic segment which is in a lot of spelling development and produce added value;
- In the European Union is given a special importance of organic agriculture sector growth-through the provisions of the Common Agricultural Policy, that the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development together with other Romanian authorities have a very important role in the development of economy in the Horizon of 2014-2020;
- The Agricultural Specialist has a very important role in public information, awareness raising, training and preparation of all stakeholders of organic agriculture;
- The production in organic agriculture system-may reduce the occurrence of hazards or risks to the production of food by:-rules to good practice for hygiene and production;
 - procedures and instructions-appropriate vocational training;
 - discipline and conscientiously;
 - good communication;
 - recording system correctly and completely;
 - monitoring limits in critical Control points;
- as a result of the introduction and application of SR EN ISO 17065/2013 will produce a development of monitoring of hazards through assessment schemes for agricultural products;
- Knowledge and application of the rules of organic farming leads to increase the added-value in agricultural products.

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