



Data Network for better European organic market information

How to improve the organic data collection system

Final Project Recommendations

Raffaele Zanoli
Project Coordinator

Objectives

- ✓ These recommendations are based in the project results, and have been developed for:
 - ✓ the European Commission
 - ✓ Eurostat
 - ✓ national statistical institutes
 - ✓ other stakeholders involved in data collection and data use



Recommendation 1

Extend the mandate for statistical data collection on the organic market

The European Commission should extend the mandate for statistical data collection on the organic market, specifically

- ✓ by increasing the number of statistical data types collected,
- ✓ by collecting statistical information on prices and volume and value of production, domestic market, and international trade by defined product or product groups,
- ✓ by collecting import/export data by including organic imports/exports to national foreign trade statistics and by specific provision on the TARIC code (for third country imports),
- ✓ by specifying a legal mandate to provide statistical information not just by Member States, but also by control authorities, control bodies, customs authorities and, where relevant, individual companies.



Recommendation 2

Develop better statistical processes to increase accuracy of data collection on the organic market

Data providers should develop better statistical processes to increase accuracy of data collection on the organic market, specifically

- ✓ by more attention to coverage,
- ✓ by better sampling procedures,
- ✓ by crosschecking expert estimates against other sources
- ✓ by implementing OrMaCode.



Recommendation 3

Harmonise the statistical processes for data collection on the organic market to increase coherence and comparability

National statistical institutes and national authorities should harmonise statistical processes for data collection on the organic market to increase coherence and comparability, specifically

- ✓ by harmonising national definitions, nomenclature and classification of statistical outputs to the Eurostat Statistical Classification of Products by Activity (CPA),
- ✓ by harmonising aggregation rules for raw data,
- ✓ by implementing a unique and permanent identifier for each inspected operator ensuring the portability of such identifiers when changing control body/control authority.
- ✓ by providing an electronic data collection tool to the control bodies

Data providers other than official national statistical institutes should comply with this recommendation in order to ensure smooth data sharing and aggregation across different data providers.



Recommendation 4

Establish a system of routine quality checks for organic market statistical data

Data providers (including national statistical institutes) should establish a system of routine quality checks for organic market statistical data, specifically

- ✓ by applying data quality indicators,
- ✓ by balancing data accuracy vs. timeliness in data publication and dissemination,
- ✓ by data editing,
- ✓ by regularly applying plausibility checks,
- ✓ by comparing and cross-checking non-official statistical data from at least two independent sources, to increase accuracy and consistency.



Recommendation 5

Strengthen the institutional framework for statistical data collection on the organic market

The European Commission, in cooperation with Member States, should strengthen the institutional framework for statistical data collection on the organic market, specifically

- ✓ by increased data collection efforts of EUROSTAT and national statistical offices,
- ✓ by establishing and funding permanent, long-term networks of data providers and users at European and national level,
- ✓ by developing training initiatives to improve the quality of organic market data collection.



Recommendation 6

Use measures of the Rural Development Programme to provide incentives to increase the availability and the quality of organic market data

The European Commission and the Member States should use measures of the Rural Development Programme to provide incentives to increase the availability and the quality of organic market data, specifically

- ✓ by providing specific funding to a permanent, long-term European network as detailed in Recommendation 5,
- ✓ by implementing specific national networks to drive innovation and quality enhancement in organic market data as part of the European Innovation Partnership Agriculture productivity and sustainability (EIP-AGRI)



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