



# Organic Food Federation

## Organic labelling requirements for products produced or processed in Great Britain (GB)

This is the latest information that we have from Defra in relation to labelling organic products.

You must still include our details (GB-ORG-04) and the statement of agricultural origin on the label of any organic products you produce, process, sell or import/export.

There are different labelling requirements depending on whether the organic product is produced for the GB, EU or other third country markets. The information below applies to goods produced or processed in GB from 1 January 2021.

There are different rules for organic products produced or processed in Northern Ireland (NI). Please refer to the NI organic guidance on the Department for Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs website – <https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/topics/food/organics>

### Our Control body code

As the UK and EU have included recognition of organic equivalence in the UK-EU Trade and Cooperation Agreement (TCA), the control body codes provided by the EU on the basis of control body recognition are not required.

You must continue to include our UK allocated code in the format “GB-ORG-04”.

### Statement of agricultural origin

The following statements of agriculture are mandatory on products produced in GB:

- ‘UK Agriculture’ – where the agricultural raw material has been farmed in the United Kingdom.
- ‘UK/non-UK Agriculture’ – where a part of the agricultural raw materials has been farmed in the United Kingdom and a part of it has been farmed in a third country.
- ‘Non-UK Agriculture’ – where the agricultural raw material has been farmed in third countries.

The UK/Non-UK references may be replaced or supplemented by a country in the case where 98% agricultural raw materials of which the product is composed have been farmed in that country; for example: Scottish salmon could be labelled as “Scottish Agriculture” and Welsh lamb could be labelled as “Welsh Agriculture”.

As both the UK and EU rules allow for the more specific references if 98% agricultural raw materials are from a specific country, adding “UK Agriculture” or ‘Welsh/Scottish/English Agriculture’ would fulfil the UK and EU rules on statement of agricultural origin.



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Retained Regulation 889/2008 requires the statement of agricultural origin to be placed immediately below the control body code

If the optional EU logo is used the EU statement of agricultural origin must be included in the same visual area of the logo. (see below)

You must also ensure any labelling rules when exporting to other third countries are considered. For example, South Korea will not allow GB products to be imported into South Korea with the EU logo on the label.

**Annex 1** provides examples of when each requirement must be met.

To note – the organic ‘statement of agricultural origin’ is a separate requirement to the ‘rules of origin’ requirements. Please refer to guidance on gov.uk regarding ‘rules of origin’ requirements.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/rules-of-origin-for-goods-moving-between-the-uk-and-eu>

### **Inclusion of the EU Logo**

From 1 January and whilst the UK-EU Trade and Cooperation Agreement is in place (currently until 31 December 2023); the EU organic logo will be optional on organic products produced in GB.

However, if the logo is used the organic product must meet the EU organic rules, including labelling requirements. This includes our code and EU statement of agricultural origin being placed in the same visual area of the logo. (see above)

If you include the EU organic logo and the statement of agricultural origin meets the 98% rule detailed above, then a single statement of agricultural origin can meet both the UK and EU requirements, for example “UK Agriculture” or “Scottish Agriculture”.

If you include the EU organic logo and the statement of agricultural origin does not meet the 98% rule detailed above, they must include both the GB statement of agricultural origin (‘UK’ or ‘Non-UK Agriculture’) and the EU statement of agricultural origin (‘EU’ or ‘Non-EU Agriculture’) separately.

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### Transition period for labelling

These labelling changes apply from now and any new labels printed must comply with the new labelling requirements.

However, there is a transition period for labelling in GB, so where operators are using up existing labelling, they can continue to use these labels until 30 September 2022.

The purpose of the transition period for labelling is to allow operators to use up existing labels and reduce the burden of having to print replacements labels immediately.

We will not approve any new labels that do not meet the new labelling requirements, for example deliberately omitting mandatory information.

### Annex 1 – Examples for the use of the statement of agricultural origin and EU logo

Scenario	EU logo not used	EU logo used
<p>Product produced or processed in GB using less than 98% agricultural raw materials from a specific country</p> <p>The UK can be considered as one country 'UK' or separately as England, Scotland or Wales.</p>	<p>GB statement of agricultural origin required:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• UK Agriculture</li> <li>• UK/Non-UK Agriculture</li> <li>• Non-UK Agriculture</li> </ul> <p><u>Examples</u></p> <p>Tea imported from India, mixed with a UK fruit blend would be labelled as "UK/Non-UK Agriculture"</p> <p>Tea imported from India and Africa, blended and packed in GB would be labelled as "Non-UK Agriculture"</p>	<p>GB statement of agricultural origin required:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• UK Agriculture</li> <li>• UK/Non-UK Agriculture</li> <li>• Non-UK Agriculture</li> </ul> <p><i>AND</i></p> <p>EU statement of agricultural origin required:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EU Agriculture</li> <li>• EU/Non-EU Agriculture</li> <li>• Non-EU Agriculture</li> </ul> <p><u>Examples</u></p> <p>Tea imported from India, mixed with a UK fruit blend would be labelled as "UK/Non-UK Agriculture" and "Non-EU Agriculture"</p> <p>Tea imported from India, mixed with an EU fruit blend would be labelled as "Non-UK Agriculture" and "EU/Non-EU Agriculture"</p>



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<p>Product produced or processed in GB using 98% (or more) agricultural raw materials from a specific country</p> <p>The UK can be considered as one country 'UK' or separately as England, Scotland or Wales.</p>	<p>GB statement of agricultural origin required:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• UK Agriculture</li> <li>• UK/Non-UK Agriculture</li> <li>• Non-UK Agriculture</li> </ul> <p>This can also be a specific country, such as UK, England, Scotland, Wales etc.</p>	<p>GB statement of agricultural origin required:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• UK Agriculture</li> <li>• UK/Non-UK Agriculture</li> <li>• Non-UK Agriculture</li> </ul> <p><i>AND</i></p> <p>EU statement of agricultural origin required:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EU Agriculture</li> <li>• EU/Non-EU Agriculture</li> <li>• Non-EU Agriculture</li> </ul> <p>This can also be a specific country, such as UK, England, Scotland, Wales etc.</p>
<p><u>Examples</u></p> <p>Scottish salmon can be labelled as "UK Agriculture", "Scottish Agriculture" or "Scottish (UK) Agriculture" This would meet both the GB and EU requirements.</p> <p>Welsh lamb can be labelled as "UK Agriculture", "Welsh Agriculture" or "Welsh (UK) Agriculture" This would meet both the GB and EU requirements.</p>		