

CERTIFICATION TRACEABILITY OF PRODUCTS EU IMPORT REGULATION



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ORGANIC CERTIFICATION =

approval of compliance with regulations for

- *production*
- *processing*
- *products*
- *labelling*
- *trade*
- *import*
- *social standards (by associations)*



by accredited private certification agencies under official state control

→ Issue of certificate

ORGANIC NORMS AND GUIDELINES

EUROPEAN UNION reg. **834/2007, 889/2008**



USA National **O**rganic **P**rogramme



JAPAN Japanese **A**gricultural **S**tandard



„Third countries“

Switzerland, Israel, Argentina, Australia, Costa Rica,

India, Tunesia, NewZeeland

with organic regulations accepted as being equivalent to the EU-norms

Private association standards



CERTIFICATION BASICS

- formal requirements
 - registration by authorities
 - contract with agency
 - detailed unit description
 - conversion plan



- verification of compliance
 - audit: inspection and control of compliance with guidelines / regulations
 - strict separation from conventional



- issue of certificate
 - license to use organic designation

CRITICAL POINTS OF CERTIFICATION

- 30 different standards
- interpretation of standards / consensus with authorities
- client – agent relationship / economic interests
- communication deficiencies
- incomplete surveillance
- risk assessment of processors, traders, exporters



The Global Organic Market Access (GOMA) Project is the continuation of the International Task Force on **Harmonization and Equivalence in Organic Agriculture** (ITF), both jointly led by FAO, IFOAM and UNCTAD

OVERALL UNSATISFACTORY ASPECTS

facts and conditions constraining organic production

- suitability of regulations
- limited harmonisation of guidelines among countries
- standards not applicable everywhere
- political reasons for trade barriers
- „Third Countries“ slowness of adaptation process
- meeting requirements of group certification
- cost reasons / extra costs for foreign inspectors
- economic risks in case of re-certification denial
- market access

TRACEABILITY

- official registration as certified enterprise
 - verifiable by inquiry, database
- labelled on retail product :
DE-123 – ÖKO / BIO / ORGANIC
producer / trader, country of origin, shelf life
- designation of lot origin on bulk container
(see overleaf)
- delivery notes / receipts / invoices of / for
 - wholesale trader
 - import agent
 - export agent
 - producer: documentation of place/date/quantity of collection / cooperative facilities / honey accounts
 - retain samples for analysis in quest
- Collective lots must be indentifiable (protocol)



Correct labelling of organic honey (bulk quantities)

Producer (Name/Code) Franz Maller 11.5.03

Collecting point Co-op Betal

Client (if applicable) Meier, Cestadt

Harvest year 2005

Honey type Polyflora

Net weight 297 kg

Certified by DE 123 ÖKO

Container/drum no. 2 / 12

Lot-No. **FMA 05 2**

BIO / ECO / ORGANIC

HONEY ACCOUNT

IN

date of entry

+ qty. in stock (inventory)

+ harvest / purchases

specify:

honey type

no. of colonies

origin own / other

lot-no

OUT

date of entry

***- qty.: sales / feeding /
processing / losses /
own consumption***

honey type

lot-no

client

= difference in stock

Group certification for smallholders

- complete compliance with regulations by single producer
- reduced certification costs
- shared investment in common facilities and equipment – strengthening social structures
- access to attractive markets



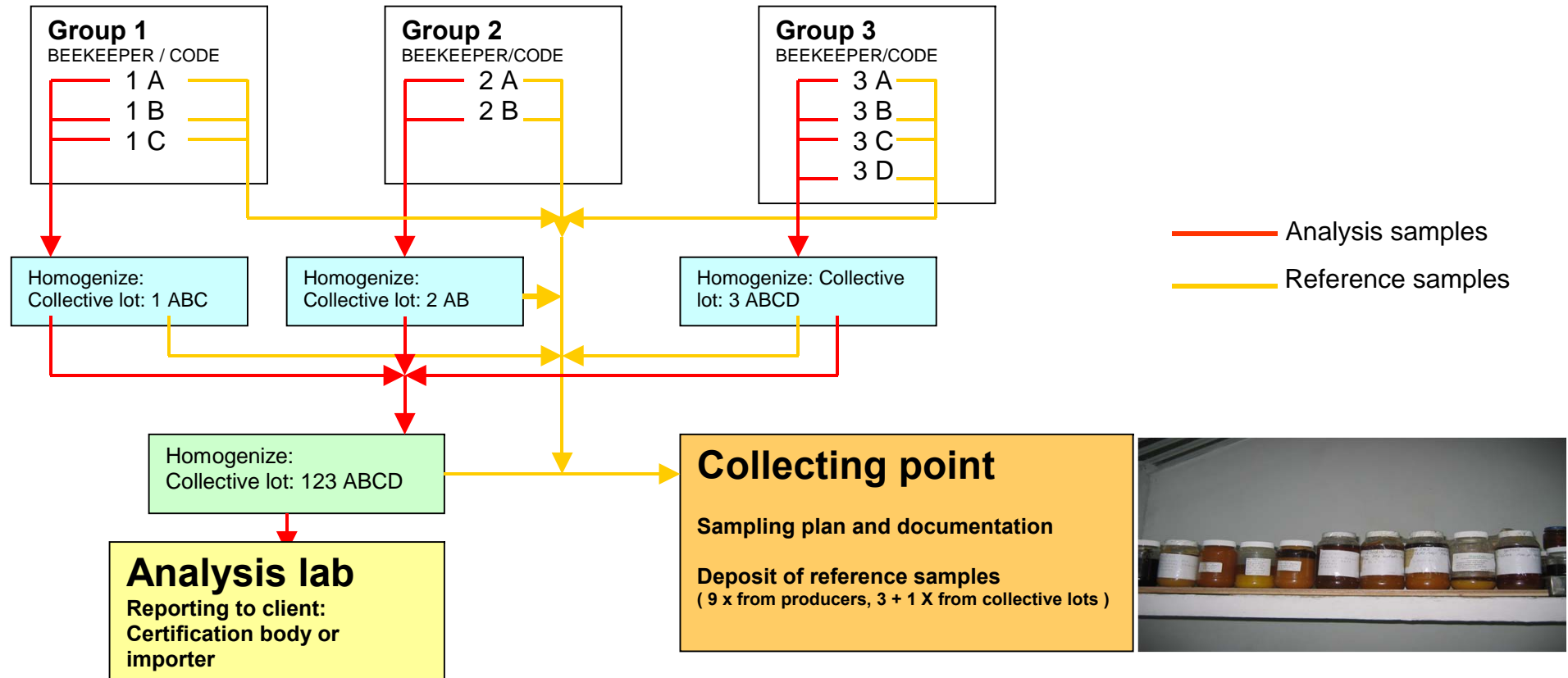
- applicable in case of smallholder producer groups
- formal individual contracts between producer and cooperative
- annual control by internal control system (ICS)
- annual control of $\sqrt{n + 1}$ beekeepers by external inspector
(n = total number of producers)
- routine analysis to verify observance of guidelines

List of countries eligible for group certification:

<http://www.oecd.org/dataoecd/32/40/43540882.pdf>

Sketch for sampling honey and wax for sampling purpose e.g. Co-operative of 9 producers in 3 villages

The internal inspector takes two samples from each beekeeper; one for analysis, the other for reference/cross-checking, which remains with the producer or control body. A sample lot comprising several barrels should come from at least 10 % of the containers. From each group the samples are homogenized. From the resulting collective lots one sample for analysis and one for reference is taken by the external inspector. Collective lots are again homogenized. One sample is sent to the laboratory, the reference sample remains with the certifying agency.



Clear labelling of collective lots, entry in sampling plan!!

Storage of reference samples: cool, dark, airtight

EU IMPORT REGULATIONS

- Honey quality must comply with
 - national decrees on honey
 - general food standards (hygiene)
 - Codex Alimentarius
 - EU decree on honey quality

setting parameters and technical standards

 - EU organic legislation (guidelines)

National residue monitoring schemes

must be implemented, maintained and annually re-certified as a requirement by the EU commission to ensure non-contamination with substances not allowed in foodstuff (applies to all foodstuff of animal origin).

Accredited and certified national laboratories test for residues of antibiotics, fluvalinates, other synthetic varroacides, agricultural pesticides in case of suspect, GMO contamination.

Ref.: Regulation (EC) No 882/2004

HONEY EXPORTING COUNTRIES (into EU)

Canada	Vietnam	Mexico
Guatemala	Uruguay	Chile
Brazil	Cuba	China
Ukraine	Turkey	Argentina

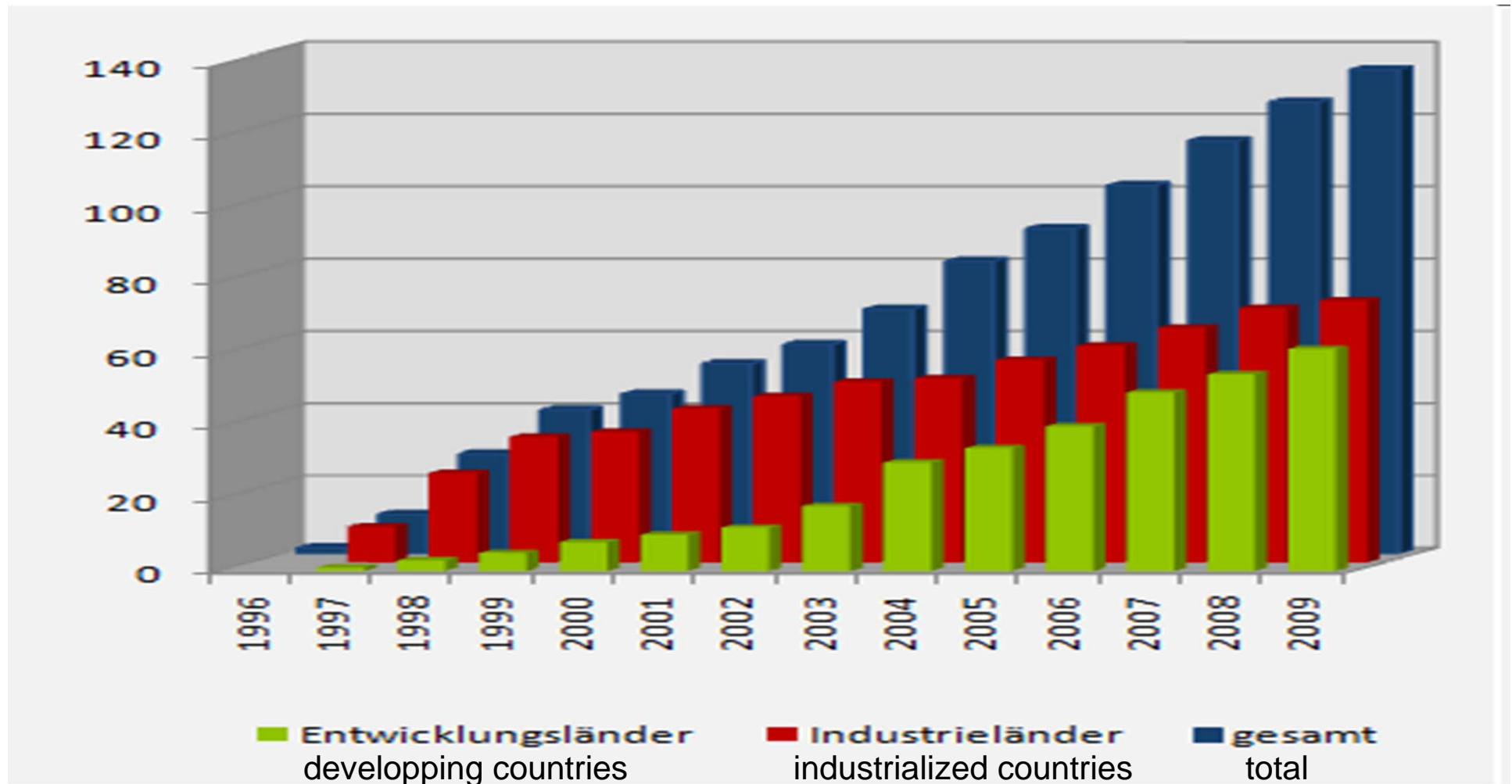
Organic regulations in these countries are not accepted as being equivalent to EU-guidelines. To import a bee product as organic into the EU, certification must be executed by an EU-accredited control body.

MAIN CONSTRAINTS TO GO ORGANIC

- weak infrastructure in the producing country
 - lack of knowledge and understanding
 - lack of access to production means
 - unfavourable conditions of natural resources
e.g. risk of contamination by GMO / pesticides
-
- competitiveness
 - costs



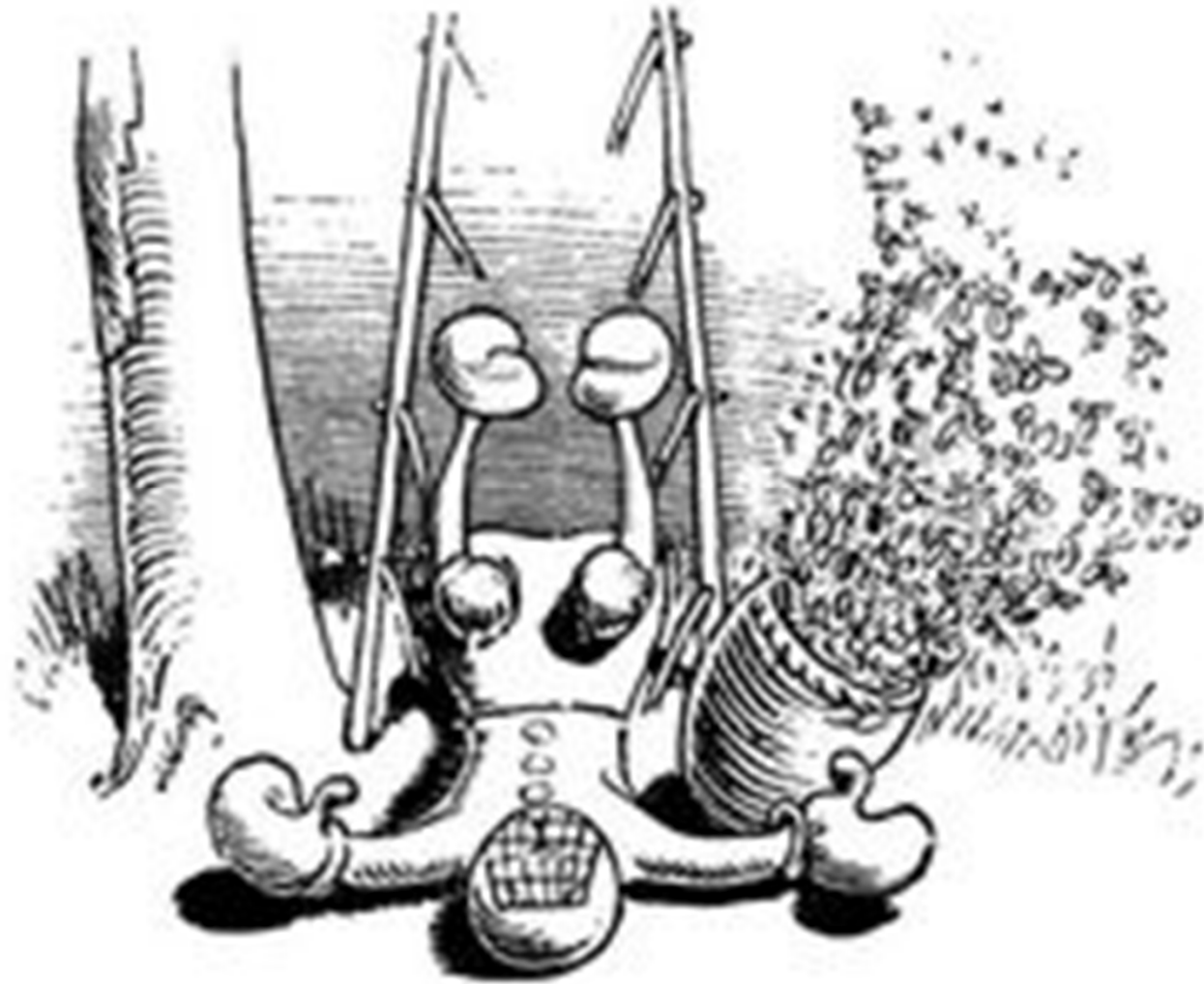
GMO cultivation 2009: 134 million hectares



GMO crops: soy bean, cotton, corn, canola, poplar, papaya
sugar beet, tomato, paprika, roses

WWWs:

- apiservices.com
- apimondia2003.com
- beesfordevelopment.org
- fibl.org
- kohala.net/bees
- ibra.org.uk
- apis.admin.ch
- apitherapy.de
- ifoam.org
- icimod.org
- bee-hexagon.net
- oecd.org/dataoecd/32/40/43540882.pdf
(countries eligible for group certification)



Give bees a chance ...go organic