

Japan-EU Organic Equivalency Arrangement (updated on May 18, 2025)

1. Export from Japan to the EU

(1) Scope of Japanese organic products covered

Those organic products that have been produced or lastly processed within Japan and certified/graded under the Organic JAS system, such as Organic Products of Plant Origin, Organic Livestock Products and Organic Foods (that includes Organic Alcohol Beverages, but excludes Organic Algae derived processed foods)

(2) Requirements etc.

- Ingredients for the relevant Organic Processed Foods are limited to only those Organic JAS certified products, which must bear Organic JAS seals. (It is possible to use those ingredients imported into Japan from a 3rd country other than those that share organic equivalency arrangement with Japan, provided that Organic JAS seals are affixed to such imported ingredients under organic JAS certification.)
- It is necessary to issue a Certification of Inspection (COI) for export to the EU, through the Trade Control and Export System (TRACES).
- Those accredited certification bodies, (that can issue a Certificate of Inspection (COI) for export to the EU), must be recognized by the EU and registered accordingly.

Please refer to the “List of Accredited Certification Bodies (that can issue Certificate for export of Organic Plant Products. etc.)”, on the following webpage: (https://www.maff.go.jp/j/jas/jas_kikaku/attach/pdf/yuuki-490.pdf)

- The EU Organic Logo may be optionally used in the labelling, by the organic JAS certified foreign grade labelling operators, in compliance with the EU standards and rules.

According to the EU standards and rules, a code number of the certification body (JP-BIO-XXX) and the place where the ingredients originate (e.g. In the case of Japan: “non-EU Agriculture” or “Japan Agriculture”) must be displayed next to the EU organic logo. For further details, please refer to the following webpage: (https://agriculture.ec.europa.eu/farming/organic-farming/organic-logo_en)

- It is necessary for the Certification Body, (that has certified/graded the relevant organic products for export to the EU), to publish in their website those items specified in Article 48-(1)-(iv) of Regulation for Enforcement of the Act on Japanese Agricultural Standards

2. Import from the EU to Japan

(1) Scope of the EU organic products covered

Those organic products that have been produced or lastly processed within the EU and certified under the EU Organic system, such as Organic Products of Plant Origin, Organic Livestock Products (limited only to those livestock species covered under Organic JAS) and Organic Foods (that includes Organic Alcohol Beverages, but excludes Organic Algae derived processed foods)

(2) Requirements etc.

- The EU organic certified products exported to Japan must be accompanied by an export certificate (or a photocopy) (※2) issued by the government institutions or quasi-governmental organizations (※1) located within the EU member states.

(※1) Please refer to the list of quasi-governmental organizations (including their name and address) on the following webpage
(https://www.aff.go.jp/j/jas/jas_kikaku/koujigaikoku.html).

(※2) Such certificate must include all the matters specified in Article 29 of Regulation for Enforcement of the Act on Japanese Agricultural Standards

※Revision History

May 18, 2025: Updated in accordance with the scope expansion of the equivalency recognition