



November 2022

Information Sheet: Proposed improvements to the Export Control (Organic Goods) Rules 2021

Introduction

Australia's new agricultural export legislation came into effect on 28 March 2021. This includes the *Export Control Act 2020* (the Act), and the Export Control Rules for various commodities (the Rules). These set out the operational requirements that must be met to export specific goods from Australia.

The Act and the Export Control (Organic Goods) Rules 2021 (the Organic Rules) replaced the *Export Control Act 1982* and the Export Control (Organic Produce Certification) Orders.

The [Organic Rules](#) specify certification requirements that must be complied with to export prescribed organic goods and must be read in conjunction with [the Act](#). The proposed improvements to the Organic Rules are outlined below.

Organic Goods Certificate

Chapter 2, Part 3 of the Organic Rules provides for organic goods certificates. Section 2-12 of the Organic Rules sets out the information required to be included on the certificate. Currently, the information required includes the name and address of each organic operator in relation to the production or preparation of the organic goods for export.

As this information is not a requirement of importing countries, it is proposed the Organic Rules be amended to require the organic goods certificate to list:

- the name and accreditation number (where one has been issued) of the final organic operator involved in the production or preparation of each of the organic goods listed for export.

This improvement will better align with the current operational need, with only the last organic operator involved in the process required to list their details on an organic goods certificate. This amendment does not reduce or impact the traceability requirements or the controls along the organic goods supply chain. The National Standard for Organic and Bio-dynamic Produce remains in-force providing assurance of the organic credential applied to goods for export.

Approval: the form of Organic Goods Certificates

Under section 5-5 of the Organic Rules, it is a condition of an approved arrangement for organic goods certification operations to ensure organic goods certificates issued are in a form approved by the Secretary.

For clarity, it is proposed the Organic Rules include provisions for the Secretary to approve the form of the organic goods certificate.

Further information

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Website: [Improved agricultural export legislation](#)

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