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From:	Secretary-General of the European Commission, signed by Ms Martine DEPREZ, Director
date of receipt:	2 May 2023
To:	Ms Thérèse BLANCHET, Secretary-General of the Council of the European Union

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Subject:	ANNEX to Commission Delegated Regulation amending Regulation (EU) 2018/848 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards detailed production rules for organic sea salt and other organic salts for food and feed

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Delegations will find attached document C(2023) 2781 final - Annex.

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Encl.: C(2023) 2781 final - Annex



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ANNEX

**ANNEX**

**to**

**Commission Delegated Regulation**

**amending Regulation (EU) 2018/848 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards detailed production rules for organic sea salt and other organic salts for food and feed**

## ANNEX

In Annex II to Regulation (EU) 2018/848, the following Part VIII is added:

### **‘Part VIII: Sea salt and other salts for food and feed**

In addition to the production rules laid down in Articles 9 to 11, the rules set out in this Part shall apply to the organic production of sea salt and other salts for food and feed.

1. General requirements
  - 1.1. Organic salt shall be obtained from the sea, from rock salt deposits, from natural brine or from salt lakes. It shall not be a synthetic product of chemical reactions or an effluent or a by-product from the chemical industry, desalination plants or a potash flotation process.
  - 1.2. Production and preparation shall be conducted in locations that are not subject to contamination with products or substances not authorised for use in organic production, or with pollutants that would compromise the organic nature of the products.
  - 1.3. Operators shall provide an environmental assessment to the competent authority, or, where appropriate, the control authority or control body. The content of the environmental assessment shall be based on Annex IV to Directive 2011/92/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council<sup>1</sup>.
  - 1.4. Salt production and preparation techniques shall prevent or minimise any contamination of the environment, and, where appropriate, should contribute to biodiversity preservation and the sustainable use of resources.
  - 1.5. Operators that produce salt shall comply with a conversion period of at least 6 months before the production of organic salt. During that conversion period, they shall apply the rules on organic production laid down in this Regulation.
  - 1.6. Salt preparation shall comply with the principles of good manufacturing practice.
  - 1.7. Operators preparing salt shall establish and update appropriate procedures based on a systematic identification of critical processing steps.
  - 1.8. The application of the procedures referred to in point 1.7 shall ensure that the salt complies with this Regulation.
  - 1.9. When implementing the procedures referred to in point 1.7, without prejudice to Article 28, operators shall in particular:
    - (a) take precautionary measures and keep records of those measures;
    - (b) implement suitable cleaning measures, monitor their effectiveness and keep records of those operations;
    - (c) guarantee that non-organic salt is not placed on the market with an indication referring to organic production.

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<sup>1</sup> Directive 2011/92/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 December 2011 on the assessment of the effects of certain public and private projects on the environment (OJ L 26, 28.1.2012, p. 1).

- 1.10. The preparation of organic, in-conversion and non-organic salt shall be kept separate from each other in time or space. Where organic, in-conversion and non-organic salt, in any combination, are prepared or stored in the same preparation unit, the operator shall:
- (a) inform the competent authority, or, where appropriate, the control authority or control body;
  - (b) carry out the operations continuously until the preparation run has been completed, separately in time or space, from similar operations performed on any other kind of salt (organic, in-conversion or non-organic);
  - (c) store organic, in-conversion and non-organic salt, before and after the operations, separate from each other in time or space;
  - (d) keep available an updated register of all operations and quantities prepared or processed;
  - (e) take the necessary measures to ensure identification of lots and to avoid mixtures or exchanges between organic, in-conversion and non-organic salt;
  - (f) carry out operations on organic or in-conversion salt only after suitable cleaning of the equipment.
- 1.11. Products, substances and techniques that reconstitute properties that are lost in the processing and storage of organic salt, that correct the results of negligence in the preparation or the processing of organic salt, or that otherwise may be misleading as to the true nature of salt intended to be marketed as organic, shall not be used.
2. Specific requirements for the production and preparation of salt
- 2.1. The use of the following practices, processes, treatments and techniques shall be prohibited:
- (a) rock salt mining by using explosives;
  - (b) solution mining or artificial dissolution of rock salt on surface;
  - (c) upgrading of salt by flotation, electrostatic separation, thermo-adhesive separation or heavy-media separation;
  - (d) processing methods that reconstitute the previous solid form after artificial dissolution such as recrystallisation;
  - (e) evaporation techniques and drying of salt by use of energy from non-renewable sources;
  - (f) use of plastic liners as the contact layer of the bottom of the evaporation and crystalliser pond;
  - (g) the techniques for the preparation of salt for food that are prohibited pursuant to the implementing acts adopted in accordance with Article 16(3);
  - (h) the techniques for the preparation of salt for feed that are prohibited pursuant to the implementing acts adopted in accordance with Article 17(3).
- 2.2. The following conditions shall apply to the composition of products where organic salt is the main ingredient:
- (a) the salt complies with the rules laid down in this Annex and represents more than 50% of the dry matter by weight;

- (b) all of the ingredients of agricultural origin that are added to the salt are organic;
- (c) non-organic salt shall not be present together with organic salt;
- (d) in-conversion salt shall not be present together with organic or non-organic salt.

2.3. Use of certain products and substances in the preparation of organic salt

2.3.1. Additives and processing aids shall not be used.

2.3.2. Minerals shall not be added in salt for food, except iodine.

2.3.3. Any feed materials used in salt for feed shall not have been processed with the aid of chemically synthesised solvents.

2.3.4. Only the products authorised pursuant to Article 24 for cleaning and disinfection in processing and storage facilities shall be used for that purpose. Operators shall keep records of the use of those products, including the date or dates on which each product was used, the name of the product, its active substances, and the location of such use.

2.4. Operators shall keep records of any input used in salt production. In the case of production of composite salt for food or feed, complete recipes or formulae showing the quantities of input and output shall be kept available for the competent authority or, where appropriate, the control authority or control body.’