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From:	Secretary-General of the European Commission, signed by Ms Martine DEPREZ, Director
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To:	Mr Jeppe TRANHOLM-MIKKELSEN, Secretary-General of the Council of the European Union
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Subject:	ANNEX to COMMISSION DELEGATED REGULATION (EU) .../... amending Annex II to Regulation (EU) 2018/848 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards specific requirements for the production and use of non-organic, in-conversion and organic seedlings and other plant reproductive material

Delegations will find attached document C(2022) 101 final - Annex.

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EUROPEAN
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Brussels, 17.1.2022

C(2022) 101 final

ANNEX

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to

COMMISSION DELEGATED REGULATION (EU) .../...

amending Annex II to Regulation (EU) 2018/848 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards specific requirements for the production and use of non-organic, in-conversion and organic seedlings and other plant reproductive material

ANNEX

Part I of Annex II to Regulation (EU) 2018/848 is amended as follows:

(a) Point 1.8.5.1 is amended as follows:

(i) the first paragraph is replaced by the following:

‘By way of derogation from point 1.8.1, where the data collected in the database referred to in Article 26(1) or the systems referred to in Article 26(2) show that the qualitative or quantitative needs of the operator regarding relevant organic plant reproductive material are not met, the operator may use in-conversion plant reproductive material in accordance with Article 10(4), second subparagraph, point (a), or plant reproductive material authorised in accordance with point 1.8.6.’;

(ii) the following paragraph is inserted after the first paragraph:

‘In addition, in case of a lack of availability of organic seedlings, “in-conversion seedlings”, marketed in compliance with Article 10(4), second subparagraph, point (a), may be used when grown as follows:

- (a) through a cultivation cycle from seeds to final seedling lasting at least 12 months on a land parcel that, during that same period, has completed a conversion period of at least 12 months; or
- (b) on an organic or in-conversion land parcel or in containers if covered by the derogation referred to in point 1.4, provided that the seedlings have originated from in-conversion seeds, harvested from a plant grown on a land parcel that has completed a conversion period of at least 12 months.’;

(iii) the second, third and fourth paragraphs are replaced by the following:

‘Where organic or in-conversion plant reproductive material or plant reproductive material authorised in accordance with point 1.8.6 is not available in sufficient quality or quantity to fulfil the operator’s needs, competent authorities may authorise the use of non-organic plant reproductive material subject to points 1.8.5.3. to 1.8.5.8.

Such individual authorisation shall be issued only in one of the following situations:

- (a) where no variety of the species that the operator wants to obtain is registered in the database referred to in Article 26(1) or the systems referred to in Article 26(2);
- (b) where no operator who markets plant reproductive material, is able to deliver the relevant organic or in-conversion plant reproductive material or plant reproductive material authorised in accordance with point 1.8.6 in time for sowing or planting in situations where the user has ordered the plant reproductive material in reasonable time to allow the preparation and supply of organic or in-conversion plant reproductive material or of plant reproductive material authorised in accordance with point 1.8.6;
- (c) where the variety that the operator wants to obtain is not registered as organic or in-conversion plant reproductive material or as plant

reproductive material authorised in accordance with point 1.8.6 in the database referred to in Article 26(1) or the systems referred to in Article 26(2) and the operator is able to demonstrate that none of the registered alternatives of the same species are appropriate in particular to the agronomic and pedo-climatic conditions and necessary technological properties for the production to be obtained;

- (d) where it is justified for use in research, test in small-scale field trials, for variety conservation purposes or for product innovation and agreed by the competent authorities of the Member State concerned.

Prior to requesting any such authorisation, operators shall consult the database referred to in Article 26(1) or the systems referred to in Article 26(2) in order to verify whether relevant organic or in-conversion plant reproductive material or plant reproductive material authorised in accordance with point 1.8.6 is available and thus whether their request is justified.’;

- (b) point 1.8.5.2 is amended as follows:

- (i) the first paragraph is replaced by the following:

‘By way of derogation from point 1.8.1, operators in third countries may use in-conversion plant reproductive material in accordance with Article 10(4), second subparagraph, point (a), or plant reproductive material authorised in accordance with point 1.8.6 when organic plant reproductive material is justified to be not available in sufficient quality or quantity in the territory of the third country in which the operator is located.’;

- (ii) the third paragraph is replaced by the following:

‘Control authorities or control bodies recognised in accordance with Article 46(1) may authorise operators in third countries to use non-organic plant reproductive material in an organic production unit, when organic or in-conversion plant reproductive material or plant reproductive material authorised in accordance with point 1.8.6 is not available in sufficient quality or quantity in the territory of the third country in which the operator is located, under the conditions laid down in points 1.8.5.3, 1.8.5.4, 1.8.5.5 and 1.8.5.8.’;

- (c) the following points 1.8.5.8 and 1.8.6 are inserted:

‘1.8.5.8. Competent authorities shall not authorise the use of non-organic seedlings in the case of seedlings of species that have a cultivation cycle completed in one growing season, from the transplantation of the seedling to the first harvest of product.

1.8.6. Competent authorities or, where appropriate, control authorities or control bodies recognised in accordance with Article 46(1) may authorise operators producing plant reproductive material for use in organic production to use non-organic plant reproductive material, when mother plants or, where relevant, other plants intended for the production of plant reproductive material and produced in compliance with point 1.8.2 are not available in sufficient quantity or quality, and to place such material on the market for use in organic production provided that the following conditions are met:

- (a) the non-organic plant reproductive material used has not been treated after harvest with plant protection products other than those authorised in accordance with Article 24(1) of this Regulation, unless chemical treatment has been prescribed in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2016/2031 for phytosanitary purposes by the competent authorities of the Member State concerned for all varieties and heterogeneous material of a given species in the area in which the plant reproductive material is to be used. Where non-organic plant reproductive material treated with such prescribed chemical treatment is used, the land parcel on which the treated plant reproductive material is growing shall be subject, where appropriate, to a conversion period as provided in points 1.7.3 and 1.7.4;
- (b) the non-organic plant reproductive material used is not a seedling of species that have a cultivation cycle completed in one growing season, from the transplantation of the seedling to the first harvest of product;
- (c) the plant reproductive material is grown in compliance with all other relevant organic plant production requirements;
- (d) the authorisation to use non-organic plant reproductive material shall be obtained before that material is sown or planted;
- (e) the competent authority, control authority or control body responsible for the authorisation shall grant the authorisation only to individual users and for one season at a time, and shall list the quantities of the authorised plant reproductive material;
- (f) by way of derogation from point (e), the competent authorities of the Member States may annually grant a general authorisation for the use of a given species or subspecies or variety of non-organic plant reproductive material and make the list of species, subspecies or varieties publicly available and keep it updated on an annual basis. In that case, those competent authorities shall list the quantities of authorised non-organic plant reproductive material;
- (g) the authorisations granted in accordance with this paragraph shall expire on 31 December 2036.

By 30 June of each year, and for the first time by 30 June 2023, the competent authorities of the Member States shall notify the Commission and the other Member States of the information on the authorisations granted in accordance with the first paragraph.

Operators who produce and market the plant reproductive material produced in accordance with the first paragraph shall be allowed to make public, on a voluntary basis, the relevant specific information on the availability of such plant reproductive material in the national systems established in accordance with Article 26(2). Operators that opt to include such information shall ensure that the information is updated regularly, and is withdrawn from the national systems once the plant reproductive material is no longer available. When relying on the general authorisation referred to in point (e), operators shall keep records of the quantity used.'