Improving import data quality: the Italian experience

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Imports of Organic Products from Third Countries

A. Import from recognised third countries (12 countries)
B. Import of products certified by recognised control bodies (70 CB in 130 countries).
C. Import authorization. Valid until 30 June 2015

In Italy, data on imports from outside the EU are collected by the Ministry of Agriculture in the form of self-declarations issued by the operators.

ORGANICDATANETWORK → DIMECOBIO PROJECT

MIPAAF/SINAB have closely worked with UNIVPM and IAMB to integrate and cross check various source of data on imports. Analysis covered 2013 and 2014 data.
Agreement between MIPAAF and IT CUSTOM:
additional info (C644 code) in box 44 of the SAD; extra digit in TARIC codes (Z040-Z041)
Imports of organic products to Italy are constantly rising due to increased demand unmet by domestic supply.

The growth was 47% from 2013 to 2014.
Main increases: (durum) wheat, fruits and vegetables.

Source: Sinab, 2016
Organic Import by country of origin (2013 & 2014)

Relevant volumes of organic products are imported from Asia (India and China, mainly) and non-EU European countries (mainly Turkey).

Source: Sinab, 2016
wheat

IT - Domestic production

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2013 data</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UAA (ha)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volume (t)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Ismea-Sinab, 2015
(Volume = UNIVPM estimations based on Ismea data on yields, 2013)

Imports 2014 = 11% of 2013 domestic production.

Imported from third countries

Source: Sinab, 2016
soybean and soybean meal

IT - Domestic production of soybean

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2013</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UAA (ha)</td>
<td>3,442</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volume (t)</td>
<td>8,587</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Imports 2013 = 125% of 2013 domestic production.

Source: Ismea-Sinab, 2015
(Volume = UNIVPM estimations based on Ismea data on yields, 2013)

Imported from third countries

Source: Sinab, 2016

In 2014
Strong reduction of soybean imports from India

Exporting countries (2014)
- India 56%
- China 37%
- Turkey 6%
- Other Coun. 1%

Source: Sinab, 2016

IT - Organic land area (ha)

Source: Sinab, 2016
olive oil

IT - Domestic production

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2013</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UAA (ha)</td>
<td>129,295</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volume olive (t)</td>
<td>561,251</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volume olive oil (t)</td>
<td>50,513</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Imports 2013 = 7.5% of 2013 domestic production

Source: Ismea-Sinab, 2015
(Volume = UNIVPM estimations based on Ismea data on yields, 2015)

Dramatic drop in 2014 Italian olive oil production

All imports currently come from Tunisia

Source: Sinab, 2016
Challenges

OFIS - Organic Farming Information

- The *exchange of information within Member States* is not yet adequate to ensure that the system is operating correctly: lack of flow of all relevant information!
- Traceability is difficult to achieve for products *crossing borders in others EU member states*

**Electronic certification would improve traceability and control chain**

Feasibility analysis of existing e-certification systems (TRACES)

- **Traceability** (monitoring movements, both within the EU and from non-EU countries)
- **Information exchange** (enabling trade partners and competent authorities to easily obtain information)
- **Risk management** (reacting rapidly to health threats)
Challenges

E-management of import notification/declarations

The Italian organic information system (SIB) for the computerized management of administrative procedures relating to the notification/self declarations of import activities:

- Ensure direct flow of all relevant information related to self declarations.
- Prevents many typing or transcription errors.
- Cross checking of relevant information in “real – time”.

http://mipaaf.sian.it
Conclusion

• The current work done in Italy has improved the availability of EXTRA-EU trade statistics.

• But to have a full picture of organic import one must get also the intra-EU trade flows...

• There is no special requirement to monitor intra-EU trade as part of the organic control regime, so it is most difficult to obtain such data. It is likely that intra-EU trade forms the majority of imports, so this remains a big data gap.

• The same applies for export data.

• Some work carried out as part of the FP7 OrganicDataNetwork project suggests that the best way to collect organic international trade data would be differentiating between organic and conventional products in national trade statistics.

• The Italian approach is an important first step to collect better trade data.
Thank you!

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**durum wheat**

**IT - Domestic production**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2013 data</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UAA (ha)</td>
<td>57,576</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volume (t)</td>
<td>175,834</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

14% of 2013 domestic production.

**Imported from third countries**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2013</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Volume (t)</td>
<td>218</td>
<td>24,746</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Ismea-Sinab, 2015

(Volume = UNIVPM estimations based on Ismea data on yields, 2013)

**Exporting countries (2014)**

- Turkey: 99%
- Canada: 1%

**Durum wheat – IT land area (ha)**

- Source: Sinab, 2016

**IT - Sales of pasta (GDO- euro)**

- Source: Assobio, 2013

+20%
wheat and spelt

IT - Domestic production

<table>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UAA (ha)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21,980</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volume (t)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70,336</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3% of 2013 domestic production.

Source: Ismea-Sinab, 2015
(Volume = UNIVPM estimations based on Ismea data on yields, 2013)

Imported from third countries

Source: Sinab, 2016

Exporting countries (2012-2014)

- Moldova: 37%
- Canada: 62%
- Ukraine: 1%

Source: Sinab, 2015
(Volume = UNIVPM estimations based on Ismea data on yields, 2013)
onions and potatoes

IT - Domestic production

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>UAA (ha)</th>
<th>Volume (t)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>potatoes</td>
<td>586</td>
<td>13,709</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>onions</td>
<td>216</td>
<td>4,865</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Patatoes = 18%, from Egypt
Onions = 11%, from Egypt and Argentina of 2013 domestic production

Imported from third countries

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>potatoes</td>
<td>2,450</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>onions</td>
<td>520</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Ismea-Sinab, 2015
(Volume = UNIVPM estimations based on Ismea data on yields, 2013)

Source: Sinab, 2016
Kiwi = 2-3% (from Chile)
Pears = 6-8% (from Argentina) of 2013 domestic production

Source: Ismea-Sinab, 2015

(Volume = UNIVPM estimations based on Ismea data on yields, 2013)

Imported from third countries

Source: Sinab, 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2013</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>kiwis</td>
<td>912</td>
<td>1,791</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pears</td>
<td>786</td>
<td>936</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>