

# **The revised EU import scheme: ensuring organic integrity?!**

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# Factors determining organic non-compliances:

- › **Monetary profit of non-compliance**
- › **Probability for detection**
- › **Penalty in case of detection (monetary and social)**
  
- › **Conclusions:**
  - › **Highest risk: Imports  
(Countries without functioning national control system)**
    - › **No severe penalties**
    - › **Low(er) probability for detection**

# New Import system

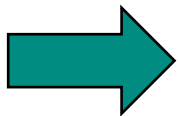
- › **Burden from traders has been shifted to CB's**
- › **Great opportunity for more efficiency and efficacy – depending on quality of implementation**
  - › **Quality of surveillance**
  - › **Procedures for suspected or detected irregularities**
  - › **Clear responsibilities for dealing with (suspicion of) irregularities**
  - › **International Complaints Procedure**

# Administrative Procedures

- › **Clear procedures for updating the list of recognized CB's**
- › **CB's have to prove activities in a country to be recognized – but need recognition to find clients**
- › **Ceasing Import Authorisations by 2014?**
  - › **Not all countries are covered**
  - › **Not all product categories are covered**

# Concerns caused by lack of information/transparency

- › **Target-oriented information and exchange**
  - › **electronic newsletter, info and training events at fairs by EU**
- › **Publication of all standards recognized as being equivalent**
- › **Information on interpretation of EU Regulation and precedence cases (in English)**



**Supports harmonization**



# Bilateral agreement US - EU

- › **Strengthening the trade between US/EU**
- › **Important signal for potential of equivalence negotiations**

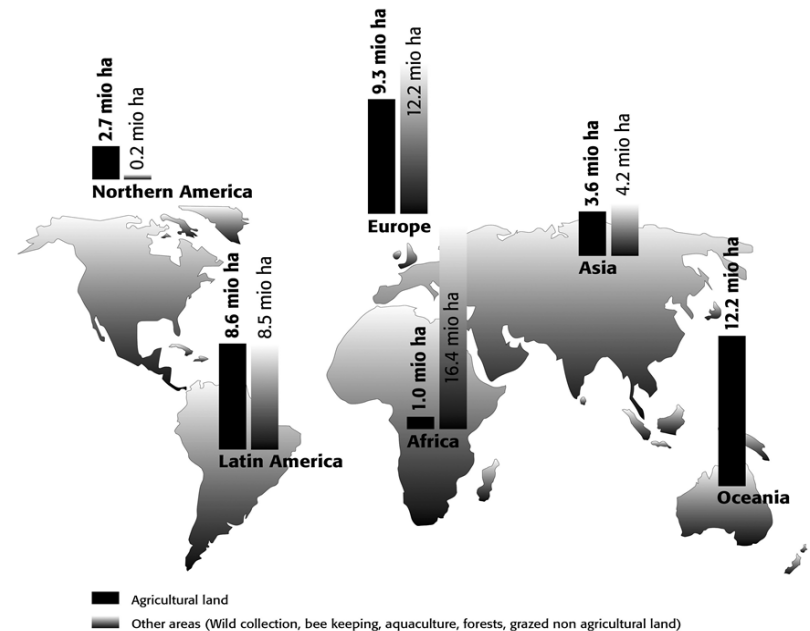
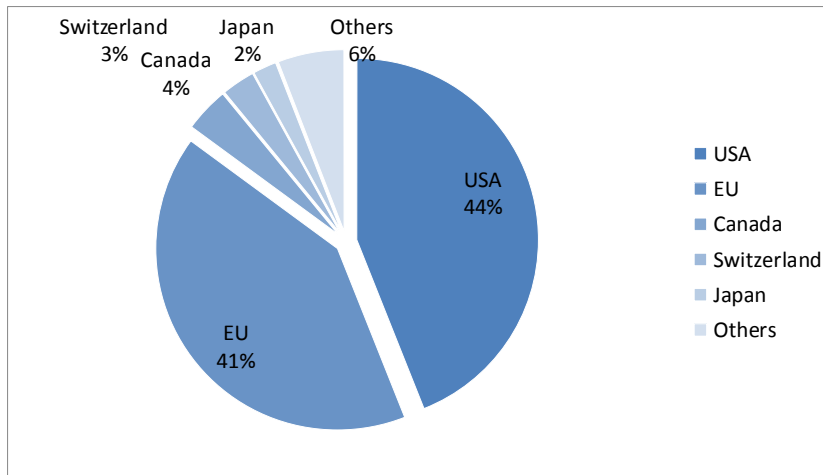
## However

- › **Little impact or rather negative impact on international trade as long as it is limited to the US/EU**

# Future Perspectives

› **92 % of retail market is in EU/US**

› **85 % of organic farmers are outside EU/US**



**We need a common international understanding on organic (Codex Alimentarius, IFOAM standard)**

# Thank you very much

## Sources:

Anti-Fraud Initiative (AFI) workshops [www.organic-integrity.org](http://www.organic-integrity.org)

Certcost [www.certcost.org](http://www.certcost.org)

- › Report on evaluation of the Revision of REG. EEC 2092/91 import regime... (2011)
- › Improving the organic certification system - Recommendations from the CERTCOST project (2011)
- › Economic analysis of certification systems for organic food and farming: synthesis report of results Results Anti Fraud Initiative Workshops