

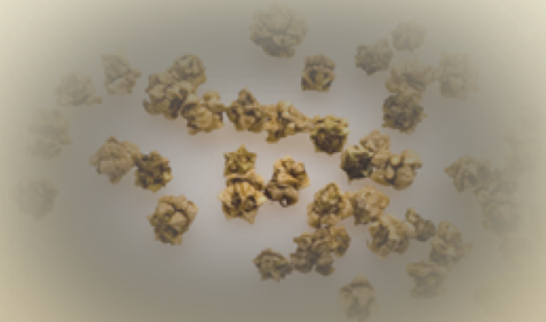


«Seed in the new Organic Regulation»

Better market access for **organic varieties**

Nürnberg, 14.02.2019

Gebhard Rossmanith



Objectives

The organic production shall pursue the following general objectives:

- contribution to a **high level of biodiversity**, notably by using diverse plant genetic material, such as **organic heterogeneous material** and **organic varieties** suitable for organic production;
- foster the development of **organic plant breeding activities** in order to contribute to favourable economic perspectives for the organic production sector.

Definition:

- (6e) An **'organic variety suitable for organic production'** is a plant grouping within a single botanical taxon of the lowest known rank, which fulfils the following requirements:
1. is characterized by a high level of genetic and phenotypical diversity between individual reproductive units;
 2. it **results from organic breeding activities** as referred to in Annex II, Part I, point 1.4.1b;
 3. **is a variety** within the meaning of Article 5.2 of Regulation 2100/94

Targets

For the purpose of **establishing criteria for the description of the characteristics of 'organic varieties** suitable for organic production',

as well as defining the conditions under which 'organic varieties suitable for organic production' may be produced with a view to **marketing** and marketed **under derogatory conditions**,

the Commission shall organise at the latest 6 months after the date of application of the present Regulation **a temporary experiment**.

This temporary experiment will establish **adapted criteria for describing the distinctness, uniformity, stability,** and, where applicable, **the value for cultivation and use of organic varieties.**

The Commission will assess the result of this experiment with a view to propose **the adaptation of the requirements of the horizontal legislation on the marketing of seeds** and other plant reproductive materials **to the characteristics of 'organic varieties suitable for organic production'.**

IFOAM EU, LIVESEED / ECO-PB proposals

- for adjusted DUS testing / protocols for organic varieties
- for preparing and running the “seven years temporary experiment” (road map)

- Propose DG Sante to install **working groups on “organic varieties”** to start the process of delegated acts together with all involved stakeholders and CPVO and examination offices.
- ECO-PB, LIVESEED will participate in such groups and will contribute to constructive solutions
- Developing of **“prototypes” of alternative test protocols** for organic varieties.

- Proposals to be discussed for **more flexibility regarding uniformity.**
- Proposals to be discussed for **more flexibility regarding stability**: adaptation of certain variance after 10 years should be accepted.
 - ➔ **Adjusting of variety description.**
- Discussion: proposals of **new (alternative) characteristics** to be added which are interesting / **important for organic.**

- Discussion on **adapted VCU** (arable crops).
- **VCU** must be performed **under organic conditions** for organically bred cultivars.
- Experiences in the adapted DUS criteria: developing stable and well working methods to describe an **organic variety to grant unlimited marketing**

plant reproductive material (PRM) in Europe in the **current** regulatory framework

Formal seed sector under official regulation, registered varieties, registered suppliers

Informal seed sector

Officially tested by governmental bodies

Not officially tested, private description

Not covered by regulations; varieties not registered;

Conventionally bred mainstream varieties

Varieties with some genetic variation

Varieties with off. recogn. description (Amat. + Conserv. varieties)

Seed savers' and farmers' varieties and landraces

New possibilities of market entrance for organically developed PRM

Officially tested by governmental bodies

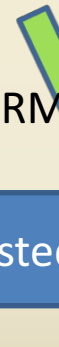
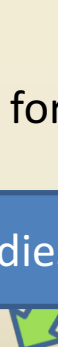
Not officially tested, private description

Conventionally bred mainstream varieties

Organic Varieties with more genetic variation (OV)

Varieties with off. recogn. description (Amat. + Conserv. varieties)

Org. heterogeneous material, with notification (OHM)





Thank you for your attention.