

Inspection and certification by bio.inspecta / q.inspecta

bio.inspecta AG / q.inspecta Ltd. is an accredited inspection and certification body in accordance with ISO/IEC 17020 and ISO/IEC 17065. All activities of bio.inspecta are subjected to supervision by the Swiss Accreditation Service (SAS) of the State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO).

Certification ensures the integrity of organic products. Consumers can trust in certification - and our clients can trust in us.

Application procedure

New operations may apply for our services through the bio.inspecta website or by submitting the application form. After admission of the applicant or after first inspection, the operator may market his products in accordance with the conversion periods as stated in relevant regulations and directives.

During a first on-site inspection, procedures and documentation shall be determined. The certificate is renewed following the prescribed intervals.

The on-site inspection



During inspection, the inspectors use a checklist to facilitate their task. Prior to the on-site inspection, operators receive instructions and forms, explaining the details to be assessed. Prior to the actual inspection, the schedule is established in agreement with the client. During the on-site inspection, the facts are recorded and, where relevant, corrective measures discussed and determined. Findings are summed up in a closing meeting. Usually, non-compliances recorded in the inspection report are forwarded to the certifying agent as proposal.

When severe non-compliances occur (e.g. use of prohibited inputs or ingredients), the inspector will initiate immediate follow-up action (e.g. a ban on the products concerned). If the inspector and the operator cannot agree on a non-compliance, the disagreement is recorded in the report.

Upon conclusion of the inspection, the inspection report is signed by both the operator and the inspector.

The certification procedure

The report including all the documents required for certification is then forwarded to the certifying agent. Inspection and certification is never conducted by the same person and it is the certifier who eventually determines the sanctions in accordance with the relevant sanction catalogue. The certifier reviews the information collected during the inspection visit and, where severe non-compliances were found, will take an immediate decision. Such a decision may also be taken prior to conclusion of the certification process.

Difficult cases will be decided on by the Certification Committee which consists of no less than three persons. A certificate will be issued upon successful certification which will also be published on bio.inspecta's website.

Appeals Committee

Every operator has the possibility to appeal decisions of the certifier. An independent Swiss appeals body reviews the documentation and takes a final decision. This ensures credibility of the certification system.

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