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Chinese organic certification

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There is an increasing demand for organic products in China. The main products of most domestic organic companies are mainly raw materials and simply processed products. But the Chinese consumers have demand for organic processed products too. Therefore there is a big market for organic imported processed products.

After 10 years’ negotiation between EU and China, unfortunately no equivalency agreement has been achieved yet. Which means all the organic products sold in China must be certified by a certification body accredited by CNCA. Besides the processing factory, farms also need to be audited as raw material suppliers.
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Chapter One

Chinese organic certification system
Administration System of Organic Certification in CHINA

CNCA

Inspectors

CCAA

Certification Body

CNAS

Certified Organization

registration

accréditation

CNAS registration

approval

inspection

approved

certifying
Organic Regulations and Standards

The following four documents are legislation documents of China organic certification.

1. AQSIQ: Administrative Measures on Organic Product Certification

2. Implementation rules for the Certification of Organic Products (How should certification Body implement organic certification)

   1. Production
   2. Processing
   3. Labelling and marketing
   4. Management system

4. Organic product certification directory
   Only the products which are on the certification directory can be certified as organic in China!
Organic Regulations and Standards

Chapter 3
Import products

Article 19

Products imported from countries or regions, which have not signed a memorandum on organic product certification in compliance with CNCA but intend to be exported to China as organic products, shall comply with relevant Chinese laws and regulations of organic products and Chinese national organic product standards.

Organic product manufacturers, distributors, importers or agents (hereinafter collectively referred to as organic products importing consigner) who need to apply for Chinese organic product certification, shall submit their application to CNCA approved certification bodies.

Article 20
Difficulties for Danish organic companies to export to China
Which means Chinese organic certification is needed even though the Danish organic companies have been certified according to EU organic standard.
Produce infant formula with different ingredients and the final products will be exported to China with Chinese organic certificate.

**Raw material from farms**
- Raw milk
  - Rapeseed, sunflower seed

**Intermediate producer (plant production)**
- Crude rapeseed oil, crude sunflower oil

**Intermediate producer**
- Whey powder, lactose powder, whole milk powder

**Intermediate producer (plant production)**
- Refine vegetable oils

**Final producer (Chinese organic certificate)**
- Produce infant formula with different ingredients and the final products will be exported to China with Chinese organic certificate.

**NO EQUIVALENCY: Full chain must be audited**
- Organic certificate will only be issued to final producer which apply to have Chinese organic certificate.
Chapter Two

Differences between Chinese and EU organic certification
Organic products directory is updated regularly by CNCA. If products are not on the directory, company or certification body can apply to CNCA to add it to directory.

**Main differences**

**Products can be certified**

- Organic products directory is updated regularly by CNCA. If products are not on the directory, company or certification body can apply to CNCA to add it to directory.

**To product or to company**

- EU: certificate to company
- China: certificate to products with quota

**Organic sticker and transaction certificate**

- End products to final consumers: organic sticker is needed
- Bulk products as ingredients: organic transaction certificate (TC) is needed
Material flow example

Raw material from farms
- Raw milk
- Rapeseed, sunflower seed

Intermediate producer (plant production)
Crude rapeseed oil, crude sunflower oil

Intermediate producer
Whey powder, lactose powder, whole milk powder

Intermediate producer (plant production)
Refine vegetable oils

Final producer (Chinese organic certificate)
Produce infant formula with different ingredients and the final products will be exported to China with Chinese organic certificate

NO EQUILVALENCY: Full chain must be audited
Organic certificate will only be issued to final producer which apply to have Chinese organic certificate
Differences regarding to plant production and livestock breeding
Main differences

Environmental monitoring: water analysis, soil analysis, air monitoring
Buffer zone: China has clear requirement about buffer zone
Inputs such as fertilizers: more options according to EU standard. Natural mineral fertilizers are allowed in China.
Management system: Chinese organic certification has clear requirements about quality management system, while EU organic standard is more like a technical standard
Vaccine (livestock breeding): Only allowed to be used when it is forced by the government!
Preventive treatment by chemical medicine (livestock breeding): forbidden by China organic standard
Chapter four

What is important for China organic inspection preparation
Documents needed

- Business license
- Water analysis
- Soil analysis
- Air monitoring
- Feeding formula (kg/cow/day)
- Disease treatment record book
- Farm book (plantation record)
- EU organic certificate
- Delivery note, specification and EU organic certificate of all outsourced feed or inputs
- Google map, plot map
- Farm info: ha, number of cows/milking cows/calves...
- Land ownership document
- Land rental document
- Document to prove the cooperating relation with processing plant
- Inspector will ask for a copy of above documents
Besides paperwork and interview, a farm tour is also needed.

**Important info**

**Chinese farms:** big companies with 10,000 livestock  
**Danish farms:** could be less than 100 livestock

**Antibiotics**  
Maximal 3 times antibiotics treatment in 12 months  
Animals treated by antibiotics must be labeled

**Feeding formula**  
Feeding formula should be listed per day

**Compost**  
Animal manure should be composted before applying in the field

**Homeopathic medicine**  
Keep invoices and record

Besides paper work and interview, a farm tour is also needed.
THANKS FOR YOUR ATTENTION

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