Questions and answers on EU rules on organic beekeeping

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EU answers questions received on implementation of rules for organic beekeeping

Commission notice: Questions and answers on the implementation of EU rules on organic beekeeping

Update

The European Commission has published a notice to assist national authorities and businesses to apply the EU rules on organic beekeeping. The notice answers questions received, mainly on implementation of the Organic Regulation (EU) 2018/848.

Impacted products

Organic honey, organic beekeeping, beeswax

What is changing?

Answers are provided on:

- low environmental impact methods, location of apiaries, and husbandry practices
- possibilities for beeswax producers and processors to be certified as organic operators
- classification of beeswax
- natural products such as propolis, wax, and plant oils that may be used in hives.

Timeline

The notice was published on 25 April 2024.

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What are the major implications for exporting countries?

The Commission notice is not a binding document, it is intended to clarify implementation of the Organic Regulation.

Recommended Actions

Organic beekeepers are recommended to read this notice to clarify any questions about Regulation 2018/848.

Background

The Organic Regulation (EU) 2018/848 lays down EU rules on organic production and labelling of organic products. Although it focuses on the EU organic sector, it has significant implications for non-EU countries.

Sources

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