

“Organic Heterogeneous material” in Reg. 2018/848, a stepping stone for the liberation of crop diversity?

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A long and winding road: Seeds in the new Organic Regulation
European Parliament, Brussels, 16.10.2018



WHAT IS ARCHE NOAH ?



ARCHE NOAH

Feiern wir die Vielfalt



- *Founded 1990 in Schiltern, AT*
- *NOW 15.000 members*
 - *in 8 EU Member States*
 - *150 Organic Farms*



A COMMITMENT TO SEEDS & CROP BIODIVERSITY



ARCHE NOAH



CONSERVATION



SUSTAINABLE
USE



POLICY & ADVOCACY



HOPE FOR THE FUTURE? ORG. REG 2018.848



- **ENABLING PROVISIONS**

- **Direct sale of unpacked products** by small operators can be exempt from obligation to have an organic certificate (Art.35§8)
- **Group** certification (Art. 36)

- **SPECIFIC PROVISIONS ON SEEDS**

- Recognition of **special needs** of the sector
- Recognition of **shortcomings** of current organic Regulation, of seed marketing laws and thus market offerings



NOTIFICATION SYSTEM FOR MARKETING OHM



WHAT IS « Organic heterogeneous material »?

- ***Legal Definition of OHM, ART 3§8***
 - *« Common phenotypic characteristics »*
 - *“high level of genetic and phenotypic diversity”, “represented by the material as a whole, and not by a small number of units”*
 - *“produced in accordance with this Regulation”*
 - *NOT a “plant variety” of the IPR world, nor a cultivar or a hybrid*





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NOTIFICATION SYSTEM FOR MARKETING OHM

WHAT IS « Organic heterogeneous material »?



NOTIFICATION SYSTEM FOR MARKETING OHM



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HOW TO MARKET « Organic heterogeneous material »?

- ***General exemption :***

- *« without complying with the requirements for registration [set out in the different seed marketing Directives]”, ART 13§1*

- ***Notification system (ART 13§2)***

- *Made by the supplier to the competent authorities under the seed marketing Directives*
- *Dossier with different elements*
- *Result of examination : « listing » within three months IF no additional info needed (cannot be refused for reasons other than incompleteness !)*





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NOTIFICATION SYSTEM FOR MARKETING OHM

HOW TO MARKET « Organic heterogeneous material »?

- **Additional criteria will be set in DA prepared by the European Commission (ART.13§3)**

Broad range of breeding methods, incl. Cross pollination, mass selection, conservation breeding

Could be any and all kinds of populations (farmers, heritage), OHM

No limitation of genera & species but taking account specificities

and production methods and parental material used; (b) the minimum quality requirements of seeds lots, including identity, specific purity, germination rates and sanitary quality; (c) labelling and packaging; (d) information and samples of production to be kept by the professional operators; (e) where applicable, maintenance of the organic HM.”

Labelling for sound knowledge of customer, NO Additional burden : printed/stamped notice or label, year of sealing, country of production, name, ...

Diligent log of production sufficient & samples proportionate to the volume put on the market

NOW, LET'S NOTIFY...

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION !



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