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**EAER Ordinance
on the Minimum Requirements for Control Procedures
of Protected Designations of Origin and
Geographical Indications
(Ordinance on the Control of PDOs and PGIs)**

of 11 June 1999 (Status as of 1 January 2017)

*The Federal Department of Economic Affairs, Education and Research (EAER)¹,
on the basis of Article 18 paragraph 2 of the PDO/PGI Ordinance of 28 May 1997²,
ordains:*

Art. 1 Minimum requirements for control procedures

The certification body must:

- a.³ carry out an initial authorisation of all production, processing and refining undertakings;
- b. verify the flow of goods;
- c. control the correct use of the traceability marks;
- d. ensure that processing requirements are complied with;
- e. oversee final product testing.

Art. 2 Frequency of control procedures

¹ The certification body shall control the structural requirements in the context of the initial authorisation procedure.⁴

² Control procedures relating to the flow of goods, traceability and processing requirements shall take place at least every two years for each processing and refining

AS 1999 2214

¹ The name of this administrative unit was amended by Art. 16 para. 3 of the Publications Ordinance of 17 Nov. 2004 (AS 2004 4937) on 1 Jan. 2013. The amendment has been made throughout the text.

² SR 910.12

³ Amended by No I of the EAER Ordinance of 29 Oct. 2014, in force since 1 Jan. 2015 (AS 2014 3907).

⁴ Amended by No I of the EAER Ordinance of 29 Oct. 2014, in force since 1 Jan. 2015 (AS 2014 3907).

undertaking, or every four years in the case of summer pasture holdings. For production undertakings, such procedures shall be carried out on the basis of a statistically representative random sample.⁵

³ In the case of the Protected Geographical Indications (PGIs), testing of the final product shall be carried out once annually on the basis of a statistically representative sample of undertakings. In the case of Protected Designations of Origin (PDOs), these tests will take place at least once per year in every production, processing or refining undertaking which markets the final product. Where an undertaking markets the production of several operators, testing of the final product should be performed on a random sample of lots of each operator.⁶

⁴ Undertakings where irregularities are found are subject to retesting on a systematic basis.

Art. 3 Structural and process requirements⁷

The product specification includes the following requirements essential to the character of the product:

- a. requirements with regard to the technical installations (structural requirements); and
- b. requirements with regard to the production, processing and refining process (process requirements).

Art. 4 Traceability mark

The traceability marking is an indelible mark which must be affixed to every individual product and which allows for the identification of the batch and the producer. Where it is not suitable to affix the label to the product itself, the traceability mark may be placed on the packaging of the product which is ready for consumption.

Art. 5⁸ Final product testing

¹ In the case of agricultural products and processed agricultural products, testing of the final product shall comprise physical and chemical testing, as well as an organoleptic test.

² The organoleptic test is to verify the product's conformity with the sensory description in the product specification.

³ In the case of forestry products and processed forestry products, testing of the final product shall comprise testing of the physical and other characteristic properties.

⁵ Amended by No I of the EAER Ordinance of 29 Oct. 2014, in force since 1 Jan. 2015 (AS 2014 3907).

⁶ Amended by No I of the EAER Ordinance of 29 Oct. 2014, in force since 1 Jan. 2015 (AS 2014 3907).

⁷ Amended by No I of the EAER Ordinance of 29 Oct. 2014, in force since 1 Jan. 2015 (AS 2014 3907).

⁸ Amended by No I of the EAER Ordinance of 16 Sept. 2016, in force since 1 Jan. 2017 (AS 2016 3289).

⁴ The responsibility for sampling is that of the certification body. The certification body is also responsible for organoleptic testing, which shall be conducted by the applicant group.

Art. 6 Reporting

The certification body shall provide an annual report to the Federal Office for Agriculture for each protected indication, containing the following information:

- a. the list of undertakings under review, categorized by «production», «processing» and «refining»;
- b. the total amount of products marketed with the protected indication;
- c. the number and the type of corrective measures enacted and any suspension of certificates for each protected indication.

Art. 7 Access to undertakings and documentation

The certification body shall ensure that it receives:

- a. unrestricted access to the undertakings;
- b. access to any documents of use to it in the context of certification.

Art. 8 Control manual

¹ The certification body or the certification bodies shall clarify, in a control manual, the procedures under the present Ordinance, together with the groups who have applied for registration of a PDO or a PGI.

² The control manual shall be an integral component of the quality assurance scheme of the certification body or the certification bodies.

³ The latest version of the quality assurance scheme shall be deposited with the Federal Office for Agriculture.

Art. 9 Commencement

This Ordinance comes into force on 1 July 1999.

