



Implementation of the EU Quality Policy in Bulgaria Information about the development of the Quality Policy



Legislation basis



EU Legislation

- **Council Regulation (EC) No 510/31.3.2006** on the protection of geographical indications and designations of origin for agricultural products and foodstuffs
- **Council Regulation (EC) No 509/31.3.2006** on agricultural products and foodstuffs as traditional specialities guaranteed
- **Council Regulation (EC) No 1898/14.12.2006** laying down detailed rules of implementation of Council Regulation (EC) No 510/2006 on PGI/PDO
- **Commission Regulation (EC) No 1216/2007** laying down detailed rules for the implementation of Council Regulation (EC) No 509/2006 on agricultural products and foodstuffs as traditional specialities guaranteed

National Legislation

- Law on Common Market Organizations for agricultural Products in the EU valid as of 1.01.2007
- **Regulation** for preparation and submission of requests to the EU Commission for agricultural products and food with protected geographical indications and traditional specialities guaranteed for controlling the concordance with the product specification and handling registration of producers and controllers – Regulation 79/2.10.2007 .

With this document the Minister of Agriculture determines the conditions and the directions for:

- 1. preparation and submission of requests to the EU Commission for registration, change and confirmation of registration into the EU Register of agricultural products and food with protected geographical indications and other requests related to these Registers or into the EU Register for agricultural products and food with traditional specialities guaranteed
- 3. decision and supervision of the controllers;
- 4. control of the compliance of the agricultural products and food with protected geographical indications and traditional specialities guaranteed with their specification
- 5. administration of registers



Standing Inter-sectoral Consultancy Commission for geographical indications and food with traditional specialities guaranteed

Representatives of :

- Ministry of Agriculture and Foods,
- Ministry of Health,
- Ministry of Economy and Energy
- Institute of patents.



Groups of producers of agricultural products and food

- Society according to the Trade Law or Law on Obligations and Contracts, Cooperative according to the Law on Cooperatives or association according to the Law on legal entities of non-economic functions
- Members of the group of producers can be processors, association of processors, association for environment protection and other interested parties



Application-specification for protected geographic indication



The following documents are submitted to the request-specification:

- 1. certificates
- 2. regulations on complying with the products' specifications;
- 3. declaration of each of the group members that the agricultural products or food is produced in the indicated geographical area;
- 4. declaration for the range of production of the agricultural product or food from each of the group members for the previous three calendar years;
- 5. full description production details, as well as details for packaging and processing of raw materials for production of agricultural products or food or the final product;
- 6. full description of the technical details necessary for production of the agricultural product or food;
- 7. proofs for the connection between the characteristics of the agricultural product or food and the geographical area, including the natural and the human factors;
- 8. proofs for the good name, quality or other characteristic related to the geographical origin;

Applications for foods with traditional specialities guaranteed

The following documents are submitted to the request-specification :

- 1. certificate of good standing of the commercial court registration of the group of producers respectively, when it is a trade association, cooperative or association, or agreement for cooperation according to Law on obligations and contracts
- 2. declaration for the range of production of the agricultural product or food of each of the members of the group of producers for the previous three calendar years
- 3. certificate of good standing of the commercial court registration of the group of producers respectively, who are trades or associations;
- 4. proof for the traditional character of the raw materials , traditional content of the food and/or traditional method of production or processing



- The Minister of Agriculture and food with a regulation determines the persons for verifying the place for production and/or processing of the agricultural product or food.



Publication

- Information about the submitted request- specification is published on a public placed within the Ministry of Agriculture and Food and is published in a daily newspaper within 7 days of the conclusion of the checking. The information contains the name of the applicant, the name of the agricultural product or food, indication of the right of complaint and the deadline for exercising it.
- The full text of the submitted request-specification and the one document **are published** on the Internet page of the Ministry of Agriculture and Food within one month of the day of publishing



Complaint



- Every person with permanent address and residence in Bulgaria, who has legal interest, can send a complaint to the Ministry of Agriculture and Food, Department “Coordination of EU affairs”
- The competent unit in the Ministry of Agriculture and Food prepares a report on the complaints received and the agreement reached, the lack of such, to the Commission

- Where there are complaints on which the parties have not reached agreement, the Commission shall decide on them, and motivates their adoption or rejection





- The Minister of Agriculture and Food with a reasoned order approves sending the application to the European Commission or prepares a refusal, the specification is published on the website of the Ministry of Agriculture and Food within 7 days.

Approval of controlling entities

- According to the Law, controllers are local and foreign persons - traders under the Commercial Law or the law of the EU member state or the country - a party to the EEA Agreement, authorized by the Minister of Agriculture and Food.
- The approval takes place after submission of the application to the Ministry of Agriculture and Food, together with a control plan for the product
- The Minister of Agriculture and Food, or persons authorized by him, supervise the control subjects.



Control of conformity of agricultural and food products with geographical indications and traditional specialties guaranteed to their specification

- Based on the agreement between the manufacturer of agricultural and food products with geographical indications and traditional specialty guaranteed and controlling person
- The controller completes an initial inspection of the manufacturer for its readiness to implement the specification. The controller performs compulsory annual inspection
- The results of each inspection report shall be prepared in triplicate





The controller may carry out additional checks, planned or sudden, when irregularities in conducting the annual examination in the presence of appropriate data on violations committed by the manufacturer.

Checks are carried out in accordance with the stages of the manufacturing process:

- documents;
- visually;
- by measurements;
- by sampling and analysis;
- Other way chosen by the controller



Supervision

- Supervision of the controllers of ZPOOPZPES is awarded by the Minister of Agriculture and Food to officials in the competent unit in the Ministry of Agriculture and Food. If necessary, other officials designated by the Minister of Agriculture and Food can participate in the supervision
- Supervision is carried out through documentary checks and through spot checks. For spot checks officials prepare protocol. A copy of the minutes is sent to the sub-supervisory person.

**Registry of producers of agricultural products and food with
geographic indication or food with traditional speciality
guaranteed
Registry of controllers**



Basic data for producers or controlling persons are entered into the Registers :

- 1. file number and date of application
- 2. name of producer/controller;
- 3. seat, office address and the number of legal / commercial registration;
- 4. Place of production / producers, which are controlled
- 5. changes in circumstances recorded

New developments in the Quality Policy – Green Book of the Quality related questions

- General information on the Green Book from 15.10.2008 until the end of June 2009
- Steps in its conducting
- Results and future development of a quality policy



Thank you for your attention!



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