



Brussels, 22 June 2018

EFFCA statement on the use of food cultures in organic food products

In the EU the organic production and labeling of organic products is regulated by Council Regulation (EC) No. 834/2007. Detailed rules for the implementation of this Regulation are laid down in Commission Regulation (EC) No. 889/2008, as amended by Commission Regulation (EC) No. 1254/2008.

Regarding the use of food cultures, other than yeast, in the production of organic processed food, it is mentioned that *“only ... preparations of micro-organisms ... may be used, and only in so far as they have been authorised for use in organic production in accordance with Article 21”* (Art. 19.2 (b) of Council Regulation (EC) No. 834/2007).

It is further specified in the implementation rules that *“preparations of micro-organisms ... normally used in food processing”* can be used in the processing of organic food, with the exception of wine (Art. 27.1 (b) of Commission Regulation (EC) No. 889/2008).

Therefore, it can be concluded that food cultures can be used in organic food products.

****END****