

**Question for written answer E-005640/2021
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Regulation (EU) 2018/848 on organic products – rules on the production of organic salt

The European Commission is currently preparing a delegated act setting out production requirements for organic salt under Regulation (EU) 2018/848 on organic products. In Europe, salt is produced by mining rock salt, by brining salt caverns and by harvesting sea salt in salines.

Salt extraction can only take place where the salt deposit is located or in suitable coastal regions. In all three types of salt extraction, the origin of the salt is sea water, with underground rock salt deposits, for example, coming from seawater that already evaporated several million years ago leaving a highly pure and uncontaminated salt layer. The CO₂ emissions associated with transport have a significant impact on the environmental footprint of salt

1. Does the Commission intend to adopt appropriate production rules for rock salt, evaporated salt and sea salt, allowing all three types of salt to be classified as organic salt, subject to certain conditions?
2. How can the Commission ensure that private consumers and consumers from the food and feed sectors in Europe are able to source organic salt at regional level?
3. Does the Commission intend to set maximum levels for microplastics in organic salt in order to ensure a high-quality and safe product for private consumers and consumers in the food and feed sectors?