

**Question for written answer E-003232/2022  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject:     Equivalence of US and EU organic logos

Despite differences in certification requirements, the US and EU treat each other's organic labels as equivalent when importing and exporting goods. Since 2014, products from hydroponic, aquaponic and aeroponic farms can be certified as organic in the US, unlike in the EU. Furthermore, in recent years organic farming standards have been undermined in the US, where there have been scandals involving imported cereals falsely labelled as organic and organic products – milk and eggs in particular – from intensive farming.

1.   How many organic products (by tonne and price in EUR) does the EU import per year from the US, and how many of them come from hydroponic, aquaponic or aeroponic farms?
2.   In view of the differences in organic farming standards (in particular as regards certification when it comes to hydroponic systems) and the clear failures to correctly apply organic farming standards in the US, how can the Commission ensure that consumers do not lose faith in the EU's organic label? Would it consider introducing a ban on imports of disputed organic products (such as those cultivated in soilless systems)?
3.   What will happen after 31 December 2026, when the organic equivalency arrangement is set to expire?