



कृषि और प्रसंस्कृत खाद्य उत्पाद
निर्यात विकास प्राधिकरण
(वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार)

**Agricultural and Processed Food Products
Export Development Authority**
(Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Govt. of India)

ORG-2015-16-000102
24th December, 2020

Circular to cease export of non compliant organic products under NPOP

It has been brought to our attention by the importing countries that several shipments of non compliant organic products have been exported from the country accompanied by the Transaction Certificates issued by the Certification bodies accredited under NPOP. The non compliant products have been detected with prohibited substances specially Ethylene oxide at even higher levels by the importing countries.

APEDA had already issued an advisory on 27th November, 2020 regarding risk assessment and mitigation measures to be followed by Certification Bodies and operators involved in the supply chain to ensure compliance to the requirements of NPOP.

At present, the detections are mainly reported in Organic Sesame seeds and a case for Amaranth. In most of the cases, the non compliance has been noted in multiple shipments of the same exporters/producers which reveal procedural lapses in the production/handling operations of the export consignments. The matter is being investigated by APEDA and the infringements or irregularities identified at the level of Certification Bodies and operators will be taken seriously. Hence, it is strictly instructed that Certification Bodies shall not issue Transaction Certificates for such non compliant products as Organic under NPOP for trade or export hereafter till the matter is resolved. Meanwhile, Certification Bodies shall ensure compliance to already certified products through additional verification and control measures for maintaining the recognition agreements applies for NPOP on regular basis and especially for approval of stock and issuance of Transaction Certificates for high risk crops/products.

This issues with the approval of Competent Authority.

(U.K Vats)
General Manager