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**Organic products can be produced with organic or non organic yeast.**

The Council Regulation (EC) No 834/2007 of 28 June 2007 on organic production and labelling of organic products, repealing the existing Regulation (EEC) No 2092/91, establishes a new legislative framework for food and feed organic products in the EU, from January 2009 onwards.

In its article 20, it requests general rules on the production of organic yeast. This provision has led to demands by the market, regarding the possibility of using non organic yeast in organic food and feed products after this date. COFALEC wishes to clarify the following points:

First, organic yeast shall not be present in organic food or feed together with non-organic yeast. This implicitly indicates that non organic yeast can still be used in food and feed organic products, but not at the same time with organic yeast. Otherwise this mention would not have been retained in the legislative text. Organic products can be produced with organic or non organic yeast.

Member States and EU authorities have stated that the inclusion of yeast in the scope of the 834/2007 was designated to establish a possibility to produce yeast from only organically produced substrates, but that does not forbid the use of non organic yeast at any time.

They take into account that organically produced yeast, will not, for the foreseeable future, be available in sufficient quantities to supply the growing market of organic products.

Article 27 of Regulation 889/2008 :

- Use of certain non-organic materials in processing of food
1. For the purpose of Article 19(2)(b) of Regulation (EC) No 834/2007, only the following substances can be used in the processing of organic food:
    - (a) substances listed in Annex VIII to this Regulation;
    - (b) preparations of micro-organisms and enzymes normally used in food processing;

Non organic yeast is clearly a preparation of micro-organisms and can be used in organic products.

**About COFALEC:** The “Confédération des Fabricants de Levure de l’Union Européenne” represents the producers of yeast in the European Union.