



EUROPEAN COMMISSION  
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
Directorate F – Outreach, Research & Geographical Indications  
The Director

Brussels  
AGRI.F.3/

**Subject : Request of interpretation of Article 37(5) of Regulation (EU) 2024/1143 - obligation to indicate the name of the producer or operator in the labelling, in the same field of vision of the geographical indication**

Dear Madam,

Thank you for your email of 17 July 2024 requesting an interpretation of the meaning of the term ‘operator’ in Article 37(5) of Regulation (EU) 2024/1143 <sup>(1)</sup>. We apologize for the delay.

Article 37(5) of the Regulation reads: *“Where agricultural products are designated by a geographical indication, an indication of the name of the producer or operator shall appear in the labelling, in the same field of vision as the geographical indication. In that case, the name of the operator shall be understood as the name of the operator responsible for the production stage at which the product to be covered by the geographical indication is obtained, or responsible for carrying out substantial processing of that product.”*

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<sup>(1)</sup> Regulation (EU) 2024/1143 (hereinafter ‘the Regulation’) of the European Parliament and of the Council, of 11 April 2024, on geographical indications for wine, spirit drinks and agricultural products, as well as traditional specialities guaranteed and optional quality terms for agricultural products, amending Regulations (EU) No 1308/2013, (EU) 2019/787 and (EU) 2019/1753 and repealing Regulation (EU) No 1151/2012.

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The second sentence of this provision itself clarifies that the meaning ‘operator’ in this particular situation is specific and it is not to be referred to the definition in Article 2(1)(e) of the Regulation. Therefore, ‘operator’ is the person or company responsible for the production stage at which the product is obtained, or the person or company responsible for carrying out the substantial processing of that product. It is one of *those* persons or companies that should be indicated on the label. Within this context, distribution companies, names of private labels, names of the retailer for GIs produced under contract manufacturing or names of the GI producer groups do not appear in principle to meet these conditions.

The present opinion is provided based on the facts as set out in your email and expresses the view of the Commission services and does not commit the European Commission. In the event of a dispute involving European Union law, it is for the Court of Justice of the European Union to provide a definitive interpretation of the applicable European Union law.

Yours faithfully,



DIEGO CANGA FANO