



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

Brussels
AGRI.F.3

Dear Madam,

Thank you for your email of 13 March 2024 enquiring about the concept of an “operator” in the report on control results for 2023.

According to the new Regulation (EU) 2024/1143, “operator” means a natural or legal person who performs activities subject to one or more obligations provided for in the product specification.

The new Regulation (EU) 2024/1143 applies as of 13 May 2024. Although the report for controls carried out in 2023 is submitted in 2024, the controls in 2023 were supposed to be carried out in accordance with the legislation in force at that time – Regulation (EU) No 1151/2012.

Therefore, the results of the control activities to be submitted this year for the past year should indeed be based on the concept of “operator” as previously defined in your control plan.

For the controls to be carried out moving forward, it is essential to adopt and apply the new definition of "operator" as per the new Regulation.

The present opinion is provided based on the facts as set out in your emails 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

Cc: [redacted]@mapa.es; [redacted]@mapa.es; [redacted]@mapa.es; [redacted]@mapa.es;
[redacted]@mapa.es; [redacted]@mapa.es

[redacted]
[redacted]
SG for Food Quality Control and Agri-Food Laboratories
Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food
E-mail: [redacted]@mapa.es