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DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
Directorate H. Sustainability and quality of agriculture and rural development  
**H.3 Organic farming**

**REPORT**  
**on the supervision of inspection bodies and authorities of the**  
**Member States according to Article 15 of Council Regulation (EEC)**  
**No 2092/91 on organic production**

**Year 2007**

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

According to Article 9 of Council Regulation (EEC) No 2092/91 on organic production, *"Member States shall set up an inspection system operated by one or more designated inspection authorities and/or by approved private bodies (...)"*.

Any operator, who produces, prepares, stores or imports from a third country organic products for the purpose of marketing them, or any operator who places such products on the market shall submit his undertaking to the inspection system (Article 8).

Furthermore, Article 9.6 states that:

*"after an inspection body has been approved, the competent authority shall:*

*(a) ensure that the inspections carried out are objective;*

*(b) verify the effectiveness of its inspections;*

*(c) take cognizance of any irregularities and/or infringements found and penalties applied (...)"*

According to Article 15 of Council Regulation (EEC) No 2092/91:

*"Before 1 July each year, Member States shall inform the Commission of measures taken in the preceding year for the implementation of this Regulation and shall communicate in particular:*

*- a list of the operators who, on 31 December of the previous year, had given notification under Article 8 (1) (a) and are subject to the inspection system referred to in Article 9,*

*- a report on supervision pursuant to Article 9 (6).*

*In addition, by 31 March each year, Member States shall inform the Commission of the list of inspection bodies approved on 31 December of the previous year, their legal and operational structure, their standard inspection procedure, their penalty arrangements and, where appropriate, their mark."*

In Action 18 of the European Action Plan for Organic Food and Farming, the Commission undertook to publish annual reports; this Action reads:

*"The Commission will publish the annual report from Member States on the supervision of approved inspection bodies including statistics on type and number of breaches."*

The Commission wants to thank to Member States for the data received, which made it possible to draw up this report. The first report on supervision was published for a reporting year 2005. This is the third report for year 2007 and it is published at <http://www.organic-farming.europa.eu>.

## **2. PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is to give an overview of different inspection systems in Member States in organic farming sector and to describe the structure and function of these systems. Apart from that, essential data on irregularities, infringements and penalties applied are provided.

## **3. INFORMATION ON THE INSPECTION SYSTEMS**

### **3.1. Methodology**

Since 2006 Member States have been invited to use a new format for their supervision report. The use of the new format was agreed at the meeting of the 64<sup>th</sup> Standing Committee on Organic Farming on 23 March 2006.

The use of new guidelines helps to harmonize the information received and, therefore, to increase the comparability in time and among Member States. Moreover, these guidelines give the opportunity to provide more specific information on the number of operators submitted to regular and additional visits and on the extent to which samples indicated a breach of the Regulation; they allow to distinguish the number of samples, infringements and sanctions per type of operator, as well as the gravity of infringement (irregularities or manifest infringements) and the type of sanctions applied.

The data on the inspection bodies are aggregated per Member State; therefore, only totals are displayed in the tables. Chapter 3 gives general information on the inspection systems set up in each country while chapter 4 contains an analysis across Member States of the outcome of inspection visits and samples taken. Data are processed and used to draw charts in order to visualize and compare the situation in the different countries. A comparison with data from Annual report for years 2005 and 2006 was made where possible. Finally, chapter 5 presents some observations and comments. Caution is needed when interpreting the data due to the use of different table formats and differences in recording infringements and sanctions.

Although the countries with public inspection authorities do not have to send information on their supervision (Article 9.6 only applies as regards private inspection bodies), the concerned Member States, namely DK, EE, LT, NL and FI, as well as those having a mixed public-private system, namely ES, MT and PL, provided the report regarding the year 2007.

For Luxembourg, which has a mixed system of designated public inspection authority and approved private inspection bodies, no data were provided for the year 2007 before the finalisation of the present report.

This document is based on the annual reports of Member States, which include information on:

- the number of operators;
- the number of inspection visits (announced and unannounced);
- the number of samples taken;
- the number of infringements found;
- the number of sanctions applied.

### 3.2. Inspection systems

Member States were asked to give information on their inspection system; as reported in Table 1:

- 19 countries (18 Member States + Norway) have a system of approved **private** inspection bodies (system **A**),
- 5 have a system of designated **public** inspection authority(-ies) (system **B**) and
- 4 have a **mixed** system of a designated public inspection authority and approved private inspection bodies (system **C**).

**Table 1 – Inspection system**

| <b>System</b> | <b>Countries</b>   |
|---------------|--|
| System A      | AT, BE, BG, CY, CZ, FR, DE, EL, HU, IE, IT, LV, PT, RO, SK, SL, SE, UK, NO |
| System B      | DK, EE, FI, LT, NL   |
| System C      | LU, MT, PL, ES   |

#### 4. OUTCOME OF SUPERVISION IN THE YEAR 2007

##### 4.1. Visits to operators carried out by the inspections bodies and inspection authorities

###### 4.1.1. Visits to operators

According to Annex III 5 of (EEC) No 2092/91 inspection bodies or inspection authorities must make a full physical inspection at least once a year of all operators; moreover the inspection bodies or inspection authorities have to carry out random inspection visits, announced or not, based on a general evaluation of the risk of non-compliance with the Regulation (EEC) No 2092/91 and Commission Regulation (EEC) No 223/2003 on labelling requirements related to the organic production method for feedingstuffs, compound feedingstuffs and feed materials and amending Council Regulation (EEC) No 2092/91.

Tables 2 and 3 show the data sent by Member States concerning the activities of their inspection bodies and/or inspection authorities.

If we want to know whether an inspection body or inspection authority visits all operators **at least once a year** then the **number of operators submitted to regular and additional visits** in comparison with total numbers of operators must be looked at (table 2).

The number of announced and unannounced visits cannot be used as an indicator whether all operators have been visited at least once per year. The reason is that an inspection body may have visited one operator several times while another operator has not been visited at all (table 3).

The number of registered operators might differ from the number of operators submitted to regular inspection visits. This could be due to several reasons i.e. operator has finished or modified its activities in the meantime so no visit is necessary.

**Table 2 - No. of operators submitted to regular visits and operators received additional visits**

| Country | System | No. of operators registered |              |              |        |           | No. of operators submitted to regular inspection visits - A |              |              |        | No. of operators received additional visits - B |              |              |        | TOTAL A+B |
|---------|--------|-----------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------|-----------|---|--------------|--------------|--------|---|--------------|--------------|--------|-----------|
|         |        | producers*                  | processors** | importers*** | others | TOTAL**** | producers*  | processors** | importers*** | others | producers*                                      | processors** | importers*** | others |           |
| BE      | A      | 837                         | 570          | 87           | 201    | 1695      | 876   | 569          | 89           | 190    | 1164  | 574          | 84           | 136    | 3.682     |
| BG      | A      | 240                         | 42           | 34           | 23     | 339       | 240   | 42           | 34           | 23     | 14  | 6            | 0            | 1      | 360       |
| CZ      | A      | 1316                        | 253          | 24           | 94     | 1687      | 1316  | 253          | 24           | 94     | 106   | 6            | 0            | 0      | 1.799     |
| DK (1)  | B      | 2835                        | 534          | 104          | 209    | 3682      | 2835  | 101          | 0            | 11     | 111   | 5            | 0            | 0      | 3.063     |
| DE      | A      | 18827                       | 9205         | 818          | 1541   | 30391     | 19140   | 9352         | 850          | 1674   | 1772  | 1275         | 162          | 209    | 34.434    |
| EE      | B      | 1211                        | 24           | 0            | 0      | 1235      | 1211  | 24           | 0            | 0      | 122   | 0            | 0            | 0      | 1.357     |
| IE      | A      | 1067                        | 201          | 23           | 0      | 1291      | 1062  | 201          | 23           | 0      | 131   | 9            | 0            | 0      | 1.426     |
| EL      | A      | 23769                       | 925          | 8            | 0      | 24702     | 25109   | 1318         | 15           | 0      | 0   | 0            | 0            | 0      | 26.442    |
| ES      | C      | 18171                       | 2055         | 72           | 235    | 20533     | 16992   | 2000         | 67           | 233    | 2206  | 399          | 12           | 26     | 21.935    |
| FR      | A      | 11979                       | 5019         | 165          | 1360   | 18523     | 11979   | 5019         | 165          | 1360   | 135   | 62           | 29           | 2      | 18.751    |
| IT      | A      | 45231                       | 7011         | 211          | 59     | 52512     | 44309   | 4985         | 205          | 408    | 6946  | 1923         | 25           | 177    | 58.978    |
| CY      | A      | 448                         | 51           | 1            | 13     | 513       | 442   | 48           | 1            | 12     | 47  | 16           | 1            | 4      | 571       |
| LV      | A      | 4108                        | 12           | 0            | 0      | 4120      | 4200  | 13           | 0            | 0      | 228   | 11           | 0            | 0      | 4.452     |
| LT      | B      | 2870                        | 26           | 0            | 0      | 2896      | 2870  | 26           | 0            | 0      | 194   | 1            | 0            | 0      | 3.091     |
| LU      | C      | :                           | :            | :            | :      | :         | :   | :            | :            | :      | :   | :            | :            | :      | :         |
| HU      | A      | 1612                        | 418          | 10           | 257    | 2297      | 1612  | 418          | 10           | 257    | 175   | 150          | 2            | 60     | 2.684     |
| MT      | C      | 9                           | 6            | 0            | 0      | 15        | 9   | 6            | 0            | 0      | 1   | 1            | 0            | 0      | 17        |
| NL      | B      | 1468                        | 763          | 225          | 131    | 2587      | 1547  |              | 1182         |        | 650   |              | 502          |        | 3.881     |
| AT      | A      | 20211                       | 1651         | 28           | 0      | 21890     | 20176   | 1679         | 27           | 0      | 1094  | 485          | 6            | 0      | 23.467    |
| PL      | C      | 11899                       | 196          | 7            | 0      | 12102     | 11899   | 196          | 7            | 0      | 393   | 9            | 0            | 0      | 12.504    |
| PT      | A      | 2048                        | 170          | 2            | 0      | 2220      | 2048  | 170          | 2            | 0      | 441   | 87           | 0            | 0      | 2.748     |
| RO      | A      | 3193                        | 48           | 22           | 10     | 3273      | 3193  | 48           | 22           | 10     | 75  | 4            | 0            | 3      | 3.355     |
| SI      | A      | 2000                        | 63           | 0            | 0      | 2063      | 2000  | 63           | 0            | 0      | 229   | 20           | 0            | 0      | 2.312     |
| SK      | A      | 279                         | 52           | 3            | 19     | 353       | 276   | 25           | 2            | 16     | 32  | 0            | 0            | 1      | 352       |
| FI      | B      | 3934                        | 528          | 40           | 0      | 4502      | 3923  | 522          | 39           | 0      | 174   | 8            | 0            | 0      | 4.666     |
| SE      | A      | 5623                        | 475          | 135          | 0      | 6233      | 5795  | 390          | 98           | 0      | 0   | 0            | 0            | 0      | 6.283     |
| UK      | A      | 5121                        | 1834         | 181          | 0      | 7136      | :   | :            | :            | :      | :   | :            | :            | :      | :         |
| NO      | A      | 2611                        | 565          | 1            | 0      | 3177      | 2611  | 648          | 1            | 0      | 2612  | 653          | 1            | 0      | 6.526     |

\* All producers: includes "Producers only", "Mixed producers/processors", "Mixed producers/importers", "Mixed producers/processors/importers"

\*\* All processors: includes "Processors only", "Mixed producers/processors", "Mixed processors/importers", "Mixed producers/processors/importers"

\*\*\* All importers: includes "Importers only", "Mixed producers/importers", "Mixed processors/importers", "Mixed producers/processors/importers"

\*\*\*\* "Mixed" operators might be counted several times

System A: System of approved private inspection bodies

System B: System of (a) designated public inspection authority (ies)

System C: System of a designated public inspection authority and approved private inspection bodies

":" = not available, (1) please see footnote in Table 3

**Table 3 - No. of announced and unannounced visits**

| Country | No. of visits<br>announced |              |              |        |        | No. of visits<br>unannounced |              |              |        |        | Total no. of visits |              |              |        |        |
|---------|----------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------|--------|------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------|--------|---------------------|--------------|--------------|--------|--------|
|         | producers*                 | processors** | importers*** | others | TOTAL  | producers*                   | processors** | importers*** | others | TOTAL  | producers*          | processors** | importers*** | others | TOTAL  |
| BE      | 876                        | 569          | 89           | 122    | 1.656  | 68                           | 1164         | 574          | 84     | 1.890  | 944                 | 1.733        | 663          | 206    | 3.546  |
| BG      | 243                        | 46           | 34           | 32     | 355    | 9                            | 0            | 0            | 3      | 12     | 252                 | 46           | 34           | 35     | 367    |
| CZ      | 1336                       | 254          | 24           | 94     | 1.708  | 107                          | 5            | 0            | 0      | 112    | 1.443               | 259          | 24           | 94     | 1.820  |
| DK (1)  | 2835                       | 101          | 0            | 11     | 2.947  | 111                          | 5            | 0            | 0      | 116    | 2.946               | 106          | 0            | 11     | 3.063  |
| DE      | 19590                      | 9601         | 891          | 1694   | 31.776 | 1882                         | 1377         | 144          | 174    | 3.577  | 21.472              | 10.978       | 1.035        | 1.868  | 35.353 |
| EE      | 1259                       | 18           | 0            | 0      | 1.277  | 74                           | 20           | 0            | 0      | 94     | 1.333               | 38           | 0            | 0      | 1.371  |
| IE      | 1062                       | 201          | 23           | 0      | 1.286  | 131                          | 9            | 0            | 0      | 140    | 1.193               | 210          | 23           | 0      | 1.426  |
| EL      | 25109                      | 1318         | 15           | 0      | 26.442 | 3898                         | 397          | 7            | 0      | 4.302  | 29.007              | 1.715        | 22           | 0      | 30.744 |
| ES      | 16466                      | 1791         | 70           | 237    | 18.564 | 3103                         | 730          | 8            | 17     | 3.858  | 19.569              | 2.521        | 78           | 254    | 22.422 |
| FR      | 12002                      | 3905         | 175          | 2936   | 19.018 | 6681                         | 2686         | 155          | 1561   | 11.083 | 18.683              | 6.591        | 330          | 4.497  | 30.101 |
| IT      | 47512                      | 6298         | 211          | 398    | 54.419 | 6989                         | 1512         | 47           | 222    | 8.770  | 54.501              | 7.810        | 258          | 620    | 63.189 |
| CY      | 442                        | 48           | 1            | 12     | 503    | 47                           | 16           | 1            | 4      | 68     | 489                 | 64           | 2            | 16     | 571    |
| LV      | 4200                       | 13           | 0            | 0      | 4.213  | 228                          | 11           | 0            | 0      | 239    | 4.428               | 24           | 0            | 0      | 4.452  |
| LT      | 2906                       | 27           | 0            | 0      | 2.933  | 158                          | 0            | 0            | 0      | 158    | 3.064               | 27           | 0            | 0      | 3.091  |
| LU      | -                          | :            | :            | :      | :      | :                            | :            | :            | :      | :      | :                   | :            | :            | :      | :      |
| HU      | 1717                       | 493          | 11           | 288    | 2.509  | 70                           | 75           | 1            | 26     | 172    | 1.787               | 568          | 12           | 314    | 2.681  |
| MT      | 9                          | 6            | 0            | 0      | 15     | 0                            | 0            | 0            | 0      | 0      | 12                  | 8            | 0            | 0      | 15     |
| NL      | 1567                       |              | 1876         |        | 3.443  | 375                          |              | 63           |        | 438    | 1.942               |              | 1.939        |        | 3.881  |
| AT      | 10851                      | 2116         | 39           | 0      | 13.006 | 10528                        | 1074         | 5            | 0      | 11.607 | 21.379              | 3.190        | 44           | 0      | 24.613 |
| PL      | 8864                       | 192          | 10           | 0      | 9.066  | 433                          | 3            | 0            | 0      | 436    | 9.297               | 195          | 10           | 0      | 9.502  |
| PT      | 2068                       | 175          | 2            | 0      | 2.245  | 354                          | 64           | 0            | 0      | 418    | 2.422               | 239          | 2            | 0      | 2.663  |
| RO      | 3193                       | 48           | 22           | 10     | 3.273  | 83                           | 9            | 0            | 4      | 96     | 3.276               | 57           | 22           | 14     | 3.369  |
| SI      | 1990                       | 87           | 0            | 0      | 2.077  | 263                          | 16           | 0            | 0      | 279    | 2.253               | 103          | 0            | 0      | 2.356  |
| SK      | 539                        | 37           | 6            | 20     | 602    | 32                           | 0            | 0            | 1      | 33     | 571                 | 37           | 6            | 21     | 635    |
| FI      | 3624                       | 532          | 39           | 0      | 4.195  | 473                          | 0            | 0            | 0      | 473    | 4.097               | 532          | 39           | 0      | 4.668  |
| SE      | 5652                       | 390          | 98           | 0      | 6.140  | 143                          | 0            | 0            | 0      | 143    | 5.795               | 390          | 98           | 0      | 6.283  |
| UK      | 4995                       | 2311         | 112          | 0      | 7.418  | 222                          | 93           | 21           | 0      | 336    | 5.217               | 2.404        | 133          | 0      | 7.754  |
| NO      | 2612                       | 653          | 1            | 0      | 3.266  | 133                          | 52           | 0            | 0      | 185    | 2.745               | 705          | 1            | 0      | 3.451  |

Announced visit: the operator is informed about the visit of an inspector

Unannounced visit: unexpected on-the-spot visit by an inspector of the premises of an operator

": " = not available

(1) In DK organic farming inspections are an integral element of general food inspections, therefore it was not possible to provide specific figures for tables 2 and 3. DK notified that in 2007 a total of 1221 inspection visits were carried out on food undertakings (excluding meat processing companies subject to daily or weekly supervision). Processors received 884 visits and "other undertakings", including importers, received 337 visits (data are for Veterinary and Food Administration).

**Table 4 - No. of samples taken, irregularities and manifest infringements**

| Country | No. of samples     |              |              |        |       | No. of irregularities or infringements found |         |         |        |                             |         |         |        |                    |                                     |         |         |        |                     | TOTAL  |
|---------|--------------------|--------------|--------------|--------|-------|--|---------|---------|--------|-----------------------------|---------|---------|--------|--------------------|-------------------------------------|---------|---------|--------|---------------------|--------|
|         | taken for analysis |              |              |        | TOTAL | indicating breach of the regulation          |         |         |        | No. of irregularities found |         |         |        | TOTAL<br>of irreg. | No. of manifest infringements found |         |         |        | TOTAL<br>of infrng. |        |
|         | producers*         | processors** | importers*** | others |       | prod.*                                       | proc.** | imp.*** | others | prod.*                      | proc.** | imp.*** | others |                    | prod.*                              | proc.** | imp.*** | others |                     |        |
| BE      | 577                | 420          | 100          | 120    | 1.217 | 0  | 0       | 0       | 0      | 808                         | 787     | 124     | 200    | 1919               | 57                                  | 40      | 0       | 12     | 109                 | 2.028  |
| BG      | 17                 | 17           | 0            | 4      | 38    | 3  | 0       | 0       | 0      | 5                           | 0       | 0       | 0      | 5                  | 0                                   | 0       | 0       | 0      | 0                   | 5      |
| CZ      | 15                 | 2            | 0            | 1      | 18    | 1  | 1       | 0       | 0      | 9                           | 5       | 1       | 0      | 15                 | 2                                   | 0       | 0       | 1      | 3                   | 18     |
| DK (1)  | 0                  | 304          | 0            | 0      | 304   | 0  | 1       | 0       | 0      | 0                           | 0       | 0       | 0      | 0                  | 119                                 | 6       | 0       | 0      | 125                 | 125    |
| DE      | 231                | 215          | 44           | 64     | 554   | 33   | 26      | 5       | 10     | 1267                        | 2094    | 76      | 73     | 3510               | 13                                  | 0       | 2       | 0      | 15                  | 3.525  |
| EE      | 35                 | 0            | 0            | 0      | 35    | 5  | 0       | 0       | 0      | 19                          | 16      | 0       | 0      | 35                 | 13                                  | 0       | 0       | 0      | 13                  | 48     |
| IE      | 0                  | 0            | 0            | 0      | 0     | 0  | 0       | 0       | 0      | 26                          | 1       | 0       | 0      | 27                 | 0                                   | 0       | 0       | 0      | 0                   | 27     |
| EL      | 2468               | 162          | 0            | 0      | 2.630 | 307  | 29      | 0       | 0      | 562                         | 12      | 0       | 0      | 574                | 293                                 | 27      | 0       | 0      | 320                 | 894    |
| ES      | 4834               | 1178         | 38           | 104    | 6.154 | 153  | 45      | 2       | 6      | 651                         | 101     | 21      | 36     | 809                | 144                                 | 24      | 3       | 2      | 173                 | 982    |
| FR      | 1166               | 827          | 30           | 37     | 2.060 | 26   | 17      | 2       | 1      | 14924                       | 7488    | 419     | 3507   | 26338              | 1325                                | 61      | 5       | 17     | 1408                | 27.746 |
| IT      | 3492               | 1307         | 103          | 180    | 5.082 | 278  | 81      | 1       | 0      | 12500                       | 1146    | 30      | 42     | 13718              | 991                                 | 188     | 3       | 35     | 1217                | 14.935 |
| CY      | 11                 | 3            | 0            | 2      | 16    | 0  | 0       | 0       | 0      | 24                          | 5       | 0       | 1      | 30                 | 0                                   | 0       | 0       | 0      | 0                   | 30     |
| LV      | 12                 | 0            | 0            | 0      | 12    | 0  | 0       | 0       | 0      | 186                         | 4       | 0       | 0      | 190                | 4                                   | 0       | 0       | 0      | 4                   | 194    |
| LT      | 7                  | 1            | 0            | 0      | 8     | 0  | 0       | 0       | 0      | 12                          | 0       | 0       | 0      | 12                 | 3                                   | 0       | 0       | 0      | 3                   | 15     |
| LU      | :                  | :            | :            | :      | :     | :  | :       | :       | :      | :                           | :       | :       | :      | :                  | :                                   | :       | :       | :      | :                   | :      |
| HU      | 6                  | 0            | 0            | 1      | 7     | 2  | 0       | 0       | 0      | 148                         | 96      | 0       | 104    | 348                | 6                                   | 11      | 0       | 2      | 19                  | 367    |
| MT      | 0                  | 2            | 0            | 0      | 2     | 0  | 0       | 0       | 0      | 0                           | 0       | 0       | 0      | 0                  | 0                                   | 0       | 0       | 0      | 0                   | 0      |
| NL      | 146                | 117          | 0            | 115    | 378   | 21   | 22      | 0       | 0      | 186                         | 101     | 0       | 0      | 287                | 13                                  | 0       | 0       | 0      | 13                  | 300    |
| AT      | 127                | 711          | 4            | 9      | 851   | 16   | 35      | 0       | 0      | 304                         | 63      | 0       | 6      | 373                | 117                                 | 1       | 0       | 0      | 118                 | 491    |
| PL      | 92                 | 7            | 0            | 0      | 99    | 16   | 0       | 0       | 0      | 8239                        | 131     | 5       | 0      | 8375               | 356                                 | 1       | 0       | 0      | 357                 | 8.732  |
| PT      | 24                 | 17           | 0            | 0      | 41    | 2  | 0       | 0       | 0      | 2242                        | 198     | 0       | 0      | 2440               | 656                                 | 44      | 0       | 0      | 700                 | 3.140  |
| RO      | 147                | 5            | 0            | 6      | 158   | 7  | 0       | 0       | 0      | 80                          | 0       | 0       | 1      | 81                 | 14                                  | 0       | 0       | 1      | 15                  | 96     |
| SI      | 101                | 8            | 0            | 0      | 109   | 34   | 1       | 0       | 0      | 1664                        | 7       | 0       | 0      | 1671               | 270                                 | 7       | 0       | 0      | 277                 | 1.948  |
| SK      | 19                 | 0            | 0            | 1      | 20    | 0  | 0       | 0       | 0      | 76                          | 2       | 0       | 0      | 78                 | 4                                   | 0       | 0       | 0      | 4                   | 82     |
| FI      | 2                  | 26           | 8            | 0      | 36    | 0  | 0       | 1       | 0      | 1239                        | 282     | 0       | 0      | 1521               | 249                                 | 2       | 0       | 0      | 251                 | 1.772  |
| SE      | 7                  | 0            | 0            | 0      | 7     | 0  | 0       | 0       | 0      | 333                         | 186     | 0       | 0      | 519                | 76                                  | 0       | 0       | 0      | 76                  | 595    |
| UK      | 233                | 0            | 0            | 0      | 233   | 0  | 0       | 0       | 0      | 1003                        | 0       | 0       | 0      | 1003               | 0                                   | 0       | 0       | 0      | 0                   | 1.003  |
| NO      | 9                  | 0            | 1            | 0      | 10    | 0  | 0       | 0       | 0      | 0                           | 0       | 0       | 0      | 0                  | 0                                   | 79      | 14      | 0      | 93                  | 93     |

":" = not available

(1) DK combined "irregularities" and "manifest infringements" in one group

**Table 5 - No. of sanctions or penalties**

| Country       | No. of sanctions or penalties applied |              |              |        |                 |              |              |        | TOTAL       |
|---------------|---------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------|-----------------|--------------|--------------|--------|-------------|
|               | on the lot or the production run      |              |              |        | on the operator |              |              |        |             |
|               | producers*                            | processors** | importers*** | others | producers*      | processors** | importers*** | others |             |
| <b>BE</b>     | 30                                    | 23           | 0            | 11     | 5               | 6            | 0            | 1      | <b>76</b>   |
| <b>BG</b>     | 2                                     | 0            | 0            | 0      | 0               | 0            | 0            | 0      | <b>2</b>    |
| <b>CZ</b>     | 0                                     | 0            | 0            | 0      | 2               | 0            | 0            | 0      | <b>2</b>    |
| <b>DK (1)</b> | 119                                   | 0            | 0            | 0      | 0               | 6            | 0            | 0      | <b>125</b>  |
| <b>DE (2)</b> | 87                                    | 27           | 3            | 6      | 2               | 0            | 0            | 0      | <b>125</b>  |
| <b>EE</b>     | 0                                     | 0            | 0            | 0      | 2               | 0            | 0            | 0      | <b>2</b>    |
| <b>IE</b>     | 26                                    | 1            | 0            | 0      | 0               | 0            | 0            | 0      | <b>27</b>   |
| <b>EL</b>     | 617                                   | 18           | 0            | 0      | 223             | 19           | 0            | 0      | <b>877</b>  |
| <b>ES</b>     | 340                                   | 63           | 3            | 2      | 118             | 20           | 2            | 0      | <b>548</b>  |
| <b>FR</b>     | 1281                                  | 47           | 4            | 11     | 44              | 14           | 1            | 6      | <b>1408</b> |
| <b>IT</b>     | 1329                                  | 119          | 3            | 0      | 975             | 116          | 0            | 5      | <b>2547</b> |
| <b>CY</b>     | 11                                    | 1            | 0            | 1      | 0               | 0            | 0            | 0      | <b>13</b>   |
| <b>LV</b>     | 15                                    | 2            | 0            | 0      | 4               | 0            | 0            | 0      | <b>21</b>   |
| <b>LT</b>     | 0                                     | 0            | 0            | 0      | 15              | 0            | 0            | 0      | <b>15</b>   |
| <b>LU</b>     | :                                     | :            | :            | :      | :               | :            | :            | :      | <b>:</b>    |
| <b>HU</b>     | 114                                   | 10           | 0            | 0      | 2               | 3            | 0            | 0      | <b>129</b>  |
| <b>MT</b>     | 0                                     | 0            | 0            | 0      | 0               | 0            | 0            | 0      | <b>0</b>    |
| <b>NL</b>     | 0                                     | 0            | 0            | 20     | 6               | 0            | 0            | 0      | <b>26</b>   |
| <b>AT</b>     | 298                                   | 62           | 0            | 6      | 64              | 9            | 0            | 0      | <b>439</b>  |
| <b>PL</b>     | 2                                     | 0            | 0            | 0      | 327             | 1            | 0            | 0      | <b>330</b>  |
| <b>PT</b>     | 257                                   | 17           | 0            | 0      | 20              | 0            | 0            | 0      | <b>294</b>  |
| <b>RO</b>     | 17                                    | 1            | 0            | 0      | 56              | 0            | 0            | 0      | <b>74</b>   |
| <b>SI</b>     | 1848                                  | 0            | 0            | 0      | 992             | 7            | 0            | 0      | <b>2847</b> |
| <b>SK</b>     | 0                                     | 0            | 0            | 0      | 4               | 0            | 0            | 0      | <b>4</b>    |
| <b>FI</b>     | 246                                   | 185          | 0            | 0      | 3               | 16           | 0            | 0      | <b>450</b>  |
| <b>SE</b>     | 0                                     | 0            | 0            | 0      | 0               | 0            | 0            | 0      | <b>0</b>    |
| <b>UK</b>     | 115                                   | 0            | 0            | 0      | 0               | 0            | 0            | 0      | <b>115</b>  |
| <b>NO</b>     | 33                                    | 1            | 0            | 0      | 0               | 3            | 0            | 0      | <b>37</b>   |

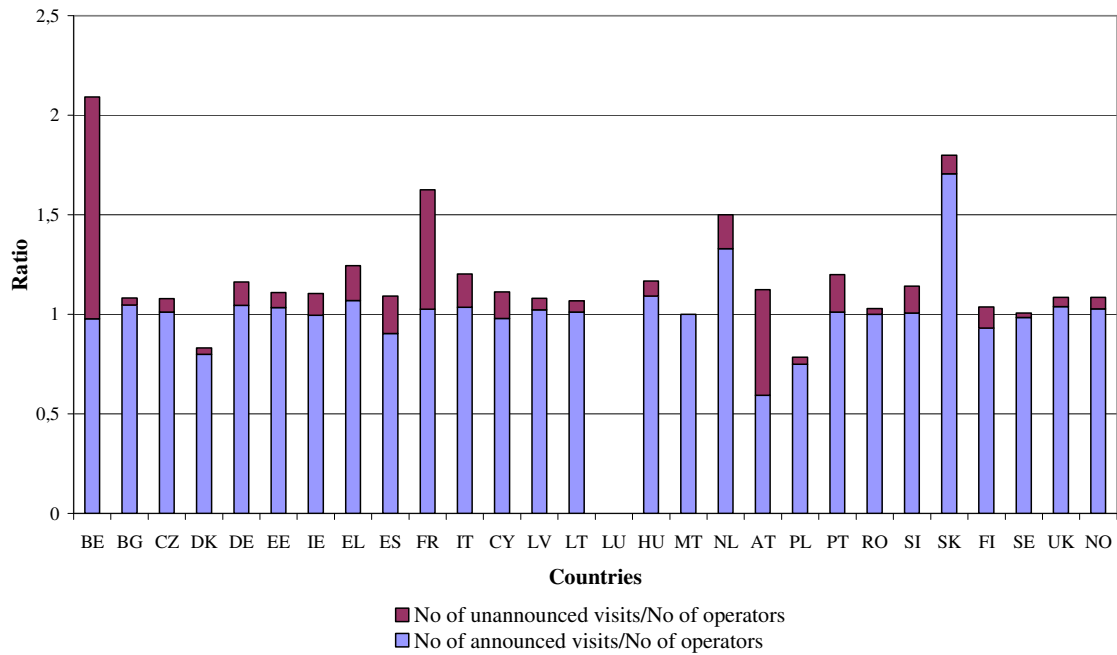
":" = not available

(1) For DK, in the reporting of penalties applied per business, wholesalers which also process were included in the group "processors" while wholesalers which do not were included in the group "other businesses". It is not known whether any of the penalised processors are also listed as importers. Only one irregularity/infringement is recorded per business even if several simultaneous infringements are detected when a business is inspected. Therefore information on the number of infringements involving a specific batch or production run cannot be given.

(2) DE reported only cases in accordance with Art. 9 (par. 9) a) and b) of Reg. (CEE) 2092/91

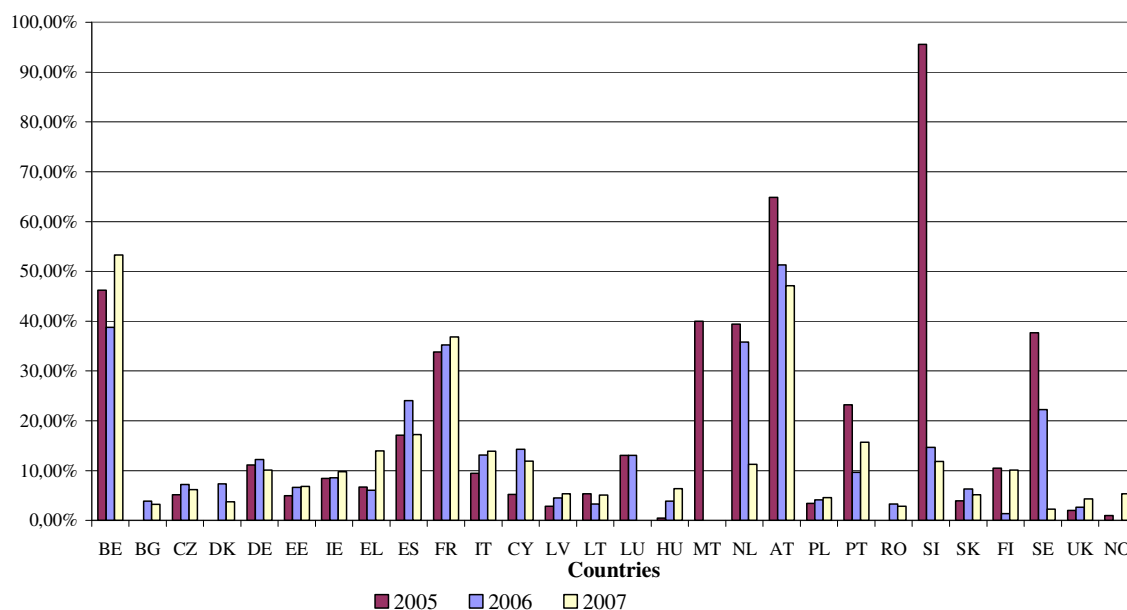
The Figure 1 gives an overview of average number of visits per operator in the year 2007. As not all Member States provided the number of operators submitted to regular visits and number of operators who received additional visits, we used the number of announced and unannounced visits.

**Figure 1 – Number of announced and unannounced visits of inspection bodies per Member State, standardised by division through the number of operators**



This figure shows a large variation between Member States in the number of announced and unannounced visits. The use of unannounced visits also varies considerably among Member States and years. This is shown even more clearly by Figure 2.

**Figure 2 – Percentage of unannounced visits out of all visits**

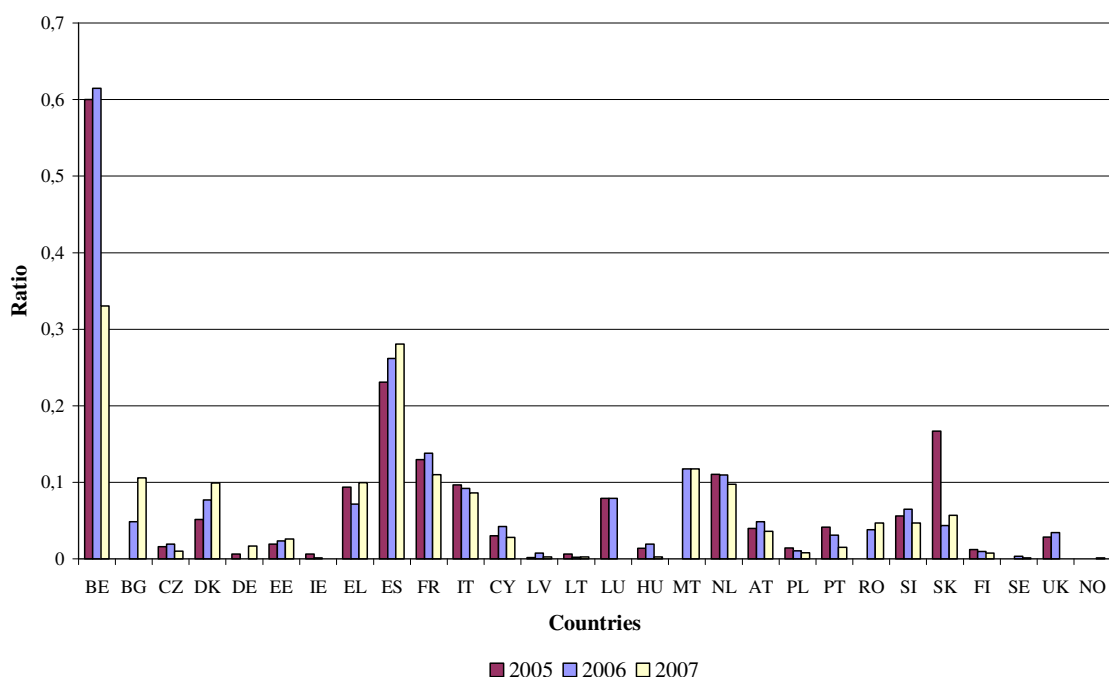


*4.1.2. Samples taken and analysed*

According to Annex III 5 of (EEC) No 2092/91, inspection bodies or inspection authorities, during the inspection, may take samples for testing of products not authorised under this Regulation or for checking production techniques not in conformity with the Regulation. Samples may also be taken and analysed for detecting possible contamination by unauthorised products.

Figure 3 shows how many samples have been taken by the inspection bodies (as a ratio of the number of operators) in the different Member States.

**Figure 3 – Average number of samples taken, given as a ratio of the number of operators**



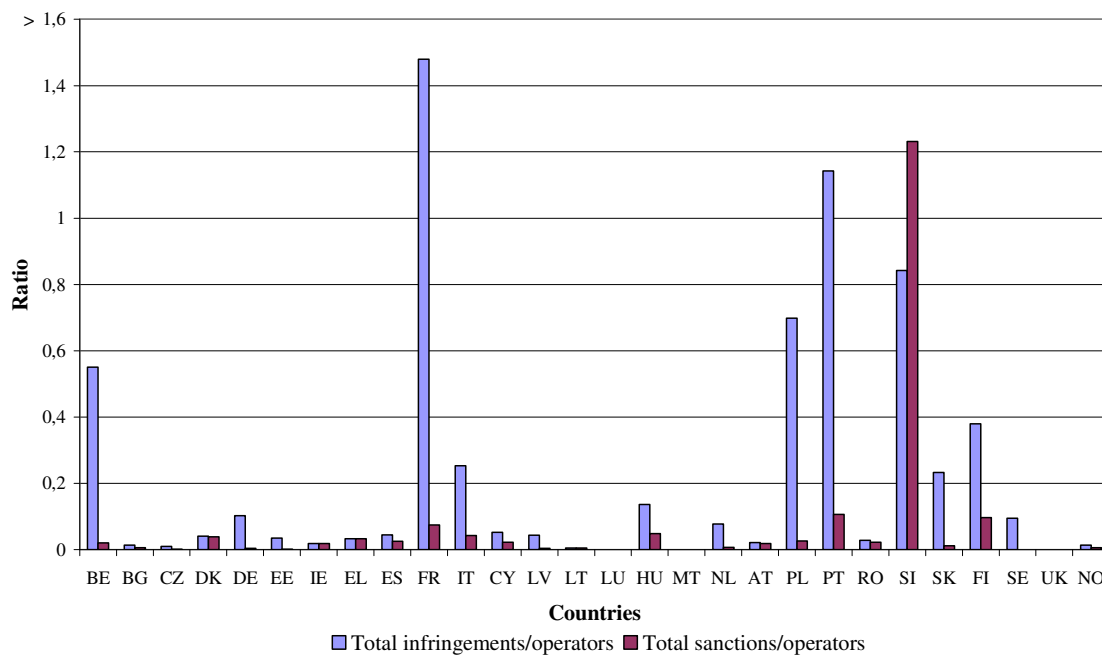
## 4.2. Irregularities/infringements and sanctions

According to Article 9.9 of Regulation (EEC) No 2092/91, the inspection authorities and inspection bodies have to ensure that where an irregularity is found the indications referring to the organic production method are removed from the entire lot or production run affected by the irregularity concerned. Where a manifest infringement is found the operator has to be prohibited from marketing products with indications referring to the organic production method for a certain period.

Most of the Member States have distinguished between irregularities and manifest infringements.

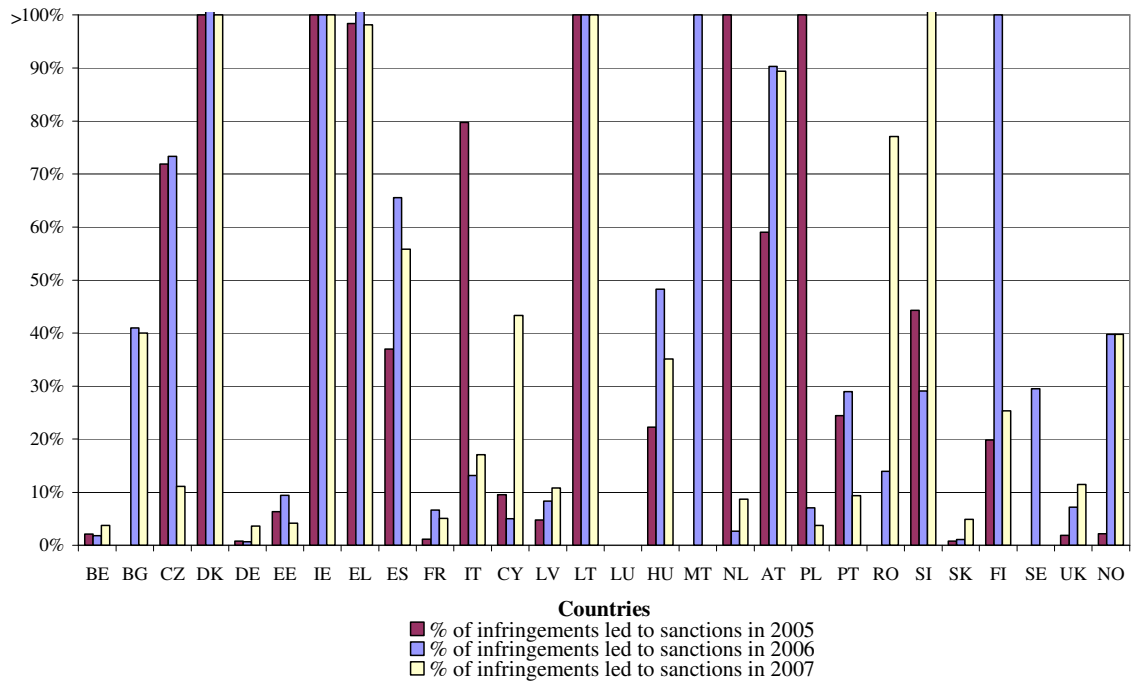
For the sanctions applied they specified whether these were taken with respect to the lot/production run or the operator. For both infringements and sanctions they have given their data per type of operator.

**Figure 4 – Infringements and sanctions per Member State (divided by number of operators)**



Comparing the total numbers of infringements with sanctions in Figure 4, we are trying to show a correlation between the number of sanctions and the number of infringements per Member State. Given the difficulty to compare and analyse the data, it is impossible to draw clear conclusions.

**Figure 5 – Percentage of total infringements which led to sanctions**



## **5. OBSERVATIONS AND COMMENTS**

The Commission would like to thank to the Member State for the data provided and stress that the quality and the usefulness of the summary report largely depends on the extent and the format of the data provided.

Several conclusions can be drawn up from the report:

- the key element of the control system, i.e. annual inspection visit of each operator has been fulfilled. This is shown by comparing the number of operators submitted to regular and additional visits with the total number of operators,
- there is a significant variation among the Member States as regards the share of unannounced visits on all inspection visits and as regards the number of samples taken for analysis,
- it is significant that the quality of data provided has increased in comparison with reporting years 2005 and 2006, however it is still difficult to reach a clear conclusion as different definitions of the parameters and the different data acquisition are used by the Member States.