



# BELGIAN FEDERAL AGENCY FOR THE SAFETY OF THE FOOD CHAIN (FOOD AGENCY)

## Export fruits and vegetables

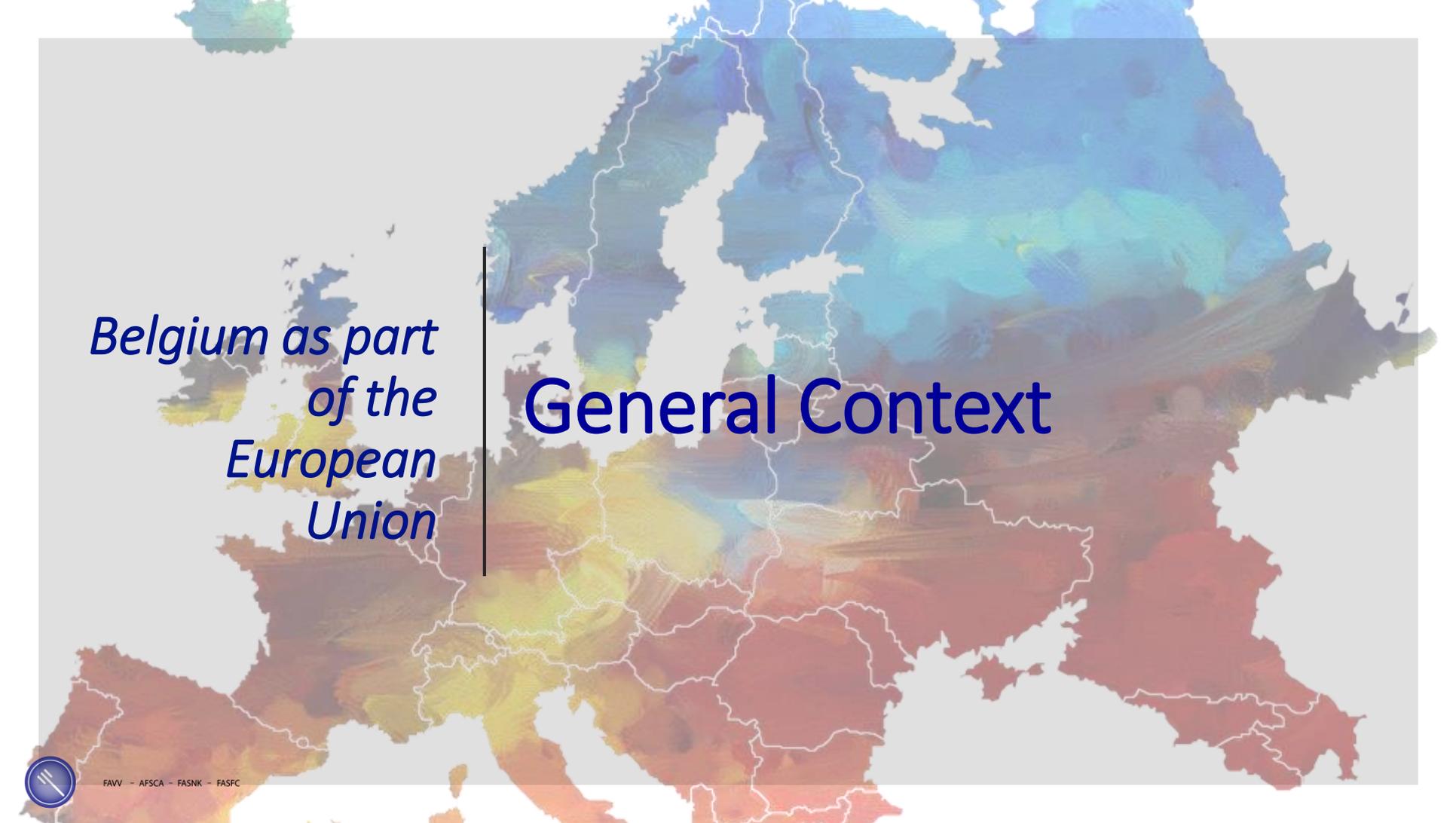
Implementation additional guarantees related to the absence of quarantine  
pests requested in phytosanitary certificates



Ilse Van Nerum

Advisor International Affairs

Export of plants, plant products, feed and animal byproducts

A topographic map of Europe with a color gradient from blue (high elevation) to red (low elevation). A vertical white line is drawn through the map, separating the British Isles (UK and Ireland) on the left from the rest of Europe on the right. The text 'Belgium as part of the European Union' is written in blue italics on the left side of the line. The text 'General Context' is written in large blue font on the right side of the line.

*Belgium as part  
of the  
European  
Union*

# General Context



# A public service, independent agency under the authority of a Minister

*The mission of the Food Agency is to preserve the safety of the food chain and the quality of our food in order to protect the health of humans, animals and plants.*

## Competencies :

- Operational regulations – MANCP
- Registration, authorization, approval of business operators (operator database BOOD)
- Export certification
- Prevention, awareness and information
- Laboratories
- Surveillance of the different links to the chain (products and production processes)





# The Food Agency as it is today



# Phytosanitary export certificate (PC)

1. Name and address of exporter	2. <b>PHYTOSANITARY CERTIFICATE</b> No EU BE/
3. Recipient name and address of consignee	4. Plant Protection Organization of <b>BELGIUM</b> to Plant Protection Organization(s) of
6. Mode of conveyance	5. Place of origin
7. Port of entry	 
8. Shipping marks, number and description of packages; name of produce; botanical name of plants	9. Quantity declared

Certificates issued by the Food Agency in accordance with:

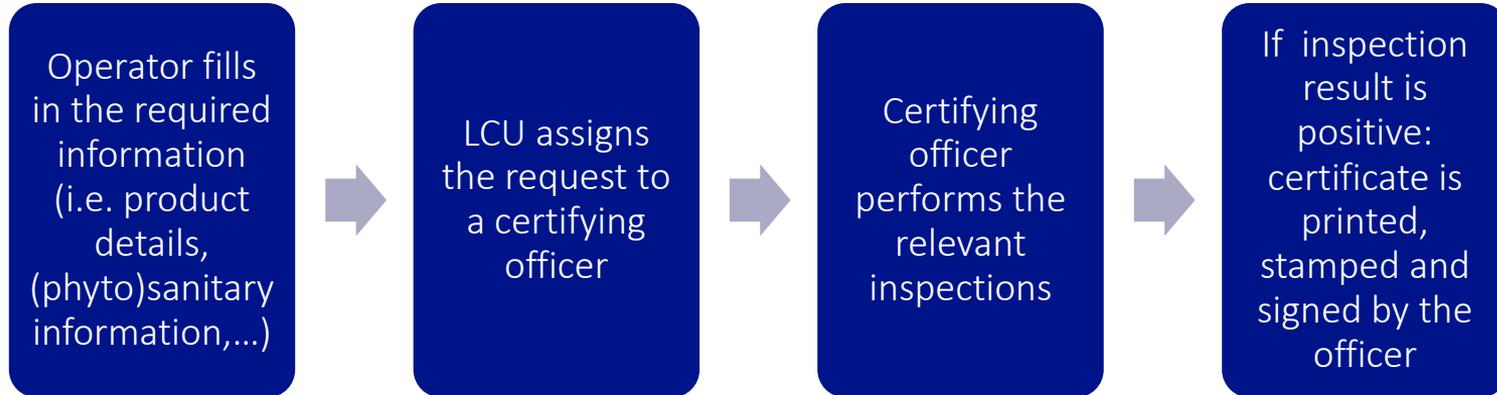
- Regulation (EU) 2016/2031 (“Plant Health Law”)
- Belgian Royal Decree of 10/08/2005
- Bilateral agreements and protocols
- FAO/IPPC international standards

On request of the professional operator



# BeCert – Belgian digital system for application & generation of certificates

- Linked to multiple electronic databases of Food Agency (e.g. BOOD)
- In the near future, further developments in order to link BeCert to TRACES NT



# BeCert – Belgian digital system for application & generation of certificates

NL | FR | EN My profile | BeCert FAQ | BeCert Support

Foodweb EDU - Application date is 05/03/2021 6:24:27 PM (Change date)

Welcome Peeters Peter, you are logged in as 9005274355 [Change operator](#) | [Log off](#)

Welcome My file My profile **BeCert** Contribution Invoices and payments FAQ Contact

Dashboard New request Tasks Preferences

**Certificates being processed (0)**  [Quick search](#) [Reset](#) [Search](#) [↻](#)

Reference	Request number	Creation date	Loading date	Cat.	Product	Ctry	Status	LCU	Actions
No certificate available									

**My drafts (0)** [↻](#)

Reference	Creation date	Loading date	Cat.	Product	Ctry	Actions
No drafts						

**My certificates (0)**  [Quick search](#) [Reset](#) [Search](#) [↻](#)

Reference	Certificate nr.	Cat.	Product	Ctry	Cert. date	Status	Actions
No certificate available							

NL | FR | EN My profile | BeCert FAQ | BeCert Support

Foodweb EDU - Application date is 05/03/2021 6:26:05 PM (Change date)

Welcome Peeters Peter, you are logged in as 9005274355 [Change operator](#) | [Log off](#)

Welcome My file My profile **BeCert** Contribution Invoices and payments FAQ Contact

Dashboard **New request** Tasks Preferences

**Combination country/product** **Draft**

**Overview**

**Combination country/product** [↻](#)

**Operator**  
Firma Peeters2  
9005274355

**Loading details**

**Consignment details**

**Annexes**

**Confirmation**

**Comments**

Depending on the selected country and product, BeCert proposes one or more certificate models that may comply with your request. The certificate models available in BeCert must be completed via the application, otherwise the certification will be refused. All other export certificates to third countries can be requested via "Other certificate model". The completed certificate must be attached to the penultimate step ("Annexes") of the request. The choice of the correct certificate model is the responsibility of the requestor. More information can be found on [our website](#).

**Request specifications**

Country \*

Products category \*

Product \*

Reference

[Next](#) [>](#)



# Phytosanitary requirements of importing countries

Belgian Royal Decree: Operator must present official information on the phytosanitary import requirements to the certifying officer

e.g. import license, legislation or other official communication of importing country

Food Agency website:

Instructions for specific product/country combinations where a bilateral protocol or integrated approach is imposed by the importing country (e.g. apple/Thailand)

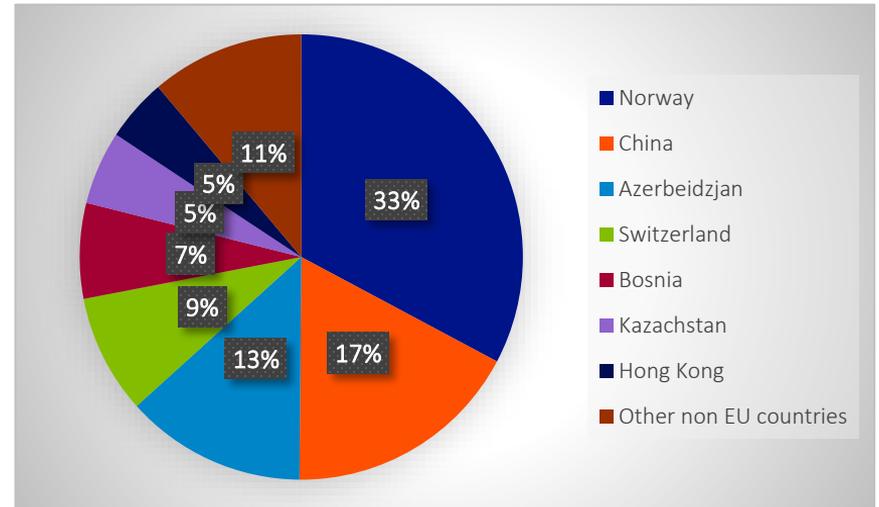
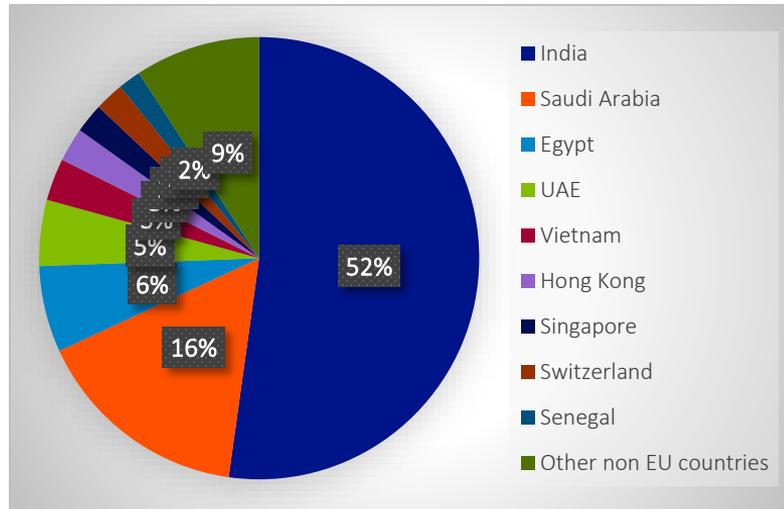


[www.afsca.be](http://www.afsca.be)

# Export appels & pears from BE to non-EU countries

Apples 2019: 6.441 tons

Pears 2019: 15.559 tons



Source: Eurostat



# Integrated measures for pest risk management

- For export Belgian apples & pears to several countries (including apple – Thailand)
- Combination of phytosanitary measures
- In all stages of the process (growing season, harvesting, sorting, packing and transport)
- Special emphasis on traceability
- Specific registration of participating operators



# Food Agency (NPPO) – Supervision & Inspection & Phytosanitary certification



# Integrated procedure for export Belgian apples & pears

- Integrated sector procedure describing phytosanitary measures
  - ✓ General measures e.g. registration, IPM, validated self-checking system...
  - ✓ Pest and country specific measures e.g. monitoring codling moth, in transit cold treatment, ...
- Registration operators in BOOD
- Additional registration participating operators per country and growing season for export



# Integrated procedure for export Belgian apples & pears - Registration

POs	Producers & orchards	Storage facilities	Packing houses	Exporters
Deadline for registration: 15/04	15/04	01/08	01/08	Prior to export
Obligation to notify immediately upon change				
Name, address, establishment registration N° in BOOD				
	Unique field-ID and location			



# Integrated procedure for export Belgian apples & pears - Official supervision

Pcfruit (Belgian Research Station for Fruit Growing) authorized by the Food Agency to monitor orchards/producers for export

- ✓ Specific instructions and checklist of the Food Agency
- ✓ Notify non conformity and/or the presence of regulated pests to the Food Agency within 48h
- ✓ Overview of all controls within 1 week after last inspection
- ✓ Final decision on approval or suspension of producer/orchard taken by the Food Agency



# Integrated procedure for export Belgian apples & pears – Official supervision

- Annual inspection by the Food Agency of each registered packing house at the start of their sorting & packing activities for export
- Reports inspections of the Food Agency registered in FOODNET
- In case of non-compliance, corrective actions and if needed exclusion of operator for the season



# Integrated procedure for export Belgian apples & pears – Certification



- Documentary, identity & physical check
- Verification import license\*
- Verification presence of producer/orchard, packing house, PO and exporter on lists of operators eligible for export
- Verification packaging & labels
- Inspection of fruits
- Supervision calibration & placing temperature sensors for in transit cold treatment\*



\* If required by importing country



# Thai market opening for Belgian fresh pears – State of play

- PRA initiated
- Import requirements will be established by DoA based on the result of the PRA
- Belgian procedure to implement requirements will be very similar to the procedure for apple
- Inspection visit?



# THANKS FOR YOUR ATTENTION

---



*TOGETHER TOWARDS A SAFER FOOD CHAIN*

