The starting point and the issues

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The starting point and the issues

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The starting point and the issues

- The journey to 2002
- Status of organic control & regulations
- How were we interacting?
- What were the problems
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The journey to 2002

1920s

1970s

1990s

2002

Ideology & farm level

Private sector standards and controls

National/international regulators

BioFach 2002

GOMA Conference – Feb 2012
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The journey to 2002

1920s
- Steiner
- Rodale
- Demeter
- Steiner
- Rodale
- Demeter

1970s
- SA standard
- IFOAM
- CCOF standards
- Fukuoka

1990s
- Basic Standard
- IFOAM first CB evaluations
- IFOAM accreditation

2002
- IOAS
- UNCTAD
- JAS
- Codex
- NOP
- BioFach 2002
- EU

Oregon State
- IFOAM first CB evaluations
- IFOAM accreditation
- IOAS
- UNCTAD
- JAS
- Codex
- NOP
- BioFach 2002
- EU
2002 – organic control & regulations
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2002 – organic control & regulations – private sector

- Private associations
- Private for profit
- Government
- Foreign inspection
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2002 – organic control & regulations – private sector

IFOAM accreditation – 29 CBs

CB ‘collaboration’

300+ CBs

Many private standards

International CBs

UK Sainsbury’s campaign

American Organic Standards

IFOAM CBs – Multi lateral agreement

CB as agents of government

IFOAM regional variations

Danish control system assessed by IOAS
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2002 – organic control & regulations – regulations

- Implemented
- Not implemented
- Draft
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2002 – organic control & regulations – regulations - EU


2092/91 Country equivalence Import authorisation Wild harvest
Additions to permitted lists EN45011 compliance First third countries
EN45011 implemented Livestock Subcontractors

5 x increase in certified farms

BioFach 2002
2002 – organic control & regulations – regulations - other

1990 – 2002

USA
- OFPA NOSB
- Proposed NOP rule

Canada
- Canadian Organic Advisory Board
- Proposed Federal regulation abandoned
- Canada National standard

Australia
- National standard
- AQIS accreditation
- Export control orders

Japan
- Extension of JAS to organic

Codex
- Codex organic initiated
- Codex adopted
- Codex livestock
2002 – how were we interacting?
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Harmonisation and equivalence – private sector

- IFOAM accreditation
- IFOAM CBs – Multi lateral agreement
- CB ‘collaboration’
- International CBs
- IFOAM regional variations
Harmonisation and equivalence – country to country

Equivalent conformity assessment system

Equivalent standards

EU
Argentina
Australia
Czech Rep.
Hungary
Israel
Switzerland
+7
Harmonisation and equivalence – country system equivalence

Equivalent conformity assessment system

Same standard
Harmonisation and equivalence – direct accreditation

Full compliance with country standard and requirements for certification
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2002 – regulation of imports – other mechanisms

EU importer authorisation
80 countries
80% of imports
90% via 4 MS

Case by case review of CB standard and control measures.

Contracted inspection
Recertification
2002 – what were the problems?

‘we developed a sane system for agriculture but an insane system to regulate it’

‘the globalisation of certification requirements must accompany the globalisation of organic trade’

‘a bilateral solution for multilateral trade’
What were the problems?
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What were the problems?

Public

Private
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What were the problems?

- Many authorities
- Many standards
- Imposition by import countries
- Inconsistent interpretations
- Lack of cooperation/recognition
- Duplication of effort
- Insufficient reference to international standards
- Bureaucratic
- Complex
- Barriers
- High cost
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What were the problems?

- Grass roots and democracy

- Starting point was always self-focused

- Unwillingness/inability to reference international systems

- Equivalence is hard to do and hard to sell
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