

DONAU SOJA & EUROPE SOYA

WITH FUNDING FROM
 AUSTRIAN
DEVELOPMENT
COOPERATION



OUR STANDARDS
& OUR QUALITY SYSTEM

A watercolor-style map of Europe and its surrounding regions, including parts of North Africa and the Middle East. The map uses soft, blended colors of yellow, green, and blue to represent different geographical areas. The text 'OUR STANDARDS & OUR QUALITY SYSTEM' is overlaid on the left side of the map.

Donau Soja & Europe Soya stand for...



- Controlled origin & regional production
- Non-GM
- Traceability & Transparency
- Controlled quality
- Reduced use of plant protection products
- No deforestation / no conversion
- Compliance with EU (ILO) social & labour standards
- Supporting sustainable soya cultivation

Our Standards



Donau Soja Standard

Donau Soja soybeans are

- from the Danube Region
- non-GM
- a product of controlled quality and origin



Europe Soya Standard

Europe Soya soybeans are

- from Europe
- non-GM
- a product of controlled quality and origin
- Optional: Quantity Equivalence System

Europe Soya is produced under the same principles, requirements and certification system as Donau Soja. Donau Soja can become Europe Soya, but not vice versa.

Controlled Origin

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Donau Soja (DS) is of certified origin from **the Danube region**
Europe Soya (ES) is of certified origin from **Europe**

These countries are included in Donau Soja with the following regions:

GERMANY: Bavaria, Baden-Württemberg

ITALY: Trentino Alto Adige, Friuli Venezia Giulia, Veneto, Emilia-Romagna, Lombardia, Piemont, Vallée d'Aoste

POLAND: Dolnoslaskie, Opolskie, Slaskie, Swietokrzyskie, Podkarpackie, Malopolske

UKRAINE: Uschgorod, Tschernowzy, Winniza, Odessa, Lwow, Ternopol, Chmelniczki, Iwano-Frankovsk

Traceability & Transparency



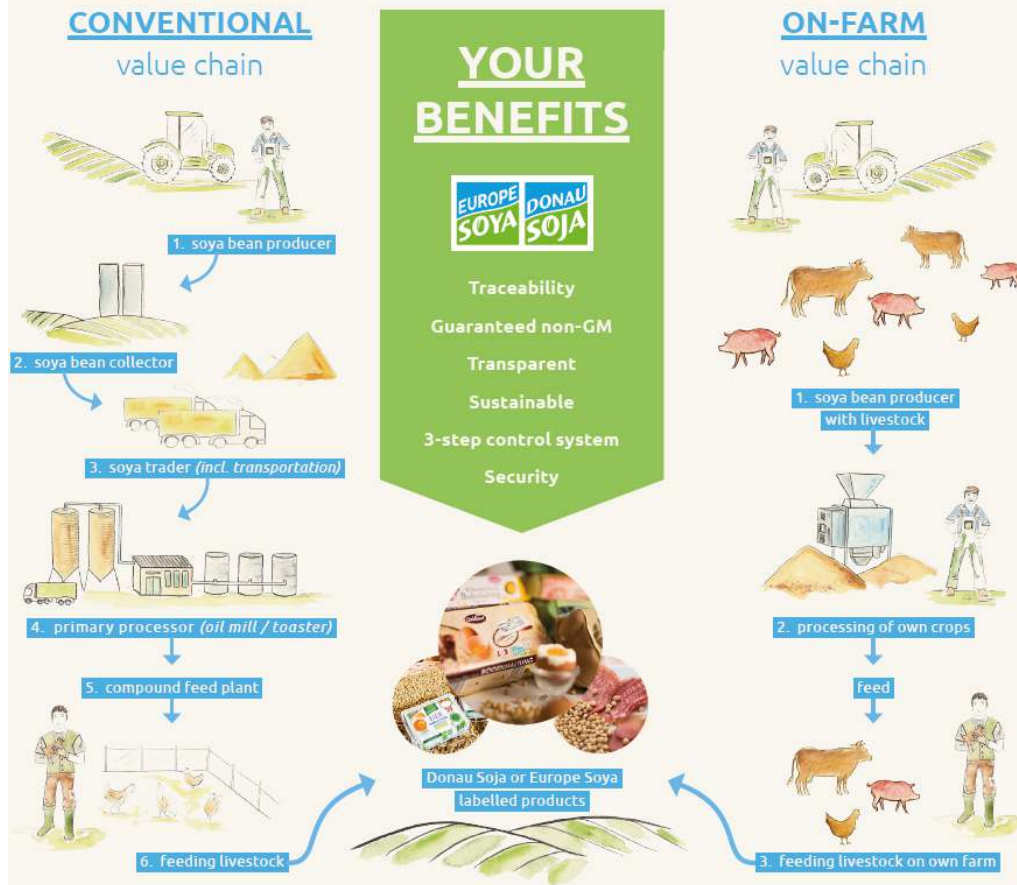
Donau Soja & Europe Soya guarantee regionality

– from farm to fork!

1. Three-Staged Inspection System
2. IT-Supported Traceability System
3. Origin testing using the Soya Isotope Database – a worldwide innovation

1. Three-Staged Inspection System

CERTIFICATION PROCESS

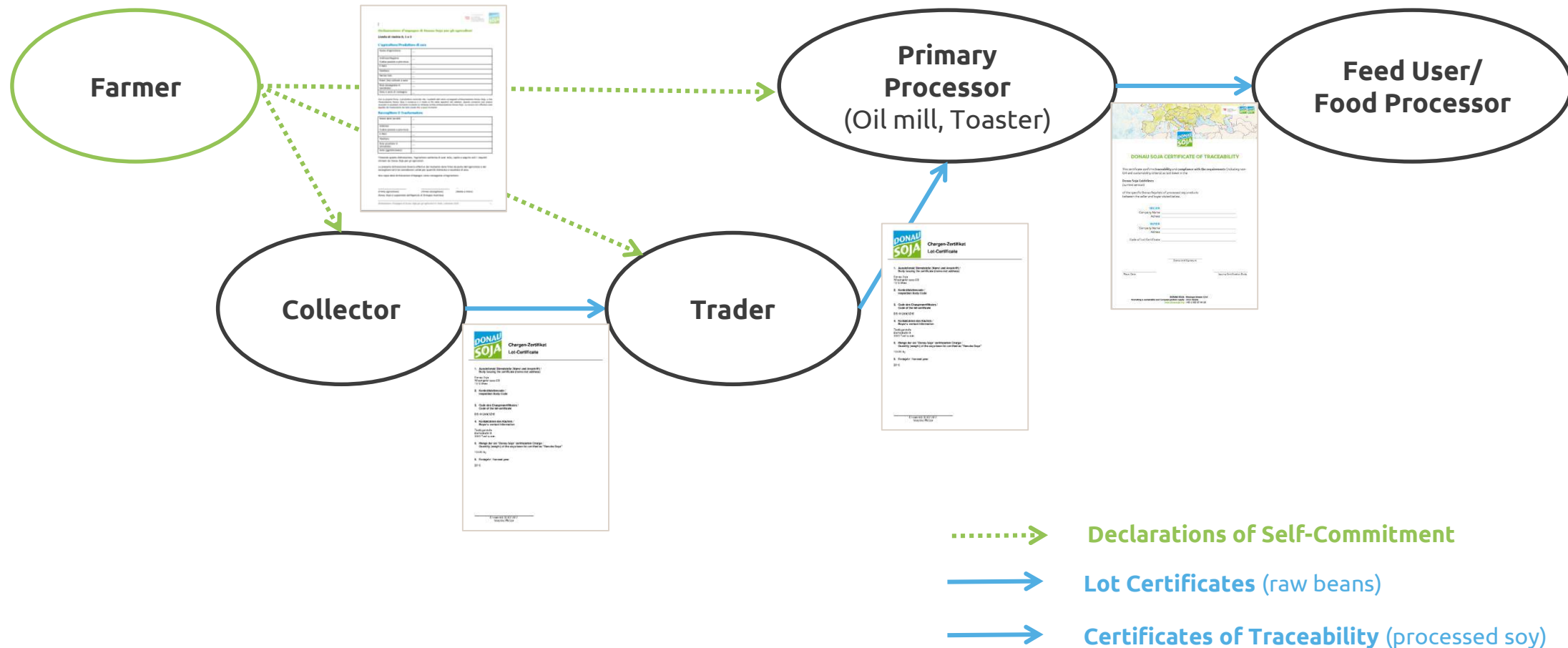


Donau Soja & Europe Soja inspections along the whole value chain

Three-staged inspection system:

1. Self-monitoring / Quality Assurance system
2. External, independent certification bodies for DS/ES certification
3. DS supervisory inspections

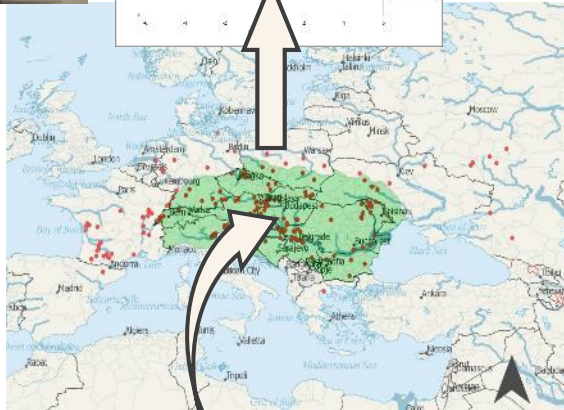
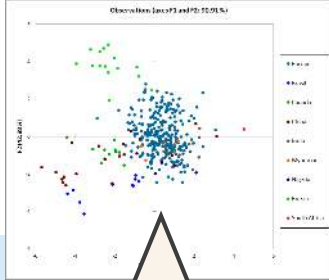
2. IT-Supported Traceability System



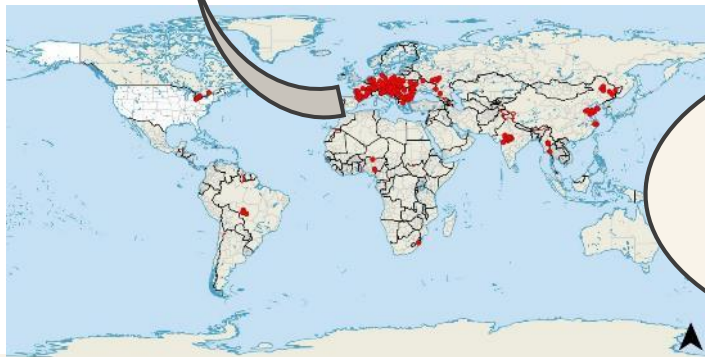
3. Isotope Database



Analysis and database
established by Imprint
Analytics



Collection of >800
samples from the
main growing regions
worldwide with a
focus on Europe.



In the analysis the main isotope patterns of the elements (C, N, S, O, H) are identified and categorised for the main soya bean growing regions.

By a categorization of the isotope patterns the tool can be used to trace the origin of soya beans, meal, SPC or soybean oil.

**Were these beans
grown in Europe?**
*Response database: Yes,
by a "high X" probability.*



Non-GM

All Donau Soja & Europe Soya produce is non-GM

according to the strict German regulation, the Austrian Food Codex or the Non-GM Danube Region Standard.



Guaranteed by strict control and analysis

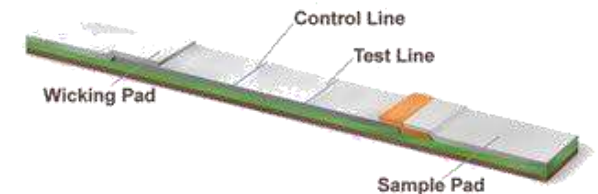
Non-GM is guaranteed through inspections of producers and processors at all levels.

Checked through GMO analysis:

- GMO rapid tests – fast, simple, practical, inexpensive
- PCR – reliable, safe, precise

Donau Soja & Europe Soja requires:

- GMO rapid test on RoundupReady® & LibertyLink® within collectors' and primary processors' self-monitoring, within RL-3 farmers' external inspections (green soya plants)
- PCR during external audits, within compound feed plants' and primary processors' self-monitoring, during supervisory inspections



Reduced use of plant protection products



Donau Soja promotes the reduction of pesticide use.

In Donau Soja & Europa Soya cultivation, only pesticides approved in the EU are allowed - also in non-EU countries.

Agrochemicals listed in the Stockholm and Rotterdam Convention as well as in the WHO lists 1a and 1b are **prohibited**.

Donau Soja & Europe Soya **ban desiccation*** (e.g. glyphosate or diquat).

Obligatory pesticide testing in countries of higher risk.

¹ https://www.who.int/ipcs/publications/pesticides_hazard/en/

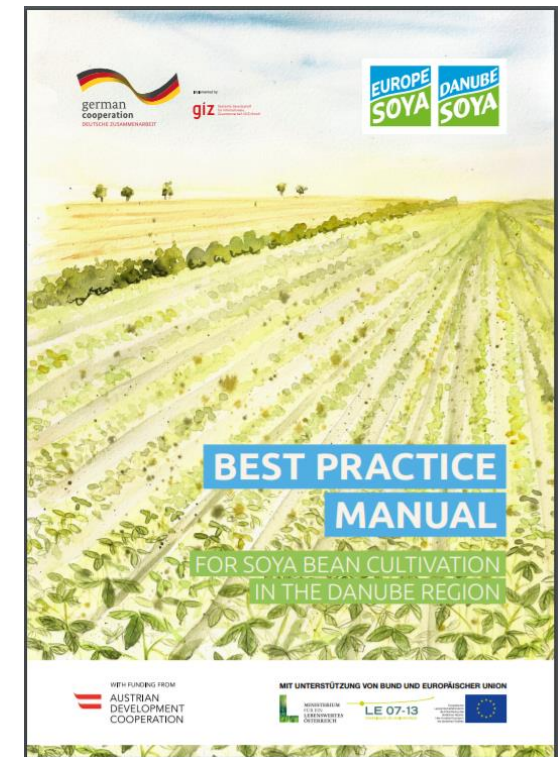
² Desiccation is the application of herbicides to the crop shortly before harvest

Reduced use of plant protection products



Donau Soja Best Practice Manual

- recommendations for farmers on how to optimize and reduce their pesticide use
- available in English and Serbian
- From 2019 also for Moldova (Romanian and Russian) and for Ukraine



No deforestation / no conversion

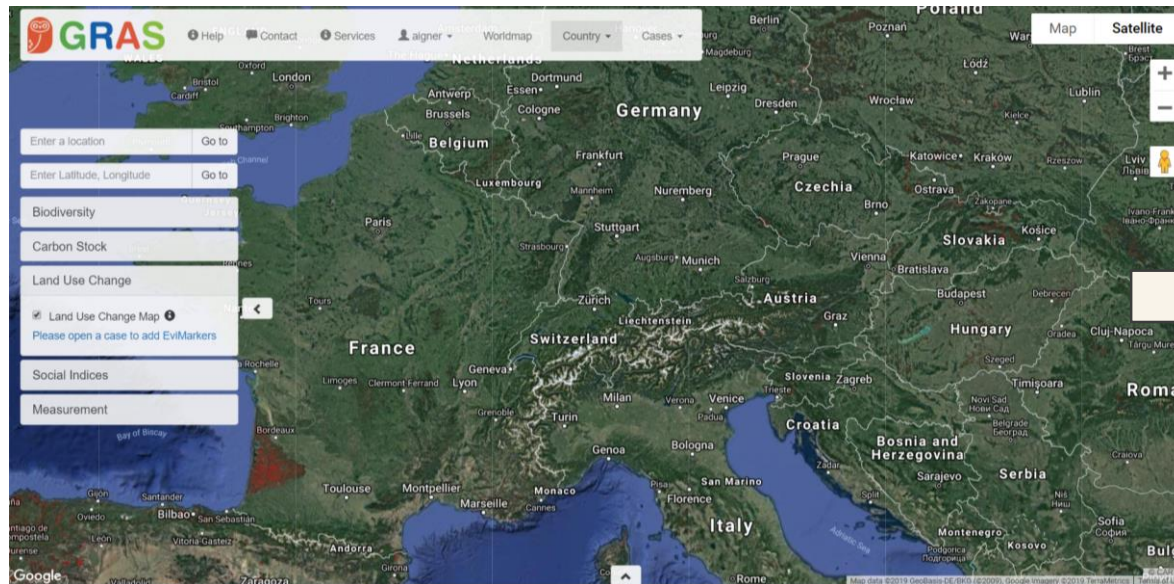


Donau Soja & Europe Soya cultivation is guaranteed free from deforestation and land use change.

Donau Soja & Europe Soya is cultivated...

- only on land that has been **dedicated to agricultural use** before 2008,
- **with respect to nature reserves** (protected areas) and
- with the obligation to restore protected areas.

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Benefits at a glance (1)

	Donau Soja (DS)/Europe Soya (ES)	European soy (without certification)
Product quality & safety	Quality product according to DS/ES standards Certification by independent certification bodies Controlled quality along the whole value chain from field to fork	No name product No certification from field to fork No security
Genetic engineering	Compliance with the German (VLOG) or Austrian (Codex) non-GM Standards or the Non-GM Danube Region Standard	Non-GM not guaranteed/checked/certified in the supply chain
Pesticides	Pesticide requirements: EU legislation as baseline, ban on Stockholm & Rotterdam convention chemicals, ban on WHO 1a/1b chemicals, ban for aerial spraying, no desiccation and thus no Glyphosate in cultivation	No pesticide regulation except for respective national laws that can be much below EU legislation (e.g. Ukraine)
Land Use Change	No land use change, no clearing of natural areas, no cultivation in protected areas	No regulation on land use change except for respective national laws if existing
Origin	Independently inspected origin back to the farm	No controlled origin

Benefits at a glance (2)



	Donau Soja (DS)/Europe Soja (ES)	European soy (without certification)
Marketing & Communication	Donau Soja offices as contact points for partners and consumers; communication with media and other stakeholders	No specific communication
Consumer label	Product label available, clear message to the consumer about safe and traceable quality product;	No label No-Name-Product
Farmers	Certified and labelled products support the development of stable supply chains for farmers, collectors and processors	In anonymous supply chains spot market buying dominates – often to the detriment of weaker market players such as farmers
Network, consultation & services	Donau Soja Organisation has an existing network of offices and consultants	No structure, no service

Sustainability Benchmarking

Donau Soja and **Europe Soya** sustainable standards are recognised by the following associations:

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Donau Soja / Europe Soya is accepted by **FEFAC** as one of 18 sustainable sourcing standards

Europe



Swiss Soy Network defines Donau Soja / Europe Soya as one of 5 sustainable sourcing standards

Switzerland



Swedish Soy Dialogue accepts Donau Soja / Europe Soya as one of 4 sustainable soya sourcing standards

Sweden



IUCN recommends Donau Soja / Europe Soya as one of 6 sustainable sourcing standards

The Netherlands



WWF Germany recommends Donau Soja / Europe Soya as one of 4 sustainable sourcing standards

Germany



Greenpeace Austria rated Donau Soja as „reliable and sustainable“ product label

Austria



RELIABLE

Donau Soja stands for strictly controlled regional and non-GM soya, with individual criteria going beyond this. There is still room for improvement in pesticide use and crop rotation. Greenpeace rates Donau Soja as trustworthy.*



VLOG recognizes Donau Soja / Europe Soya certification as **equivalent** to VLOG standard certification.



















Germany



* translated into English by Donau Soja

Comparison of soybean labels

Agrar Aktion in Germany benchmarks Donau Soja/Europe Soya very positively in comparison to other soya sourcing standards

	GM-free feed	Fairness with workers	Reduced pesticides	From Europe	Control
	 1	 2	 3		 4
			 3		 5
			 6		
*source: aktion-agrar.de					

Notes on the soya table:

- 1) A non-GMO version of the RTRS is available.
- 2) RTRS and ProTerra have social standards that guarantee better working conditions than non-certified soya cultivation. However, they do not come close to the European social standards of Donau Soja.
- 3) RTRS and ProTerra have a list of banned pesticides and advocate the reduction of pesticides. Compared to Donau Soja and EU Organic, however, they perform worse.

- 4) The lack of transparency of RTRS controls is criticised by civil society. Without functioning controls, the standards set are of little use.
- 5) ProTerra reliably checks for traces of GMO along the supply chain. The examination of the standards in South America that go beyond this does not come close to the controls of Donau Soja or EU Organic.
- 6) Compared to EU Organic, more pesticides may be used in Donau Soja, but significantly less than in conventional agriculture.

Quelle:
www.aktion-agrar.de

Products on the Market

Several animal and plant-based products produced with Donau Soja or Europe Soja certified soy are available on the markets of:

- Austria
- Switzerland
- Germany
- Serbia
- United Kingdom

...and further programmes are already in the pipeline!

Find all current programmes on our website:

www.donausoja.com/where-we-can-be-found/#products



How to get a Donau Soja / Europe Soya certificate?



Next steps:

1. Read the Infosheet [Steps of Certification](#) and the Donau Soja / Europe Soya Guidelines (available in the [DOWNLOADS](#) section on our homepage)
2. Implement the requirements in your company (non-GM, physical segregation, consistent traceability)
3. Contact an approved certification body
4. Become a member of the Donau Soja Association (obligatory for R04-06)
5. Audit & Certification
6. Acquire soya (products) from [certified companies](#) only

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