DONAU SOJA & EUROPE SOYA

OUR STANDARDS & QUALITY SYSTEM
Our Organisations Values

No deforestation

Traceability

QM, Isotope tests

Non-GMO quality

100% tested

UN Sust. Development Goals

Partner
Our Standards

Donau Soja Standard

Donau Soja soybeans are
• from the Danube Region
• non-GM
• no deforestation / no conversion
• a product of controlled quality and origin

Europe Soya Standard

Europe Soya soybeans are
• from Europe
• non-GM
• no deforestation/ no conversion
• 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.
The Standards Are Build On 3 Pillars

**EUROPEAN ORIGIN AND TRACEABILITY**

- **TRACEABLE/SEGREGATED** from Europe
- IT-supported traceability system with traceability certificates
- **Isotope analyses** are used to verify the European origin

**NON-GMO**

- **NON-GM QUALITY**
  - ... according to the German VLOG, the Austrian Food Codex and the international Non-GM Danube Region Standards
  - Both **rapid and PCR tests** are used to verify the non-GM status.

**SUSTAINABILITY**

- **NO DEFORESTATION** and **NO LAND CONVERSION cut-off date: January 1, 2008**
- **REDUCED USE OF PESTICIDES**
- **EU SOCIAL & LABOUR LAWS** and **ILO STANDARDS**

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The Standards Are Based On 10 Principles

- European origin of soya
- Non-GM production
- Responsible farm management
- Best practices in soil management
- Best practices in crop protection
- Best practices in water management
- Best practices in waste management
- No deforestation & biodiversity protection
- Reduction of greenhouse gas emissions
- Compliance with human & labour rights
The Standards Are Based On 10 Principles

1. European origin of soya
All DS/ES soybeans are produced in continental Europe.

2. Non-GM production
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.

3. Responsible farm management
- Legal compliance
- Best practices (Best practice manual of soybean cultivation)
- Respect local communities and traditional land users
The Standards Are Based On 10 Principles

4. Best practices in soil management

Insight
✓ Methods to improve soil quality and avoid erosion
✓ Monitoring of measures e.g. soil quality
✓ Nutrient application in line with the nutrient balance of the soil

5. Best practices in crop protection

Insight
✓ Only substances authorized in EU
✓ Ban on substances listed in Rotterdam / Stockholm Convention; WHO 1a and 1b
✓ Ban on specific practices e.g. aerial spraying

6. Best practices in water management

Insight
✓ Monitoring water use (Water extraction and Irrigation)
✓ Good Agricultural Practices (less pollution, less run-off, riparian buffer strips, less contamination)

7. Best practices in waste management

Insight
✓ Procedures for accidents and spills
✓ Reduce, reuse, recycle
✓ Legal compliance (disposal, hazardous substances)
The standards are based on 10 principles

8. Land use & biodiversity protection
✓ No deforestation / no land conversion (cut-off date 2008)
✓ Respecting protected areas and restoration and avoiding damage to natural habitats
✓ Protecting rare, threatened or endangered species and prevent invasive species

9. Reduction of greenhouse gas emissions
✓ Monitor relevant data contributing to GHG emissions
✓ Implement measures to minimize GHG emissions
✓ Implement measures to increase carbon sequestration

10. Compliance with human & labour rights
✓ EU and international social and labour rights (ILO)
✓ Occupational health and safety – safe working conditions
Donau Soja and Europe Soya sustainable standards are recognised by the following organisations:
Control and verification system

Donau Soja & Europe Soya inspections along the whole value chain

Three-staged inspection system

1. Self-monitoring and quality assurance system

2. External, independent certification
   (by approved DS/ES certification bodies according to ISO-17065)

3. Donau Soja’s integrity programme
   (audits, sample analysis and paper checks)
Traceability & Transparency

Three-staged inspection system

1. Self-monitoring and quality assurance system
2. External, independent certification (by approved EU-relevant certification bodies according to ISO 17065)
3. Donau Soja’s integrity programme (audits, sample analyses and product checks)

Our transparency tools to support the inspection system

IT-Supported Traceability System

Origin testing using the Soya Isotope Database
IT-supported Traceability System

Continuous traceability
→ ensuring a separated flow of goods

Farmer → Collector / Trader → Primary processor → Livestock farmer / Food processor → Label user / Marketer

Traceability certificates
✓ Third party verification
DS/ES Traceability Certificates
Traceability & Transparency

Donau Soja & Europe Soya guarantee sustainability & regionality

FROM FARM TO FORK
All Donau Soya and Europe Soya products are "non-GMO" according to the strict German law, 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
- GMO analyses (PCR) in the course of the certification audits
- GMO analyses (PCR) and rapid test in the course of the Donau Soja integrity audits
- Self-monitoring of certified partners – GMO rapid test on RoundupReady® & LibertyLink®
Donau Soja & Europe Soya Origin

Soybeans from the Danube region

Soybeans from Europe
Best Practice In Crop Protection

Our standards require the reduced use of plant protection products:

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

- Pesticides listed in the Stockholm and Rotterdam Convention as well as in the WHO lists 1a and 1b¹ are prohibited

- Ban on specific practices e.g. aerial spraying

**Guaranteed by strict requirements and control**

- Obligatory pesticide testing in countries of higher risk
- Pesticide testing as part of the Donau Soja integrity programme

¹ [https://www.who.int/ipcs/publications/pesticides_hazard/en/](https://www.who.int/ipcs/publications/pesticides_hazard/en/)
Donau Soja Best Practice Manual

• recommendations for farmers on how to optimize and reduce their pesticide use

• International version available in English

• Regional versions for Serbia, Moldova (Romanian and Russian) and for Ukraine

Download [Donau Soja Best Practice Manual](#)
Principle 8: No deforestation, no land conversion

What types of land conversion do we cover?

- Non-arable land to cropland
- Pasture to cropland
- Forest to cropland
- Meadow to cropland
- Swamp to cropland
Donau Soja / Europe Soya production:
➔ cut-off date for land conversion: 01.01.2008
➔ respect natural reserves (protected areas)

Part of Donau Soja Integrity Programme:
Land use change verification project
• Analysis of satellite data of DS/ES cultivation areas and fields
• Detection of land conversion by comparison of vegetation 2007 vs. 2020, using vegetation indices (e.g. NDVI, EVI, SAUI, NDWI)
• Identification of not allowed soya cultivation in natural reserves

➔ Donau Soja / Europe Soya is deforestation-free and conversion-free!
Deforestation- and Conversion-free verification system

Analyses of satellite data:

1. Determination of the area and year of interest

2. Collection and selection of the relevant satellite images
   ✓ by using satellite programmes Landsat and Sentinel

3. Identification of the type of vegetation in 2007 and the year of interest
   ✓ using vegetation indexes (e.g. NDVI, EVI...) and time curves for vegetation indexes and crops

4. Identification of plots with potential land conversion
   ✓ by comparison of the vegetation in 2007 and the year of interest (e.g. 2020)

5. Detailed analyses of plots with potential land conversion
   ✓ by using high spatial resolution images
   ✓ analyses of images in smaller time intervals (between 2007 – 2020),
   ✓ verification of the legal status of the plot (using local land register – cadastral data)
## Benefits at a glance (1)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Donau Soja (DS)/Europe Soya (ES)</th>
<th>European soy (without certification)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Product quality &amp; safety</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quality product according to DS/ES standards</td>
<td>No name product</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Certification by independent certification bodies</td>
<td>No certification from field to fork</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Controlled quality along the whole value chain from field to fork</td>
<td>No security</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Genetic engineering</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Compliance with the German (VLOG) or Austrian (Codex) non-GM Standards or the Non-GM Danube Region Standard</td>
<td>Non-GM not guaranteed/checked/certified in the supply chain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Pesticides</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EU legislation as baseline, ban on Stockholm &amp; Rotterdam convention chemicals, ban on WHO 1a/1b chemicals, ban for aerial spraying, no desiccation and thus no Glyphosate in cultivation</td>
<td>No pesticide regulation except for respective national laws that can be much below EU legislation (e.g. Ukraine)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Land Use Change</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No land use change, no clearing of natural areas, no cultivation in protected areas</td>
<td>No regulation on land use change except for respective national laws if existing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Origin</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Independently inspected origin back to the farm</td>
<td>No controlled origin</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Benefits at a glance (2)

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

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

- Austria
- Germany
- Switzerland
- Serbia
- Spain
- Portugal etc.

Best practice example: Austrian egg sector

Since 2013, Austrian egg sector changed to Donau Soja

Animal-Based: Fed with Donau/Europe Soya

When buying food, 83% of Austrians make sure that it is produced free of genetic engineering.

Plant-Based: Tofu & meat alternatives

Food Service: McDonald´s breakfast in AT & DE

100% made with Europe Soya certified eggs
10 Steps: How To Realise Projects Together

1. Selection of commodity (e.g. poultry)
2. Selection of supply chain
3. Contact supplier and/or facility
4. Evaluation of feed demand – quantity and quality
5. Connecting to local Donau Soja/Europe Soya feed mill or trader
6. Agreement on commercial cooperation
7. Change feed to Donau Soja/Europe Soya
8. Inspection by independent control body
9. Certification
10. Labelling of product with Donau Soja/Europe Soya logo
Steps: How To Get A Donau Soja / Europe Soya Certificate

1. Read “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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