

**ASTA 2009**  
**Annual Meeting and Trade Show**

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Tucson, Arizona



# European Spice Association

## Roger Clarke



# E.S.A. Members



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- Belgium
- Finland
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# esa

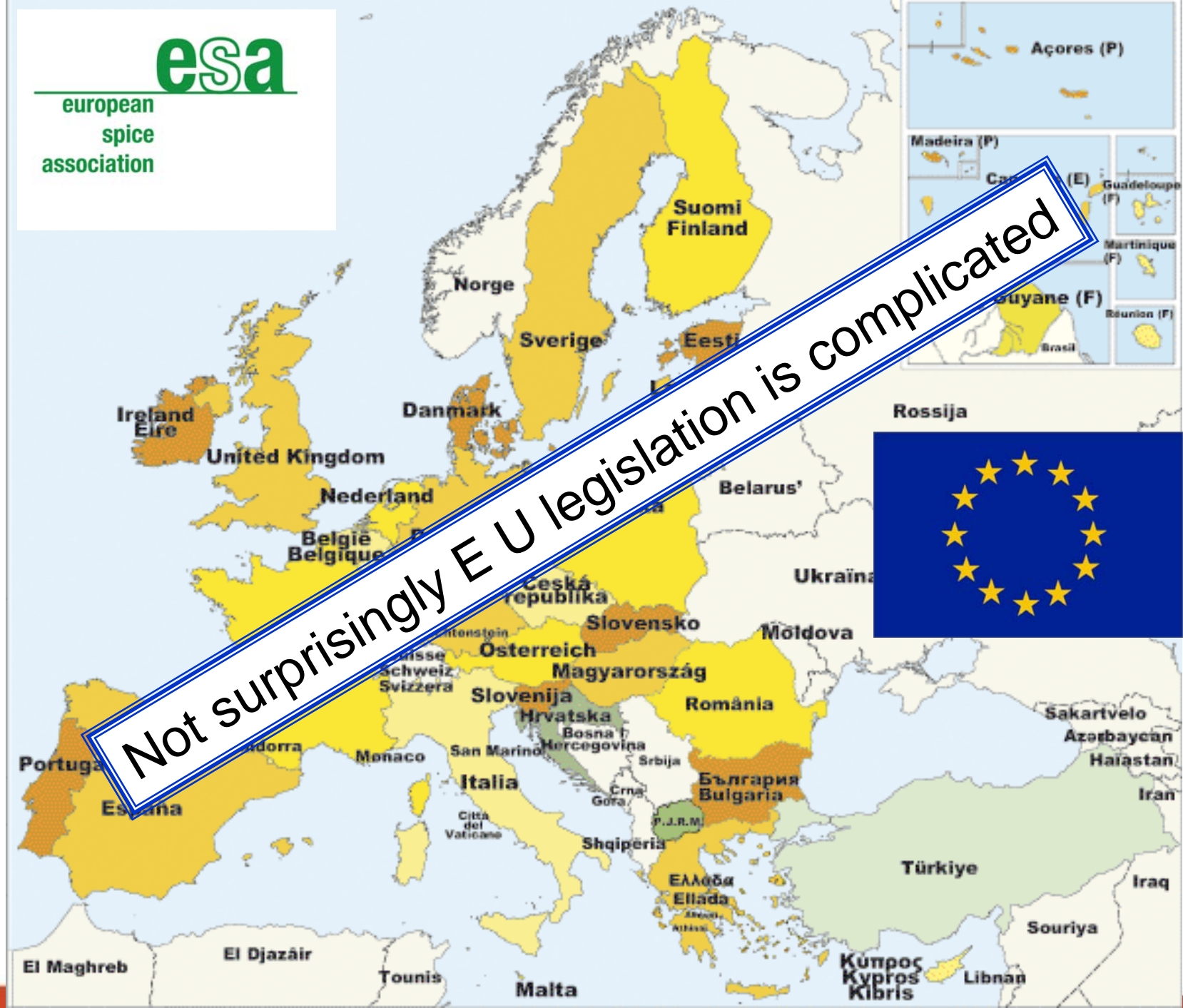
European  
Spice  
Association



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european  
spice  
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Not surprisingly E U legislation is complicated



# E.U. Legislation



- **Non - POAO**

- Non products of animal origin
- Vegetables!!
- Draft Regulation implementing Art. 15.5 of Regulation (EC) No. 882/2004
- Objective of the regulation is to identify high risk foods ( food safety ), that could cause a problem to the E.U. community
- Draft is not clear about the definition of high risk foods (e.g. illegal dyes, aflatoxins)



# E.U. Legislation

- Non – POAO ( cont)
- Once declared these foods will have designated ports that are able to handle the risk.
- Spices have been referenced as ‘high risk’.
- ESA is working to make sure that spices and herbs do not appear on the final regulation.
- ESA does not see how, for Spices and Herbs, this will increase consumer protection.
- We are also in communication with the Commission on the implications of designated ports of entry for such a global product group.



# E.U. Legislation

- **Food Additives**
  - Colouring Directive
  - Sweeteners Directive
  - Other food additives Directive
- New EU Regulation on additives (Regulation (EC) No. 1333/2008)
  - Additives list will not change
  - Annexes are being developed / updated



# E.U. Legislation

- Food Additives ( cont.)
- Annex updates will harmonise foodstuffs
  - Herbs, spices, blends, sauces, marinades and seasoning etc. will be included in the harmonisation
- ESA technical committee is developing a definition of these foodstuffs and will present them to the EU for inclusion in the annexes
- The objective is not to lose any current additives





# E.U. Legislation

- **Flavourings Directive**

- The new Regulation (EC) No. 1334/2008 covers flavourings and herbs and spices that are used as food ingredients.
- In Annex III part B of the Regulation **maximum limits for certain substances** (active principles) in composite food are established.

For methyl chavicol (estragole), methyl eugenol and safrole a footnote gives, under specified conditions, an **exemption** from maximum limits.



# E.U. Legislation

- Flavourings Directive ( cont.)
- The EC-Commission has confirmed the ESA position and interpretation of the footnote: If only herbs and spices (and not flavourings) are present as food ingredients the maximum limits do not apply to the composite food.

In order to monitor the intake of BAP's the EC-Commission is looking to establish a monitoring system for safrole. Since the main sources for safrole intake are nutmeg and mace it seems 'simple' to design a monitoring system.

# E.U. Legislation



- **Pesticide legislation**

- Regulation (EC) No 396/2005 of 23 February 2005 on maximum residue levels of pesticides in or on food and feed of plant and animal origin and amending Council Directive 91/414/EEC.
- Regulation (EC) No 178/2006 of 1 February 2006 establishing Annex I **listing the food and feed products to which maximum levels for pesticide residues apply.**
- Regulation (EC) No 149/2008 of 29 January 2008 **establishing Annexes II, III and IV setting maximum residue levels** for products covered by Annex I.

# E.U. Legislation



- Pesticide legislation

Regulation (EC) No 260/2008 of 18 March 2008 establishing Annex VII **listing active substance and / or product combinations covered by a derogation, with regards to post harvest treatments with a fumigant.**

**Pesticides not listed in any annex have a default level of 0.01 mg / kg ( ppm).**

# E.U. Legislation



- **Pesticide legislation**

Clarity is still required on the effect in spices of the application of the dehydration factor.

ESA has a published dehydration factor list (in a number of journals and seeking acceptance by the commission) and is working to ensure that this principle is incorporated into the relevant annex.

Clarity is also required on the effect this will have on the use of Methyl Bromide as a post harvest pesticide – but it looks like a default level of 0.1 – 0.01 mg / kg will apply.

# E.U. Legislation

- **ESA activity**

Adulteration working group is drafting -

- ESA position statement on adulteration

- List of common adulterants

- List of methods of analysis that can be used to detect adulteration

ESA recognises that adulteration has a different meaning in the USA to the EU

# E.U. Legislation

- **ESA activity**

## Product information sheet

ESA has a working group that has produced a harmonised PI sheet for use with both customers and suppliers.

The first draft will be presented / launched in Como at the next ESA General Assembly

The principle is to have an agreed format that will help customers and suppliers with data completion and should help reduce transmission errors.

# E.U. Legislation

- **ESA activity**

## Spice Passport

ESA is working with Pepsico to investigate the possibility of having a harmonised document that will follow a Spice parcel throughout the EU which is reliable, robust and assured. This will help prevent repeat analysis which currently happens when a parcel changes hands.

Initially the work is looking at paprika as a test case.





## American Spice Trade Association

ASTA, the voice of the U.S. spice industry, works to ensure clean safe spice and address public policy on behalf of the global industry.

The logo for the European Spice Association (ESA) features the lowercase letters "esa" in a bold, green, sans-serif font. A horizontal green line is positioned directly beneath the letters.

europaean  
spice  
association

Thanks for listening  
Roger Clarke

The logo for IOSTA consists of the letters "IOSTA" in a white, uppercase, serif font, centered within a bright cyan oval shape.