



1400 Independence Avenue, S.W.  
Room 2648-S, STOP 0268  
Washington, D.C. 20250-0268

## **REVOCATION OF CERTIFICATION**

October 5, 2017

**Via Registered Email**

Goksal Beyaz,  
GZ Tarim Ürünleri Tic. Ltd. Sti.  
Budak Mah 10031 Nolu Sok No 42  
Merkezi Kat 10 D 1016 1017  
27090 Sehitkamil, Gaziantep  
Turkey  
[goksal.beyaz@beyazagro.com](mailto:goksal.beyaz@beyazagro.com)

Dear Mr. Beyaz:

This is a Notice of Revocation of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) National Organic Program (NOP) of GZ Tarim Ürünleri Tic. Ltd. Sti. (GZ Tarim). On August 22, 2017, the NOP issued a Notice of Proposed Revocation to GZ Tarim. The proposed revocation was based on the fact that GZ Tarim is responsibly connected to Beyaz Agro, which is a revoked operation. You confirmed receipt of the Notice on August 25, 2017. You did not file an appeal with the NOP within 30 days of receipt. Because GZ Tarim has not appealed the NOP's August 22, 2017 Notice of Proposed Revocation, GZ Tarim's organic certification is hereby revoked.

Section 2120 of the OFPA (7 U.S.C. § 6519(c)) and 7 C.F.R. §§ 205.660(b)(1) and 205.662(a) and (f)(2) authorize the NOP's program manager to order revocation of the certification of a certified operation and all of its responsibly connected persons, including any other person who is a partner, officer, director, holder, manager or owner of 10 percent or more of the voting stock of said operation, if an inspection, review, or investigation of the certified operation reveals any noncompliance with the OFPA. Additionally, section 205.662(f)(2) of the regulations states that a certified operation or a person responsibly connected with an operation whose certification has been revoked will be ineligible to receive certification for a period of 5 years following the date of such revocation. GZ Tarim is a certified organic operation and therefore is in full knowledge of the requirements of the USDA organic regulations.

### **FACTUAL BACKGROUND**

On June 1, 2017, the NOP notified you that we had revoked the USDA organic certification of Beyaz Agro due to knowing and willful representation of non-organic, fumigated soybeans for sale as organic in the United States. You, Goksal Beyaz, are the CEO for Beyaz Agro. Therefore, you are a responsibly connected party to a revoked operation. Per the official Turkish

business license, you are also the founder of GZ Tarim, making you a responsibly connected party to that operation.

As further evidence of your responsible connection to GZ Tarim, your name and/or signature also appears on numerous certification documents for GZ Tarim. The following documents were either submitted to and/or issued by BCS Kiwa, a USDA-accredited organic certifier.

1. Application for organic certification, signed by you on May 19, 2016 and naming you as the owner of GZ Tarim.
2. Certification contract with BCS-Kiwa, signed by you on June 7, 2016.
3. Operator's declaration, including an agreement to comply with all measures of the USDA organic production and handling requirements, signed by you on June 27, 2016.
4. Inspection report, signed by you on July 17, 2016.
5. Letter from BCS communicating the results of your inspection, addressed to "Mr. Beyaz" at the address listed above, dated September 29, 2016.
6. Organic System Plan for Export, signed by you on June 27, 2017 and again with an update to BCS-Kiwa on March 16, 2017.

In addition, GZ Tarim's inspection report from July 13-17, 2016 names you as the person involved in the inspection. The inspection report also states that the activities/inspected areas of the operation are sub-contracted storage facilities of Hakan Gida Ltd. and Beyaz Agro. Furthermore, BCS' certification documents show the same physical address for both Beyaz Agro and GZ Tarim.

### **REVOCATION OF ORGANIC CERTIFICATION, BEYAZ AGRO**

On April 28, 2017, the NOP issued Beyaz Agro a combined Notice of Noncompliance and Proposed Revocation due to Beyaz Agro's knowing and willful violations of the USDA organic regulations. Per its May 29 and May 30, 2017, communications to the NOP, Beyaz Agro did not appeal the proposed revocation. Beyaz Agro's USDA organic certification was then revoked, in accordance with 7 C.F.R. § 205.662(f)(2). Beyaz Agro and all of its responsibly connected persons, including any other person who is a partner, officer, director, holder, manager or owner of 10 percent or more of the voting stock, were thereby directed to cease and desist all sale and handling of products represented as organic.

### **REVOCATION OF ORGANIC CERTIFICATION, GZ TARIM**

As outlined above, GZ Tarim is considered a responsibly connected person to Beyaz Agro. You are the founder of GZ Tarim and the CEO of Beyaz Agro. Therefore, GZ Tarim's USDA organic certification is hereby revoked, in accordance with 7 C.F.R. § 205.662 (f)(2) GZ Tarim and all of its responsibly connected persons, including any other person who is a partner, officer, director, holder, manager or owner of 10 percent or more of the voting stock, are hereby directed to cease and desist all sale and handling of products represented as organic.

Be advised that failure to cease and desist, and comply with the USDA organic regulations, may result in a civil penalty of \$11,000 per violation (7 U.S.C. § 6519).

GZ Tarim's certification status will be updated shortly in the NOP's online [Organic Integrity Database](#) to reflect the revocation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Jennifer Tucker". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jennifer Tucker, Ph.D.  
Associate Deputy Administrator  
National Organic Program

cc: NOP Accreditation and International Activities Division  
[NOPACAAverseActions@ams.usda.gov](mailto:NOPACAAverseActions@ams.usda.gov)  
Tobias Fischer – KIWA-BCS, [Tobias.Fischer@bcs-oeko.de](mailto:Tobias.Fischer@bcs-oeko.de)