



## ■ | table of contents...

### Updates and reports

Arab world has its fifth CB ..... 1

### Leader

What *can* be organic and what *should* be organic? ..... 2

### Standards and regulations

Swedish response to EU proposed regulation ..... 3

Chile embraces its new organic law ..... 5

### Certification and accreditation

JAS re-registration hurdles ..... 8

Wild production made visible... 10

Certification as an export service ..... 12

### Updates and reports

Animal breeding to be focus of attention ..... 14

Update on Colombian certifier . 14

Lifetime inspector Asset of the Year Award ..... 15

### Comment and opinion

Abundant logical breaches and vague language ..... 16

### New on the job

New president at OTA ..... 18

### Did you know?

TOS editor is hottest ..... 18

## Arab world has its fifth CB

On 30 March 2006 LibanCert, a new organic certification body (CB) operating under the umbrella of the American University of Beirut, was launched. The launch was held under the patronage of Economy and Trade Minister, Sami Haddad who highlighted the government's great interest in the organic farming sector as it opens exporting opportunities for agricultural products in the country. LibanCert is the fifth addition to the four other CBs in the Arab world.

According to LibanCert's Manager, Roula Fares, the certification body, which is situated in Beirut, currently offers its services to the Lebanese domestic market as well as to neighbouring countries such as Syria and Jordan.

LibanCert's target groups for its services are small farmers as it believes organic agriculture provides new perspectives for the rural sector in addition to its familiarity with culture and language in the region.

Through its collaboration with BioInspecta, a Swiss CB, LibanCert is able to offer certification for all relevant markets including the European Regulation for Council Regulations EC 2092/91 and the US National Organic Program.

The establishment of LibanCert was made possible partly by the support from the Swiss government and FiBL, the Swiss Research Institute of Organic Agriculture.

LibanCert is also a part of the project 'Organic Certification and Market Development in Lebanon', set up in order to develop a domestic and international market for Lebanese organic products.

In addition to working with LibanCert, FiBL and the Swiss government are also supporting the Association for Lebanese Organic Agriculture (ALOA), which is an organisation that represents the organic movement, and three marketing initiatives in financial and technical aspects. ■

Source: FiBL

For more information please see [www.fibl.org/english/news/news/2006/0424-libancert.php](http://www.fibl.org/english/news/news/2006/0424-libancert.php)



LibanCert logo

LibanCert currently offers its services to the Lebanese domestic market as well as to neighbouring countries such as Syria and Jordan. ■