

Our ref.
MBe

Dealt with by
Marcel Beunen

Telephone
+31-(0)77-3239717

Date
February 2011

Re:
2011 Food safety declaration

Dear Sir or Madam,

2011 Food safety declaration

ZON Sales Services (ZON Verkoopdiensten BV) is the sales organisation of ZON. We primarily sell the products of members affiliated with ZON. Besides this we sell the products of a number of other growers and additional bought products. ZON Verkoopdiensten is ISO-9001:2008 certified and has RIK recognition.

Through the supply of safe products, ZON Sales Services wants to prevent there being any complaints with regard to the food safety of the products sold. In order to guarantee this, we are taking the following measures:

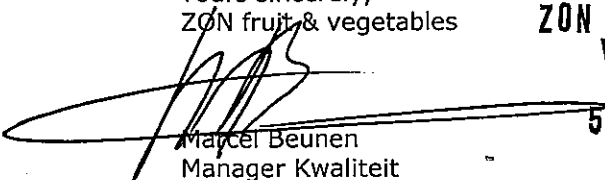
1. ZON growers are obliged to take part in GLOBALGAP
ZON sells exclusively GLOBALGAP certified products. All the growers of ZON are certified for GLOBALGAP. Even 115 growers are certified for QS (Qualität und Sicherheit).
2. ZON carries out spot checks
3. on the crop protection recording
All growers associated with ZON undergo an annual audit by an external organisation to assess whether the grower is still fulfilling the requirements of GLOBALGAP. During this inspection, the crop protection recording of the grower is also examined.
In addition, ZON itself also carries out spot checks on the records of growers. Growers are obliged on the first request of ZON to make available to ZON their records of crop protection agents. If inaccuracies are noted during these checks, ZON shall take measures against the grower in accordance with the sanctions policy formulated.
4. ZON carries out spot checks on the residue of crop protection agents, nitrate, microbiology and heavy metals.
ZON does so in the following ways:
 - a. ZON is associated with the Food Compass Foundation. In this way, ZON fulfils the legal obligation, established in the hygiene code of the Commodity Board for Horticulture (PT). ZON works in accordance with the hygiene code for fresh vegetables and fresh fruit.
The results of the samples taken by this Foundation are made known to all those associated with the Foundation through the Early Warning & Response System (EWRS) data bank. These results are also available for inspection by the Food and Consumer Product Safety Authority (VWA).

- b. ZON has its own residue monitoring programme.
This programme ensures the taking of about seven hundred samples of residue per annum, spread across the range of ZON and all the months of the year. This spread is based on a risk analysis, which is brought up to date each year. With a number of products, the samples are also tested for nitrate. The VWA is aware of the way in which we arrange and implement this monitoring programme.
- c. An additional product surveillance programme.
If there is a need for additional samples to be taken on the basis of the current circumstances, ZON takes the initiative for this. This need may arise on the grounds of the results of the current sampling, on the grounds of indications from customers or on the grounds of other current circumstances.
5. ZON sets requirements for its logistics service providers
A significant part of the products sold by ZON are delivered by our logistics service provider, ZON Logistics Centre BV, also a 100% holding of ZON fruit & vegetables. ZON Logistics Centre is certified for ISO 9001, for HACCP, ILS and BRC logistics, QS and Skal (organic). ZON Sorteren en Verpakken, the organisation which centrally sorts peppers, also satisfies the requirements of HACCP, ISO-9001 and BRC. The new accommodation of Blueberry World BV, where blueberries are centrally sorted and packaged, also meets all requirements in the area of IFS and BRC. Freshport A7, the logistics organisation in North Holland (Middenmeer), satisfies the systems of BRC and IFS. This means that ZON amply meets the legal requirements with regard to hygiene and food safety, and in almost all cases also the high demands which customers make.
If the products are delivered to you directly from the company of growers, our growers with GLOBALGAP equally fulfil the legal requirements with regard to hygiene and food safety. In addition to this, growers who supply produce packaged in small quantities fulfil the requirements set by IFS and/or BRC.
6. Other activities
ZON safeguards the quality of the product by means of spot checks according to the quality prescriptions establish and published by the Commodity Board for Horticulture (Productschap Tuinbouw). For products for which there are (no longer) any quality prescriptions, ZON has itself drawn up specifications. In this, an examination is also made of food safety aspects (the presence of elements extraneous to the product or, for example, visible residue).

We hope that we have hereby provided you with sufficient information about our efforts designed to ensure that we can provide you with food products which are safe.
Of course we will immediately inform you of any possible calamities relating to the food safety.

If you have any questions about the above, please contact the quality department of ZON fruit & vegetables, +31 (0)77-3239717. This also applies in the case of special matters and/or calamities.

Yours sincerely,
ZON fruit & vegetables


Marcel Beunen
Manager Kwaliteit

ZON FRUIT & VEGETABLES
VENRAYSEWEG 104
POSTBUS 3200
5902 RE VENLO NL

Appendix(es): Certificates of ZON fruit & vegetables