**BELGIUM**

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| **COMPETENT AUTHORITY** | **EXPLANATIONS** | **PHOTO EXAMPLE (IF AVAILABLE)** |
| **Federal Agency for the Safety of the Food Chain**  **DG Control Policy**  **Plant Protection and Safety of Vegetable Products**  **Address:** Food Safety Center, Kruidtuinlaan 55 B-1000 Brussels  **Web:** <http://www.favv-afsca.fgov.be/>  **Email:** [plant.pccb.s1@favv-afsca.be](mailto:plant.pccb.s1@favv-afsca.be)  **Phone:** +32 2 211 86 08  **Fax:** +32 2 211 86 30 | All operators working in the food chain in Belgium must be known by the Food Agency and be registered. Moreover, certain activities cannot be exercised without an authorization or an approval.   1. The packer/dispatcher can use his unique registration number. This number is also known as the “establishment unit number” and is assigned by the Belgian “Crossroads Bank for Enterprises”. The format of this number is 2.xxx.xxx.xxx (10 digits). The name and address of the company can be found on the website of the Crossroads Bank: <http://kbopub.economie.fgov.be/kbopub/zoeknummerform.html?lang=en> .   These details can also be found on the official website of the Federal Agency for the Safety of the Food Chain, in the Foodweb application (only available in Dutch and French) <https://operator.foodweb.be/Public/SearchOperator.aspx?language=nl> (Dutch) or <https://operator.foodweb.be/Public/SearchOperator.aspx?language=fr> (French), where a 10 digit code needs to be inserted under “Operator nummer” (Dutch) or “Numéro d'opérateur” (French).   1. Apart from this 10 digit code the company can also use an “authorization number” or an “approval number”. These codes are assigned by the Food Agency and can only be “decoded” in the Foodweb application, where these codes need to be inserted under “Erkenningsnr./toelatingsnr.” (Dutch) or “N° agrément / autorisation” (French).   2.a) Every company that trades food needs an authorization and as a consequence disposes of an authorization number. The format of an authorization number is AER/LCU/xxxxxx (6 digits) where “LCU” is a three-letter code for the local control unit that issued the authorisation.  2.b) The third possibility is the use of the approval number that consists of 5 or 6 digits. It concerns a voluntary approval for those traders described in Article 12 of Regulation (EU) No 543/2011. |  |

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