



Your benefits

“A membership in EHIA offers specialised knowledge and supports the common interests of the herbal infusions sector. EHIA is the recognised leader in representing the responsible center of herbal and fruit infusions trade. Our good reputation speaks for itself.”

Dr. Monika Beutgen
Secretary General

Common targets – Common policy

What's most important to find the right way, is to avoid the wrong ones.

Manfred Rommel, 1995-99, Co-ordinator of the German-French co-operation

Intensive Communication ...

EHIA is a member of the Confederation of the Food and Drink Industries of the EU (CIAA), Brussels, and co-operates closely with other specialised organisations, such as the European Tea Committee (ETC). This co-operation is the basis for a rapid and active exchange of information and effective representation.

... leads to specialised Know-how

Every member has a vital interest in keeping close contacts with all others. The exchange of scientific or technical experiences and news, especially with regard to the European legislation, is of major interest for everybody.

Maintaining the high quality of globally sourced raw materials and effectively managing the food safety aspects associated with these materials are key issues of EHIAs work. Only common professional expertise grants the sustainable development of our industry.

A further major task of EHIA is the evaluation and distribution of information on any matters related to herbal infusions, including consumer protection and the freedom of global trade. The majority of projects undertaken by EHIA are initiated by our Committees. Much of the herbal experience and expertise for which EHIA is known comes from its members. Committees ensure continuous updates and initiatives towards a common direction.

EHIA has been a competent and successful organisation for 25 years now.

Membership

10 members (8 associations, 2 companies)
(7 associations from EU member states, 1 non-EU member)

Contact

Dr. Monika Beutgen
Secretary General

Anja Groeger
Personal Assistant

By joining EHIA, you will benefit from 25 years of experience dealing with the many scientific, technical and political issues surrounding the responsible trade of herbal and fruit infusions.



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25 years of professional expertise

EUROPEAN HERBAL INFUSIONS ASSOCIATION

EHIA – AN INFLUENTIAL ASSOCIATION



25 years – more than just an association



„One country – One vote! The European sense of Community has been the basis of our association since our formation 25 years ago. When the strength of the Community leads to success, it is a positive signal to go on together.“

Nick Revett
President, 2005-2007
R. Twining & Company Ltd.

The secret of our success

„Association is not like association. EHIA identifies core issues and pursues them with great responsibility and persistence. These effective structures are the secret of our success.“



Dr. Adolf Kler
Chairman of EHIA's Technical and Scientific Committee
Martin Bauer GmbH & Co. KG, Germany



The new is always exciting – but in moments like this, it is important to step back and to consider what has been done. If you are happy with the result, then move forward!

Joh. W. v. Goethe

From common interests ...

The European Herbal Infusions Association (EHIA) was established in Hamburg 25 years ago.

The success story of this association began in 1980 with 9 founding countries, statutes and an extensive work programme. Today the main target for EHIA remains the same as it was at the time of our formation:

To establish a common general policy in the best interest of the herbal infusions trade and industry and to co-operate constructively with competent EU authorities and other organisations.

... to professional expertise

EHIA stands as an influential association, which benefits from the commitment of all our members and which also returns shared benefits in a Partnership which advances our common goals.

And therefore, the initiators are still the members of today: Austria, Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Spain, Switzerland and the United Kingdom. Within the membership of EHIA international brands acting Europe wide are represented.

To recognise the essential and to deal with it systematically, to identify problems and to be at the forefront in solving them – These principles are the guarantee for EHIA's success.

1. Scientific Technical Issues

Our target is to generate scientific technical information and to share this information with all interested parties. The focus of our activities is

- Setting-up standards for product safety and food quality
- Pesticides and contaminants
- Microbiology
- Hygiene
- Functional Food
- Traceability

2. Legal issues

Our target is to contribute towards scientific investigations and professional experience in order to establish fair and responsible legislation for herbal infusions.

The focus of our activities is

- Labelling of products
- Guidelines to advance responsible trade
- Organically grown raw material

3. PR Issues

Our target is to inform the public about the great variety of herbal infusions, their nutritional benefits and to provide interested parties with the scientific backgrounds.

To pool resources and use their potential – Co-operation opens unlimited possibilities.

Publications

Herbal and fruit infusions in the focus: The publications of EHIA provide product specific, technical and scientific information.

Guidelines for good agricultural and hygiene practices for raw materials used for herbal infusions – GAHP

This document has been produced for use by EHIA members to encompass the differing food safety issues relating to both cultivated and “wild gathered” herbal raw materials and to produce national guidelines or codes of practice.

Inventory list of herbals considered as Food

This list of food plants, taking into account the habits, the traditions and/or the regulatory status of plants in different member states which is updated regularly, was established by EHIA in the interest of consumers and manufacturers of such products and in the absence of a harmonised framework. This inventory list does not claim to be complete and is open for modifications according to development in common consensus.

Foodstuff specifications for herbal infusion products

To ensure the quality of products offered to consumers, EHIA has drawn up these product specifications and associated methods of sampling, analysis and sensory evaluation.

Microbiological Status of untreated herbal materials

These guidelines are set up with respect to the quality of raw material available from the countries of origin and serve as basis for a responsible trade in herbal material.

Latest versions are available on the internet at <http://www.ehia-online.org>