



INTEGRATED FARM ASSURANCE SMART

Principles and Criteria for Flowers and Ornamentals

ENGLISH VERSION 6.0_SEP22

PUBLISHED ON: 29 SEPTEMBER 2022

VALID FROM: 1 OCTOBER 2022

REPLACES VERSION 5.2 AS OF: 1 JANUARY 2024

TABLE OF CONTENTS

STRUCTURE OF THE STANDARD3

MANAGEMENT AND TRACEABILITY.....4

FO 1 MANAGEMENT.....4

FO 2 TRACEABILITY.....11

PRODUCTION PROCESS.....16

FO 3 PLANT PROPAGATION MATERIAL16

FO 4 SOIL, PLANT NUTRITION, AND FERTILIZERS.....21

FO 5 WATER MANAGEMENT28

FO 6 INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT.....33

FO 7 PLANT PROTECTION PRODUCTS.....36

FO 8 POSTHARVEST46

ENVIRONMENT.....49

FO 9 WASTE MANAGEMENT49

FO 10 BIODIVERSITY51

FO 11 ENERGY EFFICIENCY.....55

WORKERS’ HEALTH, SAFETY, AND WELFARE57

FO 12 WORKERS’ HEALTH AND SAFETY57

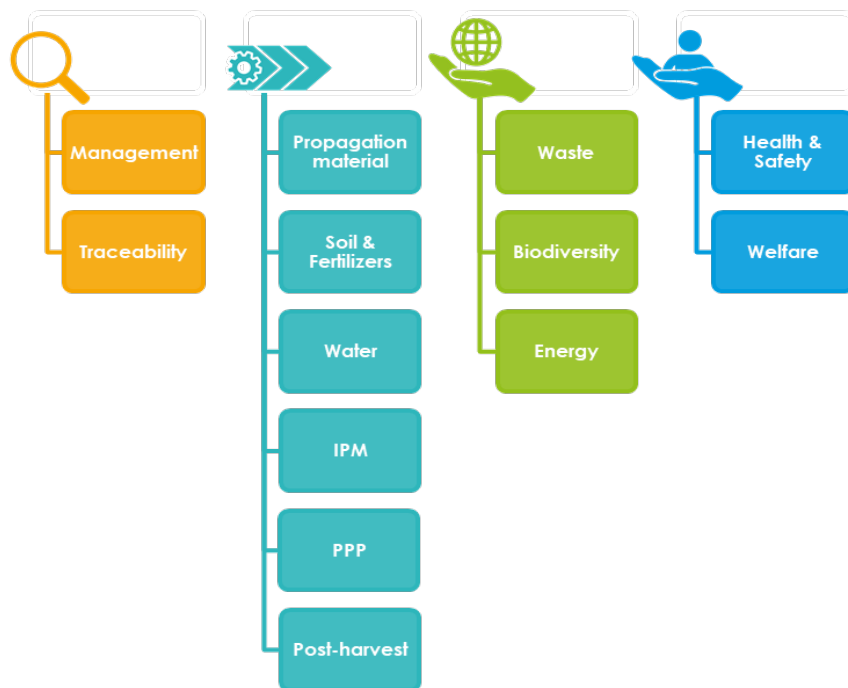
FO 13 WORKERS’ WELFARE.....63

VERSION/EDITION UPDATE REGISTER.....66

STRUCTURE OF THE STANDARD

Version 6 of the Integrated Farm Assurance (IFA) standard for flowers and ornamentals aims to enhance user experience and avoid duplication:

- Wording: Simplification and outcome-based statements
- The structure of the IFA standard for flowers and ornamentals proposed is one with four sections:
 1. Management and traceability
 2. Production process and its good agricultural practices
 3. Environment
 4. Workers' health, safety, and welfare



Section	Principle	Criteria	Level
	MANAGEMENT AND TRACEABILITY		
FO 01	MANAGEMENT		
FO 01.01	Site history		
FO 01.01.01	The producer has a system for identifying sites and facilities used for production.	<p>The producer shall have a system to identify:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All fields, greenhouses, and other production areas - All water sources, storage and handling facilities, agrochemical storages, buildings, and any features that may pose a workers' health and safety, or environmental risk <p>Identification may be on a map or through the use of signs at each site.</p>	Major Must
FO 01.01.02	A recording system is established for each production unit to provide a record of the production activities undertaken.	Current records shall provide a history of GLOBALG.A.P. certified production in all production units. This shall be done either digitally or on paper.	Major Must
FO 01.01.03	Records for auditing purposes are up-to-date. Records are kept for a minimum period of two years, unless a longer period is required.	Electronic records shall be valid and if they are used, the producer shall be responsible for maintaining back-ups of the information. For the initial certification body (CB) audit, the producer shall keep records from at least three months prior to the date of the CB audit or from the day of registration, whichever is longer. New applicants shall have full records for each area covered by the registration with all of the activities related to GLOBALG.A.P. documentation required for this area. Where an individual record is missing, a non-compliance or non-conformance shall be issued for the principle dealing with those records.	Major Must

Section	Principle	Criteria	Level
FO 01.02	Outsourced activities		
FO 01.02.01	The producer ensures that outsourced activities comply with the principles and criteria of the standard which are relevant to the services provided.	<p>Outsourced processes and/or the use of subcontractors are identified and controlled.</p> <p>The producer shall oversee the activities undertaken by the subcontractors to ensure compliance with the relevant principles and criteria in the standard. This applies to each activity and season in which at least one subcontractor is used.</p> <p>Evidence of compliance with relevant principles and criteria shall be collected by means of an assessment and shall be available during the certification body (CB) audit.</p> <p>If such an assessment is undertaken by a producer, evidence of compliance with the relevant principles and criteria shall be available. The subcontractor shall agree to such assessment by a producer where relevant to the standard.</p> <p>A GLOBALG.A.P. approved CB may assess the subcontractor and may issue a letter of conformance with the following information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Date of assessment - Name of the CB - CB auditor name - Details of the subcontractor - List of the assessed principles and criteria <p>Certificates issued to subcontractors for standards that are not officially approved by the GLOBALG.A.P. Secretariat are not valid evidence of compliance with the standard.</p>	Major Must

Section	Principle	Criteria	Level
FO 01.03	Internal documentation		
FO 01.03.01	The producer completes a minimum of one self-assessment/internal audit annually to the standard.	<p>The self-assessment/internal audit shall evaluate compliance, review implementation, and support identification of improvement opportunities.</p> <p>A documented self-assessment for individual producers or an internal farm and quality management system (QMS) audit for multisite producers with QMS and producer groups shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Occur at least once a year and before the certification body (CB) audit - Be completed by the producer, assigned worker, or consultant, and/or as part of a QMS - Include all applicable topics covered by the standard/scope, even those addressed using subcontractors (including harvest and postharvest handling) - Assess all applicable sites and products <p>Self-assessments shall contain comments regarding the evidence observed for all not applicable and non-compliant Major Must and Minor Must principles and criteria. For internal farm audits, comments shall follow “GLOBALG.A.P. general regulations – Rules for producer groups and multisite producers with QMS.”</p>	Major Must
FO 01.03.02	Effective corrective actions are taken to address non-conformances detected during the self-assessments/internal audits.	<p>Corrective actions shall be documented. Any necessary changes shall be implemented.</p> <p>Compliance with all applicable Major Musts and at least 95% of applicable Minor Musts is required.</p> <p>“N/A” only if no non-conformances are detected during self-assessments/internal audits.</p>	Major Must

Section	Principle	Criteria	Level
FO 01.03.03	A continuous improvement plan is documented.	<p>The producer shall evaluate the farming operation and identify improvements to be undertaken as assessed by the standard. These improvements shall be included in a longer-term plan covering up to three years.</p> <p>The continuous improvement plan shall consist of relevant self-defined targets and describe how progress toward each target will be monitored. The plan may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Description of improvement objective - Current status, with date of initial target establishment - Planned activity - Target outcome with estimated date of achievement 	Major Must
FO 01.03.04	There is evidence that a continuous improvement plan is implemented.	<p>The implementation of identified points in the continuous improvement plan shall be supported by evidence. Evidence may include new procedures or policies, data sharing (to quantify changes), training, etc.</p> <p>The continuous improvement plan shall be supported by documented evidence. The evidence kept on file may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Actual outcome of efforts, with date of evaluation - Comments on why the effort was successful or not successful - If one or more of the goals are not reached, justification and description of further action - Sharing of relevant data with the GLOBALG.A.P. Secretariat 	Minor Must

Section	Principle	Criteria	Level
FO 01.04	Training and assigning responsibilities		
FO 01.04.01	Records of all training activities are kept.	Training records shall include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Topic(s) covered - Names of trainer(s) or training provider(s) - Names of trainee(s) (e.g., attendance list(s)) - Date of training - Evidence of attendance (e.g., trainee signature) 	Minor Must
FO 01.04.02	Individuals responsible for technical decision-making on inputs can demonstrate competence.	Individuals responsible for technical decisions such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Determining quantity and type of fertilizer (organic or inorganic) - Choosing plant protection products (PPPs) - Making decisions on PPP applications (at propagation, preharvest, and/or postharvest) shall be able to demonstrate sufficient technical competence. <p>If the individual responsible for technical decisions is the producer, a designated worker, or a technical expert, their experience shall be complemented by current technical knowledge (access to technical literature, specific training attendance, active PPP applicator license, etc.).</p> <p>If the individual responsible for technical decisions is an external qualified adviser, technical competence shall be demonstrated by official qualifications or specific training attendance certificates.</p>	Major Must

Section	Principle	Criteria	Level
FO 01.05	Customer requirements		
FO 01.05.01	The producer is aware of and complies with customer quality specifications, where these exist.	There shall be documented correspondence between the customer and the producer demonstrating mutual agreement on quality specifications at any one time. The producer shall prove that the agreed quality specifications are adhered to.	Minor Must
FO 01.06	Complaints		
FO 01.06.01	A complaint procedure relating to both internal and external issues covered by the standard is available and implemented.	<p>A documented complaint procedure shall be available to facilitate the recording and follow-up of all received complaints relating to issues covered by the standard and to record actions taken with respect to such complaints.</p> <p>If the producer is informed by a competent and/or local authority that they are under investigation and/or has received a sanction within the scope of the certification, the complaint procedure shall require the producer to notify the GLOBALG.A.P. Secretariat via the certification body (CB).</p> <p>In case of complaints related to the standard (workers' well-being, environmental protection, etc.) that can endanger the reputation and credibility of the GLOBALG.A.P. brand, the certificate holder shall inform the CB immediately.</p> <p>In the case of producer groups, the producer group members do not need a complete complaint procedure, but only the parts that are relevant to them.</p>	Major Must

Section	Principle	Criteria	Level
		Workers shall be permitted to file complaints to their employer on topics covered under the standard, and such complaints shall be documented and addressed by the certificate holder.	
FO 01.06.02	Workers are informed of their rights related to the standard, and there is a grievance mechanism available and implemented through which workers can file complaints confidentially and without fear of retaliation.	Workers shall be informed (in the predominant workforce language) of the general topics covered by the standard, of legal rights granted by prevailing regulations, and of their ability to file complaints to their employer. The producer shall have a mechanism to resolve the claims and complaints suitable to the size of the farm, type of workers, and working conditions. The mechanism shall be confidential and simple to use, and a description (i.e., where to file, how to file, time expected to solve the issue, etc.) shall be available to the workers all the time that they are present on the farm. (The description can consist of pictograms or signs in the predominant workforce language describing the mechanism.) Records of the filed complaints shall be kept and checked.	Major Must
FO 01.07	Non-conforming products		
FO 01.07.01	Procedures are in place to manage and handle non-conforming products.	The term “non-conforming product” refers to a product which does not meet requirements defined by the customer, by a regulation (e.g., phytosanitary), or by the producer himself. In the context of the standard, the term refers to a product identified as non-conforming while still under the control of the producer. Non-conforming products shall be: - Clearly identified and quarantined as appropriate - Handled or disposed of according to the nature of the problem and/or specific customer requirements	Minor Must

Section	Principle	Criteria	Level
FO 01.08	Recall and withdrawal		
FO 01.08.01	Documented procedures are in place to manage the recall and withdrawal of products from the marketplace.	<p>The producer shall have a documented procedure that identifies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The types of events that may result in a recall and withdrawal - The persons responsible for making decisions on the possible recall and withdrawal - The mechanism for notifying the next step in the supply chain - The methods for reconciling stock <p>An up-to-date list of telephone numbers and email addresses of contacts in the next step shall be available.</p>	Minor Must
FO 02	TRACEABILITY		
FO 02.01	Traceability		
FO 02.01.01	All registered products are traceable back to and from the registered farm where they were produced and handled (where applicable).	<p>A documented identification and traceability system shall allow registered products to be traced back to the registered farm or supplier, or to the registered farms or suppliers of the Option 2 producer group, and traced forward to the immediate customer (one step forward and one step back).</p> <p>Harvest information shall link a batch or lot to the production records or the farms of specific producers. Product handling shall also be covered, where applicable.</p>	Major Must

Section	Principle	Criteria	Level
FO 02.02	Parallel ownership		
	<i>This section applies to all producers who need to register for parallel ownership (where products originating from certified and noncertified production processes are produced and/or owned by one legal entity). It does not apply to producers who want to achieve certification for 100% of the production processes of all products in their GLOBALG.A.P. scope and buy none of those products from other producers (with certification or not).</i>		
FO 02.02.01	An effective system is in place to identify all products originating from GLOBALG.A.P. certified processes and segregate them from products originating from noncertified processes.	It shall be possible to identify all products originating from GLOBALG.A.P. certified production processes and to keep them separate from products originating from noncertified production processes.	Major Must
FO 02.02.02	The GLOBALG.A.P. Number (GGN) is indicated on all final products originating from certified production processes when registered for parallel ownership.	Where the producer is registered for parallel ownership (i.e., where products originating from certified and noncertified production processes are owned in parallel by one legal entity), all products originating from certified production processes packed in final consumer packaging (either on the farm or after product handling) shall be identified with a GGN. It can be the GGN of the Option 2 producer group, the GGN of the producer group member, both GGNs, or the GGN of the Option 1 individual producer. The GGN shall not be used to label products originating from noncertified production processes.	Major Must
FO 02.02.03	A final verification step is in place to ensure correct dispatch of products originating from certified and noncertified production processes.	A procedure shall be in place to show that the products are correctly identified and correctly dispatched according to the certification status.	Major Must

Section	Principle	Criteria	Level
FO 02.02.04	Products that are purchased from different sources are identified.	<p>Procedures (appropriate for the scale of the operation) shall be established, documented, and maintained for identifying quantities of products originating from certified and, where applicable, noncertified production processes purchased from different sources (i.e., other producers or traders) for all registered products.</p> <p>Records shall include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Product description - GLOBALG.A.P. certification status - Quantities of product(s) purchased - Supplier details - Copy of the GLOBALG.A.P. certificates, where applicable - Traceability data/codes related to the purchased products - Purchase orders and/or invoices received - List of approved suppliers 	Major Must
FO 02.03	Mass balance		
FO 02.03.01	Sales records are available for all quantities sold for all registered products.	Sales details of the quantities of products originating from certified and, where applicable, noncertified production processes shall be recorded for all registered products, with particular attention paid to quantities sold and descriptions provided. The documents shall demonstrate the consistent balance between the input and the output of products originating from certified and noncertified production processes.	Major Must

Section	Principle	Criteria	Level
FO 02.03.02	Quantities (produced, stored, and/or purchased) are recorded and summarized for all products.	Quantities (including information on volumes or weight) of incoming (including purchased products), outgoing (including reject, waste, etc.), and stored products (both from certified and, where applicable, from noncertified production processes) shall be recorded and a summary maintained for all registered products, so as to facilitate the mass balance verification process. The frequency of the mass balance verification shall be defined and be appropriate to the scale of the operation, but it shall be done at least annually for each product. Documents to demonstrate mass balance shall be clearly identified. This principle and the respective criteria apply to all producers applying for or maintaining GLOBALG.A.P. certification.	Major Must
FO 02.03.03	Product lost or discarded during handling is recorded.	Conversion ratios shall be calculated and available for each relevant handling process (during planting seedlings, harvesting, etc.). All generated product waste quantities shall be estimated and/or recorded.	Major Must
FO 02.04	GLOBALG.A.P. status		
FO 02.04.01	Transaction documentation includes reference to the GLOBALG.A.P. status and the GLOBALG.A.P. Number (GGN).	Delivery notes, sales invoices, and, where appropriate, other documentation related to sales of materials and products originating from certified production processes shall include the GGN of the certificate holder and a reference to the GLOBALG.A.P. certification status. This is not obligatory in internal documentation. Where the producer has a Global Location Number (GLN), this shall replace the GGN issued by the GLOBALG.A.P. Secretariat during the registration process.	Major Must

Section	Principle	Criteria	Level
		<p>Positive identification of the certification status is sufficient on transaction documentation (e.g., “GLOBALG.A.P. certified [product name]”). Products originating from noncertified production processes do not need to be identified as “noncertified.”</p> <p>Indication of the certification status is obligatory regardless of whether the product originating from a certified production process was sold as such or not. This cannot be checked during the initial (first ever) certification body (CB) audit because the producer does not yet have certification and the producer cannot reference the GLOBALG.A.P. certification status before the first positive certification decision.</p> <p>“N/A” only if there is an up-to-date and documented bilateral agreement available between the certificate holder and their direct buyer that all shipments contain only products originating from certified production processes.</p>	
FO 02.05	Logo use		
FO 02.05.01	<p>The GLOBALG.A.P. word, trademark, and QR code or logo, as well as the GLOBALG.A.P. Number (GGN) are used according to “GLOBALG.A.P. trademarks use: Policy and guidelines.”</p>	<p>The producer shall use the GLOBALG.A.P. word, trademark, and QR code or logo, as well as the GGN, Global Location Number (GLN), or sub-GLN according to “GLOBALG.A.P. trademarks use: Policy and guidelines.” The GLOBALG.A.P. word, trademark, or logo shall never appear on the final product, on the consumer packaging, or at the point of sale. However, the certificate holder can use any and/or all in business-to-business communications.</p> <p>The GLOBALG.A.P. word, trademark, or logo cannot be in use during the initial (first ever) certification body (CB) audit because the producer does not yet have certification, and the producer cannot</p>	Major Must

Section	Principle	Criteria	Level
		<p>refer to GLOBALG.A.P. certification status before the first positive certification decision.</p> <p>“N/A” only when there is a documented agreement available between the producer and the client not to identify the GLOBALG.A.P. status of the product and/or the GGN on the transaction documents.</p> <p>“N/A” for plant propagation material (PPM), seedlings originating from IFA certified production processes, and when the products originating from certified production processes are input products not intended for sale to final consumers and will definitely not appear at the point of sale to final consumers.</p>	
	PRODUCTION PROCESS		
FO 03	PLANT PROPAGATION MATERIAL		
FO 03.01	Propagation material		
FO 03.01.01	Propagation materials are obtained in compliance with variety registration laws, where applicable.	<p>There shall be available documentation (empty seed package, plant passport, packing list, invoice, etc.) that states, at minimum, the variety name, batch number, propagation material vendor, and, where available, additional information on seed quality (germination, genetic purity, physical purity, seed health, etc.).</p> <p>Material coming from nurseries that have GLOBALG.A.P. certification for plant propagation material is considered compliant.</p>	Major Must
FO 03.01.02	Propagation materials are obtained in compliance with intellectual property laws.	Where the producer uses registered varieties or rootstock, documents shall be available on request that prove that the propagation materials have been purchased or otherwise obtained in accordance with applicable intellectual property rights regulations.	Major Must

Section	Principle	Criteria	Level
		<p>The documents may be the license contract (for starting materials that do not originate from seed, but from vegetative origin), a document or empty seed package that states the variety name, batch number, propagation material vendor, and packing list/delivery note or invoice to demonstrate the amount obtained and identity of all propagation materials used in the last 24 months.</p> <p>Note: The PLUTO database of UPOV (http://www.upov.int/pluto/en) and the Variety Finder on the website of CPVO (https://cpvoextranet.cpvo.europa.eu/) list all varieties in the world, providing their registration details and the intellectual property protection details for each variety and country.</p>	
FO 03.01.03	Plant health quality control systems are implemented and recorded for in-house propagation materials.	<p>A quality control system that contains a monitoring system for visible signs of pests and diseases shall be in place and current records of the monitoring system shall be available. The term “nursery” shall refer to any place where propagation materials are produced, including in-house selection of grafting materials.</p> <p>The monitoring system shall include the recording and identification of the mother plant or field of origin crop, as applicable. Recording shall occur at regular, established intervals. If the cultivated trees or plants are intended for own use only (i.e., not sold), in-house records for monitoring and propagation activities shall suffice. Where rootstocks are used, special attention shall be paid to the origin of the rootstocks through documentation.</p>	Minor Must

Section	Principle	Criteria	Level
FO 03.02	Chemical treatments and dressings		
FO 03.02.01	Information on chemical treatments is available for purchased propagation materials.	<p>Records with the name(s) of chemical product(s) applied on propagation materials by the supplier shall be available on request. This can be in the form of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Application records maintained by the supplier - Information on seed packages - List with names of plant protection products applied <p>Producers sourcing from suppliers who have GLOBALG.A.P. certification for plant propagation material, or for an equivalent or GLOBALG.A.P. recognized certification is considered compliant. "N/A" for perennial crops.</p>	Minor Must
FO 03.02.02	Up-to-date records on all chemical treatments applied on in-house propagation materials are available.	<p>Records of all plant protection product (PPP) treatments applied during the plant propagation period for in-house plant nursery propagation shall be available and include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Location - Date - Trade name and active ingredient of each product - Name of applicator - Justification for application - Quantity - Machinery used <p>This principle and the respective criteria apply primarily to short cycle crops and would not apply to most trees, where propagation and active production are separated by longer periods of time.</p>	Major Must

Section	Principle	Criteria	Level
FO 03.03	Genetically modified organisms		
FO 03.03.01	Growing of genetically modified crops and/or trials is subject to the prevailing regulations in the country of production.	The producer shall have a copy of the legislation applicable in the country of production and comply accordingly. Records shall be kept of the specific modification and/or the unique identifier. Specific husbandry and management advice shall be obtained.	Major Must
FO 03.03.02	There is documentation available if the producer grows genetically modified organisms (GMOs).	If genetically modified cultivars and/or products derived from genetic modification are used or grown, records of planting, use, or production of genetically modified cultivars and/or products derived from genetic modification shall be maintained.	Minor Must
FO 03.03.03	The producer's direct clients have been informed of the genetically modified organism (GMO) status of the product.	Documented evidence of communication shall be kept and shall allow verification that all products supplied to direct clients meet the agreed requirements.	Major Must
FO 03.03.04	A procedure for use and handling of genetically modified (GM) materials is available.	There shall be available a documented procedure that explains how GM materials (crops and trials) are handled and stored to minimize the risk of contamination with conventional materials (such as accidental mixing with adjacent non-GM crops) and to maintain product integrity.	Minor Must
FO 03.03.05	Adventitious mixing of genetically modified (GM) crops with conventional crops is avoided.	A visual assessment of the identification of GM crops and the integrity of the storage shall be made.	Major Must

Section	Principle	Criteria	Level
FO 03.04	Transition period		
FO 03.04.01	Propagation material sourced from suppliers who do not have GLOBALG.A.P. certification for plant propagation material, flowers and ornamentals, or an equivalent need to complete a transition period.	<p>Crops shall be grown under the ownership of the producer with GLOBALG.A.P. certification for flowers and ornamentals at least three months before being sold as coming from certified production processes.</p> <p>In the case where the growing cycle is shorter than three months, the crops shall be grown by the producer for at least two thirds of the growing cycle, and in the case of flowers, growing under the standard's conditions shall also start before the flower has opened. The beginning of the growing period is measured from sowing, when the cuttings are planted, or when the plant propagation materials are put in water.</p> <p>In the case of flower bulbs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - If flower bulbs are bought to be sold as bulbs, they shall have GLOBALG.A.P. certification for flowers and ornamentals or plant propagation material, or equivalent benchmarked scheme. - If flower bulbs are bought to produce more bulbs (multiplication), they do not need to have a certification. - If flower bulbs are bought to produce cut flowers or flowering bulbs (potted plants), they shall be with the producer during the transition period (three months or two thirds of the growing cycle), which in the case of flowering bulbs includes bulb preparation (warm and cold rooms) and greenhouses. <p>Note: This situation is not considered parallel ownership, and producers do not need to register for it in the GLOBALG.A.P. IT systems.</p>	Major Must

Section	Principle	Criteria	Level
FO 04	SOIL, PLANT NUTRITION, AND FERTILIZERS		
FO 04.01	Soil conservation		
	<i>Good soil husbandry ensures the long-term fertility of the soil, aids yield, and contributes to profitability. Not applicable in the case of crops that are not grown directly in soil (hydroponic or potted plants).</i>		
FO 04.01.01	Crop rotation for annual crops is implemented, where feasible.	When rotations of annual crops to improve soil structure and minimize soil-borne pests and diseases are carried out, this shall be verifiable from planting dates or crop or field records. Records shall exist for the previous two-year rotation.	Minor Must
FO 04.01.02	Techniques have been used to improve or maintain soil structure and avoid soil compaction.	There shall be evidence of the application of techniques (use of deep-rooting green crops, drainage, subsoiling, use of low-pressure tires, tramlines, permanent row marking, etc.) that are suitable for use on the land and, where possible, minimize, isolate, or eliminate soil compaction.	Minor Must
FO 04.01.03	The producer uses techniques to reduce the possibility of soil erosion.	There shall be evidence of control practices and remedial measures (mulching, crossline techniques on slopes, drains, sowing grass or green fertilizers, trees and shrubs on the borders of sites, etc.) to minimize soil erosion (from water, wind, etc.).	Minor Must
FO 04.01.04	The producer keeps records of sowing/planting dates.	Records of sowing/planting dates are kept.	Recom.
FO 04.02	Soil fumigation		
FO 04.02.01	There is documented justification for the use of soil fumigants.	There shall be documented evidence and justification for the use of soil fumigants, including targeted problem, location, date, active ingredient, amount, doses, method of application, and operator. Methyl bromide shall never be used.	Major Must

Section	Principle	Criteria	Level
FO 04.02.02	The preplanting interval is complied with.	The preplanting interval shall be recorded.	Minor Must
FO 04.02.03	The producer explores alternatives to chemical fumigation before resorting to the use of chemical fumigants.	The producer should be able to demonstrate assessment of alternatives to chemical soil fumigation through technical knowledge, documented evidence, or accepted local practice and has implemented them, where feasible.	Recom.
FO 04.03	Substrates		
FO 04.03.01	The producer participates in substrate recycling.	The producer shall keep records documenting dates and quantities of recycled substrate. Invoices/Loading dockets are acceptable. If there is no participation in an available recycling program, this shall be justified. Participation in an off-farm recycling program is acceptable. Not applicable to potted plants that are sold together with the substrate. “N/A” if there is no waste of substrate.	Minor Must
FO 04.03.02	Records are kept of any chemicals used to sterilize substrates for reuse.	If substrates are sterilized off-farm, the name and location of the company that sterilizes the substrate shall be recorded, plus the name and active ingredient of the chemicals used. If substrates are sterilized on the farm, the name or reference of the field or greenhouse shall be recorded. The following are all correctly recorded: - Dates of sterilization (day/month/year) - Name and active ingredient used - Machinery used (e.g., 1000l tank) - Method used (drenching, fogging)	Minor Must

Section	Principle	Criteria	Level
		<p>- Operator's name (person who actually applied the chemicals and performed the sterilization) - Preplanting interval</p> <p>Where applicable and feasible, steaming or nonchemical alternatives shall be used for sterilizing substrates that will be reused.</p>	
FO 04.03.03	Substrates of natural origins do not come from designated conservation areas.	There shall be records that attest to the source of the substrate of natural origin being used. These records shall demonstrate that the substrate does not come from designated conservation areas.	Major Must
FO 04.03.04	At least 10% by volume of substrates used in production are alternatives to peat, there is a plan to continuously reduce the amount of peat used, and there is a plan to use only peat that comes from responsible sources.	<p>Evidence shall be available that at least 10% of the total volume of raw materials in the substrates used in production is not peat but a renewable alternative (renewable refers to less than 50 years). There shall be a documented justification in cases in which substitution is not feasible.</p> <p>Peat refers to dug-out peat (Sphagnum sp.), not to coco peat or any other peat.</p> <p>Responsible sources of peat refer to peat grown under certification, such as Responsibly Produced Peat (RPP) certification.</p>	Minor Must

Section	Principle	Criteria	Level
FO 04.04	Nutritional needs		
FO 04.04.01	The application of fertilizers considers crop needs and the nutrient contribution of fertilizers, aiming to minimize nutrient loss.	<p>The producer shall make a fertilizer application program (time, frequency, and quantity), to minimize nutrient loss. The program shall take into consideration:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The nutritional needs of the crop - The nutrient contribution of fertilizer applications including organic amendments and water used in irrigation - Maintaining soil fertility <p>Records of analyses and/or crop-specific literature shall be available as evidence.</p> <p>The producer shall perform calculations at least once for every single crop harvested and on a justified regular basis (e.g., every two weeks in closed systems) for continuously harvested product. (The analysis may be conducted with on-farm equipment or mobile kits).</p>	Minor Must
FO 04.05	Nutrient content		
FO 04.05.01	The content of major nutrients (nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium) in applied fertilizers is known.	Documented evidence/labels detailing major nutrient content (or recognized standard values) shall be available for all fertilizers (organic and inorganic) used on registered crops within the last 24 months. In the case of the first audit, records for the last three months should be available.	Minor Must
FO 04.05.02	Purchased inorganic fertilizers are accompanied by documented evidence of chemical content, including heavy metals.	Documented evidence detailing chemical content, including heavy metals, shall be available for all inorganic fertilizers used on registered crops within the last 12 months. In the case of the first audit, records for the last three months should be available.	Minor Must

Section	Principle	Criteria	Level
FO 04.05.03	A risk assessment for organic fertilizer is conducted as per intended use.	<p>A risk assessment for organic fertilizer shall be conducted, covering the crop, the workers' health, and the environment. It shall consider the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Type of organic fertilizer - Method of treatment to obtain (stabilize) the organic fertilizer - Microbial contamination (plant and human pathogens) - Weed/Seed content - Heavy metal content <p>This also applies to substrates from biogas plants. For commercially available organic fertilizers, accompanying documentation and certifications of quality and content may be substituted for a risk assessment.</p>	Minor Must
FO 04.05.04	The use of human sewage sludge is prohibited on the farm.	Human sewage sludge shall never be used in the production of registered crops. The use of human sewage sludge that has been composted or incorporated into a commercially available product is not permitted, regardless of lawful use according to prevailing regulations.	Major Must
FO 04.06	Application records		
FO 04.06.01	Up-to-date records of all fertilizer and biostimulant applications are kept.	<p>Records shall be kept of each fertilizer (organic and inorganic) and biostimulant application, including in hydroponic and fertigation systems. The records shall include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Name or reference of the field or greenhouse - Name of the crop - Application date (day, month, and year) - Name and concentration of fertilizer applied - Applied quantities - Name of the applicator(s) - Method of application 	Minor Must

Section	Principle	Criteria	Level
FO 04.06.02	Management of fertilizers is supported with metrics.	<p>Acceptable metrics allow calculating the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Kg of nitrogen (in organic and inorganic fertilizers) used/ha/month - Kg of phosphorus (in organic and inorganic fertilizers) used/ha/month <p>Metrics should refer to inorganic and organic fertilizers, units of time (e.g., growing cycle), and amounts of fertilizer per ha of production. In Option 2 producer groups, evidence at quality management system (QMS) level is acceptable. Results (data) on metrics at producer group and farm level should be available to indicate compliance.</p>	Recom.
FO 04.07	Fertilizer and biostimulant storage		
FO 04.07.01	Fertilizers and biostimulants are stored in an appropriate manner to avoid cross contamination.	<p>Fertilizers and biostimulants shall be stored in a designated area separate from plant protection products (PPPs) and harvested or packed products.</p> <p>Cross contamination between fertilizers (organic and inorganic), biostimulants, and PPPs shall be prevented. Use of a physical barrier (wall, sheeting, etc.) may be based upon defined risk.</p> <p>Fertilizers and biostimulants that are applied together with PPPs (micronutrients, foliar fertilizers, etc.) can be stored with PPPs if both are kept in closed containers.</p>	Minor Must
FO 04.07.02	Fertilizers and biostimulants are stored in a covered, clean, and dry area.	<p>The storage area for inorganic fertilizers shall be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Well ventilated and free from rainwater or heavy condensation - Free from waste, not constituting a breeding place for rodents, and allowing easy clearing of spillage and leakage - Protected from atmospheric influences (sunlight, frost and rain, high temperatures, etc.) 	Minor Must

Section	Principle	Criteria	Level
		Based on a risk assessment (fertilizer type, weather conditions, storage duration and location), plastic coverage may be acceptable. It is permitted to store lime and gypsum in the field. As long as the storage requirements on the safety data sheet (SDS) are complied with, bulk liquid fertilizers can be stored outside in containers.	
FO 04.07.03	Fertilizers and biostimulants are stored in an appropriate manner that reduces the risk of environmental contamination.	Fertilizers (organic and inorganic) and biostimulants shall be stored in a manner that poses minimum risk of contamination to water sources. In the absence of other applicable legislation, liquid fertilizer stores/tanks shall be surrounded by an impermeable barrier able to contain a capacity of 110% of the volume of the largest container.	Major Must
FO 04.07.04	The purchase and use of fertilizers and/or biostimulants are tracked at appropriate intervals.	The producer shall track fertilizer and/or biostimulant purchases and use by means of invoices, beginning and end of season or growing cycle reconciling, or other systematic methods. The stock does not need to be inventoried monthly. Whatever tracking and reconciliation process is used shall allow for identification of loss of fertilizer and/or biostimulant through theft or overapplication.	Minor Must
FO 04.07.05	Concentrated acids are stored safely.	Concentrated acids shall be stored separately from any other materials, in a separate, lockable room, unless stored according to the requirements for plant protection product (PPP) storage.	Minor Must

Section	Principle	Criteria	Level
FO 05	WATER MANAGEMENT		
FO 05.01	Water sources		
FO 05.01.01	A risk assessment has been undertaken to evaluate environmental issues for water management on the farm (pre- and postharvest).	<p>There shall be a documented risk assessment for water used for indoor and outdoor production and postharvest activities. At minimum, the assessment shall identify environmental impacts on and of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Own farming activities on water sources and off-farm environments, including the risk of depleting water sources or affecting water quality - Distribution and irrigation systems <p>The producer shall be aware of water sources considered critical as per public knowledge (media, civil organizations, the authorities, academia, others), where information is known to be available. The risk assessment shall be reviewed annually or whenever changes to risks occur.</p>	Major Must
FO 05.01.02	A water management plan identifies water sources, measures to address environmental issues and increase water use efficiency.	<p>There shall be a documented and implemented action plan, approved by the management within the previous 12 months, which covers one or more of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Maps, photographs, drawings (hand drawings are acceptable), or other means for identifying the location of water source(s), permanent fixtures, and the flow of the water system (including holding systems, reservoirs, or any water captured for reuse) - Permanent fixtures, including wells, gates, valves, returns, and other above-ground features that make up a complete irrigation system, all documented in such a manner as to enable location in the field - Measures to avoid depletion and contamination of water sources - Measures to ensure efficient use and application 	Major Must

Section	Principle	Criteria	Level
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Maintenance of irrigation equipment <p>The following shall be included in the action plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Provision of training and/or retraining of workers responsible for oversight or performance duties - Short and long-term plans for improvement, with timescales where deficiencies exist 	
FO 05.02	Predicting irrigation requirements		
FO 05.02.01	Tools are routinely used to calculate and optimize crop irrigation.	<p>The producer shall be able to demonstrate that crop irrigation requirements are calculated based on data (local agricultural institute data, farm rain gauges, drainage trays for substrate growing, evaporation meters, water tension meters for the percentage of soil moisture content, etc.). Where on-farm tools are in place, these shall be maintained to ensure that they are effective and in a good state of repair.</p> <p>“N/A” only for rain-fed crops.</p>	Minor Must
FO 05.02.02	Water use at farm level has valid permits/licenses where legally required.	<p>Valid permits/licenses issued by the competent authority shall be available for all of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Farm water extraction - Water storage infrastructure - On-farm water usage including but not limited to irrigation - Water discharge into river courses or other environmentally sensitive areas, where legally required <p>Collection from watercourses within the farm perimeters may require legal permits from the authorities.</p> <p>These permits/licenses shall be available for the certification body (CB) audit and have valid dates.</p> <p>If these are not available where required, there shall be evidence that the producer has actively applied for the permit(s), the approval</p>	Major Must

Section	Principle	Criteria	Level
		is in process, and there is no clear evidence of an official prohibition for using the relevant water source(s).	
FO 05.02.03	Restrictions indicated in water permits/licenses are complied with.	It is not unusual for specific conditions to be set in the permits/licenses, such as hourly, daily, weekly, monthly, or yearly extraction volumes or usage rates. Equipment used for monitoring extraction volumes shall be in the correct location to provide accurate readings. Records shall be maintained and available to demonstrate that these conditions are being met.	Major Must
FO 05.02.04	Where feasible, measures have been implemented to collect water and, where appropriate, to recycle.	Water collection and/or recycling shall be implemented where economically and practically feasible (from building roofs, greenhouses, etc.). Water collection or recycling does not refer only to rainwater. There shall be evidence that the producer has estimated the potential amounts of rainwater that can be collected, as well as the investments required to collect it.	Minor Must
FO 05.02.05	Water storage facilities are present and well maintained to take advantage of periods of maximum water availability.	Where the farm is located in areas of seasonal water availability, there shall be water storage facilities for water use during periods when water availability is low. These shall be in a good state of repair and appropriately fenced/secured to prevent accidents. "N/A" if it is not feasible to collect rainwater or recycle water.	Minor Must

Section	Principle	Criteria	Level
FO 05.03	Record keeping		
FO 05.03.01	Records of volumes of water abstracted from water sources are kept.	Records shall include the date, actual or estimated flow rate, and the volume (from water meter or based on estimations) updated on a monthly basis. This can also be the hours of systems operating on a timed flow basis. The recommended metric is the monthly amount of water abstracted from water sources. Amounts of abstracted water may be compared with amounts used (in irrigation or total volumes used on the farm) to improve the efficient use of water sources. Such a comparison enables identification of whether an unnecessary excess of water is being abstracted or part of water used in irrigation is, for example, recycled or collected from rainwater.	Minor Must
FO 05.03.02	Records are kept of volumes of water used in irrigation/fertigation including total application volumes of previous cycle(s).	Records shall include the date, cycle duration, actual or estimated flow rate, and the volume (from water meter or per irrigation unit), and be updated on a monthly basis. This can also be the hours of systems operating on a timed flow basis. The recommended metric is the monthly amount of water used in irrigation on the farm.	Minor Must
FO 05.03.03	Records of volumes of water used in all types of activities on the farm are kept (total volume used).	Total water usage should be recorded, including but not limited to irrigation, such as domestic use, postharvest, and others. This can be estimated, not necessarily measured.	Recom.

Section	Principle	Criteria	Level
FO 05.04	Water quality		
FO 05.04.01	The use of treated sewage water during preharvest is justified according to a risk assessment.	<p>Treated sewage water shall be used only if the risks have been identified and effectively mitigated.</p> <p>Where treated sewage or reclaimed water is used, water quality shall comply with prevailing regulations or the World Health Organization (WHO-)published “Guidelines for the safe use of wastewater, excreta and greywater” (2006) where no prevailing regulations exist.</p> <p>If water has the potential to be polluted (e.g., upstream contamination source), the producer shall demonstrate through analysis that the water complies with prevailing regulations and requirements, or with the WHO guideline requirements where no prevailing regulations exist.</p> <p>Untreated sewage water shall never be used on crops.</p>	Major Must
FO 05.04.02	A risk assessment on physical and chemical quality of water used in preharvest activities is completed.	<p>Preharvest activities include irrigation/fertigation, washings, spraying, and others.</p> <p>There shall be a documented risk assessment that takes into consideration, at a minimum, the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Identification of the water sources and their historical testing results (where applicable) - Method(s) of application - Purity of the water used for plant protection product (PPP) applications <p>For guidance, the producer shall obtain the required water standards from the PPP label, the literature provided by the chemical manufacturers, or seek advice from a qualified agronomist.</p>	Minor Must

Section	Principle	Criteria	Level
		The risk assessment shall be updated any time there is a change made to the system or a situation occurs that could introduce an opportunity to contaminate the system.	
FO 05.04.03	Corrective actions are taken based on results from the risk assessment.	Where required, corrective actions and documentation should be available as part of the management plan as identified in the water risk assessment and current sector-specific standards.	Recom.
FO 06	INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT		
FO 06.01	Implementation of integrated pest management (IPM) is assisted through training or advice.	Where the technically responsible person is the producer, experience shall be complemented by technical knowledge (access to IPM technical literature, specific training attendance, etc.) or the use of tools (software, on-farm detection methods, etc.). Where an external adviser has provided assistance, training and technical competence shall be demonstrated via official qualifications, specific training, etc., unless this person has been employed for that purpose by a competent organization. In Option 2 producer groups, evidence at quality management system (QMS) level is acceptable.	Major Must
FO 06.02	The producer is informed about the relevant pests, diseases, and weeds that affect their registered crops.	There shall be evidence that the producer has information and knowledge of the pests, diseases, and weeds that may affect the registered crops (individually or per group of crops). Evidence can be through verbal demonstration by the producer or through observation in the field of measures taken. In the case of pest outbreaks, the producer shall be able to show or explain which pest is affecting the crop and correlate with the integrated pest management (IPM) plan which measures can be improved to avoid a similar situation next time.	Minor Must

Section	Principle	Criteria	Level
		In Option 2 producer groups, evidence at quality management system (QMS) level is acceptable.	
FO 06.03	There is an integrated pest management (IPM) plan describing the measures used at farm level to manage the relevant pests, diseases, and weeds that affect the registered crop(s).	<p>The IPM plan shall describe the measures the producer uses or would consider using to manage the pests, diseases, and weeds relevant to the registered crop(s) (individually or per group of crops). It shall include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A stepwise approach based on the preventive, nonchemical, and chemical methods which shall be applied depending on the crop and the specific situation as per judgement of the producer or expert adviser - Monitoring of pests, diseases, and weeds to determine whether interventions are needed, with action thresholds defined by the producer <p>In Option 2 producer groups, evidence at quality management system (QMS) level is acceptable.</p>	Minor Must
FO 06.04	The producer is aware of the crop varieties' degree of susceptibility to pests and diseases.	<p>There should be evidence that the producer understands the registered variety's (varieties') degree of susceptibility to pests and diseases.</p> <p>Evidence does not need to be written and can include producer experience.</p>	Recom.
FO 06.05	The producer implements prevention measures.	The producer shall show evidence of implementing at least two activities for the registered crops (individually or per group of crops) that include the adoption of production practices which maintain the vitality of the crops and could reduce the incidence and intensity of pest attacks, thereby reducing the need for intervention.	Major Must

Section	Principle	Criteria	Level
FO 06.06	The producer practices monitoring of their registered crops to plan pest and disease management.	The producer shall show evidence of implementing at least two activities for the registered crops (individually or per group of crops) that will determine when and to what extent pests and their natural enemies are present, and using this information to plan what pest management techniques are required.	Major Must
FO 06.07	The producer makes interventions to manage pests.	The producer shall show evidence for situations in which specific interventions were made against pests adversely affecting the economic value of a crop. Where plant protection products (PPPs) are used as an intervention, the producer shall demonstrate a risk-based approach for the selection of the PPPs considering hazards (e.g., toxicity). The producer may elect to take no action against the pest and incur the economic loss. Where possible, nonchemical approaches shall be considered. “N/A” if the producer did not intervene.	Major Must
FO 06.08	Anti-resistance recommendations have been followed to maintain the effectiveness of available plant protection products (PPPs).	If the level of a pest, disease, or weed requires repeated controls in the crops, there shall be evidence that anti-resistance recommendations either on the label or from other sources (where available) are followed. If only one chemical mode-of-action or class of PPP exists or is permitted for use in the country of production or country of export, rotation of product types may not be possible due to lack of availability of suitable alternatives. Repeated use of the same PPP or PPPs with the same mode of action may lead to selection of pests that are resistant to these PPPs. The resistance management strategy shall be documented and consider the following points: - Always follow the recommendations on the product label. - Avoid lower dose rates to ensure optimal application quality.	Minor Must

Section	Principle	Criteria	Level
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Use rotation programs and mixtures of PPPs with different modes of action that are effective against the target, where available. - As far as possible, limit the number of applications of the same mode of action in a growing season as a proportion of the total number of applications. <p>In Option 2 producer groups, evidence at quality management system (QMS) level is acceptable.</p>	
FO 06.09	The producer uses the results of integrated pest management (IPM) to learn and to improve the IPM plan.	<p>There shall be evidence that the producer evaluates the IPM plan on a yearly basis and introduces improvements if these were identified as necessary.</p> <p>In Option 2 producer groups, evidence at quality management system (QMS) level is acceptable.</p>	Minor Must
FO 07	PLANT PROTECTION PRODUCTS		
FO 07.01	Choice of plant protection products		
FO 07.01.01	Only treatments with plant protection products (PPPs) authorized for the country of production are used.	<p>A system shall be in place to ensure that PPPs are used as authorized for the country where the crop is grown.</p> <p>Evidence may take the form of reference lists (online acceptable), product labels, or descriptions of prevailing regulations properly referenced to the source regulation(s).</p> <p>Where no official registration scheme exists in the country of production, the producer shall refer to “International Code of Conduct on the Distribution and Use of Pesticides” of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).</p> <p>Extrapolated PPP use is allowed as per local registration scheme (see guideline).</p> <p>An up-to-date documented list that takes into account any changes in local and national legislation for PPPs shall be available for all</p>	Major Must

Section	Principle	Criteria	Level
		<p>commercial brand products (including any active ingredient compositions) used.</p> <p>It shall be possible to identify in the list whether a PPP has an active ingredient that is listed by the World Health Organization (WHO) as “Extremely Hazardous (Class Ia)” (see “The WHO recommended classification of pesticides by hazard and guidelines to classification,” 2019).</p>	
FO 07.01.02	<p>Plant protection products (PPPs) applied are appropriate for the crop/use site and target – either specifically or generally – as recommended on the product label or through other approvals.</p>	<p>A system shall be in place to ensure that PPPs are used as authorized for the crop – either specifically or generally – or authorized for the use site and intended purpose (i.e., for the pest or target of the intervention), as per label recommendations or official registration body publication.</p> <p>If the producer uses PPPs that are currently authorized for use on greenhouse ornamental nonfood or terrestrial ornamental nonfood sites, there shall be evidence of official approval for use of that PPP on that crop in that country (where such an official registration scheme exists). All PPPs shall be correctly and properly labeled.</p> <p>Examples of registrations that are meant generally for ornamentals: “Flowering ornamentals like roses, daisies;” “Flowers such as roses and daisies;” “Ornamentals;” “Bulbs;” “Potted and bedding plants.”</p> <p>Examples of registrations that are meant generally for targets: One product label may specifically and exclusively refer to “green aphids,” while a different product label may mention green aphids but also mention “piercing and sucking insects” in general.</p>	Major Must
FO 07.01.03	<p>Invoices and/or procurement documentation of plant protection products (PPPs) and postharvest treatments are kept.</p>	<p>Efforts shall be made to avoid illegal and counterfeit PPPs. Invoices, procurement documentation, or packing slips of all PPPs used and/or stored shall be retained.</p>	Major Must

Section	Principle	Criteria	Level
FO 07.02	Application records		
FO 07.02.01	Records of plant protection product (PPP) applications are kept.	All PPP application records shall specify the following information: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Crop - Field or greenhouse - Area of application (m2 or ha) - Date (day/month/year) and end time of application - Justification (e.g., name of the pest(s) treated) - Complete product trade name of the PPP (including formulation) - Name of active ingredient and concentration in commercial product (g/kg or g/l) - PPP quantity applied (i.e., quantity of commercial concentrated product): Amount of PPP to be applied expressed in weight or volume, or the total quantity of water (or other carrier medium) - Total spray volume applied (quantity of water or other carrier medium) 	Major Must
FO 07.02.02	Additional records of all plant protection product (PPP) applications are kept.	Additional records shall include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Name of applicator: The full name and/or signature of the responsible person(s) applying the PPPs shall be recorded. For electronic software systems, measures shall be in place to ensure authenticity of records. If there is a team of workers doing the application, all workers shall be listed in the records. - Technical authorization for the application: The technically responsible person making the decision on the use and the doses of the PPP(s) being applied shall be identified in the records. - Type of machinery or application equipment/method used (backpack sprayer, high-volume, U.L.V., irrigation system, dusting, fogger, aerial, or another method) for all the PPPs applied shall be detailed in all PPP application records (if there are various units, these are identified individually). 	Minor Must

Section	Principle	Criteria	Level
		- Weather conditions at time of application: The local weather conditions (wind, sunny/overcast, humidity, etc.) affecting effectiveness of treatment or drift to neighboring crops shall be recorded for each application. This may be in the form of pictograms with tick boxes, text information, or another viable system on the record. “N/A” for covered crops.	
FO 07.02.03	The producer takes active measures to prevent plant protection product (PPP) drift to neighboring plots.	The producer shall take active measures to avoid the risk of PPP drift from own plots to neighboring production areas. This may include, but is not limited to, knowledge of what neighbors are growing, planting living fences, maintenance of spray equipment, etc.	Minor Must
FO 07.02.04	The producer takes active measures to prevent plant protection product (PPP) drift from neighboring plots.	The producer should take active measures to avoid the risk of PPP drift from adjacent plots e.g., by making agreements and organizing communication with producers from neighboring plots in order to eliminate the risk of undesired PPP drift and by planting vegetative buffers at the edges of cropped fields. “N/A” if not identified as a risk.	Recom.
FO 07.02.05	Management of plant protection products (PPPs) is supported with metrics.	Recommended metrics are: kg of active ingredient of PPP used/crop/ha/month. In Option 2 producer groups, evidence at quality management system (QMS) level is acceptable. Results (data) on metrics at producer group and farm level should be available to indicate compliance.	Recom.

Section	Principle	Criteria	Level
FO 07.03	Disposal of surplus application mix		
FO 07.03.01	Surplus application mixes or tank washings are disposed of responsibly.	Applying surplus spray and tank washings to the crop shall be the first method of disposal, providing that the overall label dose rate is not exceeded. Disposal shall compromise neither workers' safety nor the environment. No agrochemical wastewater shall be released into the open environment.	Minor Must
FO 07.04	Plant protection product and postharvest treatment product storage		
FO 07.04.01	Plant protection products (PPPs), biocontrol agents and/or postharvest treatment products are stored in accordance with basic rules to ensure safe storage and use.	<p>The PPP storage shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Comply with all the appropriate current national, regional, and local legislation and regulations - Be kept secure and locked when not in use - Be accessible only to people with formal training in handling PPPs - Be properly ventilated - Have measuring equipment to support the accuracy of mixtures, including containers with graduation demarcations and calibrated scales - Be equipped with utensils (buckets, water supply point, etc.), which shall be kept clean for the safe and efficient handling of all PPPs that can be applied (This last also applies to the filling/mixing area, if this is different.) - Prevent cross contamination between PPPs and harvested products and other materials by the use of a physical barrier (wall, sheeting, etc.) - Ensure all PPPs used on registered crops are stored separately from those used on nonregistered crops (e.g., garden chemicals) - Contain the PPPs in their original containers and packages (In the case of breakage only, the new package shall contain all the information of the original label.) 	Major Must

Section	Principle	Criteria	Level
FO 07.04.02	The plant protection product (PPP) storage is structurally sound and robust.	<p>Storage capacity shall be sufficient to contain all PPPs and postharvest treatment products during the peak application season. The storage space shall be sturdy.</p> <p>The PPPs and postharvest treatment product storage shall mitigate health and safety risks to workers and the risk of cross contamination. between the PPPs and postharvest products or with other products.</p> <p>Where shelving is used, it shall be made of nonabsorbent material, and liquids shall never be stored above powders or granular formulations.</p>	Minor Must
FO 07.04.03	Plant protection product (PPP) storage is illuminated.	The storage shall be sufficiently illuminated by natural or artificial lighting to ensure that all product labels can be easily read.	Minor Must
FO 07.04.04	The plant protection product (PPP) storage is able to retain and manage spillage.	The PPP storage shall have retaining tanks or shall be banded to 110% of the volume of the largest container of stored liquid to ensure that there cannot be any leakage, seepage, or contamination to the exterior of the storage. Materials and tools such as sand, floor brush and dustpan, and plastic bags shall be available and in a fixed location to be used exclusively in case of spillage of PPPs.	Minor Must
FO 07.04.05	The purchase and use of plant protection products (PPPs) are tracked at appropriate intervals.	The stock inventory (type and amount of PPPs stored; number of units, e.g., bottles, is allowed) shall be updated within an appropriate interval (season, every two months, etc.) after there is movement of the stock (in and out). The stock update can be calculated by registration of supply (invoices or other records of incoming PPPs) and use (treatments/applications), but there shall be regular checks of the actual content to avoid deviations with calculations.	Minor Must

Section	Principle	Criteria	Level
FO 07.04.06	An accident procedure is available near the plant protection product (PPP)/chemical storage.	An accident procedure containing all appropriate information and emergency contact telephone numbers shall be present and display the basic steps of primary accident care. The procedure shall be accessible by all persons working near the PPP/chemical storage(s) and designated mixing area(s).	Minor Must
FO 07.04.07	Facilities are available to deal with operator contamination.	All plant protection product (PPP)/chemical storage and filling/mixing areas present on the farm shall have eyewash amenities, a source of clean water near the work area, and a first aid kit containing the relevant first aid material.	Minor Must
FO 07.05	Plant protection product handling		
FO 07.05.01	Access to health checks is available to workers with exposure to applicable plant protection products (PPPs) according to the risk assessment or exposure and toxicity of products.	The producer shall provide workers who come into contact with PPPs the option of receiving health checks annually or according to the workers' health and safety risk assessment. The health checks shall honor the privacy of personal information. The risk assessment shall identify the specific chemical exposure that would warrant the health check. Where health checks exist through government farm worker programs or other systems, these may be used as justification in the risk assessment that health care for high-exposure workers is readily available. Workers shall be informed of how to access these health services.	Major Must

Section	Principle	Criteria	Level
FO 07.05.02	The farm has documented procedures addressing re-entry times after plant protection product (PPP) application.	Based on the PPP label instructions, there shall be clear, documented procedures that regulate re-entry intervals for PPPs applied to crops (standard operating procedure: when intervals start and end, time of interval or signs to enter, how to enter, exceptions to entering during interval, and equipment and time in the field required, etc.). Special attention shall be paid to workers at greater risk, e.g., underage or pregnant/lactating workers. Where no re-entry period is stated, re-entry shall not be allowed until the chemical have dried on the crop.	Major Must
FO 07.05.03	Plant protection products (PPPs) are transported between production sites in a safe and secure manner.	The producer shall ensure that the PPPs are transported in a way that mitigates risk to the environment or the health of the worker(s) and shall follow best industry practices.	Minor Must
FO 07.05.04	Plant protection products (PPPs) are mixed and handled according to label requirements.	Appropriate measuring equipment shall be adequate for mixing PPPs, and the correct handling and filling procedures shall be followed.	Major Must
FO 07.06	Empty plant protection product containers		
FO 07.06.01	Empty plant protection product (PPP) containers are triple rinsed with water before storage and disposal, and the rinsate is disposed of in such a way as to mitigate the risk to the environment.	Pressure-rinsing equipment for PPP containers shall be installed on the PPP application machinery, or there shall be documented instructions to rinse each container at least three times prior to its disposal. Either via the use of a container-handling device or according to a documented procedure for the application equipment operators, the rinsate from the empty PPP containers shall always be put back into the application equipment tank when mixing or disposed of in a manner that compromises neither workers' safety nor the environment.	Major Must

Section	Principle	Criteria	Level
FO 07.06.02	The reuse of empty plant protection product (PPP) containers for purposes other than containing and transporting identical products is avoided.	There shall be evidence that empty PPP containers have not been and currently are not being reused for anything other than containing and transporting identical products as stated on the original label. In regions where there is a risk that the container could be used to carry drinking water, containers shall be punctured prior to disposal.	Minor Must
FO 07.06.03	Empty containers are kept secure until disposal is possible.	There shall be a designated secure storage point for all empty plant protection product (PPP) containers prior to disposal that is isolated from the crop and packaging materials (e.g., permanently marked via signage) with physically restricted access for persons and fauna.	Minor Must
FO 07.06.04	Empty plant protection product (PPP) containers are disposed of in such a way as to mitigate the risk to humans and the environment.	The producer shall dispose of empty PPP containers using a safe handling system prior to the disposal, and a disposal method that avoids exposing people to the contents and avoids contamination of the environment (watercourses, flora, and fauna).	Minor Must
FO 07.06.05	Official collection and disposal systems are used, when available, and the empty containers are then adequately stored, labeled, and handled according to the rules of that collection system.	Where official collection and disposal systems exist, there shall be records of participation by the producer. All empty plant protection product (PPP) containers, once emptied, shall be adequately stored, labeled, handled, and disposed of according to the requirements of the official collection and disposal schemes, where applicable.	Minor Must
FO 07.06.06	All local regulations regarding disposal or destruction of plant protection product (PPP) containers are complied with.	All the relevant national, regional, and local regulations and legislation, if such exist, shall have been complied with regarding the disposal of empty PPP containers.	Major Must
FO 07.07	Obsolete plant protection products		
FO 07.07.01	Obsolete plant protection products (PPPs) are securely maintained, identified, and disposed of via authorized or approved channels.	There shall be records indicating that obsolete PPPs have been disposed of via officially authorized channels. If this is not possible, obsolete PPPs shall be securely maintained and identifiable.	Minor Must

Section	Principle	Criteria	Level
FO 07.08	Application of other substances		
FO 07.08.01	Up-to-date application records are kept of all other substances not covered under any of the sections.	<p>If preparations such as plant strengtheners, soil conditioners, or any other such substances, whether homemade or purchased, are used on registered crops, records shall be available. Records shall contain the name of the substance (e.g., plant from which it derives), the crop, the field, and the date. In the case of purchased products, the trade or commercial name, where applicable, and the active substance or ingredient, or the main source (plant, algae, mineral, etc.) shall be recorded.</p> <p>The producer shall ensure that the use does not compromise workers' health or the environment.</p>	Minor Must
FO 07.09	Equipment		
FO 07.09.01	Equipment, tools, and devices are fit for purpose and maintained.	<p>Equipment, tools, and devices (scales, plant protection product (PPP) or fertilizer application equipment, thermometers, pH meters, etc.) shall be maintained and, where applicable, calibrated at least annually.</p> <p>Equipment maintenance, calibration (where applicable), and repairs shall be documented. Maintenance activities shall not present risks to the environment or workers.</p> <p>PPP sprayers: The calibration of PPP application machinery (automatic and nonautomatic) shall have been verified for correct operation within the last 12 months, and this verification shall be certified or documented either by participation in an official scheme (where it exists) or by having been carried out by a person who can demonstrate their competence.</p>	Minor Must

Section	Principle	Criteria	Level
		Irrigation/Fertigation equipment: At a minimum, annual maintenance records shall be kept for all methods of irrigation/fertigation machinery/techniques used.	
FO 07.09.02	The plant protection product (PPP) and fertilizer equipment is stored in such a way as to prevent risks to people's health or the environment.	The equipment used in the application of PPPs (spray tanks, backpack sprayers, etc.) shall be stored in a secure way that prevents risks to people's health, environmental pollution and/or contamination of the harvested products.	Minor Must
FO 08	POSTHARVEST		
FO 08.01	Quality of postharvest water		
FO 08.01.01	A risk assessment has been undertaken to evaluate quality issues in water used in postharvest.	The risk assessment shall consider frequency of analysis, sources of water, chemical and mineral contaminants. The risk assessment shall be reviewed annually, when risks change due to operational changes, or when a situation occurs that could introduce an opportunity to contaminate the system.	Minor Must
FO 08.01.02	Laboratory testing occurs in a manner consistent with industry requirements.	The water analysis should be undertaken by a laboratory that has quality control procedures.	Recom.
FO 08.01.03	Corrective actions are taken based on results from the risk assessment and the results of the water analysis.	Records shall be available of the actions taken to address risks of water quality used in postharvest, along with records of their results.	Minor Must
FO 08.02	Postharvest treatments		
FO 08.02.01	The producer uses postharvest treatments if and only if there are no existing alternatives to ensure maintenance of good quality.	All possible alternatives for the use of postharvest treatments shall have been considered and evaluated, and chemicals shall be used only where there is no technically accepted alternative. Postharvest treatments may include plant protection products (PPPs), inks to color flowers, and other treatments.	Minor Must

Section	Principle	Criteria	Level
FO 08.02.02	All label instructions are complied with.	Clear procedures shall be in place and documentation (postharvest protection product (PPP) application records, packaging/delivery dates of treated products, etc.) shall be available demonstrating that the label instructions for chemicals applied to the harvested products have been complied with.	Major Must
FO 08.02.03	The producer uses only those plant protection products (PPPs) that are officially registered in the country of use and approved for postharvest use.	All postharvest PPPs or any other postharvest treatments used on the harvested products shall be officially registered or permitted by the appropriate governmental organization in the country of application, approved for use in the country of application, and approved for postharvest use as indicated on the biocide and PPP labels. Where no official registration scheme exists, refer to the GLOBALG.A.P. guideline on this subject and to “International Code of Conduct on the Distribution and Use of Pesticides” of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).	Major Must
FO 08.02.04	The producer keeps an up-to-date list of postharvest plant protection products (PPPs) that are used, and approved for use, on crops being grown.	An up-to-date documented list shall be available that takes into account any changes in local and national PPP legislation. The list shall contain the commercial brand names of PPPs (including their active ingredient composition or beneficial organisms) that have been or are being used on registered crops grown on the farm within the last 12 months.	Minor Must
FO 08.02.05	The producer and/or packer has consulted their customers to determine whether there are restrictions on specific postharvest treatments or any additional commercial restrictions.	There shall be documentation confirming the request from the producer and/or packer for information on additional restrictions.	Minor Must

Section	Principle	Criteria	Level
FO 08.02.06	Records of postharvest treatment applications are kept.	The following information shall be included in all records of postharvest plant protection product (PPP) applications: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The lot or batch of harvested product treated - The name or reference of the farm or harvested product-handling site where the treatment was undertaken - The exact dates (day/month/year) of the applications - The type of treatment used for PPP application (spraying, drenching, gassing, etc.) - The justification for the application (i.e., common name of pest to be treated) - The complete trade name and active ingredient (including formulation) or beneficial organism with scientific name - The amount of PPP applied in weight or volume per liter of water or other carrier medium - The name of the person who has applied the PPP to the harvested product 	Major Must
FO 08.02.07	Postharvest packaging on the farm has been stored in such a way as to prevent contamination by rodents, pests, birds, and physical and chemical hazards.	All consumer packaging shall be stored with control measures for rodents, pests, birds, and physical and chemical hazards. Note: Pots in which plants are grown are not considered packaging material.	Minor Must
FO 08.02.08	Reusable cultivation materials are cleaned to ensure that they are free of foreign materials.	Cultivation materials, including pots, crates, buckets, and other containers, shall be cleaned, and based on the risk of contamination there shall be a cleaning schedule in place to ensure that, at a minimum, they are free of foreign materials before reuse. The above does not apply to pots that are not reused.	Minor Must

Section	Principle	Criteria	Level
	ENVIRONMENT		
FO 09	WASTE MANAGEMENT		
FO 09.01	Waste products and sources of pollution are identified in all areas of the farm.	<p>Possible waste products (paper, cardboard, plastic, oil, etc.) and sources of pollution (fertilizer excess, exhaust smoke, oil, fuel, noise, effluent, chemicals, etc.) associated with farm processes shall be identified.</p> <p>Plastics used shall be identified and the method of disposal documented, where applicable.</p> <p>In Option 2 producer groups, evidence at quality management system (QMS) level is acceptable.</p>	Major Must
FO 09.02	A waste management system is implemented.	<p>A system shall be in place that manages waste (reduction and recycling) and potential sources of pollution.</p> <p>The system shall be based on an assessment of the company's activities and their potential impact on the environment.</p> <p>There shall be evidence of waste separation, including plastic waste, and appropriate methods of disposal, including recycling.</p> <p>Staff shall be trained in waste disposal, including ensuring minimum release of plastics into the environment.</p> <p>Air, soil, noise, light and water pollution shall be considered where relevant along with potential sources of pollution.</p> <p>Methods used to minimize any contamination risks shall be documented.</p> <p>There shall be evidence that methods are used to prevent fuel and oil spillages and guidelines and tools in place to clear up any spillages should they occur.</p>	Major Must

Section	Principle	Criteria	Level
FO 09.03	The site is kept in a tidy and orderly condition.	Visual assessment shall show that there is no waste or litter in the immediate vicinity of the production site(s) or storage buildings. Incidental and insignificant litter and waste in the designated areas are acceptable, as is the waste from the current day's work. All other waste shall be cleaned up.	Minor Must
FO 09.04	Holding areas for diesel and other fuel oil tanks are environmentally safe.	Holding areas shall be maintained in a manner that mitigates risks to the environment. Their location shall take into consideration the risk of polluting water sources. The minimum requirement is a bunded, impervious area able to contain at least 110% of the volume of the largest tank stored within it. In an environmentally sensitive area, the capacity shall be 165% of the volume of the largest tank.	Minor Must
FO 09.05	Organic waste is managed in an appropriate manner to reduce the risk of contamination of the environment.	Organic waste material shall be either composted and used for soil conditioning and the composting method shall mitigate the risk of pest, disease, or weed carryover; or it is recycled (or disposed of) in another location where risks of pollution to the environment are managed.	Minor Must
FO 09.06	The producer implements measures to properly manage wastewater in order to avoid negative impacts on the environment and human health.	Wastewater from farm activities shall be disposed of so as to minimize impact on the environment and human health. Consideration shall be given to, for example, wastewater resulting from washing of contaminated machinery (spray equipment, personal protective equipment (PPE), recirculated water systems such as hydrocoolers, etc.). Wastewater from the buildings used for accommodation of workers shall pass through a wastewater treatment system.	Minor Must

Section	Principle	Criteria	Level
FO 10	BIODIVERSITY		
FO 10.01	The producer recognizes the farm as an agricultural ecosystem that interacts with neighboring landscapes (while the legal scope of the producer is on the farm).	Available evidence should indicate, for example, that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In water management, the producer knows where the water for the farm comes from and where the water that leaves the farm goes to. - In biodiversity management, the producer knows how the farm can contribute to protecting and enhancing biodiversity via biotope corridors (e.g., trees) that connect habitats on the farm with the landscapes beyond the farm. - The producer shows awareness of or participation in projects, joint action, or collaboration with other producers or stakeholders in sector- or crop-specific initiatives, etc. 	Recom.
FO 10.02	Unproductive sites are used as ecological focus area to protect and enhance biodiversity.	Available evidence shall indicate that there are tangible actions to convert unproductive sites and identified areas that give priority to ecology into conservation areas, where viable. The term “unproductive sites” refers to areas where production is impossible or areas not related to production, such as low-lying wet areas, woodlands, headland strips, or areas of impoverished soil. Areas between greenhouses are not necessarily considered unproductive sites, since these areas may be required to be kept with minimum vegetation for pest management or for maintenance. “N/A” on farms where there are no unproductive sites.	Minor Must
FO 10.03	Biodiversity is protected.	Available evidence shall indicate that actions to protect and enhance biodiversity are implemented, for example via one or more of the following practices: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Integrated pest management (IPM) - Implementing measures to mitigate potential negative impact of artificial illumination on biodiversity, especially during the night (e.g., 	Minor Must

Section	Principle	Criteria	Level
		<p>screens or painted glass that helps mitigate potential impacts on migratory birds or other nocturnal biodiversity)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Implementing measures which help to mitigate the visual impact of glass/plastic greenhouses as non-natural elements of the landscape (e.g., living fences/hedges) - Allowing for seasonal fallow - Creating shelters for beneficial predators - Leaving areas for habitat near fields or greenhouses - Creating buffer zones along aquatic ecosystems and between production areas or implementing other water management practices - Enabling soil health and soil biodiversity via crop rotation, reduced or no-tillage farming, erosion control, and/or other soil management practices - Optimizing and, if possible, reducing the use of agrochemicals and fertilizers - Implementing measures to protect species <p>With regard to protection of biodiversity, the guideline provides reference.</p> <p>In Option 2 producer groups, evidence at quality management system (QMS) level is acceptable.</p>	

Section	Principle	Criteria	Level
FO 10.04	Biodiversity is enhanced.	<p>Available evidence, such as maps, aerial photos, on-farm visual evidence, documents issued by local or national authorities or authorized service providers, should indicate that biodiversity is enhanced, e.g., via one or more of the following practices:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Restoring, improving, or enlarging fragments of any size of: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Forests, wetlands, mangroves, grasslands, peatlands, etc. b) Areas with legal protection or areas effectively protected by other means (e.g., protected areas with relevant categories of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)) c) Areas recognized as “High Conservation Value” (HCV) areas 2) Other actions by the producer and partners <p>With regard to protection of biodiversity, the guideline provides reference.</p> <p>In Option 2 producer groups, evidence at quality management system (QMS) level is acceptable.</p>	Recom.
FO 10.05	On the farm (within the farm boundaries), no areas with legally recognized conservation value (or effectively protected by other means) have been converted into agricultural areas or into other uses since 1 January 2014.	<p>Available evidence, such as maps, aerial photos, or documents issued by local or national authorities or authorized service providers, shall indicate that since 1 January 2014, no conversion into agricultural area or into other uses has occurred in parts of the farm (within the farm boundaries) that fulfils the following characteristic:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Areas where legal protection prevents such conversions (protected areas recognized by national or local legislation, areas with relevant categories of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), areas that are protected via other effective means, etc.) 	Major Must

Section	Principle	Criteria	Level
FO 10.06	On the farm (within the farm boundaries), areas with legally recognized conservation value (or effectively protected by other means) which had been converted into agricultural areas or into other uses between 1 January 2008 and 1 January 2014 are already restored, under restoration, or will enter binding restoration.	Available evidence, such as maps, aerial photos, or documents issued by local or national authorities or authorized service providers, shall indicate that restoration has been completed, or is in implementation or under planning for binding implementation, to recover the entire extent of the parts of the farm (within the farm boundaries) that fulfils the characteristic below, where those parts of the farm had been converted into agricultural area or into other uses between 1 January 2008 and 1 January 2014: - Areas where legal protection prevents such conversions (protected areas recognized by national or local legislation, areas with relevant categories of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), areas that are protected via other effective means, etc.)	Major Must
FO 10.07	The producer is aware of the country of production's and intended destination market's regulations, if existing, on invasive alien species.	The producer or the producer's customer should have available information on the regulations on invasive alien species for all countries in which products are intended to be produced or traded (domestic and/or international). A list of invasive alien species should exist for the country of production and for each intended country of destination. Not applicable if there is no list specifying the invasive alien species for the country of production or destination. Not applicable if the producer does not know to the country of destination of the product.	Recom.

Section	Principle	Criteria	Level
FO 10.08	The producer takes action to avoid introducing or releasing invasive alien plant species in the production system and neighboring ecosystem.	<p>The producer should be aware of a list of invasive alien species considered as such by the country of production, if such a list exists.</p> <p>The producer should demonstrate that actions have been taken to avoid production, marketing, introduction, or release of these species in the farm and/or the neighboring ecosystem.</p>	Recom.
FO 11	ENERGY EFFICIENCY		
FO 11.01	On-farm energy use is monitored.	<p>There shall be records of on-farm energy use (e.g., invoices detailing energy consumption). The producer (or, where applicable, the quality management system (QMS) manager) shall be aware of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Where and how energy is consumed (process, machinery, other) - Amounts of energy used per source (electricity, fuels, other) - Proportion of renewable vs. nonrenewable energy used, where such information is available <p>In the absence of energy meters (e.g., for small producers), estimations are acceptable. In Option 2 producer groups, evidence at QMS level is acceptable.</p>	Major Must
FO 11.02	Based on the results of the monitoring, there is a plan to improve energy efficiency on the farm.	<p>There shall be evidence that energy records are analyzed at least annually to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Identify opportunities to improve energy efficiency - Establish self-defined targets <p>Acceptable metrics can include, for example: the total amount of energy used on the farm per month. Farming equipment shall be selected and maintained for optimum energy consumption.</p>	Minor Must

Section	Principle	Criteria	Level
FO 11.03	The plan to improve energy efficiency considers minimizing the use of nonrenewable energy.	The producer shall consider reducing the use of nonrenewable energy to the lowest possible and using renewable energy instead. One example of a metric which can be used to follow on the use of nonrenewable energy is: proportion of renewable/nonrenewable sources as percentage (%) of the total	Minor Must
FO 11.04	<p>The farm contributes to reducing GHG* emissions and removing them from the atmosphere.</p> <p>*Greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions refer to carbon dioxide (CO₂), methane (CH₄), nitrous oxide (N₂O), and fluorinated gases. Due to their varying potential to contribute to global warming, they are sometimes calculated as CO₂ equivalents (CO₂e).</p>	<p>Available evidence should indicate that the producer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Has awareness and knowledge of how on-farm practices can contribute to reducing GHG emissions and removing them from the atmosphere, for example in connection to energy, soil health, fertilizers, and organic waste - Is preparing to implement or already implementing agricultural practices that enable the formation of organic carbon in soils and in biomass, for example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Crop residue management (burying residues, seeding on residues) - Use of cover crops in crop rotation, diversification of crop rotation, minimum or no tillage - Reduction of nutrient release in fertilizer management - Restoration of ecosystems <p>In Option 2 producer groups, evidence at quality management system (QMS) level is acceptable.</p>	Recom.

Section	Principle	Criteria	Level
	WORKERS' HEALTH, SAFETY, AND WELFARE		
	<i>People are key to the safe and efficient operation of any farm. Workers and contractors as well as producers themselves stand for their own health and safety and for environmental protection. Education and training will help progress towards sustainability and build on social capital. This section is meant to ensure safe practices in the workplace and that all workers both understand and are competent to perform their duties; are provided with proper equipment to allow them to work safely; and that, in the event of accidents, can obtain proper and timely assistance.</i>		
FO 12	WORKERS' HEALTH AND SAFETY		
FO 12.01	Workers' health and safety		
FO 12.01.01	There is a documented risk assessment for workers' health and safety.	The documented risk assessment shall reflect conditions on the farm, including worker facilities and any on-farm worker housing. The risk assessment shall be reviewed and updated annually and when changes occur that impact workers' health and safety (changes in local authority sanitary rules on infectious diseases, new machinery, new buildings, new plant protection products (PPPs), modified cultivation practices, new health risks, etc.). Incidents and accidents shall be recorded. Examples of hazards may include moving machine parts, electricity, vehicle traffic, flammable substances, fertilizer, chemical exposure, excessive noise, dust, vibrations, extreme temperatures, ladders, fuel storage, slurry tanks, working at heights, etc.	Major Must

Section	Principle	Criteria	Level
FO 12.01.02	The farm has health and safety procedures.	<p>The health and safety procedures shall address the points identified in the risk assessment and be appropriate to the farming operations. The procedures shall include hygiene instructions. The health and safety procedures, including hygiene instructions, shall be reviewed annually and updated when the risk assessment changes.</p> <p>The farm infrastructure, facilities, on-farm worker housing, and equipment shall be constructed and maintained to minimize health and safety hazards for workers. Compliance with prevailing regulations shall be required.</p> <p>Accident and emergency procedures shall address work areas, worker facilities, and on-farm worker housing and include contingency plans, i.e., the ability of workers to remove themselves from unsafe situations. Where required by the risk assessment, emergency equipment shall be accessible and maintained. The procedures shall be visibly displayed for workers (including subcontractors) and visitors by way of clear signs (pictures) and/or in the predominant language(s) of the workforce.</p> <p>The hygiene instructions shall include, at a minimum:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Requirement to wash hands - Limitation on smoking, eating, and drinking to designated areas <p>Consideration shall be given to workers at greater risk, including workers under 18 years of age, and pregnant or lactating women. Whenever accidents occur, the cause shall be reviewed and appropriate preventive actions included in revised health and safety procedures.</p>	Minor Must

Section	Principle	Criteria	Level
FO 12.01.03	All staff have received health and safety training according to the risk assessment.	<p>Basic training on workers' health and safety shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Be provided annually to staff including owners and managers - Be provided to new staff and to established staff whenever they are reassigned to tasks requiring additional knowledge - Cover all necessary instructions - Be given in a format, either written or verbal, that ensures understanding (may only be in verbal and pictorial form without written explanatory content, where appropriate) - Include training on safety procedures for equipment, products, or new activities - Include training on topics related to accident response, natural disasters, and workers' health, including illnesses, exposure to chemicals, emergency response procedures, fire safety, and rights and responsibilities associated with workers' health protection - Include specialized training for workers in accordance with assigned tasks (control atmosphere storages, limited ventilation areas, fertilizer and chemical handling, machine operation, etc.) 	Minor Must
FO 12.01.04	Workers handling hazardous substances and operating dangerous or complex equipment have evidence of competence.	<p>Records shall identify all workers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Handling and/or administering chemicals, disinfectants, plant protection products (PPPs), biocides, and/or other hazardous substances - Operating dangerous or complex equipment as defined in the risk assessment - Working at heights <p>For each such worker, there shall be evidence of competence (e.g., certificate of training and/or records of training with evidence of attendance).</p>	Major Must

Section	Principle	Criteria	Level
		<p>Workers under 18 years of age and pregnant or lactating workers shall not handle PPPs.</p> <p>Compliance with this principle and the respective criteria shall include compliance with applicable legislation.</p>	
FO 12.01.05	Accident and emergency procedures are displayed and communicated.	<p>Instructions based on the accident and emergency procedures shall be clearly displayed in accessible and visible location(s) for workers, visitors, and subcontractors. These instructions shall be available in the predominant language(s) of the workforce and/or in pictograms. The procedures shall cover/identify the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The farm address, map, or other location information (e.g., GPS coordinates) - Contact person(s) - An up-to-date list of relevant telephone numbers (i.e., police, ambulance, hospital, fire brigade, access to emergency healthcare on site or by means of transport, and suppliers of electricity, water, and gas) - Emergency evacuation procedures, where applicable 	Major Must
FO 12.01.06	Warning signs identify all potential hazards, emergency exits, and escape routes.	<p>Permanent and legible signs shall indicate potential hazards. Emergency exits and escape route signs shall indicate these must be kept open, accessible, and clear of obstacles.</p> <p>This includes, where applicable, waste pits, flammable structures (fuel tanks, propane/natural gas tanks, etc.), plant protection product (PPP) storage, bodies of water, and any other identified physical hazards.</p> <p>Warning signs shall be present and in the predominant language(s) of the workforce and/or in pictograms.</p> <p>Examples of other information that can be included:</p>	Major Must

Section	Principle	Criteria	Level
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The location of the nearest means of communication (telephone, radio) - How and where to contact local medical services, hospitals, and other emergency services - The location of fire extinguisher(s) and availability of water nearby - The location of large chemical, fuel, and fertilizer storages - The locations of emergency exits and operation of fire escapes - Emergency cutoffs for electricity, gas, and water lines - How to report accidents and dangerous incidents (location, description of incident, number of injured people, type of injuries) - The hygiene instructions - How to deal with accidents involving chemicals following safety data sheets (SDSs) 	
FO 12.02	Hazards and first aid		
FO 12.02.01	Safety advice for substances hazardous to workers' health and safety is immediately available and accessible.	Information related to safe handling of each hazardous substance shall be accessible (websites, telephone numbers, safety data sheets (SDSs), etc.).	Minor Must
FO 12.02.02	First aid kits are accessible at all permanent sites and fields near the work.	Complete and maintained first aid kits (i.e., complete and maintained according to prevailing regulations and appropriate to the activities being carried out) shall be available and accessible at all permanent sites and present in selected vehicles (tractor, car, etc.) where required by the risk assessment.	Minor Must
FO 12.02.03	There is always at least one person trained in first aid present on the farm whenever on-farm activities are being carried out.	There shall always be at least one person trained in first aid (within the last five years) present at the location whenever production and handling activities are being carried out, including those mentioned in the relevant principles and criteria of the standard. As a guideline: one trained person per 50 workers.	Minor Must

Section	Principle	Criteria	Level
FO 12.03	Personal protective equipment		
FO 12.03.01	Workers, visitors, and subcontractors are equipped with suitable personal protective equipment (PPE) and utilize them.	<p>PPE shall be in accordance with legal requirements, label instructions, and/or as authorized by a competent authority. The PPE shall be available, properly used, and in good repair. Complying with label requirements and/or requirements in the risk assessment for on-farm operations may include use of the following: appropriate footwear, waterproof clothing, protective overalls, rubber gloves, face masks, respiratory equipment (including replacement filters), ear and eye protection, etc.</p> <p>PPE shall be provided whenever necessary to workers, subcontractors (acceptable when provided by subcontracting company), and visitors.</p>	Major Must
FO 12.03.02	Personal protective equipment (PPE) is maintained in clean conditions and stored appropriately so as not to pose any contamination risk to personal items.	PPE shall be kept clean according to the type of use and degree of potential contamination and stored in a ventilated place. Protective clothing shall be laundered separately from personal clothing. Reusable gloves shall be washed before removal. Dirty and damaged PPE shall be disposed of appropriately. PPE shall be stored in a manner that prevents cross contamination with chemicals.	Major Must
FO 12.03.03	Suitable changing facilities are available where necessary.	The changing facilities (in line with local conditions) shall be used to change clothing and protective outer garments as required. Changing facilities may not be needed if personal protective equipment (PPE) is applied over existing clothing.	Minor Must

Section	Principle	Criteria	Level
FO 13	WORKERS' WELFARE		
FO 13.01	A member of the management is clearly identifiable as responsible for the workers' health, safety, and welfare.	Documentation shall be available that clearly identifies and names the member of management who is responsible for ensuring compliance with and implementation of existing, current, and relevant national and local regulations on workers' health, safety, and welfare.	Major Must
FO 13.02	There is communication between management and workers on issues related to their health, safety, and welfare.	<p>Records shall show that communication between management and workers about health, safety, and welfare issues can take place openly (i.e., without fear of intimidation or retaliation) and at least once a year. The certification body (CB) auditor is not required to make judgments about the content, accuracy, or outcome of such communications. There shall be evidence that workers' concerns about health, safety, and welfare are being addressed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - It shall be emphasized to workers that, with reasonable justification, they shall remove themselves from unsafe work. The use of this right in good faith shall eliminate any retaliation or consequence to the workers. - If accidents, near misses, or other incidents occur, they shall be reported and the cause determined and discussed with the workers. - Management shall define corrective actions to prevent recurrence of similar incidents and clearly explain the corrective actions to the workers. - Workers shall explain to management situations where they feel exposed to risk. - Management shall explain procedures for eliminating or reducing risk detected by workers. 	Minor Must

Section	Principle	Criteria	Level
FO 13.03	Workers have access to clean drinking water, food storage, and areas to eat and rest.	A clean place to store food and a clean place to eat shall be provided to the workers if they eat on the farm. Drinking water shall always be provided at no cost to the workers. Worker access to drinking water shall not be restricted. There shall be designated areas for resting and breaks.	Major Must
FO 13.04	On-site living quarters are compliant with applicable local regulations, habitable, and equipped with basic services and facilities.	<p>The on-site living quarters for the workers shall be habitable and have a sound roof, windows and doors, hygiene and safe food preparation areas, and the basic services of drinking water, toilets, and drains. At a minimum, the quarters shall comply with the local health and safety regulations.</p> <p>Living quarters shall be away from any chemical hazards (including fire hazards, inflammable substances or hazards, etc.), biological hazards (mold, sewage, etc.), and physical hazards (noise, radiation, poor ventilation, extreme temperatures, etc.) identified in the risk assessment.</p> <p>If there are no drains, septic pits may be acceptable if compliant with prevailing regulations.</p>	Major Must
FO 13.05	Transportation provided to workers is safe.	Transportation shall be safe for workers and take into account applicable safety requirements and regulations.	Minor Must

Section	Principle	Criteria	Level
FO 13.06	The producer provides workers access to clean toilets and handwashing facilities in the vicinity of their work.	Field sanitation units shall be designed, constructed, and located so as to allow direct accessibility for servicing. Fixed or mobile toilets (including pit latrines) shall be constructed of materials that are easy to clean and be in a hygienic state. Toilets shall be located in reasonable proximity (i.e., no more than 500m or 7 minutes) to the place of work. If there are no or insufficient toilets in reasonable proximity to the place of work, the producer has failed this principle and the respective criteria. Toilets shall be appropriately maintained and stocked.	Minor Must

VERSION/EDITION UPDATE REGISTER

New document	Replaced document	Date of publication	Description of modifications
220607_IFA_Smart_P&Cs_FO_interim_final_amended_v6_0_Jun22_en	220426_IFA_Smart_P&Cs_FO_interim_final_v6_0_Apr22_en	7 June 2022	05.02.02 Clarification of C, level change to Major Must: water permit 05.02.04 Moved part of C to 05.02.02 05.04.03 Clarification of C: corrective actions 07.01.03 Level change to Major Must: illegal PPP 07.05.03 Clarification of C: transport of PPP 07.06.04 Deletion of wording in C: disposal of empty PPP containers 08.01.02 Clarification of P: laboratory requirements 09.04 Clarification of C: fuel oil tanks and holding areas 09.05 Clarification of C: organic waste 10.05 Clarification of P&C, level change to Major Must: land conversion 10.06 Clarification of P&C, level change to Major Must: land conversion 13.05 Clarification of P&C: transport of workers
220929_IFA_Smart_PCs_FO_v6_0_Sep22_en	220607_IFA_Smart_P&Cs_FO_interim_final_amended_v6_0_Jun22_en	29 September 2022	01.03.01 Clarification of C regarding internal audits 01.03.03 Alignment of C: continuous improvement 01.03.04 Alignment of C: continuous improvement 06.07 Clarification of C: intervention with PPPs 07.04.02 Clarification of C regarding risk mitigation 07.06.01 Clarification of C regarding risk mitigation 09.05 Clarification of C regarding risk mitigation

Copyright

© Copyright: GLOBALG.A.P. c/o FoodPLUS GmbH, Spichernstr. 55, 50672 Cologne, Germany. Copying and distribution permitted only in unaltered form.