



GLOBALG.A.P.

AH Beter voor Natuur & Boer

General Rules Specifications

ENGLISH VERSION 1.1_FEB23

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1 GENERAL BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Name and version of the add-on:	AH Beter voor Natuur & Boer v1.1
Scope:	Fruit and vegetables
Scheme ID:	331
Application in country(ies):	Producers located in the Netherlands (Producers in other countries can be included at the discretion of Albert Heijn).
Add-on Observers:	Albert Heijn observers
The applicable add-on control points and compliance criteria (CPCC) name and version:	AH Beter voor Natuur & Boer checklist v1.1

2 ROLES RELATED TO THIS ADD-ON

Producer: Farmers/Growers that supply their products directly to Albert Heijn (AH) or to a supplier that in turn supplies AH.

Supplier: The entity that supplies products (fruit and vegetables) to AH and has a number of producers that also grow the products for them (i.e., the supplier) and/or that are connected to them (i.e., the supplier).

Service Provider: A company (e.g., processor, distributor, packer, etc.) that sources on behalf of AH, ensuring a supply of safe, quality products to the retail customer or the company that has been contracted to supply main product lines to that retail customer. This includes companies such as Bakker Barendrecht, Koninklijke Vezet, Nedato, Agrico, Leo de Kock, Vogelaar Vredehof, Oakfield, Banken Champignons/Hooza Trading, and Agarica.

3 GENERAL RULES SPECIFICATIONS

This document contains the general rules specifications exclusively applicable for the AH Beter voor Natuur & Boer (AH Beter voor) add-on. The basis for this document are the latest [GLOBALG.A.P. general add-on rules](#), which should be consulted while reading these general rules specifications.

The GLOBALG.A.P. general regulations in their current version apply to the add-on unless otherwise specified in the add-on rules below.

Section (Numbering based on the GLOBALG.A.P. general add-on rules)	General add-on rule	Requirements for the AH Beter voor Natuur & Boer add-on
3. APPLICATION OPTIONS		
Preconditions:		
3.1 Option 1 – Individual producer		
3.1.1	Option 1 – Multisite without implementation of a QMS	This option is possible.
3.1.2	Option 1 – Multisite with implementation of a QMS	This option is possible.
3.2 Option 2 – Producer group		This option is <i>not</i> possible.
4. REGISTRATION PROCESS		
4.1 Certification bodies		
a)	Applicant registration	<p>Producers (directly or via suppliers) will be requested by the specific AH service provider to implement the AH Beter voor add-on.</p> <p>The service provider will provide the producer (directly or via supplier) the complete AH Beter voor documentation package. The supplier shall, once informed by the service provider, inform all their relevant producers about this add-on.</p> <p>Registration with the certification body (CB) can happen <i>only after</i> the producer has been informed by their supplier or service provider about the AH Beter voor add-on.</p> <p>Therefore, a producer can be registered with the CB only if one of the two possibilities is fulfilled:</p>

Section (Numbering based on the GLOBALG.A.P. general add-on rules)	General add-on rule	Requirements for the AH Beter voor Natuur & Boer add-on
		<p>Possibility 1: The producer (or supplier) provides a documented copy of a current email that was sent directly from the service provider to the producer (or supplier) that confirms the request of the implementation of the AH Beter voor add-on;</p> <p><i>OR</i></p> <p>Possibility 2: An email can be sent directly from the service provider to the CB to indicate that the AH-Beter Voor add-on is requested for the producer.</p>
c)	<p>Information on approved CBs is available for every add-on and published on the GLOBALG.A.P. website.</p>	<p>Only CBs <i>with final approval</i> for GLOBALG.A.P. Integrated Farm Assurance (IFA), crops scope, fruit and vegetables (FV) sub-scope may register producers for the AH Beter voor add-on.</p> <p>CBs that want to conduct audits for the AH Beter voor add-on shall request a scope extension (see the latest GLOBALG.A.P. fee table for scope extension costs) from GLOBALG.A.P. CB administration by sending a signed letter of intent. The CB shall nominate an AH contact person and in-house trainer (IHT) at the same time.</p> <p>CB auditor fee: Not applicable if the CB auditor is already registered in the GLOBALG.A.P. database and is paying the fee for the IFA standard.</p> <p>A list of GLOBALG.A.P. approved CBs and the GLOBALG.A.P. fee table are available on the GLOBALG.A.P. website. <i>Customize the search for CBs by selecting the region, country, and scope.</i></p>


Section (Numbering based on the GLOBALG.A.P. general add-on rules)	General add-on rule	Requirements for the AH Beter voor Natuur & Boer add-on
4.2 Registration		
4.2.1 General		
d)	The duration of the service contract is set between the CB and the producer.	The contract between the producer and CB is <i>independent</i> from AH and the GLOBALG.A.P. Secretariat. The CB shall include this add-on as part of the GLOBALG.A.P. sublicense and certification agreement that is signed between the CB and the producer.
5. ASSESSMENT PROCESS		
5.1 Self-assessment		
a)	Self-assessments are required if the specific add-on includes this requirement in the control points and compliance criteria.	<p><u>For Option 1 and Option 1 multisite without QMS:</u> The producer shall conduct a self-assessment against all the applicable requirements of the AH Beter voor add-on.</p> <p><u>For Option 1 multisite with QMS:</u> The QMS shall include the implementation of the AH Beter voor add-on. Internal audits (as conducted by internal auditors) shall include 100% of the production sites that supply to AH. Therefore, all these production sites shall receive an annual <i>internal audit</i> against the AH Beter voor add-on.</p>
5.2 Second- or third-party assessments		
a)	A second (an appointed organization) or third party (an independent certification body) shall conduct the add-on assessments.	The AH Beter voor add-on can be audited <i>only</i> by GLOBALG.A.P. <i>finally</i> approved CBs for IFA, crops scope, FV sub-scope. The CB auditors shall also have successfully completed the training on the add-on. (See section 7 for more details).

Section (Numbering based on the GLOBALG.A.P. general add-on rules)	General add-on rule	Requirements for the AH Beter voor Natuur & Boer add-on
b) The assessments shall be done only by the following parties as approved:		
i)	CB inspectors or auditors that are already approved to conduct inspections or audits for accredited standards such as GLOBALG.A.P. IFA or schemes successfully benchmarked to the specific sub-scope	CB auditors for the AH Beter voor add-on shall, at minimum, be approved for a current and valid version of the IFA standard for sub-scope FV <i>and</i> be trained against the AH Beter voor add-on requirements once such training is available. (See section 7 for more details.)
ii)	Inspectors or auditors from GLOBALG.A.P. approved CBs conducting inspections against non-accredited standards, or	This is <i>not</i> possible.
iii)	Licensed Farm Assurers that have approval for assessing the specific add-on	This is <i>not</i> possible.
5.2.1 Option 1 – Individual producer (without QMS)		
a)	Producer receives an annual assessment.	The CB audits against the AH Beter voor add-on and the IFA standard are conducted in the same period. This period is a maximum of four weeks. The CB audits against the AH Beter voor add-on and the IFA standard may be conducted by different auditors. No benchmarked schemes are allowed. In the case of the initial/first CB audit of a producer against the AH Beter voor add-on, the add-on can be added mid-cycle. The AH Beter voor add-on can also be combined with an unannounced CB audit. The AH Beter voor add-on CB audit frequency is annual – similar to the IFA standard.
b)	The duration and timing of assessments will be part of the agreement with the CB.	The additional duration of the AH Beter voor CB audit will depend on the size of the farm and the complexity of production activities.

Section (Numbering based on the GLOBALG.A.P. general add-on rules)	General add-on rule	Requirements for the AH Beter voor Natuur & Boer add-on
c)	The timing will be clarified.	Timing of the CB audit shall follow the timing rules for the IFA standard as defined in the GLOBALG.A.P. general regulations I and Crops rules.
5.2.2 Option 1 – Individual producer with a QMS		
a)	The QMS and the production sites shall be assessed.	<p>For multisites with a quality management system (QMS), the QMS shall be managed centrally. The implementation of the AH Beter voor add-on shall also be included as part of the QMS. The QMS shall be audited as stipulated in the GLOBALG.A.P. general regulations.</p> <p>It is preferred to conduct CB audits for the AH Beter voor add-on together with the IFA CB audit. However, separate audits are allowed as well. No benchmarked schemes are allowed.</p> <p>In the case of the initial/first CB audits of an Option 1 multisite with QMS against the AH Beter voor add-on, the add-on can be added mid-cycle. The AH Beter voor add-on can also be combined with an unannounced CB audit.</p> <p>The AH Beter voor add-on CB audit frequency is annual, similar to the IFA audit frequency for multisite with QMS.</p>
b)	The CB does not assess all production sites, just a sample. It is not the responsibility of the CB to determine the compliance of each production site (this responsibility rests with the applicant). The CB shall assess whether the applicant's internal controls are appropriate.	The same sampling procedure as in the case of the IFA standard (for Option 1 multisite <i>with</i> a QMS) shall be followed. It is, however, important that the sample is representative of the producers that implement the AH Beter voor add-on.

Section (Numbering based on the GLOBALG.A.P. general add-on rules)	General add-on rule	Requirements for the AH Beter voor Natuur & Boer add-on
c)	The duration of the add-on assessments will be clarified.	The additional duration of the AH Beter voor CB audit will depend on the size of the farm and the complexity of production activities. Timing of the CB audit shall follow the timing rules for the IFA standard as defined in the GLOBALG.A.P. general regulations I and Crops rules.
d)	The sampling method, frequency, and timing will be clarified.	The same sampling procedure as in the case of IFA (for Option 1 multisite <i>with</i> a QMS) shall be followed. It is, however, important that the sample is representative of the producers that implement the AH Beter voor add-on.
5.3 Unannounced assessments		
a)	It is possible that a specific add-on requires that producers receive unannounced assessments.	This is <i>not</i> possible.
b)	If it is a requirement, 10% of the add-on producers or groups of a CB shall be assessed annually unless stated otherwise.	This is <i>not</i> possible.
c)	The assessment, if applicable, shall be announced no longer than 48 hours in advance.	This is <i>not</i> possible.
6. APPROVAL PROCESS		
6.1 Requirements for achieving and maintaining add-on conformance		
a)	The CPCC of the add-on may consist of different levels (e.g., knock-out points, Major Musts, Minor Musts, or Recommendations) or may have a scoring system.	The add-on consists of Major Must and Minor Must control points.

Section (Numbering based on the GLOBALG.A.P. general add-on rules)	General add-on rule	Requirements for the AH Beter voor Natuur & Boer add-on
b)	For each add-on program, the conformance rules are based on the constitution of the CPCC and will be stipulated.	
c)	The compliance percentage shall be calculated taking into account all the control points applicable to each site and product.	Compliance with 100% of the Major Musts is required and a maximum of one non-compliance (per module) to a Minor Must is allowed to successfully conform with the AH Beter voor add-on. Furthermore, 28 days for corrective actions plus 28 days for the certification decision apply.
d)	In all cases, after an assessment, the calculation to show compliance (or non-compliance) shall be available.	To be discussed and agreed at closing meeting on-site as part of the summary of findings as presented by the CB auditor. The producer shall receive a copy of the summary of non-compliances at the end of the CB audit. Both the CB auditor and the producer shall sign this summary document.
6.2 Sanctions		
c)	Outstanding non-conformances shall be closed within 28 days after the last day of the audit.	The producer has to send evidence of corrective actions to the CB after the CB audit. Major non-conformances, identified during the first audit may be closed within 90 days if the auditor and the producer agree that 28 days is not a sufficient time frame.
6.5 Letter of conformance		
		A letter of conformance is issued by the CB once the producer complies with 100% of the Major Musts and has a maximum of one non-compliance (per module) to a Minor Must as per the AH Beter voor add-on. The validity period of the letter of conformance is 12 months. The validity period of the letter of conformance may be extended a maximum of 4 months. See Annex 2 of this document for a template of the letter of conformance.

Section (Numbering based on the GLOBALG.A.P. general add-on rules)	General add-on rule	Requirements for the AH Beter voor Natuur & Boer add-on
6.6 Certification Integrity Program (CIPRO)		
a)	The possibility of adding CIPRO to the add-on program shall be clarified.	The certification integrity program (CIPRO) might in the future include the AH Beter voor add-on.
7. CERTIFICATION BODY AND FARM ASSURER REGISTRATION RULES FOR THE ADD-ON		
General Regulations, I, Annex I.1: Rules for use of the GLOBALG.A.P. add-on trademark and logo		The official logo is to be used according to the requirements stipulated in the applicable GLOBALG.A.P. general regulations. 
Data access rules	In the case of different types of master data as defined in the GLOBALG.A.P. general regulations I, Annex I.1:	See Annex 1 below.
Assessor/Farm Assurer qualifications	In the case of other requirements as indicated in the GLOBALG.A.P. general regulations III:	Only <i>finally approved</i> IFA CBs that have completed the scope extension to this add-on are allowed to conduct CB audits for this add-on. Minimum requirements are the same as in the case of GLOBALG.A.P. CB auditors, as stipulated in the applicable GLOBALG.A.P. general regulations. Additionally, CBs need training in order to be able to audit the production sites according to the AH Beter voor add-on criteria. GLOBALG.A.P. CB trainings are offered online for the in-house trainers (IHT) of the CBs and designed to raise awareness about the purpose of this add-on.

Section (Numbering based on the GLOBALG.A.P. general add-on rules)	General add-on rule	Requirements for the AH Beter voor Natuur & Boer add-on
		<p>Previously approved GLOBALG.A.P. CB auditors for the AH Beter voor add-on:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The CB's IHT shall successfully complete the CB IHT training (and pass the online exam) as offered by GLOBALG.A.P. The exam needs to be taken by the IHT 2. The IHT shall then train the CB auditors that will carry out audits against this add-on. 3. These trained CB auditors shall, within three months from when the add-on became mandatory, complete and pass the online exam as offered in the GLOBALG.A.P. database. <p>New AH Beter voor add-on CB auditors entering the program after three months from when the add-on becomes mandatory:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Shall be trained by the CB's IHT. 2. Shall complete and pass the online exam as offered in the GLOBALG.A.P. database, prior to auditing producers against this add-on. <p>CB training fees:</p> <p>Online IHT training fees: €125 per online training (0.5 training day).</p> <p>No additional costs for the online exam for CB auditors that will carry out audits against this add-on.</p>

Section (Numbering based on the GLOBALG.A.P. general add-on rules)	General add-on rule	Requirements for the AH Beter voor Natuur & Boer add-on
Add-on fees	Any additional fees that may apply for the different add-ons:	<p>Producer fees for this add-on will be charged in addition to the normal registration and certificate license fees for the IFA standard (see general GLOBALG.A.P. fee table). The producer shall not pay any fees directly to the supplier or service provider. Fees are payable to the CBs only.</p> <p>Add-on fees for producers, depending on the applicable scope:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Option 1 – €25 per producer
Any additional rule/requirement not mentioned in this document:		<p>The AH Beter voor add-on consists of two modules (Producer and Nature). For each control point, the applicability per product scope is indicated (noncovered vegetables, noncovered fruits, greenhouses, and cell cultivations).</p>
		<p>The AH Beter voor add-on status shall be reflected in the GLOBALG.A.P. database.</p> <p>The CB audit results shall be uploaded to the GLOBALG.A.P. database in the form of the AH Beter voor checklist.</p> <p>This document shall be either in PDF or protected Excel or Word format.</p>
		<p>Remote CB audits: This add-on follows the same process as outlined in the IFA standard.</p>

ANNEX I DATA ACCESS RULES

1 INTRODUCTION

These are the data access rules as set for the AH Beter voor add-on.

This is a private solution and is not visible to the public.

	Data Access Groups			
	GLOBALG.A.P. Secretariat	Certification body	AH Beter voor observer	Public
Add-on visibility	x	x	x	

x marks that this data is visible to users assigned to the respective data access group.

2 PRODUCER/COMPANY/OPERATION DATA

	Data Access Groups		
	GLOBALG.A.P. Secretariat	Certification body	AH Beter voor observer
Company (producer/operation)			
Company name	x	x	x
Company address ¹⁾	x	x	x
Company city	x	x	x
Company country	x	x	x
Company contact information ²⁾	x	x	
Company website (if available)	x	x	
Current GGN/GLN	x	x	x
Previous GGN/GLN	x	x	x
Legal registration per country	x	x	
Location ³⁾	x	x	x

	Data Access Groups		
	GLOBALG.A.P. Secretariat	Certification body	AH Beter voor observer
Contact person (responsible for legal entity)			
Contact name ⁴⁾	x	x	
Contact information ²⁾	x	x	
PHU/site information			
Name of product handling unit (PHU)/site	x	x	
PHU/site address ⁵⁾	x	x	
PHU/site contact information ²⁾	x	x	
Sub-GLN(s)	x	x	x
Location ³⁾	x	x	

x marks that this data is visible to users assigned to the respective data access group.

Notes

- 1) Company address includes: Street address (or information available to describe the producer/company/operation location), postal address, postal code, city, country
- 2) Contact information includes (if available): Telephone number, fax number, email address
- 3) Location includes: Northern/Southern latitude and western/eastern longitude
- 4) Contact name includes: Title, first name, last name
- 5) PHU/site contact address includes: Street address (or information available to describe the PHU/site location), postal address, postal code, city, country

3 PRODUCT AND ASSESSMENT DATA

	Data Access Groups		
	GLOBALG.A.P. Secretariat	Certification body	AH Beter voor observer
Product	x	x	x
Product status	x	x	x
Add-on version	x	x	x
Application option including multisite information	x	x	x
Letter of conformance validity date	x	x	x
Certification body	x	x	x
Quantity data ¹⁾	x	x	x
Data point attributes	x	x	x
Assessment result ²⁾	x	x	x

x marks that this data is visible to users assigned to the respective data access group.

Notes

¹⁾ For crops: Production surface

²⁾ CB audit checklist

ANNEX II AH- BETER VOOR ADD-ON LETTER OF CONFORMANCE TEMPLATE

The letter of conformance shall be in English. A second language may be added in the letter of conformance.

**AH BETER VOOR NATUUR & BOER ADD-ON
LETTER OF CONFORMANCE**

According to the AH Beter voor Natuur & Boer add-on

Option X

Issued to

Producer

Company name, address

The certification body [Company Name] declares that the production of the products mentioned on this letter of conformance has been found to be compliant in accordance with the AH Beter voor Natuur & Boer add-on version XX.

Product ID ¹⁾	Product ²⁾	Number of production sites

The annex contains details of the production sites/product handling units included in the scope of this letter of conformance.

Date of CB audit:

Valid from: xx/xx/xxxx

Valid to: xx/xx/xxxx

Authorized by

Date of approval decision: xx/xx/xxxx

CB contact data

Company name, address (incl. email)

ANNEX for GGN_XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

Date of issue: xx/xx/xxxx

Production sites (Option 1 multisite with QMS)

Site name and address	Product(s)

Product handling units (PHUs)

GGN or GLN	PHU name and address	Product(s)

- 1) Product ID according the GLOBALG.A.P. product list
- 2) Product according the GLOBALG.A.P. product list

VERSION/EDITION UPDATE REGISTER

New document	Replaced document	Date of publication	Description of modifications
230223_AH_Beter_voor_Rules_specs_v1_1_Feb23_en	220224_AH_Beter_voor_Rules_specs_v1.0_Mar22_en	23 February 2023	<p>5.2.1 a): Audit timing and auditor requirements for AH Beter voor Natuur & Boer add-on respective to IFA have been changed.</p> <p>Annex II: The name of the auditor has been removed from the letter of conformance.</p>

If you want to receive more information on the modifications in this document, please contact the GLOBALG.A.P. Secretariat at standard_support@globalgap.org.

If the changes do not introduce new requirements to the standard, the version will remain “5.0” and an edition update shall be indicated with “5.0-x”. If the changes do affect compliance with the standard, the version name will change to “5.x”.