



## GLOBALG.A.P. IT Solutions - Recent changes and updates

We are updating our GLOBALG.A.P. IT Solutions on a regular basis. To keep you informed, we send you an update about the latest changes and news. Alongside news on the Audit Online Hub (AOH), this newsletter will now feature news on Validation Service (VS) and CB - AT. If you would like to see the latest changes in brief, please click [here](#) to visit our website. For a more detailed overview, please read on.

### Audit Online Hub

#### Recent changes and more

As announced in our previous newsletter edition, the following five versions were transferred from BETA environment (beta-audit.globalgap.org) to LIVE (audit.globalgap.org) + DEMO (demo-audit.globalgap.org) environments on 26 April 2023.

#### Important note to API users

We strongly recommend that API users check in AOH LIVE whether the versions mentioned in this newsletter cause the API implementation to stop functioning properly. If you do not experience any issues, please carry on and use the system as intended. If difficulties arise, please contact our [customer support](#) immediately.

#### AOH v3.4.0

##### New features:

- Restructuring of audit reports based on IFA v6 Smart and IFA v6 GFS with new reporting options (Smart audits (v6)).
  - To cover all audit combinations, the following reporting options have been introduced:
    - Individual certification
    - Multisite without QMS.
    - Multisite with QMS.
    - Site of a multisite with QMS.,
    - “Member of a group certification”
    - “Member of a group certification with multisite”
    - Group certification.
- Implementation of search parameters for Smart audits (v6) and Legacy audits (v5) through the view of audit reports.
  - A group box with its respective landing page was added to identify the Legacy process (v5) and Smart process (v6).
- Audit types attributes
  - To align with the GLOBALG.A.P. general regulations, new datapoints related to audit method have been implemented, available for IFA v5.2, IFA v5.3 - GFS, IFA v5.4-1-GFS, IFA v6 Smart, IFA v6 GFS, as well as Chain of Custody (CoC) v6.
- Product selection dependent on site type (Smart audits (v6)).
  - To be able to add products in the scope of the audit, at least one site type must be selected. Site types are divided in two options: Product Handling Unit (PHU) and Site.

Site registration shall take place in Validation Service.

- Quality Management System (QMS) Multireport for IFA v6 Smart and IFA v6 GFS audits (Smart audits (v6)).
  - New module integrated to generate a summary report for those producers who are being audited for IFA v6 Smart or IFA v6 GFS and are operating a Quality Management System.
    - - Main Features:
        - Development of Multireport statuses.
        - Association and Disassociation options to bind audit report to the Multireport.
        - Confirmation message added to alert users before disassociating an audit report from the Multireport.
        - Link added to connect individual audit reports to the Multireport.
- GRASP v2 add-on (Smart audits (v6))
  - GLOBALG.A.P. Risk Assessment on Social Practice v2 add-on is now available for all new reporting options.

#### Configuration changes:

- Audit personnel for Smart audits (v6)
  - Standard
    - Auditor's qualification and approval now are directly retrieved from CB-AT(Certification Body Administration Tool) and the outcome is accessible via audit creation.
  - Roles
    - Name update for user role and Audit Personnel section for Smart (v6) and Legacy audits (v5).
- Audit report statuses update, applicable to all farm assurance products (Smart audits (v6))
  - The status "Review completed" was introduced to cover the reviewer step of the all-audit reports based on the Reporting Options "Site of a multisite with QMS", "Member of a group certification" or "Member of a group certification with Multisite".
  - The status "Closed" was removed and in its place two audit report statuses were added, as mentioned below:
    - Status "Closed – compliant": To be used when closing an audit report with a Positive Certificate Decision. This means that the necessary percentage of compliance has been reached. For instance, for IFA v6 Smart or IFA v6 GFS the compliance represents the closure of 100% of Major Must and 95% of Minor Must.
    - "Closed – non-compliant": To be used when closing an audit with a Negative Certificate Decision. This means that the minimum percentage of compliance has not been reached.
- Section Travel information
  - New wording: "Distance traveled to reach the site (including distance traveled between sites; in km)".
- Section Audit duration per day (Smart audits (v6))
  - Datapoint "Site audited" is now a dropdown menu that populates with all the Farm Assurance Products registered sites regardless of their site type.
    - Please note that the changes to the audit duration section also include changes to the assessor field, which is now to be filled in with the name of the assessor instead of the initials. The name of the assessor(s) shall be the same as the name(s) indicated in Audit Personnel. The changes will also be reflected in the API and the updated Live API documentation.
- Food Safety Policy Declaration checkbox for Legacy (v5) and Smart audits (v6) removed.
  - The datapoint "Food Safety Policy Declaration" checkbox is no longer available in the audit reports.
- Updated Audit Types

- To be in alignment with GLOBALG.A.P. General Regulations, the section Audit Types, in the audit report, have been revised and now new options are available for IFA v5.2, IFA v5.3 -GFS, IFA v5.4-1-GFS, IFA v6 Smart, IFA v6 GFS in addition to CoC v6.
- Product attributes per Site type Product Handling Unit update (Smart audits (v6))
  - New product attributes defined for sites type PHU (Product Handling Unit).
- Product in the scope of site type PHU limited to Product in the scope of the site type Site (Smart Audits (v6))
  - A validation was added so that in case of registering a site type “Site” and a site type “PHU”, the system does not permit the inclusion of products for a site type “PHU” that are not part of the scope of the site type “Site”. This rule is restricted to audit reports based on reporting options “Multisite with QMS” and “Group certification”.
- Disabled the generation of multiple PHUs (Product Handling Unit) section or chapter in the audit (Smart audits (v6)).
  - When creating a new QMS Smart audit, principles and criteria linked to the Product Handling Unit shall be included once, regardless of how many Site types of Product Handling Units have been registered in the audit.
- Disabled multiple site type Site registration while auditing “Site of a multisite with QMS” (Smart audits (v6)).
  - The site type Site registration shall be limited to one in case of “Site of Multisite with QMS audits”.
- Entry of reviewer comment box mandatory (Smart audits (v6)).
  - On the review step, a comment shall be requested while setting the status "Outstanding CD".
- Section Certification Body Decision and Validity dates (Smart audits (v6)).
  - Section removed from audit reports utilizing the Reporting Options “Site of a multisite with QMS”, “Member of a group certification” or “Member of a group certification with Multisite”.
  - New wording: “Certification Body Decision” and “Certification Body Decision taken by” . This feature is available for Legacy audits (v5) as well.
- Tesco Primary supplier” section mandatory for Nurture assessment (Legacy audits (v5)).
  - Tesco Primary supplier section now obligatory for all Nurture Tesco assessment irrespective the version.
- Scalability of Comment box in Control Points (Smart (v6) and Legacy audits (v5)).
  - All comment boxes in control point can be made bigger.

#### Bugfix:

- The system not retrieving the right principles and criteria for QMS audits has been corrected.
- User Roles not getting updated has been corrected.
- Visualization of audits from other Certification Body while editing the Multireport has been amended.
- Issue with no member or site associated with the Multireport has been corrected.
- Malfunctioning textbox with decimal fields has been corrected.
- “Enter” key not working on the GGN validation has been corrected.
- Negative travel info milage has been corrected.

#### **AOH v3.4.1**

#### New features:

- QMS (Quality Management System) audit report (Smart audits (v6)).
  - Audit report, in pdf format, is available in the Live environment for producers operating a QMS system.

#### Configuration changes:

- Grouped the summary calculation for all QMS audits (Smart audits (v6))

- For multisite with QMS and Group certification audits, a unique summary calculation will be generated with the consolidation of all QMS (Quality Management System) and PHU (Product Handling Unit) (if any) principles and criteria dynamically added to the audit. The compliance calculation applies for all principles and criteria (QMS in addition to PHU).
- Change GRASP v2 questions regarding family farm and workers (Smart audits (v6)).
  - New wording: " It is confirmed that this producer during the last production cycle:"
    - "has not hired any workers"
    - "has hired workers"
  - New wording: "It is confirmed that this family farm producer during the last production cycle:"
    - "worked only with core family members"
    - "has hired workers"
- Enabled the entry of total family members in GRASP v2 audits when it is confirmed that the family farm producer worked solely with core family members during the last production cycle (Smart audits (v6)).
  - The auditor can enter the amount of family workers in situations where there has only been family workers.
- Change "Inspection method" to "Audit method explanation" on the checklist (Smart audits (v6)).
  - In v6 audits, "Inspection method" has been renamed to "Audit method explanation".
- Removed from all audits: the setting to share internal comments (Internal notes on the audit and control points internal comment) with GLOBALG.A.P.(Legacy audits(v5) and Smart audits (v6))
- Added "\*" (asterisks) to mark mandatory fields.
  - Fields that must be filled out in the audit report are marked with an "\*" (asterisk) to simplify the process of filling in the respective forms.
- Removed: the reporting option "Member of a group certification with multisite" (Smart audits (v6)).
- Added Method, Audit Method Explanation, and Justification Guidelines for IFA v6 Smart and IFA v6 GFS (Smart audits (v6)).
  - The Method, Audit Method Explanation, and Justification Guidelines for Fruit and Vegetables and Flower and Ornamentals have been added to IFA v6 Smart and IFA v6 GFS.
- Added a thousand's separator for quantitative data points (Smart audits (v6)).
- Change "IFA Inspection Guideline" tab to " IFA Audit Guideline" tab on Smart audits (v6).
  - For all v6 audits, the IFA guideline tab is renamed to "IFA Audit Guideline" and its content updated accordingly.

#### Bugfix:

- System blocks the entry of Audit Personnel in the audit report has been corrected.
- Scalability of the Audit duration section has been corrected.

#### **AOH v3.4.2**

#### New features:

- Auditor qualifications and approval linked to Certification Body Administration Tool (Smart audits (v6)).
  - A new precondition has been established to create a v6 audit report which stipulates that all auditors shall be registered in the Certification Body Administration Tool (CB-AT) to proceed with the audit generation. The

competencies of the audit personnel should be 'Approved' or 'Temporarily approved' to be accepted by Audit Online Hub.

#### Configuration changes:

- Role's validation (Smart audits (v6)).
  - Added new leading business rules for all users assigned to an audit report:
    - The auditor cannot be nominated as "Reviewer" and / or "Certification Committee" for the same audit report.
    - The "Reviewer" and the "Certification Committee" can be the same person.
- Added principles and criteria to GRASP v2 QMS (Quality Management System) (Smart audits (v6)).
  - Principles and criteria of the GLOBALG.A.P. Risk Assessment on Social Practice v2 add-on Quality Management System are now available for v6 audits.
- Added notification to check on the compliance of the minor principles and criteria for worker's welfare in GRASP v2 audits.

#### Bugfix:

- Issues while using the "Copy audit" functionality have been corrected.
- Deletion of product in the scope of the audit has been corrected.
- Deletion of sites of the audit has been corrected.
- 'Certification body decision' and 'Validity dates' sections (disabled) have been corrected.

### **AOH v3.4.3**

#### New features:

- RMS v6 module (Smart audits (v6))
  - The module Residue Monitoring System in version 6 is now available for Group Certification audit based on the plants scope.
- Integrated the RMS registration for QMS audits (Smart audits (v6))
  - The Residue Monitoring System information can be entered in a Group Certification audit for recorded RMS systems in Validation Service.
- Excel Template (Smart audits (v6))
  - Added a new "Audit" sheet to the current layout to input audit information such as:
    - Company audited
    - Audit details
    - Travel Information
    - Audit duration per day
    - Key persons present during the audit

#### Configuration changes:

- Populated "Main site" during the GGN validation (Smart audits (v6))
  - The Main site section is now prefilled according to the site registration in Validation Service.
- Limited the number of sites registered in the audit (Smart audits (v6))
  - For the reporting options "Multisite with QMS" and "Group Certification" only one site type "SITE" can be registered. The registration of multiple site types "PHU" and site type "External PHUs" are accepted.
- Enabled the IFA v6 GFS audit report in combination with GRASP v2 (Smart audits (v6))
  - Audit reports of the Integrated Farm Assurance v6 GFS standard and GLOBALG.A.P. Risk Assessment on Social Practice v2 add-on can be performed.

- Removed quantities data fields for the reporting options “Multisite with QMS” and “Group Certification” for audits based on plants and aquaculture (Smart audits (v6)).
- Added product attributes for site type “External PHUs” (Smart audits (v6)).
- Added a thousand separator to quantities data fields in the audit (Smart audits (v6)).
- Removed the “Audit duration per day” section from GRASP v2 audits (Smart audits (v6)).

#### Bugfix:

- Wording on the “CoC (Chain of Custody) assessment details” has been corrected.
- Wording on the “IFA audit details” has been corrected.

#### **AOH v3.4.4**

#### New features:

- Embedded the “New Terms of Use for IT systems” on the log-in page of Audit Online Hub.
- Excel Template (Smart audits (v6))
  - Added a new checklist (CKL) spreadsheet to the current layout to answer all principles and criteria. Note that after downloading the template from Audit Online Hub, the new CKL spreadsheet will appear as many times as standards/add-ons are assessed in a given audit report (One CKL per selected farm assurance product [FAP]).
  - Added a new Non-compliance and Corrective actions (NCCA) sheet to the current layout. It is important to mention that:
    - The new NCCA sheet contains:
      - A section for the Non-compliance and Corrective actions taking into account that results are derived from the CKL sheet.
      - A section for the “Summary calculation” in read-only mode. The percentage of compliance is automatically populated based on the answers provided on the CKL sheet.
      - Note that after downloading the template from Audit Online Hub, the new NCCA spreadsheet will appear as many times as standards/add-ons are assessed in a given audit report (One CKL per selected FAP).

#### Configuration changes:

- Enabled all Reporting Options regardless of the company type to which the producer is registered (Smart audits (v6)).
  - From now and beyond the following Reporting Options can be audited for both company types Producer and Producer Group:
    - Single site certification
    - Multisite without QMS
    - Multisite with QMS
    - Site of a multisite with QMS
    - Group Certification
    - Member of group certification
- Made the input of the Audit types and Audit attributes data fields in the audit report compulsory (Smart audits (v6)).
- Improved the layout of the Quality Management System pdf report for all Multisite with QMS and Group Certification audits (Smart audits (v6)).
- Made compulsory the input of Validity dates only in case of Positive certificate Decision (Smart audits (v6)).
- Added validation to avoid a Positive certificate Decision in case of the audit report status is set to “Closed non – compliance” (Smart audits (v6)).
- Enabled the manual entry of sites audited under the section “Audit duration per day” (Legacy audits (v5)).

- Added RMS (Residue Monitoring System) label to the header of the RMS section on the checklist of Group Certification audits (Smart audits (v6)).

#### Bugfix:

- File loading at the Multireport level has been corrected.
- Issue with the number of workers on the report for GRASP audits has been corrected.
- Issue with granting access to a given audit report has been corrected.
- Visualization of "Product Handling audit details" section while creating QMS audits has been amended.
- The system not populating GRASP's sites on the "Audit duration per day" section has been fixed.

Thank you to all our users who send us valuable feedback on their experience with AOH.

More information about AOH can be found here:

- [Information page on our website regarding Audit Online Hub](#)
- [Release notes \(for both database and Audit Online Hub\)](#)
- [https://twitter.com/GLOBALGAP\\_IT](https://twitter.com/GLOBALGAP_IT)
- [Audit Online Hub API documentation](#)
- [Wiki article](#)

### **Validation Service**

#### **Recent changes and more**

Validation services will join the effort to improve awareness about the application by providing information on new features, configuration changes, and bug fixes in this newsletter. Version 23.01 was transferred to the Live environment (validation.globalgap.org) on 26 April 2023.

#### **VS v 23.01**

#### New features:

- Users are now able to issue v6 Smart and GFS certificates for plants for the product categories of fruits & vegetables, hops, and flowers & ornamentals in the "Certificate Data" use case.
  - Certificate options introduced are:
    - Option 1 single site certification
    - Option 1 multisite without QMS
    - Option 1 multisite with QMS
    - Option 2 Group certification
- Users can now issue v6 Smart and GFS certificates for aquaculture for the product categories of seaweed, molluscs, crustaceans, and finfish in the "Certificate Data" use case.
  - Certificate options introduced are:
    - Option 1 single site certification
    - Option 1 multisite without QMS
    - Option 1 multisite with QMS
    - Option 2 Group certification
- Users can now issue GRASP v2 letters of conformance for all plants and aquaculture certificates.
  - Certificate options introduced are:
    - GRASP v2 single site
    - GRASP v2 multisite without QMS
    - GRASP v2 multisite with QMS
    - GRASP v2 Group certification
    - GRASP v2 single site (Family Farm)
    - GRASP v2 multisite without QMS (Family Farm)
    - GRASP v2 multisite with QMS (Family Farm)

- GRASP v2 Group certification (Family Farm)
- Version 6 certificates now have a new harmonized certificate layout (plants, aquaculture, and GRASP v2).
- An Excel upload can be used to bulk assign members of a producer group to a producer group.
- Registration of RMS number to a GGN via RMS management use case.

#### Configuration changes:

Fundamental changes to the "Certificate Data" use case to enter audit data:

- In the certificate, users can now include products registered to a SITE/PHU.
- Certificates can now include products registered to an External PHU.
- Changes to the layout of product attributes.
- Data can be copied and pasted into the application by copying and pasting product attributes.
- It is now mandatory to include geo-coordinates data to generate a certificate/letter of conformance.
- The ability to distinguish the "main site" from other sites in the "Site Management" scenario.
- Implementation of search parameters in order to improve the search experience.
  - New search parameters are:
    - Status
    - Country
    - Farm assurance product
    - Product

Please note that there is also the option to sort the results by GGN, Country, or name of the producer.

- Introducing a validation to check for a related v6 certificate prior to issuing a GRASP v2 letter of conformance. This is valid for all plants and aquaculture certificates.
- Introducing a validation to align the GRASP v2 letter of conformance to the "valid to" date of the related IFA certificate.

Thank you to all our users who send us valuable feedback on their experience with VS.

More information can be found here:

- [Information page on our website regarding Validation Service](#)
- [Twitter channel for updates on the latest developments](#)
- [Validation Service API documentation](#)
- [Wiki article](#)

### **Certification Body Administration Tool**

#### **Recent changes and more**

As announced in our previous newsletter edition, version 1.8.0.0 was transferred to Live environment (cbat.globalgap.org) on 10 February 2023.

#### **CB - AT v1.8.0.0**

##### New features:

- Role per Farm Assurance Product.
- Language per Farm Assurance Product Role.
- Assessor Status Overview renamed to Auditor Status Overview.
- My Contact Modules renamed to My Farm Assurance Products.



- Following filters in “Auditor Status Overview”:
  - Farm Assurance Product
  - Status
  - Role
  - Language
- Version 3.0 of the User Guide uploaded.
- Legacy (pre v6 standards) made assignable again.
- CBs can apply for IFA v6 Smart/GFS - plants/aquaculture via “My Company”.
- Requirements for roles “Reviewer” and “Decision-making committee” have been swapped as per the last Certification Body Committee Meeting.

Thank you to all our users who send us valuable feedback on their experience with [CB - AT](#).

More information can be found here:

- [Wiki article](#)

### **Achieved milestones:**

#### **Milestone 1: CB able to issue revised IFA v6 certificate without excel upload (all options)**

##### Validation Service

- Issue a v6 certificate per web interface or API.
- The system participation fee is invoiced automatically once the certificate is issued.

##### CB-AT

- Register assessors in [CB-AT](#) and have roles being assigned.

#### **Milestone 2: CB able to issue GRASP (all options) Letter of Conformance and capture the audit report.**

##### Audit Online Hub

- Go through the [Smart Process](#) of compiling the audit report for GRASP v2 and fill the checklist digitally per web interface, API or excel upload (limited to the P&Cs).
- Conduct the review and certificate decision within AOH with the audit report.

##### Validation Service

- Issue a GRASP v2 letter of conformance per web interface or API.
- Transfer parts of the information from the AOH audit report to the GRASP v2 Letter of Conformance.

#### **Milestone 3: CB able to capture the IFA audit report (all options) with limited excel upload.**

##### Audit Online Hub

- Go through the [Smart Process](#) of compiling the audit report for IFA v6 and fill the checklist digitally per web interface, API, or excel upload (limited to the P&Cs).
- Conduct the review and take certificate decision within AOH including the audit report.
- Connect site/member audits to one multireport.

## Milestone 5: Offline (excel) upload for audit reports in AOH.

Audit Online Hub

- Make use of the excel export/upload functionality for the N/C report and header data to manage this offline and load it back to the system afterwards.

If you have questions about our IT Solutions, please contact our [customer support](#).

We are delighted to engage in new digital solutions with you.

Kind regards,

GLOBALG.A.P. Secretariat

## Discover GLOBALG.A.P.



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