



BIODIVERSITY

PRINCIPLES AND CRITERIA

ENGLISH VERSION 1.1_DEC23

OBLIGATORY FROM: 1 JANUARY 2024

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N°	Principle	Criteria	Level
1	BIODIVERSITY REPRESENTATIVE		
1.1	Resources and responsibilities		
1.1.1	There is a BioDiversity representative on the farm responsible for the implementation of the BioDiversity add-on.	<p>The BioDiversity representative shall have access to resources to implement the add-on (e.g., access to training and financial resources).</p> <p>In the case of an Option 2 producer group member with BioDiversity representative at quality management system (QMS) level, the group member shall know who the BioDiversity representative is.</p>	Major Must
1.1.2	The BioDiversity representative's key role is to coordinate, recommend, and confirm the correct implementation of the BioDiversity add-on.	<p>The BioDiversity representative shall coordinate the correct implementation of all principles and criteria (P&Cs) of the add-on, make recommendations for implementation, and confirm the correctness and completeness of the data, information, and conclusions in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The self-assessment on biodiversity - The biodiversity action plan (BAP) <p>In the case of an Option 2 producer group member with BioDiversity representative at quality management system (QMS) level, the producer group member shall be aware that the BioDiversity representative has these roles, and know how they interact with the BioDiversity representative.</p>	Major Must

N°	Principle	Criteria	Level
2	SELF-ASSESSMENT ON BIODIVERSITY		
2.1	Baseline for on-farm biodiversity		
2.1.1	A self-assessment on biodiversity has been conducted annually to obtain a baseline on biodiversity.	<p>The self-assessment shall be completed ahead of the certification body (CB) audit against the BioDiversity add-on. The self-assessment can follow the instructions in the guidelines document and can use the template provided, including all principles and criteria (P&Cs) of the add-on and additional topics relevant to strengthening biodiversity and supporting the biodiversity action plan (BAP).</p> <p>In the case of an Option 2 producer group member with self-assessment at quality management system (QMS) level, the producer group member shall be aware that a self-assessment has been conducted at producer group level and of how the self-assessment has taken into account the information on their farm.</p>	Major Must
3	BIODIVERSITY ACTION PLAN		
3.1	Content, review, and updates		
3.1.1	The producer has developed a written biodiversity action plan (BAP).	The BAP shall be completed ahead of the certification body (CB) audit against the BioDiversity add-on. The BAP shall outline the implementation of improvements on the basis of the add-on. The BAP may follow the instructions of the guidelines document as a minimum approach:	Major Must

N°	Principle	Criteria	Level
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The BAP shall contain general goals, list short- and long-term measures to improve biodiversity (including principles and criteria (P&Cs) and additional topics as worked on in the self-assessment on biodiversity), and measure-specific goals of improvement that shall be monitored via the annual self-assessment. The design and planning of improvement measures shall consider farm economic opportunities and risks. - The BAP shall contain geographical information (e.g., maps) on biodiversity as required in the P&Cs of sections 7 “Areas dedicated to biodiversity” and 8 “Protection, restoration, and other practices.” <p>In the case of an Option 2 producer group member with BAP at quality management system (QMS) level, the producer group member shall be aware that a BAP has been developed at producer group level and of how the BAP has taken into account the information on their farm.</p>	
3.1.2	The biodiversity action plan (BAP) is reviewed every three years, but updated when necessary.	<p>The BAP shall be reviewed every three years and updated, for example, when:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The producer’s goals on biodiversity have changed - The results of the latest annual self-assessment on biodiversity have indicated new biodiversity topics for the farm(s) - Adjustment or addition of measures or milestone(s) is needed - New monitoring results are available indicating that the farm has met or fallen short of the intended milestone(s) 	Major Must

N°	Principle	Criteria	Level
		<p>- Updates to the perceived impacts on biodiversity or new impacts are available</p> <p>In the case of an Option 2 producer group member with BAP at quality management system (QMS) level, the producer group member shall be aware of whether the BAP of the group has been updated, and whether changes in their farm have led to updates to the BAP.</p>	
4	TRAINING, KNOWLEDGE SHARING, AND CAPACITY BUILDING		
4.1	Target audiences		
4.1.1	The BioDiversity representative has obtained the necessary training to enable the producer's compliance with all principles and criteria (P&Cs) of the BioDiversity add-on.	<p>The BioDiversity representative shall have covered the training needs via formal or informal training. Specifically either of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All P&Cs of the add-on have been complied with, and thus no training needs have been a barrier to compliance and to supporting and strengthening biodiversity. - Training certificate(s) or other evidence of participation in past training(s), or confirmed participation in upcoming training(s) in the current year that the audit covers, are available on certification body (CB) audit. <p>(N/A to an Option 2 producer group member where the BioDiversity representative has been designated at quality management system (QMS) level.)</p>	Major Must

N°	Principle	Criteria	Level
4.1.2	<p>The BioDiversity representative shall have covered the training needs via formal or informal training. Specifically either of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All principles and criteria (P&Cs) of the BioDiversity add-on have been complied with, and thus no training needs have been a barrier to compliance and to supporting and strengthening biodiversity. - Training certificate(s) or other evidence of participation in past training(s), or confirmed participation in upcoming training(s) in the current year that the audit covers, are available on certification body (CB) audit. 	<p>Opportunities for training and sharing knowledge on biodiversity shall have been planned and implemented:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The BioDiversity representative or other relevant person has conducted training for the persons involved in the implementation of the add-on. - Information has been shared (digital and online-based information are acceptable) with all persons affected by the implementation of the add-on (e.g., employees, temporary workers, external contractors, consultants), for example, by having biodiversity as an operational topic in work shifts (e.g., in seasons of high activity of bird migration, nesting, etc.). In the case of an Option 2 producer group member where these topics of training and knowledge sharing are addressed at quality management system (QMS) level, the producer group member shall be aware of how they relate to the training and knowledge sharing opportunities at producer group level, and be aware of whether the topics on which they need training have been addressed at producer group level. <p>(N/A to an Option 2 producer group member where the BioDiversity representative has been designated at QMS level.)</p>	Major Must

N°	Principle	Criteria	Level
5	FARM-SPECIFIC BIODIVERSITY ADVICE		
5.1	Supportive and qualified advice, without conflict of interest		
5.1.1	The producer has met their needs for farm-specific advice by obtaining and implementing external advice, as necessary.	<p>All principles and criteria (P&Cs) of the BioDiversity add-on shall have been complied with, thus either no need for advice has hindered compliance and supporting and strengthening biodiversity, or the producer has obtained and implemented, via internal or external stakeholders, farm-specific advice that supports, for example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The implementation of the role of the BioDiversity representative - The implementation of the self-assessment on biodiversity - The elaboration, updating, or implementation of the biodiversity action plan (BAP) - The implementation of training, knowledge sharing, or capacity building - The implementation of off-farm synergies, communication, or collaboration - The establishment and management of areas dedicated to biodiversity <p>In the case of an Option 2 producer group member where this section has been addressed at quality management system (QMS) level:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The producer group member shall be aware of how the topics relevant to their farm have been reflected in the overview at producer group level. 	Major Must

N°	Principle	Criteria	Level
		- A producer group member shall be aware of whether their need for advice has been taken into account at producer group level for upcoming advice opportunities.	
5.1.2	The farm-specific advice on biodiversity, if needed, has been obtained from a stakeholder recognized for their capacity to advise on biodiversity.	Where applicable, the stakeholder advising on biodiversity (a natural person or legal entity) shall have recognition for their capacity to advise on biodiversity and be able to demonstrate this competence either via formal recognition (e.g., training certificates) or in an interview. (N/A to an Option 2 producer group member where this section has been addressed at quality management system (QMS) level.)	Major Must
5.1.3	Farm-specific advice on biodiversity is free of conflicts of interest with the roles of stakeholders that supply or offer on-farm agricultural inputs, services, and/or equipment.	Evidence of avoiding and managing any potential conflict of interest shall be available. For example: Advice on biodiversity shall not be obtained from stakeholders active in on-farm agricultural inputs, services, and/or equipment unless a formal declaration is provided indicating the absence of conflicts of interest. (N/A to an Option 2 producer group member where this section has been addressed at quality management system (QMS) level.)	Major Must

N°	Principle	Criteria	Level
6	OFF-FARM SYNERGIES, COMMUNICATION, AND COLLABORATION		
6.1	Off-farm collaboration		
6.1.1	<p>The producer supports the protection and promotion of biodiversity outside the farm. While recognizing that the legal scope of the producer is on-farm, off-farm opportunities have been used to create or enhance positive effects for biodiversity.</p>	<p>To affect biodiversity on-farm and off-farm, the producer participates in or conducts activities outside the farm to create synergies, communication, and collaboration promoting and protecting biodiversity on a local and regional level. Examples can include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Informing the local or neighboring community or other interested groups about the biodiversity work of the producer - Cooperation with other producers or regionally active groups to protect and promote biodiversity or pass on or improve knowledge about biodiversity-promoting agricultural practices - Participating in joint projects or investments to plan and implement biodiversity management as an added value to the producer's business <p>In the case of an Option 2 producer group member where this section has been addressed at quality management system (QMS) level, the producer group member shall be aware of how they relate to the group activities on this section.</p>	Minor Must

N°	Principle	Criteria	Level
7	AREAS DEDICATED TO BIODIVERSITY		
7.1	Securing and establishing areas dedicated to biodiversity		
7.1.1	Areas dedicated to biodiversity represent at least 3% of the total agricultural business area.	<p>In order to comply with this principle and the respective criteria (P&C), areas dedicated to biodiversity shall cover a minimum of 3% of the total area of the farm(s). This applies to all forms of land tenure, including leased and exchange land. Further specifications and definitions on areas accepted under this P&C are provided in the BioDiversity guidance document.* If the producer cannot comply with P&C 7.1.1, the producer shall justify this in writing in the biodiversity action plan (BAP). Alternative measures within the scope of P&C 7.1.3 shall then be implemented according to the BAP. Rules for the justification of possible exceptions (this P&C) and a framework and definitions of alternative measures (P&C 7.2.4) are provided in the guideline document.</p> <p>In the case of an Option 2 producer group member where this section has been addressed at quality management system (QMS) level, the producer group member shall be aware of how the group has solved the areas dedicated to biodiversity and aware of whether their farm includes any of the areas dedicated to biodiversity that have been established at producer group level or have a rationale for why their farm does not hold any area dedicated to biodiversity.</p>	Major Must

N°	Principle	Criteria	Level
7.1.2	By 2030, the areas dedicated to biodiversity represent at least 10% of the total agricultural business area.	<p>The biodiversity action plan (BAP), in its section “Areas dedicated to biodiversity,” shall specify how the producer intends or plans to increase the expanse of these areas to 10% of the total agricultural business area by 2030. In the BAP, this shall be done by using, for example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Geographical information, e.g., maps - Other forms of information <p>This applies to all forms of land tenure, including leased and exchange land.</p> <p>In the case of an Option 2 producer group member where this section has been addressed at quality management system (QMS) level, the producer group member shall be aware of how the group intends to increase the areas dedicated to biodiversity by 2030 and aware of how they relate to the areas intended at producer group level for 2030 or have a rationale for why they do not relate to the areas intended for 2030.</p>	Minor Must
7.1.3	If the producer cannot comply with the requirements of the principle and respective criteria (P&C) 7.1.1 on the farm’s agricultural area, alternative measures were planned and are implemented off-farm.	If the producer cannot comply with the requirements of P&C 7.1.1, the producer shall justify this in writing in the biodiversity action plan (BAP). Alternative measures within the scope of P&C 7.1.3 shall then be implemented according to the BAP. Rules for the justification of possible exceptions (P&C 7.1.1) and a framework and definitions of alternative measures (this P&C) are provided in the guideline document. The alternative measures that the producer has planned and started to implement shall contribute to off-farm biodiversity protection or enhancements in a total area that is at least	Major Must

N°	Principle	Criteria	Level
		equivalent to the 3% of the total agricultural business area, rising to 10% by 2030. In the case of an Option 2 producer group member where this section has been addressed at quality management system (QMS) level, the producer group member shall be aware of the group's alternative measures and aware of whether they play a role in the group's alternative measures.	
7.1.4	Areas dedicated to biodiversity have not been treated with pesticides or fertilizers.	Evidence shall be provided, for example, in the biodiversity action plan (BAP) and through field records on pesticide and fertilizer application(s). In the case of an Option 2 producer group member where this section has been addressed at quality management system (QMS) level and the member has areas dedicated to biodiversity in their agricultural business area, the producer group member shall provide evidence, for example through field records on pesticide and fertilizer application(s).	Minor Must
7.1.5	Wildlife corridors and small landscape structures are used to improve connectivity for species on landscape level.	The producer shall describe in the biodiversity action plan (BAP) how on-farm corridors and landscape elements (e.g., trees, groups of trees, hedges, small ponds) can be beneficial to animal and plant diversity. Where feasible, on-farm corridors and small landscape structures to protect and promote local wildlife species shall have been planned and established on the farm's agricultural area. No fertilizers or pesticides shall be used on these wildlife corridors/small landscape structures. In the case of an Option 2 producer group member where this section has been addressed at quality management system (QMS) level, the producer group	Minor Must

N°	Principle	Criteria	Level
		member shall be aware of whether their farm includes corridors and small landscape structures and shall provide evidence that no fertilizers or pesticides have been used on these wildlife corridors/small landscape structures.	
8	PROTECTION, RESTORATION, AND OTHER PRACTICES		
8.1	Primary, natural, and seminatural ecosystems and habitats and protected areas (including compliance with principles and criteria from Integrated Farm Assurance for fruit and vegetables in the relevant edition: v6 Smart or v6 GFS)		
8.1.1	The producer is aware of the existence or nonexistence on the farm of nature protected areas with legally recognized value (or areas protected via other effective means), primary or natural ecosystems, seminatural ecosystems, primary or natural habitats, and seminatural habitats.	<p>On-farm protected areas with legally recognized value (or areas protected via other effective means), natural and seminatural ecosystems, and natural or seminatural habitats shall be documented in the biodiversity action plan (BAP), including geographical information (e.g., maps). The information in the BAP may be complemented with information provided by stakeholders that are formally responsible for protected areas with legally recognized value (or protected via other effective means), primary or natural ecosystems, seminatural ecosystems, primary or natural habitats, and seminatural habitats. Examples of such additional information include forest or land tenure documents, list of areas, etc.</p> <p>In the case of an Option 2 producer group member where this section has been addressed at quality management system (QMS) level, the producer group member shall be aware of whether their farm contains areas that are relevant</p>	Major Must

N°	Principle	Criteria	Level
		to this section (e.g., protected areas, etc.) and aware of how their farm is reflected in the BAP.	
8.1.2	(Copy of the relevant IFA v6 P&C) FV-SMART 22.03.01 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.	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: - 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
8.1.3	(Copy of the relevant IFA v6 P&C) FV-SMART 22.03.02 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

N°	Principle	Criteria	Level
8.1.4	Primary and natural ecosystems and habitats, and protected areas with legally recognized value (or areas protected via other effective means) which have been converted into agricultural land or into other farm uses after 1 January 2008 are already restored, are under restoration, or will enter binding restoration.	This shall be documented in the biodiversity action plan (BAP), or via information provided by stakeholders that are formally responsible for protected areas with legally recognized value (or areas protected via other effective means), primary and natural ecosystems, and primary and natural habitats.	Major Must
8.1.5	The producer is neither directly nor indirectly responsible for converting or damaging seminatural habitats with (high) conservation value since 1 January 2014.	This shall be documented in the biodiversity action plan (BAP), or via information provided by stakeholders that are formally responsible for seminatural habitats of (high) conservation value.	Major Must
8.2	Other biodiversity protection and management practices		
8.2.1	The producer shows awareness of protected and endangered species.	<p>The producer shall have knowledge of protected and endangered animal and plant species in the region and on the farm. Species that are beneficial for supporting integrated pest management (IPM) shall be protected.</p> <p>In the case of an Option 2 producer group member where this section has been addressed at quality management system (QMS) level, the producer group member shall know how this topic is addressed in the biodiversity action plan (BAP) and whether their farm is addressed in the BAP.</p>	Minor Must
8.2.2	The producer takes into account the protection of species. Various aspects of species protection measures are treated in the biodiversity action plan (BAP) and sketched in the corresponding BAP map.	Where feasible, the producer shall protect plant and animal species, for example by providing nesting and breeding facilities for local characteristic birds, birds of prey and owls, bats and other cave and half-cave breeders, and beneficial insects, as well as water and feeding points for birds and	Minor Must

N°	Principle	Criteria	Level
		<p>mammals. The producer shall avoid cutting hedges and trees during bird breeding season. Nocturnal light emission shall be responsibly used to avoid disturbing nocturnal animals (such as migratory birds). Various aspects of species protection measures shall be addressed in the BAP and sketched in the corresponding BAP map.</p> <p>In the case of an Option 2 producer group member, the producer group member shall be aware of how their farm can relate to protection of species and shall have implemented measures to protect species or provide a rationale for why they have not.</p>	
8.2.3	The producer has knowledge of alien invasive species and of measures to contain and eliminate them from the farm.	The producer shall be aware that alien invasive species of plants and animals are typically a problem that negatively affects biodiversity and that leads to loss of local characteristic biodiversity. The producer shall know about at least some of the alien invasive species that are or can be present on the farm and which ones are present in the region. The producer shall have obtained information on how to contain the expansion of and on how to eliminate invasive species on the farm.	Major Must
8.2.4	The use of peat is assessed, and reduction strategies are managed responsibly.	In the biodiversity action plan (BAP), the producer shall have assessed the current on-farm use and sources of peat. Where economically feasible, action shall have been taken to reduce the use of peat to an indispensable minimum (or to stop its use) by using sustainable and biodiversity-friendly alternatives in a timeline proposed by the producer in the BAP.	Minor Must

N°	Principle	Criteria	Level
9	INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT		
9.1	Compliance with principles and criteria on integrated pest management from Integrated Farm Assurance version 6 at higher compliance level		
9.1.1	The producer has implemented an integrated pest management (IPM) approach based on the IPM pyramid and threshold values principle.	The producer shall have implemented the IPM pyramid's prevention and intervention approach and the principle of the damage threshold to reduce potential pesticide inputs.	Major Must
9.1.2	(Copy of the relevant IFA v6 P&C) FV-SMART 31.01 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 (e.g., access to IPM technical literature, specific training attendance) 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. For Option 2 producer groups, evidence at quality management system (QMS) level is acceptable.	Major Must

N°	Principle	Criteria	Level
9.2	Neonicotinoids		
9.2.1	The producer has not stored, used, or applied neonicotinoids during the audited growing cycle for any of the crops registered for certification.	<p>The absence of neonicotinoids shall be documented via, for example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Measures in the biodiversity action plan (BAP) - Records on agrochemicals <p>In extreme emergency cases such as the risk of complete crop loss, acetamiprid may be used. The need for emergency use of acetamiprid shall be confirmed by the BioDiversity representative.</p>	Major Must
10	SOIL NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT PLAN		
10.1	Compliance with principles and criteria on soil and substrate management from Integrated Farm Assurance version 6 at higher compliance level		
10.1.1	(Copy of the relevant IFA v6 P&C) FV-SMART 28.01.03 Crop rotation for annual crops is implemented, where feasible.	Where rotations of annual crops are carried out to improve soil structure and minimize soil-borne pests and diseases, this shall be verifiable from planting dates or crop or field records. Records shall exist for the previous two-year rotation.	Major Must
10.1.2	(Copy of the relevant IFA v6 P&C) FV-SMART 28.01.04 Techniques have been used to improve or maintain soil structure and avoid soil compaction.	There shall be evidence of the application of techniques (e.g., 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.	Major Must
10.1.3	(Copy of the relevant IFA v6 P&C) FV-SMART 28.01.05	There shall be evidence of control practices and remedial measures (e.g., mulching; crossline techniques on slopes;	Major Must

N°	Principle	Criteria	Level
	The producer uses techniques to reduce the possibility of soil erosion.	drains; sowing grass or green fertilizers, trees, and shrubs on the borders of production sites; etc.) to minimize soil erosion (e.g., from water, wind).	
10.1.4	(Copy of the relevant IFA v6 P&C) FV-SMART 29.04.01 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.	Major Must
10.2	Compliance with principles and criteria on fertilizer application from Integrated Farm Assurance version 6 at higher compliance level		
10.2.1	(Copy of the relevant IFA v6 P&C) FV-SMART 29.01.02 The records of all fertilizer applications shall include:	Geographical area and the name or reference of the field, orchard, or greenhouse	Major Must
10.2.2	(Copy of the relevant IFA v6 P&C) FV-SMART 29.01.03 The records of all fertilizer applications shall include:	Date(s)	Major Must
10.2.3	(Copy of the relevant IFA v6 P&C) FV-SMART 29.01.04 The records of all fertilizer applications shall include:	Name and type	Major Must
10.2.4	(Copy of the relevant IFA v6 P&C) FV-SMART 29.01.05 The records of all fertilizer applications shall include:	Amount (rate or concentration as applicable)	Major Must
10.2.5	(Copy of the relevant IFA v6 P&C) FV-SMART 29.01.06 The records of all fertilizer applications shall include:	Name of the applicator to clearly identify the individual or team of workers performing the fertilization	Major Must

N°	Principle	Criteria	Level
10.2.6	<p>(Copy of the relevant IFA v6 P&C) FV-SMART 29.02.02</p> <p>Fertilizers and biostimulants are stored in an appropriate manner that reduces the risk of environmental contamination.</p>	<p>Fertilizers (organic and inorganic) and biostimulants shall be stored in a designated area. Appropriate measures shall have been taken to prevent the pollution of water sources (e.g., concrete foundations, walls, leak-proof container, etc.), or the fertilizers shall be stored at least 25 meters from water sources. Where necessary, inorganic fertilizers (e.g., powders, granules, or liquids) shall be protected from atmospheric influences (e.g., sunlight, frost and rain, high temperatures). 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 are complied with, bulk liquid fertilizers can be stored outside in containers. The storage area shall be well ventilated and free from rainwater or heavy condensation. Inorganic fertilizers shall be stored in an area that is free from waste, does not constitute a breeding place for rodents, and where spillage and leakage can be cleared away.</p>	Major Must

N°	Principle	Criteria	Level
11	WASTEWATER MANAGEMENT AND PROTECTION OF WATER SOURCES (INCLUDING COMPLIANCE WITH PRINCIPLES AND CRITERIA FROM THE SUSTAINABLE PROGRAM FOR IRRIGATION AND GROUNDWATER USE (SPRING) VERSION 2)		
11.1	Wastewater management		
11.1.1	(Copy of the relevant SPRING v2 P&C) SPRING 4.1.1 There is a documented wastewater management plan.	The producer shall identify and document the different sources and types of wastewater.	Minor Must
11.1.2	(Copy of the relevant SPRING v2 P&C) SPRING 4.1.2 Measures to properly manage wastewater are implemented.	Wastewater from farm activities shall not be a source of pollution. In particular, if buildings are used for accommodation of workers, wastewater shall be managed responsibly in order to avoid negative impacts on the environment and human health.	Minor Must
11.2	Protection of water sources		
11.2.1	Producers have implemented measures to avoid the contamination of streams, rivers, and wetlands located on their land.	A 5-meter buffer zone shall be maintained around areas of surface water present on the farm. It is strictly forbidden to use phytosanitary products or fertilizers in the buffer zone.	Major Must
11.2.2	(Copy of the relevant SPRING v2 P&C) SPRING 4.2.2 Biodiversity is protected and promoted in the buffer zones.	The producer shall have implemented practical measures to promote biodiversity in the immediate vicinity of streams, rivers, and wetlands located on their land.	Major Must
11.2.3	(Copy of the relevant SPRING v2 P&C) SPRING 4.2.3 Plant residues are disposed of in a controlled way.	The producer shall designate certain areas for the disposal of plant residues in accordance with the applicable local legislation. These areas shall not pose a risk to the environment and in particular to water sources.	Major Must

VERSION/EDITION UPDATE REGISTER

New document	Replaced document	Date of publication	Description of modifications
231201_BioDiversity_P&Cs_v1_1_Dec23_en	220225_BioDiversity_add-on_v1_protected_en	1 December 2023	<p>Added different sections for CB QMS audits and CB farm audits.</p> <p>“Control points and compliance criteria (CPCCs)” are now called “principles and criteria (P&Cs).”</p> <p>The compliance system aligns with the GLOBALG.A.P. general regulations (compliance: yes or no instead of 0, 1, 2, or 3).</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”. A new version, e.g., v6.0, v7.0, etc., will always affect the accreditation of the standard.

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