Primary Farm Assurance – Intermediate Level

Principles and Guidance

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TERMINOLOGY

For the sake of simplicity, in this document:

- The term “assessment” is used rather than “audit” in this document. This is because the Primary Farm Assurance (PFA) program is not ISO/IEC 17065 accredited and therefore results in a letter of conformance rather than a certificate.
- Whenever the term “verification” is used, it shall refer to when a producer successfully conforms to all applicable principles of a specific PFA level and a letter of conformance shall be issued.
- Whenever the term “certification body (CB)/verification body (VB) assessor” is used, it shall refer to a CB farm auditor, CB quality management (QMS) auditor, VB farm assessor, or VB QMS assessor.
- Whenever the term “CB/VB assessment” is used, it shall refer to a CB/VB farm assessment or CB/VB QMS assessment.
- Whenever the term “producer” is used, it shall refer to persons (individuals) or businesses (companies, individual producers, or producer groups) that are legally responsible for the production processes and the products of the respective scope, sold by those persons or businesses.
- Whenever the term “producer group/multisite producer” is used, it shall refer to producer groups managed by a QMS and/or individual producers with multisites, respectively.

Section	Principle	*Guidance*	Level
PFA-FV 01	**INTERNAL DOCUMENTATION**		
PFA-FV 01.02	Records for assessment purposes are up-to-date.	*All records generated or kept by the producer for assessing purposes shall:* *- Be up-to-date* *- Be stored securely and be readily accessible* *- Be retained for a minimum of two years, or longer if required by buyers* *- Be valid and backed-up, if used in electronic format* *- Cover at least three months prior to the date of the initial certification body (CB)/verification body (VB) assessment, or begin on the day of registration, whichever is longer* *- Reference full details of each area and all activities covered by the registration* *Where an individual record is missing, the respective principle addressing those records is not compliant. For example, if the date of application is missing on a single spray record, a non-conformance or non-compliance shall be issued against that principle.*	Minor Must
PFA-FV 01.03	The producer completes a minimum of one self-assessment/internal assessment annually against the Primary Farm Assurance (PFA) level.	*The purpose of the self-assessment/internal assessment should be to evaluate compliance, review implementation, and support identification of improvement opportunities.* *A documented self-assessment for individual producers or an internal farm and quality management system (QMS) assessment for multisite producers with QMS and producer groups should:* *- Occur at least once a year and before the certification body (CB)/verification body (VB) assessment*	Recom.

Section	Principle	*Guidance*	Level
		- Be completed by the producer, assigned worker, or consultant, and/or as part of a QMS *- Include all applicable topics covered by the PFA level, even those addressed using subcontractors (including harvest and postharvest handling)* *- Assess all applicable sites and products* *Self-assessments should contain comments regarding the evidence observed for all not applicable and non-compliant Major Must and Minor Must principles. For internal farm assessments, comments should follow "GLOBALG.A.P. general regulations – Rules for producer groups and multisite producers with QMS."*	
PFA-FV 01.04	Effective corrective actions are taken to address non-conformances detected during the self-assessments/internal assessments.	*Corrective actions should be documented. Compliance with all applicable Major Musts and at least 95% of applicable Minor Musts is required.*	Recom.
PFA-FV 03	**RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AND TRAINING**		
PFA-FV 03.01	The roles and responsibilities of workers whose jobs have an impact on the implementation of the Primary Farm Assurance (PFA) program are defined.	*The roles and responsibilities of workers whose jobs have an impact on the implementation of activities covered by the PFA program should be defined and identified. This identification should include:* *- Job function, responsibilities, and title* *- Contact information* *- Alternate in case of absences* *One worker should be clearly identifiable as responsible for workers' health, safety, and welfare.*	Recom.

Section	Principle	*Guidance*	Level
PFA-FV 03.02	Individuals responsible for technical decision-making on inputs can demonstrate competence.	*Individuals responsible for technical decisions regarding treatments (quantity and type of fertilizer, pre- and postharvest plant protection product (PPP) applications, both organic and inorganic, etc.) shall demonstrate competence in such topics.* *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.).* *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.*	Minor Must
PFA-FV 03.03	Worker training includes the necessary skills and competencies and is supported by records.	*Workers shall be able to demonstrate competence in their assigned tasks.* *Tasks that shall require specific training include handling and/or administering of agricultural chemicals, disinfectants, plant protection products (PPPs), biocides, and/or other hazardous substances and operating of equipment.* *Evidence of training includes attendance records, certificates, or other relevant qualifications.* *Subcontractors shall either be trained by the producer or be able to demonstrate competence through previous training or certification.*	Minor Must

Section	Principle	*Guidance*	Level
PFA-FV 03.04	Records of all training activities are kept.	*Induction or refresher training shall be recorded.* *Training records relevant to the implementation of the Primary Farm Assurance (PFA) program and good agricultural practices shall include:* *- Date of training and duration* *- Topics covered* *- Names of trainers or training providers* *- Names of trainees (e.g., attendance lists)* *- Evidence of attendance (e.g., trainee signature)*	Minor Must
PFA-FV 04	**OUTSOURCED ACTIVITIES (SUBCONTRACTORS)**		
PFA-FV 04.01	The producer ensures that outsourced activities comply with the principles of the Primary Farm Assurance (PFA) level which are relevant to the services provided.	*Outsourced processes and/or the use of subcontractors should be identified and controlled.* *The producer should oversee the activities undertaken by the subcontractors to ensure compliance with the relevant principles of the PFA level. This applies to each activity and season in which at least one subcontractor is used.* *Evidence of compliance with relevant principles should be collected by means of an assessment and should be available during the certification body (CB)/verification body (VB) assessment.* *If such an assessment is undertaken by a producer, evidence of compliance with the relevant principles should be available.* *The subcontractor should agree to such an assessment by a producer where relevant to the PFA level.* *A GLOBALG.A.P. approved CB/VB may assess the subcontractor and may issue a letter of conformance with the following information:* *- Date of assessment*	Recom.

Section	Principle	*Guidance*	Level
		- Name of the CB/VB *- CB/VB assessor name* *- Details of the subcontractor* *- List of the assessed principles*	
PFA-FV 05	**SPECIFICATIONS, SUPPLIERS, AND STOCK MANAGEMENT**		
PFA-FV 05.02	An inventory is in place to manage stock on site.	*The inventory should ensure that materials and products do not pose a risk to food safety and that those with limited shelf lives are used in the correct order (e.g., first-in, first-out policy).* *The inventories should consider purchased materials (plant protection products (PPPs), ammonium fertilizer, etc.) and apply to both pre- and postharvest activities (e.g., chlorine tablets). Items considered to be stock may include cleaning agents, fertilizers, and PPPs.* *Monthly updates are not required, but a calculation of inventory should occur within a month of any use or purchase. In months when there is no stock movement, there is no need to update the inventory. Where products are distributed by a central function, the records may be held by the quality management system (QMS).*	Recom.
PFA-FV 06	**TRACEABILITY**		
PFA-FV 06.01	All registered products are traceable back to and from the registered farm where they were produced and handled (where applicable).	*A documented identification and traceability system should 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 buyer (one step forward and one step back).*	Recom.

Section	Principle	*Guidance*	Level
		Harvest information should link a batch or lot to the production records or the farms of specific producers. Product handling should also be covered, where applicable. *Records should be available of the annual verification of the traceability system. This verification can occur through an actual recall and withdrawal or as part of a mock recall and withdrawal exercise.*	
PFA-FV 07	**RECALL AND WITHDRAWAL**		
PFA-FV 07.01	Documented procedures are in place to manage the recall and withdrawal of products from the marketplace, and such procedures are tested annually.	*The producer should have a documented procedure that identifies:* *- 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 notification of relevant authorities when required* *- Steps taken to contact the certification body (CB)/verification body (VB), which in turn may contact the GLOBALG.A.P. Secretariat* *- The methods for reconciling stock* *The procedure should be tested annually for effectiveness and the results of the mock recall should be recorded (e.g., selecting a lot and demonstrating that it can be effectively traced forward to the buyer).* *Actual communications of the mock recall to the clients are not necessary. An up-to-date list of telephone numbers and email addresses is sufficient.*	Recom.

Section	Principle	*Guidance*	Level
		If an actual recall and withdrawal occurred during the past year, documentation of these may be provided for compliance.	
PFA-FV 08	**COMPLAINTS**		
PFA-FV 08.01	A complaint procedure relating to both internal and external issues covered by the Primary Farm Assurance (PFA) program is available and implemented.	*A complaint procedure should be available to facilitate the recording and follow-up of all received complaints relating to issues covered by the PFA program and to record actions taken with respect to such complaints.* *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 verification, the complaint procedure should require the producer to notify the GLOBALG.A.P. Secretariat via the certification body (CB)/verification body (VB).* *In the case of complaints related to the PFA program (food safety, workers' well-being, environmental protection, etc.) that can endanger the reputation and credibility of the PFA brand, the holder of the letter of conformance should inform the CB/VB immediately.* *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.* *Workers should be permitted to file complaints to their employer on topics covered under the PFA program, and such complaints should be documented and addressed by the holder of the letter of conformance.*	Recom.

Section	Principle	*Guidance*	Level
PFA-FV 09	**NON-CONFORMING PRODUCTS**		
PFA-FV 09.01	Procedures are in place to manage and handle non-conforming products.	*A hold-and-release process should be in place to prevent unintended use or delivery of non-conforming products.* *Products may be considered non-conforming because of food safety issues, quality issues, maximum residue limit exceedances, cross contamination issues, etc.* *Non-conforming products should be identified during production and handling. Non-conforming products should be segregated, appropriately handled, and potentially redirected to a suitable end use (processing, animal feed, etc.). If not redirected, the products should be disposed of appropriately. Products that pose a risk to food safety should not be harvested or should be discarded. Discarded products and waste materials should be stored in clearly designated areas to avoid contamination of products. Signs should be used to identify waste products, where appropriate. These areas should be routinely cleaned and/or disinfected according to the cleaning schedule.*	Recom.

Section	Principle	*Guidance*	Level
PFA-FV 10	**LABORATORY TESTING**		
PFA-FV 10.01	Laboratory testing occurs in a manner consistent with industry requirements.	*There should be documented evidence that laboratories used to analyze parameters impacting food safety are operating in accordance with the requirements of ISO/IEC 17025. In countries, regions, or situations where a laboratory with current ISO/IEC certification is not available, alternative national/regional lab verifications may be presented. In countries and regions with laboratories operating in accordance with ISO/IEC 17025, such laboratories should be used for analysis required by the Primary Farm Assurance (PFA) level and supporting risk assessments.* *Analysis should include water quality, plant protection product residues, environmental monitoring samples, and microbial, chemical, and physical contamination, as well as all other applicable tests. The laboratories should show evidence of participation in proficiency tests or applicable certifications (e.g., the proficiency testing program provider FAPAS®).*	Recom.
PFA-FV 11	**EQUIPMENT AND DEVICES**		
PFA-FV 11.01	Equipment, tools, and devices are fit for purpose and maintained.	*Equipment, tools, and devices coming into contact with products shall be made of materials that are safe for contact with products and designed and constructed to ensure that they can be cleaned, disinfected, and maintained to avoid contamination.* *Equipment, tools, and devices, even those not coming into direct contact with products (scales, plant protection product (PPP) or fertilizer application equipment, thermometers, pH*	Minor Must

Section	Principle	*Guidance*	Level
		meters, etc.), shall be maintained, routinely verified, and, where applicable, calibrated at least annually. *Equipment maintenance, calibration (where applicable), and repairs shall be documented. Maintenance activities shall not present risks to food safety, the environment, or workers.* *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. Irrigation/Fertigation equipment: At a minimum, annual maintenance records shall be kept for all methods of irrigation/fertigation machinery/techniques used.*	
PFA-FV 11.02	Equipment is stored in such a way as to prevent product contamination.	*Equipment (plant protection product (PPP) or fertilizer application equipment, harvesting equipment, wrapping machines, etc.) shall be stored in an appropriate way that prevents possible contamination of products or other materials that may come into contact with the edible portion of the harvested products.*	Major Must
PFA-FV 11.03	Vehicles and equipment used for loading, transport, or storage of harvested products are cleaned, maintained, and appropriate for use.	*Vehicles and equipment used for loading, transport, or storage of harvested products shall be appropriate for use, cleaned and maintained, and stored to prevent product contamination (animal manure, fuel spills, etc.). Vehicles and equipment shall be suitable for the intended purpose.*	Major Must

Section	Principle	*Guidance*	Level
PFA-FV 12	**FOOD SAFETY POLICY DECLARATION**		
PFA-FV 12.01	The producer has completed and signed the food safety policy declaration.	*The producer's food safety policy declaration should:* *- Support the existence of a food safety culture, consisting of communication, training, feedback from workers, and measurable food safety objectives* *- Be annually completed and signed by the producer/manager responsible for food safety* *- Indicate people whose activities impact food safety* *- Serve as documented evidence of commitment to continuous improvement, food safety culture, provision of resources, and adherence to relevant prevailing regulations* *- Substantiate the self-assessment checklist (for Option 1 individual producers)* *- Be completed either by central management or on quality management system (QMS) level on behalf of Option 2 producer group members and Option 1 multisite producers with QMS*	Recom.
PFA-FV 13	**FOOD DEFENSE**		
PFA-FV 13.01	A food defense system is in place to address risks associated with malicious attack or contamination.	*The system should include:* *- A risk assessment to identify potential threats to the safety of products, taking into account risks from deliberate attempts to inflict contamination or damage* *- Procedures to mitigate the identified threats* *- Worker, visitor, and subcontractor awareness of the need to support food defense measures, ensured through training, signs, pictograms, etc.*	Recom.

Section	Principle	*Guidance*	Level
PFA-FV 14	**FOOD FRAUD**		
PFA-FV 14.01	A system is in place to address risks associated with food fraud.	*The system should include the following points:* *- A risk assessment should be in place to identify ways in which a producer may inadvertently purchase fraudulent supplies and materials, as well as how the producer's finished product or packaging could be used inappropriately.* *- Procedures should be in place to mitigate the identified vulnerabilities. The producer should demonstrate that the risk of incurring of fraud is mitigated by procuring authentic plant protection products, propagation material, and packaging.* *- Where applicable, a description of how labeling and packaging is controlled to limit theft and misuse should be available. Mitigating measures taken to reduce the likelihood of and define the response to fraud events should be documented.*	Recom.
PFA-FV 15	**HYGIENE**		
PFA-FV 15.01	The farm has a documented hygiene risk assessment.	*The farm shall have a documented hygiene risk assessment covering production, harvesting, and handling, as applicable.* *The hygiene risk assessment shall include:* *- Physical, chemical, and microbiological contaminants, spillage of bodily fluids (vomiting, bleeding, etc.), and human transmissible diseases that are associated with the applicable products and processes* *- Workers, personal effects, equipment, clothing, packaging material, transport, vehicles, and product storage (including short-term storage on the farm)*	Minor Must

Section	Principle	*Guidance*	Level
		- The production environment, including design and layout for prevention of cross contamination and support of food safety	
PFA-FV 15.02	Documented hygiene procedures are in place to minimize food safety risks.	*Hygiene procedures shall be aligned with the risk assessment and include applicable harvest and postharvest activities.* *Pictograms or signs in the predominant workforce language shall describe the appropriate hygiene measures for workers, visitors, and subcontractors.* *When protective equipment and clothing (smocks, aprons, sleeves, gloves, footwear, etc.) are required, they shall be provided by the employer and cleaned, maintained, and stored in a way that minimizes food safety risks.* *Hands shall be washed whenever they may be a source of contamination, including prior to the start of work and after using the toilet.* *The hygiene procedures shall address contamination of product with bodily fluids, reporting requirements for sick people (vomiting, jaundice, diarrhea, etc.), restricting ill persons' contact with products, and a return-to-work policy.* *Skin cuts shall be covered and gloves used, as appropriate.* *Visual evidence shall show that no violations of the hygiene procedures occur.*	Minor Must
PFA-FV 15.03	All persons working on the farm have received hygiene training.	*Basic training on hygiene shall:* *- Be provided annually to all workers, including owners and managers that are working on the farm* *- Be provided to all new workers* *- Cover all necessary instructions* *- Be given in a format, either written or verbal, that ensures understanding (may be in verbal and pictorial form without written explanatory content, where appropriate)*	Minor Must

Section	Principle	*Guidance*	Level
		- Specifically include training on hygiene procedures for harvesting and product handling activities, where applicable	
PFA-FV 15.04	Smoking, eating, chewing, and drinking are confined to designated areas.	*In order to prevent contamination of products, smoking, eating, chewing, and drinking shall be confined to designated areas. In addition, these behaviors shall be prohibited in product handling or storage areas, unless indicated otherwise by the hygiene risk assessment. Drinking water is the exception.*	Major Must
PFA-FV 15.05	Clean toilets are provided for workers, visitors, and subcontractors in the vicinity of their work.	*Toilets provided for production and handling activities (including stationary or mobile toilets) shall be:* *- Designed and located so as to minimize the potential risk for product contamination* *- Constructed of material that is easy to clean and maintain (also applies to pit latrines)* *- Allow for direct accessibility for servicing* *- Located in reasonable proximity to the place of work, i.e., accessible on foot or by a readily available mode of transportation* *If production and/or handling takes place in a facility, the doors of toilets shall not open directly onto the production and/or product handling area, unless the door is self-closing. Toilets shall be appropriately cleaned, maintained, and stocked. Facilities shall also be available to visitors, where applicable.*	Minor Must
PFA-FV 15.06	Handwashing facilities are available for all workers, visitors, and subcontractors who come into direct contact with products.	*Handwashing facilities shall be accessible and maintained in a clean and sanitary condition to allow workers to clean their hands any time their hands may be a source of contamination.* *The facilities shall be situated as near as possible to the toilets without posing a risk of cross contamination.*	Minor Must

Section	Principle	*Guidance*	Level
		All handwashing facilities shall be equipped with nonperfumed hand soap and means of drying hands. Single use towels shall be used where possible. Towels shall not pose a cross contamination risk. Air towels and forced-air hand dryers are permitted. *The water used for handwashing shall be analyzed, and risks associated with water quality assessed. The water used shall meet the microbial standard for drinking water at all times. If handwashing water does not meet the microbial drinking water standard, a sanitizer (e.g., alcohol-based gel) shall be used after washing hands. The use of only hand sanitizer to clean hands before coming into contact with products is not permitted.*	
PFA-FV 15.07	Animal activity that may result in product contamination is managed.	*Appropriate measures shall be taken to reduce possible product contamination by animals within the production area. Where there is evidence of animal activity that may result in product contamination, appropriate measures shall be taken. Eliminating wildlife or using destructive techniques to rid the production area of all animals are not considered appropriate measures.*	Minor Must
PFA-FV 15.08	Containers used for production and harvesting are cleaned, maintained, and appropriate for use.	*Containers shall be made of materials that do not pose a risk to food safety and be constructed to facilitate cleaning and maintenance.* *Reusable containers shall be clean before use. A documented cleaning schedule that includes frequency and is in accordance with the hygiene risk assessment shall be in place.*	Minor Must

Section	Principle	*Guidance*	Level
		Disinfection shall be incorporated into the cleaning procedure when required in the hygiene risk assessment. *Harvest containers shall be used exclusively for product (not used to store chemicals, lubricants, oil, trash, tools, etc.).*	
PFA-FV 16	**WORKERS' HEALTH, SAFETY, AND WELFARE**		
PFA-FV 16.01	**Risk assessment and training**		
PFA-FV 16.01.01	There is a documented risk assessment for workers' health and safety.	*The documented risk assessment should reflect conditions on the farm, including worker facilities and any on-farm worker housing. The risk assessment should be reviewed and updated annually and when changes occur that impact workers' health and safety (new machinery, new plant protection products (PPPs), modified cultivation practices, new health risks, etc.). Incidents and accidents should 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, etc.*	Recom.

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PFA-FV 16.01.02	The farm has health and safety procedures.	*The health and safety procedures should address the points identified in the risk assessment and be appropriate to the farming operations. The procedures should be reviewed annually and updated when the risk assessment changes.* *The farm infrastructure, facilities, on-farm worker housing, and equipment should be constructed and maintained to minimize health and safety hazards for workers.* *Accident and emergency procedures should 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 should be accessible and maintained. Consideration should be given to workers at greater risk. Whenever accidents occur, the cause should be reviewed and appropriate preventive actions included in revised health and safety procedures.*	Recom.
PFA-FV 16.01.03	All staff have received basic health and safety training according to the risk assessment.	*The training should:* *- 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*	Recom.

Section	Principle	*Guidance*	Level
		safety, and rights and responsibilities associated with workers' health protection	
PFA-FV 16.02	**Hazards and first aid**		
PFA-FV 16.02.01	Accident and emergency procedures are displayed and communicated.	*Instructions based on the accident and emergency procedures shall be clearly displayed in accessible and visible locations for workers, visitors, and subcontractors. These instructions shall be available in the predominant language of the workforce and/or in pictograms.* *The procedures shall cover/identify the following:* *- The farm address, map, or other location information (e.g., GPS coordinates)* *- Contact persons* *- 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* *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. 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.* *Warning signs shall be present and in the predominant language of the workforce and/or in pictograms.* *Examples of other information that can be included:* *- The location of the nearest means of communication (telephone, radio)*	Minor Must

Section	Principle	*Guidance*	Level
		- How and where to contact local medical services, hospitals, and other emergency services *- The location of fire extinguishers 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)*	
PFA-FV 16.02.03	First aid kits are accessible at all permanent sites and fields near the work.	*First aid kits shall be complete, maintained (as per applicable regulation and activities), and accessible at all permanent sites (plant protection product (PPP) storage, workshops, product handling unit (PHU), etc.) and fields near the work. When in the field, the first aid kits may be on a tractor or in a car, if accessible by a trained first aider.*	Minor Must
PFA-FV 16.02.04	There is always at least one person trained in first aid present on the farm whenever on-farm activities are being carried out.	*There should always be at least one person trained in first aid (within the last five years) present on the farm whenever production and handling activities are being carried out.* *As a guideline: one trained person per 50 workers.*	Recom.

Section	Principle	*Guidance*	Level
PFA-FV 16.03	**Personal protective equipment**		
PFA-FV 16.03.01	Workers, visitors, and subcontractors are equipped with suitable personal protective equipment (PPE).	*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 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.* *PPE shall be provided whenever necessary to workers, subcontractors (acceptable when provided by subcontracting company), and visitors.*	Minor Must
PFA-FV 16.03.02	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. Protective clothing shall be laundered separately from personal items. Dirty and damaged PPE shall be disposed of appropriately. PPE shall be stored in a manner that prevents cross contamination with chemicals.*	Minor Must
PFA-FV 16.03.03	There is evidence that the provided personal protective equipment (PPE) is used by the workers.	*There should be evidence that the provided PPE is being used. If single-use PPE is used, the supply maintained on hand should correspond to the needs of the workers, or records demonstrating that new PPE is promptly sourced and restocked should be available.*	Recom.

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PFA-FV 16.04	**Workers' welfare**		
PFA-FV 16.04.01	There is communication between management and workers on issues related to their health, safety, and welfare.	*There shall be communication between management and workers on issues related to their health, safety, and welfare. Such communication shall be able to take place openly (i.e., without fear of intimidation or retaliation).* *The communication may be in the form of scheduled meetings, worker hotlines, anonymous comment boxes, daily prework briefings, or individual crew meetings.* *On very small operations, communication between a family or limited number of workers may occur continuously.*	Minor Must
PFA-FV 16.04.02	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.*	Minor Must
PFA-FV 16.04.03	Transportation provided to workers is safe.	*Transportation should be safe for workers and take into account applicable safety requirements and regulations.*	Recom.
PFA-FV 17	**SITE MANAGEMENT**		
PFA-FV 17.01	A documented risk assessment is completed for all registered sites.	*The risk assessment should be:* *- Available for all production sites, including structures* *- Reviewed at least annually or when changes occur (new risks emerge or new sites or crops enter production)* *It should consider:* *- Biological, physical, and chemical hazards (including allergens)*	Recom.

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		- Risk of microbial cross contamination originating from neighboring or adjacent sites *- Site history (minimum of one year, with five years recommended)* *- Impact of proposed activities on adjacent crops*	
PFA-FV 17.02	A management plan that establishes strategies for minimizing the risks identified in the risk assessment for operation suitability has been developed and implemented and is reviewed regularly.	*A management plan should:* *- Be reviewed together with the risk assessment (annually or when changes occur) and address all risks identified in the risk assessment* *- Describe the control measures implemented for the risks identified* *- Be appropriate to farm operations* *- Support facility design, cleaning activities, pest control, and other activities to minimize food safety risks* *- Ensure that the layout and flow of operations are suitable for the intended purpose, consider applicable structures, and are designed to minimize food safety risks* *- Be effective and visibly implemented*	Recom.
PFA-FV 17.03	The producer has a system for identifying sites and facilities used for production.	*It shall include:* *- All fields, orchards, vineyards, greenhouses, and other production areas* *- All water sources, storage and handling facilities, agrochemical storages, yards, buildings, and any features that may pose a workers' health and safety, food safety, or environmental risk* *Identification may be on a map or through the use of signs at each site.*	Minor Must

Section	Principle	*Guidance*	Level
PFA-FV 17.04	The site is kept in a tidy and orderly condition.	*The site shall be maintained so as to prevent contamination of products. There shall be no waste or litter in the immediate vicinity of the production sites 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, including fuel spills.*	Minor Must
PFA-FV 17.05	Where the operation handles or stores allergens, the operation has a documented allergen management program.	*The allergen management program shall list the allergens in use, stored, or handled by workers at the site specific to prevailing regulations. Where applicable, procedures shall address identification and segregation of allergens during storage, handling, loading, and shipping as based on a risk assessment conducted by the operation. All products intentionally or potentially containing allergenic materials shall be labeled according to the allergen labeling regulations in the country of production and the country of destination.*	Minor Must
PFA-FV 20	**WASTE MANAGEMENT**		
PFA-FV 20.01	A waste management system is implemented.	*A waste management system addressing potential contamination of product or the environment (air, soil, substrate, and water) should:* *- Be documented and current* *- Address collection, storage, and disposal of waste material, including plant protection products, fertilizers, wastewater, drainage, and packaging material, where applicable*	Recom.
PFA-FV 20.02	Waste products and sources of pollution are identified in all areas of the farm.	*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 should be identified.*	Recom.

Section	Principle	*Guidance*	Level
		In Option 2 producer groups, evidence at quality management system (QMS) level is acceptable.	
PFA-FV 20.04	The water used for washing and cleaning purposes is disposed of in a manner that minimizes the environmental, health, and safety impact.	*Wastewater resulting from washing of contaminated machinery (spray equipment, personal protective equipment (PPE), hydrocoolers, etc.) should be disposed of in a way that does not pose a risk to the environment or human health. Drainage should not pose a risk to water sources or contaminate the delivery systems.*	Recom.
PFA-FV 20.05	Fragments and small pieces of packaging material and other nonproduct waste are removed from the field.	*Fragments and small pieces of packaging material and nonproduct waste shall be removed from the production site after the specific in-field process is completed.*	Minor Must
PFA-FV 21	**PLANT PROPAGATION MATERIAL**		
PFA-FV 21.01	Plant health quality control systems are implemented and recorded for in-house propagation materials.	*A quality control system that contains a monitoring system for visible signs of pests and diseases should be in place and current records of the monitoring system should be available. The term "nursery" should refer to any place where propagation materials are produced, including in-house selection of grafting materials.* *The monitoring system should include the recording and identification of the mother plant or field of origin crop, as applicable. Recording should 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 should suffice. Where rootstocks are used, special attention should be paid to the origin of the rootstocks through documentation.*	Recom.

Section	Principle	*Guidance*	Level
PFA-FV 21.02	Up-to-date records of all chemical treatments applied on in-house plant propagation materials are available.	*Up-to-date records of all plant protection product treatments applied during the plant propagation period for in-house plant nursery propagation should be available and include:* *- Location* *- Date* *- Trade name, active ingredient, and preharvest interval of each product* *- Name of applicator* *- Justification for application* *- Quantity* *- Machinery used* *This principle applies primarily to short cycle crops, where the treatment of propagation materials affects food safety. It would not apply to most fruit trees, where propagation and active production are separated by longer periods of time.*	Recom.
PFA-FV 21.03	Information on chemical treatments is available for purchased propagation materials.	*Records with the names of chemical products applied on propagation materials by the supplier should be available on request. This can be in the form of:* *- Application records maintained by the supplier* *- Information on seed packages* *- List with names of plant protection products applied* *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.*	Recom.

Section	Principle	*Guidance*	Level
PFA-FV 22	**SOIL AND SUBSTRATE MANAGEMENT**		
PFA-FV 22.01	**Soil management and conservation**		
PFA-FV 22.01.01	To improve and optimize soil health, the producer has a soil management plan.	*The producer should demonstrate that consideration has been given to the nutritional needs of the crop and to maintaining soil fertility. Records of soil analyses and crop-specific information should be available as evidence.*	Recom.
PFA-FV 22.01.02	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 should be verifiable from planting dates or crop or field records. Records should exist for the previous two-year rotation.*	Recom.
PFA-FV 22.01.03	Techniques have been used to improve or maintain soil structure and avoid soil compaction.	*There should 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.*	Recom.
PFA-FV 22.01.04	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
PFA-FV 22.02	**Soil fumigation**		
PFA-FV 22.02.01	There is documented justification for the use of soil fumigants.	*There should be documented evidence and justification for the use of soil fumigants, including targeted problem, location, date, active ingredient, doses, method of application, and operator. Methyl bromide should never be used as a soil fumigant.*	Recom.

Section	Principle	*Guidance*	Level
PFA-FV 22.02.02	The preplanting interval is complied with.	*The preplanting interval should be recorded and complied with.*	Recom.
PFA-FV 22.03	**Substrates**		
PFA-FV 22.03.01	Substrates of natural origins do not come from designated conservation areas.	*There should be records that attest to the source of the substrate of natural origin being used. These records should demonstrate that the substrate does not come from designated conservation areas.* *Opportunities to decrease the use of peat should be considered.*	Recom.
PFA-FV 23	**FERTILIZERS AND BIOSTIMULANTS**		
PFA-FV 23.01	**Application records**		
PFA-FV 23.01.01	Up-to-date records of all fertilizer and biostimulant applications are kept.	*Up-to-date records shall be kept of each fertilizer (organic and inorganic) and biostimulant application, including in hydroponic and fertigation systems.*	Minor Must
PFA-FV 23.01.02	The records shall include: Geographical area and the name or reference of the field, orchard, or greenhouse	*Geographical area and the name or reference of the field, orchard, or greenhouse*	Minor Must
PFA-FV 23.01.03	The records shall include: Dates	*Dates*	Minor Must
PFA-FV 23.01.04	The records shall include: Name and type	*Name and type*	Minor Must
PFA-FV 23.01.05	The records shall include: Amount (rate or concentration as applicable)	*Amount (rate or concentration as applicable)*	Minor Must

Section	Principle	*Guidance*	Level
PFA-FV 23.01.06	The records shall include: Name of the applicator to clearly identify the individual or team of workers performing the fertilization	*Name of the applicator to clearly identify the individual or team of workers performing the fertilization*	Minor Must
PFA-FV 23.02	**Storage**		
PFA-FV 23.02.01	Fertilizers and biostimulants are stored in an appropriate manner that does not compromise food safety.	*Fertilizers and biostimulants shall be stored in a designated area separate from plant protection products (PPPs) and harvested or packed products.* *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.* *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.*	Minor Must
PFA-FV 23.02.02	Fertilizers and biostimulants are stored in an appropriate manner that reduces the risk of environmental contamination.	*Fertilizers and biostimulants shall be stored in a designated area. Appropriate measures shall have been taken to prevent the pollution of water sources (concrete foundations, walls, leak-proof container, etc.), or the fertilizers shall be stored at least 25 meters from water sources.* *Where necessary, inorganic fertilizers (powders, granules, liquids, etc.) shall be protected from atmospheric influences (sunlight, frost and rain, high temperatures, etc.). 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*	Minor Must

Section	Principle	*Guidance*	Level
		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.*	
PFA-FV 23.03	**Organic fertilizers**		
PFA-FV 23.03.01	A risk assessment for organic fertilizer is conducted as per intended use.	*A risk assessment for organic fertilizer should be documented, conducted prior to use of the organic fertilizer, and it should consider the following:* *- Type of organic fertilizer* *- Method of treatment* *- Microbial contamination* *- Weed/Seed content* *- Heavy metal content* *- Timing of application* *- Placement of application (e.g., in contact with edible portion of the crop)* *Procedures should take into consideration World Health Organization (WHO) guidance.* *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.*	Recom.

Section	Principle	*Guidance*	Level
PFA-FV 23.03.02	The interval between the application of organic fertilizer and harvest does not compromise food safety.	*Records and practices shall show compliance.* *If raw animal manure is used, it shall be incorporated into the soil. The risks associated with the type of raw manure used and intended use shall be evaluated when establishing a preharvest interval, while adhering to the following minimum requirements:* *- For tree crops (i.e., trees with the lowest fruit suspended well above the ground, so that the fruit does not come into contact with the soil, and excluding low bushes): Raw manure shall be applied prior to bud burst or on a shorter interval based on the risk assessment, but never shorter than 60 days prior to harvest.* *- Leafy greens: Raw manure shall never be applied after planting, regardless of any harvest interval.* *- For other crops: Raw manure shall be applied at least 60 days prior to harvest.*	Major Must
PFA-FV 23.03.03	The use of human sewage sludge is prohibited on the farm.	*The use of human sewage sludge shall be 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
PFA-FV 23.04	**Nutrient content**		
PFA-FV 23.04.01	The content of major nutrients (nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium) in applied fertilizers is known.	*Documented evidence/labels detailing major nutrient content (or recognized standard values) should be available for all fertilizers (organic and inorganic) used on registered crops within the last 24 months.*	Recom.

Section	Principle	*Guidance*	Level
PFA-FV 24	**WATER MANAGEMENT**		
PFA-FV 24.01	**Water use risk assessments and management plan**		
PFA-FV 24.01.01	There is a risk assessment to assess food safety risks for pre- and postharvest water used.	*There shall be a risk assessment for water used for indoor and outdoor production and postharvest activities. The risk assessment shall cover, at minimum:* *- Identification of water sources by means of maps, photographs, drawings (hand drawings are acceptable), or other depictions to identify the location of water sources, permanent fixtures, and the flow of the water system (including holding systems, reservoirs, or any water captured for reuse), the depiction shall be linked with site maps and an on-farm reference system* *- Historical analysis results, where applicable* *- The timing of water use (crop growth stage or postharvest)* *- The risk of physical, chemical, and microbial contamination* *- Methods to address risk associated with water delivery mechanisms, mitigating the risk of cross contamination* *- The contact of water with the crop* *- The characteristics of the crop and the growth stage or handling* *- The quality of the water used for fertilizer, plant protection product, or postharvest applications* *- Measures taken to mitigate contamination risk, where appropriate (e.g., preventing human and livestock intrusion with fencing)* *- Acceptable thresholds for water quality* *- Impact on food safety and fit-for-purpose*	Minor Must

Section	Principle	*Guidance*	Level
PFA-FV 24.01.02	A water management plan is available.	*A documented water management plan shall:* *- Be reviewed at least annually, based on the reviewed risk assessment* *- Assess the need for maintenance of irrigation and other water delivery equipment* *- Identify worker training required to support maintenance and repairs* *- Be either an individual or a regional plan if participation in a community irrigation system is documented* *- Include reference to water analysis and frequency of sampling* *- Include corrective actions taken related to water quality requirements*	Minor Must
PFA-FV 24.02	**Efficient water use on the farm**		
PFA-FV 24.02.01	Where feasible, measures have been implemented to collect water and, where appropriate, to recycle.	*Water collection and/or water recycling should be implemented where economically and practically feasible (from building roofs, greenhouses, etc.).* *Water collection or recycling does not refer only to rainwater. Collection from watercourses is not encouraged.*	Recom.
PFA-FV 24.03	**Water storage**		
PFA-FV 24.03.01	Storage of water does not pose any food safety risks.	*If tanks, cisterns, or other containers are used to store water, risks to stored water or products shall be identified. If water storage containers are open to the air, the possibility of contamination shall be addressed. The container shall not be a source of contamination for the water, and the quality of the water held within it shall be appropriate for the intended use.*	Major Must

Section	Principle	*Guidance*	Level
PFA-FV 24.04	**Water quality**		
PFA-FV 24.04.01	Water is analyzed for food safety, in accordance with the risk assessment.	*Water should be analyzed at a frequency consistent with the risk assessment and current sector-specific standards or relevant regulations. Water analysis should be part of the water management plan and completed at least once per year, or more frequently if required by the risk assessment (e.g., in controlled environment agriculture (CEA) production).* *A minimum of one analysis per season or verification cycle should be required on water that comes into contact with products during pre- and postharvest activities, with samples taken as near the point of application as possible. A minimum of one analysis should be required even when using municipal water sources.* *The water analysis should reflect the nature and extent of the water system, the scope of production (type of product, applications, harvesting, handling, water sources, etc.). Where different water sources are used, each source should be sampled at the point of use.* *Analysis should be performed during the time of water use on products and during the period of highest risk.* *There should be a documented procedure for water analysis, including:* *- Frequency of sampling* *- Person responsible for sampling* *- Method of sample collection* *- Laboratory analyzing the samples*	Recom.

Section	Principle	*Guidance*	Level
		- Location sampled *Records of all analysis should be maintained.*	
PFA-FV 24.04.02	Corrective actions are taken based on results from the water risk assessment and results of the water analysis.	*Corrective actions should be taken based on results from the water risk assessment and results of the water analysis.* *There should be available documentation of corrective actions as identified and required by the water risk assessment and current sector-specific standards or relevant regulations. Action should be taken based upon the level of the risk.* *Possible strategies to reduce the risk of product contamination arising from water use include, but are not limited to:* *- Treating water before use* *- Preventing water coming into contact with the harvestable portion of the crop* *- Reducing the vulnerability of the water supply* *- Allowing sufficient time between application and harvest to ensure decline in pathogen concentrations* *Producers implementing these strategies should verify that the risk of product contamination is addressed.*	Recom.
PFA-FV 24.04.03	The use of treated sewage water does not pose a food safety risk.	*Treated sewage water shall only be used when the risks have been identified and effectively mitigated. The type of crop, growth aspect, and contact with edible portions of the crop shall be considered. Analysis of water shall occur at appropriate intervals to verify that the treatment is consistently effective.* *Where treated sewage or reclaimed water is used, water quality shall comply with prevailing regulations or the World*	Major Must

Section	Principle	*Guidance*	Level
		Health Organization (WHO-) published "Guidelines for the safe use of wastewater, excreta and greywater" (2006) where no prevailing regulations exist. *Guidelines for minimum verification monitoring of microbial performance targets for wastewater treatment have been referenced in Table 4.5 (Volume 2, 2006) and Table 2.9 (Volume 1, 2006) of the WHO "Guidelines for the safe use of wastewater, excreta and greywater." Water quality shall be assessed by measuring the quantity of indicator organisms. Escherichia coli (E. coli) is recommended for this purpose, but other prevailing regulations and industry standards may reference total fecal coliforms. When more restrictive prevailing regulations do not exist, the verification level established by the WHO of ≤ 1000 E. coli per 100ml treated wastewater shall be adopted for monitoring purposes. Many prevailing regulations require recreational, reclaimed, and irrigation water to be held to a more restrictive quality requirement, so target water quality thresholds shall be addressed in risk assessments and supporting documentation.* *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.* *Untreated sewage water shall never be used on crops.* *"N/A" if treated sewage water is not used.*	

Section	Principle	*Guidance*	Level
PFA-FV 24.04.04	Water that comes into contact with products during harvest and postharvest meets the microbial standard for drinking water.	*Water (including ice) used during harvest and postharvest activities (cooling, transport, washing, etc.) shall meet the microbial standards for drinking water and shall be handled so as to prevent product contamination.* *The only exception are flood-harvested cranberry fields, where analysis shall confirm that the water is not a source of microbial contamination for the product.*	Major Must
PFA-FV 24.04.05	Recirculated water used during production, harvest, and postharvest is changed or replenished at an appropriate frequency.	*If water used during production, harvest, and postharvest activities is recirculated, an appropriate frequency for changing the water should have been established based on applicable parameters (pH, efficacy of antimicrobial water additives, turbidity, visual evaluation, etc.).* *"N/A" if recirculated water is not used.*	Recom.
PFA-FV 24.04.06	Treated water used during harvest and postharvest is monitored appropriately.	*Treated water (antimicrobial water additives, ozone, etc.) used during harvest and postharvest activities (e.g., cooling) should adhere to a documented monitoring system for the treatment process and routine verification of acceptable parameters. Monitoring should be executed at a frequency established according to a risk assessment. The values measured during monitoring should be compared to the established allowable parameters. Corrective actions should be taken for analysis results outside of the allowable thresholds.*	Recom.

Section	Principle	*Guidance*	Level
PFA-FV 24.05	**Irrigation predictions and record keeping**		
PFA-FV 24.05.01	Measures are taken to understand the amount of water used and actions identified for how to increase water use efficiency.	*Records of the use of crop irrigation/fertigation water should be kept, offering estimates of the amount of water needed to support their production. Where possible, ways to increase water efficiency should be identified.* *In Option 2 producer groups, evidence at quality management system (QMS) level is acceptable.*	Recom.
PFA-FV 25	**INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT**		
PFA-FV 25.01	Implementation of integrated pest management (IPM) is assisted through training or advice.	*Where the technically responsible person is the producer, experience should 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 should 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.*	Recom.

Section	Principle	*Guidance*	Level
PFA-FV 25.02	The producer is informed about the relevant pests, diseases, and weeds that affect their registered crops.	*The producer shall offer a verbal demonstration of their knowledge on identifying the presence and potential damage of the relevant pests, diseases, and weeds that affect the registered crops. This demonstration can take place in the field, or the producer can explain how they train the corresponding workers on the relevant pests, diseases, and weeds that affect the main registered crops.* *In Option 2 producer groups, evidence at quality management system (QMS) level is acceptable.*	Minor Must
PFA-FV 25.04	The producer implements prevention measures.	*The producer should show evidence of implementing at least one activity for the registered crops (individually or per group of crops) that includes 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.*	Recom.
PFA-FV 25.05	The producer practices monitoring of their registered crops to plan pest and disease management.	*The producer should show evidence of implementing at least one activity for the registered 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.*	Recom.

Section	Principle	*Guidance*	Level
PFA-FV 25.06	The producer makes interventions to manage pests.	*The producer should show evidence for situations in which specific interventions were made against pests adversely affecting the economic value of a crop. The producer may elect to take no action against the pest and incur the economic loss. Where possible, nonchemical approaches should be considered.* *"N/A" if the producer did not intervene.*	Recom.
PFA-FV 25.07	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 should 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.* *The resistance management strategy should be documented and consider the following points:* *- Always follow the recommendations on the product label.* *- Avoid lower dose rates to ensure optimal application quality.* *- Use rotation programs and mixtures of PPPs with different modes of action that are effective against the target, where available.*	Recom.

Section	Principle	*Guidance*	Level
PFA-FV 26	**PLANT PROTECTION PRODUCTS**		
PFA-FV 26.01	**Plant protection product management**		
PFA-FV 26.01.01	Only treatments with plant protection products (PPPs) authorized for the country of production are used.	*A system should be in place to ensure that PPPs are used as authorized for the country of production.* *Evidence may take the form of reference lists (online acceptable), product labels, or descriptions of prevailing regulations. Where no official registration scheme exists in the country of production, the producer should refer to "International Code of Conduct on the Distribution and Use of Pesticides" of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).* *Extrapolated PPP use is allowed as per local registration scheme (see guideline).* *An up-to-date documented list that takes into account any change in local and national legislation for biocides, waxes, and postharvest PPPs should be available for commercial brand products (including any active ingredient compositions) used.*	Recom.
PFA-FV 26.01.02	Plant protection products (PPPs) and other treatments are applied appropriately and as recommended on the product label.	*A system shall be in place to ensure that PPPs, including biocontrol agents, are used as authorized for the specific crop and intended purpose (i.e., for the pest, disease, weed, or target of the intervention) and as per label recommendation or official registration body publication.* *If the producer uses an off-label PPP, there shall be evidence of official approval for use of that PPP on that crop in that country.*	Minor Must

Section	Principle	*Guidance*	Level
		All PPPs shall be correctly and properly labeled.	
PFA-FV 26.01.03	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
PFA-FV 26.02	**Application records**		
PFA-FV 26.02.01	Records of plant protection product (PPP) applications are kept.	*Records shall be kept for all applications of PPPs, biocontrol agents, and postharvest treatments and shall specify the following:* *- Crop and/or variety treated* *- Application location (geographical area, the name or reference of the farm, and the field, orchard, greenhouse, or facility where the crop is located)* *- Exact dates (day/month/year) from start to end* *(The producer need not record end times, but shall always record end dates. By doing so, it shall be considered that re-entry intervals are calculated using the start of the next calendar day.)* *- Registered trade name and active ingredient or beneficial organism with scientific name* *- Preharvest interval as per the product label or, if not on the label, as stated by an official source* *- Amount of product applied (weight or volume) and concentration or rate* *- Type of machinery or application equipment used (backpack sprayer, aerial application, chemigation, etc.)*	Minor Must

Section	Principle	*Guidance*	Level
		- Reason for application (target pest, disease, weed, condition, etc.) *- Full name of the applicator (person applying)* *- Full name of the person technically responsible for decision-making and authorization of treatment applications (if single individual authorizes all applications, person's details need be recorded only once)*	
PFA-FV 26.02.02	Weather conditions at time of application are recorded.	*Local weather conditions (wind, sunny/overcast, humidity, etc.) affecting effectiveness of treatment or drift to neighboring crops should be recorded for all plant protection product (PPP) applications. 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.*	Recom.
PFA-FV 26.03	**Plant protection product preharvest intervals**		
PFA-FV 26.03.01	There is evidence that the registered preharvest intervals have been complied with.	*The producer shall be able to demonstrate, through the use of records such as plant protection product (PPP) application records and crop harvest dates, that preharvest intervals have been complied with for PPPs applied to crops. Specifically, in continuous harvesting situations, systems shall be in place in the field, orchard, or greenhouse (warning signs, time of application, etc.) to ensure compliance with all preharvest intervals.*	Major Must

Section	Principle	*Guidance*	Level
PFA-FV 26.04	**Empty containers**		
PFA-FV 26.04.01	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 food safety nor the environment.*	Minor Must
PFA-FV 26.04.02	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
PFA-FV 26.04.03	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

Section	Principle	*Guidance*	Level
PFA-FV 26.04.04	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
PFA-FV 26.04.05	All local regulations regarding disposal or destruction of empty 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.*	Minor Must
PFA-FV 26.05	**Obsolete plant protection products**		
PFA-FV 26.05.01	Obsolete plant protection products (PPPs) are securely maintained, identified, and disposed of via authorized or approved channels.	*There should be records indicating that obsolete PPPs have been disposed of via officially authorized channels. If this is not possible, obsolete PPPs should be securely maintained and identifiable.*	Recom.
PFA-FV 26.06	**Disposal of surplus application mix**		
PFA-FV 26.06.01	Surplus application mixes or tank washings are disposed of responsibly.	*Applying surplus spray and tank washings to the crop should be the first method of disposal, providing that the overall label dose rate is not exceeded. Surplus mix or tank washings should be disposed of in a manner that does not pose a risk to the environment.* *No agrochemical wastewater should be released into the open environment.* *Records should be kept.*	Recom.

Section	Principle	*Guidance*	Level
PFA-FV 26.07	**Residue analysis**		
PFA-FV 26.07.01	Information regarding maximum residue levels (MRLs) is available for the destination markets in which products will be traded.	*The producer or the buyer shall have a list of currently applicable MRLs for all markets in which products are intended to be traded (regional, domestic, and/or international). The MRLs shall be identified by either demonstrating communication with clients confirming the intended markets or by selecting the specific country or countries in which products are intended to be traded.*	Minor Must
PFA-FV 26.07.02	A risk assessment for all registered products has been completed and the maximum residue level (MRL) requirements of the applicable market are met.	*The risk assessment shall cover all registered crops and the potential risk of MRL exceedance based on plant protection product (PPP) usage.* *Risk assessment may conclude that analyses are not required when all of the following conditions are met:* *- No use of PPPs during the production season or during postharvest handling* *- Evidence of residue testing by the buyer (processor or other)* *- A risk assessment validated by an independent third party (e.g., certification body (CB)/verification body (VB) assessor) or the buyer* *Where the risk assessment concludes an analysis is required, the number, type, location, and frequency of sampling shall be recorded.* *Complying with MRL thresholds in the country of production is required, regardless of whether the product is exported to other countries. If MRLs of the market of intended export are stricter than those of the country of production, documentation exists that these MRLs have been addressed. Documentation shall support export decisions based upon PPP use and MRL*	Minor Must

Section	Principle	*Guidance*	Level
		analysis results to maintain compliance with country-of-destination regulations. *Where brokers are responsible for all shipments and the country-of-destination is outside of the producer's control, compliance with the MRLs in the country of production shall be verified.* *The producer may delegate the risk assessment and sampling to a third party managed PPP residue monitoring system (RMS) that is assessed by a GLOBALG.A.P. approved VB/CB.*	
PFA-FV 26.07.03	The correct maximum residue level (MRL) sampling and testing procedures are followed.	*Documented evidence should be available demonstrating compliance with applicable sampling procedures.*	Recom.
PFA-FV 26.07.04	A documented action plan is available that describes the steps to be taken if an unauthorized plant protection product (PPP) is detected in the maximum residue level (MRL) sampling.	*A documented action plan should be available that describes the steps to be taken in the event that the MRL analysis detects the presence of a PPP that is not authorized for use on the product (not registered in the country of production, not labeled for use on the product, etc.).* *The plan should detail the steps taken to investigate the cause, to ensure all food safety risks are mitigated, and to arrange for disposal of the product, if needed.*	Recom.
PFA-FV 26.07.05	A documented action plan is available that describes the steps to be taken if a maximum residue level (MRL) is exceeded.	*A documented action plan should be available that describes the steps and actions to be taken in the event that a plant protection product residue analysis indicates a MRL has been exceeded (MRL of both country of production and countries of destination, if different). The action plan should include communication to buyers and may be part of the recall and withdrawal procedure.*	Recom.

Section	Principle	*Guidance*	Level
PFA-FV 26.08	**Application of other substances**		
PFA-FV 26.08.01	Up-to-date application records are kept of all other substances not covered under any of the sections.	*Records of other substances applied to water, soil, and hydroponic/fertigation systems (plant growth promotors, soil conditioners, pH adjusters, homemade and purchased remedies, etc.) should be kept. Records should contain the name of the substance, the crop, the field, the date, and the amount applied. 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.) should be recorded. If a registration scheme for these substances exists in the country of production, the substance should be approved.* *Where the substances do not require authorization for use in the country of production, the producer should ensure use does not compromise food safety.* *Records should contain information about the ingredients, where available.*	Recom.
PFA-FV 26.09	**Plant protection product and postharvest treatment product storage**		
PFA-FV 26.09.01	Plant protection products (PPPs), biocontrol agents, and any other treatment products are stored in a manner that ensures the associated risks are managed.	*The PPP storage shall:* *- Comply with all the appropriate current national, regional, and local legislation and regulations* *- Be located away from production areas, packaging storage areas, living areas, and harvested products to prevent cross contamination* *- Be kept secure and locked when not in use*	Minor Must

Section	Principle	*Guidance*	Level
		- 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.)* *- 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.)*	
PFA-FV 26.09.02	The plant protection product (PPP) storage is structurally sound and robust.	*Storage capacity shall be sufficient to contain all PPPs during the peak application season. The storage space shall be sturdy.*	Minor Must
PFA-FV 26.09.03	Plant protection product (PPP) storage does not pose a risk to workers or create opportunities for cross contamination.	*The PPPs and postharvest treatment product storage shall mitigate health and safety risks to workers and the risk of cross contamination.* *Liquids shall never be stored above powders or granular formulations.*	Minor Must
PFA-FV 26.09.04	Plant protection products (PPPs) are stored at appropriate temperatures.	*Storage temperatures should be in accordance with label requirements.*	Recom.

Section	Principle	*Guidance*	Level
PFA-FV 26.09.05	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
PFA-FV 26.09.06	The plant protection product (PPP) storage is able to retain and manage spillage.	*Shelving shall not be absorbent in case of spillage (metal, rigid plastic, or covered with impermeable liner, etc.).* *The PPP storage shall have retaining tanks or shall be bunded 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
PFA-FV 26.10	**Mixing and handling**		
PFA-FV 26.10.02	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.*	Minor Must
PFA-FV 26.10.03	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 should be present and display the basic steps of primary accident care. The procedure should be accessible by all persons working near the PPP/chemical storages and designated mixing areas.*	Recom.
PFA-FV 26.10.04	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

Section	Principle	*Guidance*	Level
PFA-FV 26.10.05	Plant protection products (PPPs) are transported between production sites in a safe and secure manner.	*The producer should ensure that the PPPs are transported in a way that mitigates risk to the environment or the health of the workers and should follow best industry practices.*	Recom.
PFA-FV 26.10.06	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.* *Where no re-entry period is stated, re-entry shall not be allowed until the chemical has dried on the crop.*	Minor Must
PFA-FV 26.11	**Invoices and procurement documentation**		
PFA-FV 26.11.01	Invoices and/or procurement documentation of all plant protection products (PPPs) and postharvest treatments are kept.	*Efforts should be made to avoid illegal and counterfeit PPPs. Invoices, procurement documentation, or packing slips of all PPPs used and/or stored should be retained.*	Recom.
PFA-FV 27	**POSTHARVEST HANDLING**		
PFA-FV 27.01	**Packing (in-field or facility) and storage areas**		
PFA-FV 27.01.01	Harvested and packed products are stored to minimize food safety risks.	*All harvested products (packed products, bulk) are stored appropriately and protected from contamination in accordance with the hygiene risk assessment.*	Major Must

Section	Principle	*Guidance*	Level
PFA-FV 27.01.02	All locations for collection, storage, and distribution of packed products are cleaned and maintained.	*All product handling and storage facilities and equipment (walls, floors, conveyance lines, machinery, etc.) shall be cleaned and maintained with a defined frequency according to a documented cleaning and maintenance schedule. Maintenance shall not introduce food safety risks. Records of cleaning and maintenance shall be kept.*	Major Must
PFA-FV 27.01.03	Packaging materials are appropriate for their intended use and stored under conditions that protect the materials from contamination.	*Packaging materials (including reusable crates) shall be appropriate for their intended use and stored under conditions that protect the materials from contamination and deterioration. Packaging materials may be stored outside, providing risks of contamination have been addressed (e.g., packaging materials sealed in plastic covers).*	Minor Must
PFA-FV 27.01.04	Cleaning equipment, agents, lubricants, etc. are stored and used to prevent chemical contamination of products and are approved for application in the food industry.	*Cleaning equipment, agents, lubricants, etc. are stored and used to prevent chemical contamination of products and are approved for application in the food industry.*	Minor Must
PFA-FV 27.02	**Foreign bodies**		
PFA-FV 27.02.01	Systems are in place to ensure that foreign materials do not contaminate products.	*Systems shall be in place to ensure that foreign materials, including insects, stones, debris, glass, and hard plastic, do not contaminate products.* *Glass, hard plastic, and similar materials (light bulbs, fixtures, etc.) suspended above products or used for product handling shall be of a safety design or protected/shielded.*	Major Must
PFA-FV 27.02.02	A system is in place for handling foreign material contamination.	*A system for handling foreign material contamination, including glass and hard plastic breakages (in greenhouses, product handling, preparation and storage areas, etc.) shall be in place.*	Major Must

Section	Principle	*Guidance*	Level
PFA-FV 27.03	**Temperature and humidity control**		
PFA-FV 27.03.01	Controlled storage conditions are maintained.	*Temperature-, humidity- (where relevant), and atmosphere-controlled storage areas should be monitored and maintained. Records of monitoring should be kept.*	Recom.
PFA-FV 27.04	**Pest control**		
PFA-FV 27.04.01	A pest management plan is in place and implemented.	*A pest management plan for monitoring and control of pests in the packing and storage areas shall be in place and implemented.* *There shall be visual evidence that the pest monitoring and correcting processes are effective.*	Major Must
PFA-FV 27.04.02	Records are kept of pest control inspections and corrective actions taken.	*Monitoring shall take place and records of pest control inspections and follow-up action plans shall be kept.*	Major Must
PFA-FV 27.05	**Product labeling**		
PFA-FV 27.05.01	Final product labeling is appropriate.	*Where final product packing is included in the scope of verification, product labeling should be done according to applicable requirements in the country of intended sale and any buyer specifications.* *Packaging may be provided by the buyer, indicating compliance with buyer specifications.*	Recom.