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INDUSTRY CHALLENGES
Floriculture production under scrutiny

• Consumers are becoming more aware of issues such as pesticides, climate change, or social conditions for farm workers.
• They are demanding more transparency about flower production and changing their buying behavior.
• Supply chains are evolving to meet the increasing expectations of consumers and civil society.
The flower industry is perceived as using too many resources for an ornamental product.

The industry recognizes the need to measure and improve the environmental performance of the sector.

Standards ensure that growers know which requirements they must fulfil to run responsible production processes and buyers can choose suppliers that fulfil their criteria simply by checking for a single certificate.
THE GLOBALG.A.P. SOLUTION
Integrated Farm Assurance for flowers and ornamentals (FO)

- A global standard for the **responsible farming of flowers and ornamental plants**: IFA FO
- Helps growers assess and **improve their processes** and demonstrate their responsible farming practices
- **Provides clarity** on market requirements and acts as a **practical manual for producers**
- The first version of IFA FO was published in 2003 – GLOBALG.A.P. has **nearly 20 years of experience** in standard setting
IFA FO is **audited annually** by approved certification bodies (CBs).

A successful CB audit results in a certificate **valid for one year**.

**Certification options** for both individual producers and producer groups.

Certification status is visible in the **GLOBALG.A.P. IT systems** for transparency in the supply chain.

The **GLOBALG.A.P. Integrity Program** ensures consistent delivery and implementation of the standard worldwide.
IFA V6 FO STANDARD CONTENT
STANDARD CONTENT
Development of IFA v6 FO

- GLOBALG.A.P. standards are developed by the industry, for the industry.
- To develop IFA v6 FO, three public consultation periods took place over two years. All stakeholders from the floriculture industry were invited to participate and give feedback.
- There were 43 virtual World Consultation Tour meetings on floriculture topics.
- We received over 300 comments on the IFA v6 FO documents.
- The revised standard addresses the needs and demands of the market.
IFA FO takes a holistic approach to responsible farming through **four** key topics:

- **Production Processes**
- **Environmental Sustainability**
- **Workers’ Well-Being**
- **Legal, Management, and Traceability**
STANDARD CONTENT
Principles and criteria – compliance requirements

• Simplified, streamlined, and customized checklists
• 158 principles with corresponding criteria to fulfil
• Principles are graded as Major Musts, Minor Musts, or Recommendations
• To pass a CB audit, producers must comply with **100% of the Major Musts** and **at least 95% of the Minor Musts**.
• Corrective actions must be proposed for all non-compliances and submitted to the CB **within 28 days**. Non-compliances must be verified as corrected and compliant before a certificate is issued.
What are principles and criteria

**Principles**

- Fundamentals that set the foundation of a GLOBALG.A.P. requirement
- Written in statement form
- Describe the outcome to achieve

**Criteria**

- Methods that producers can use to demonstrate a principle to be true
- Compliance can be evidenced in different ways, e.g., through data, proof of procedure, a record, etc.
STANDARD CONTENT
Principles and criteria

- Production processes: 28%
- Environmental sustainability: 31%
- Legal, management, and traceability: 22%
- Workers' well-being: 19%

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category level</th>
<th>Principles</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Major Must</td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minor Must</td>
<td>77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recommendation</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>158</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
IFA FO covers the **entire production process**. Principles and criteria include topics such as:

- **MANAGEMENT AND TRACEABILITY**
- **SOIL, PLANT NUTRITION, AND FERTILIZERS**
- **BIODIVERSITY**
- **WASTE**
- **PLANT PROTECTION PRODUCTS**
- **WORKERS’ HEALTH, SAFETY, AND WELFARE**
- **INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT**
- **WATER**
- **ENERGY**
- **POSTHARVEST**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Goal</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Management</td>
<td>Continuous integration of site-specific knowledge and practical experience</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traceability</td>
<td>Reconcile products with the implemented practices and distinguish certified from noncertified products*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Workers' health, safety, and welfare</td>
<td>Ensure safe working conditions and competence developed through training</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biodiversity</td>
<td>Enhance biodiversity on the farm to benefit from ecological services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Propagation</td>
<td>Ensure good starting material and plants for a healthy crop</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soil, plant nutrition, and fertilizers</td>
<td>Protect soil and promote efficient plant nutrition in a way that minimizes negative environmental impact</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water</td>
<td>Promote efficient use and protection of water sources</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Integrated pest management</td>
<td>Protect the crop while minimizing the risk of toxicity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plant protection products</td>
<td>Complement plant protection through the proper and safe use of authorized products</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postharvest</td>
<td>Ensure good and longer shelf life through safe use of authorized treatments when needed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waste</td>
<td>Avoid pollution, ensure that waste is disposed of properly, and that recycling practices are in place</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Energy</td>
<td>Optimize energy use, minimize nonrenewables and greenhouse gas emissions</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* The term "certified products" refers to products originating from a farm with GLOBALG.A.P. certified production processes.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Principle</th>
<th>Criteria</th>
<th>Level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The producer practices monitoring of their registered crops to plan pest and disease management.</td>
<td>The producer shall show evidence of implementing at least two activities for the registered crops (individually or per group of crops) that will determine when and to what extent pests and their natural enemies are present, and using this information to plan what pest management techniques are required.</td>
<td>Major Must</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
WHAT’S NEW IN IFA V6

Production processes

**Plant propagation material (PPM)**
- Emphasis on the protection of intellectual property rights
- Stronger emphasis on consumption records of plant protection products (PPP) at nursery level
- Clarification of transition period between introduction and selling of introduced PPM, with a focus on bulbs

**Integrated pest management (IPM)**
- An IPM plan is introduced to retain knowledge and annually assess strategies
- IPM has been strengthened (instead of PPP residues/negative PPP list as initially discussed)
WHAT’S NEW IN IFA V6
Production processes

Plant protection products (PPPs)
- Stricter personal protective equipment requirements for workers

Soil, plant nutrition, and fertilization
- Minimizing leakage of phosphorus and nitrogen to avoid eutrophication, by ensuring safe storage of fertilizers (organic and inorganic) and acknowledging NPK content of irrigation water and organic amendments
- Minimum requirements for the substitution of peat used in substrates for renewable alternatives (i.e., 10% of the total volume of raw materials used for substrates must not be peat)
WHAT’S NEW IN IFA V6
Production processes

Water

• Promotion of water recycling
• Promotion of rainwater collection
• Maintenance of water storage facilities
• Protection of water sources
• Reduction of water waste through efficient use

(ENFORCED WHEN REGIONAL CONDITIONS ALLOW)
WHAT’S NEW IN IFA V6
Environmental sustainability

Waste
• Stricter requirements for all types of waste, including organic and wastewater. Explicit mention of plastics
• Improved approach to “Site in orderly condition”

Biodiversity
• Biodiversity is enhanced
• The farm is considered as an agricultural ecosystem, conversion and restoration are noted
• Unproductive sites, if they exist, must be used to enhance biodiversity
• Awareness of invasive alien species
Environmental indicators/metrics

- Management of input consumption supported through metrics such as water, energy, fertilizers or PPPs
- Growers may complement with the **Impact-Driven Approach to Sustainability** (IDA) add-on to digitally share data
WHAT’S NEW IN IFA V6
Workers’ well-being

Workers’ health and safety

• Stricter requirements (health checks, mixing concentrated PPPs)
• Higher requirement for risk assessment of hazards and accident/emergency procedures
WHAT’S NEW IN IFA V6
Legal, management, and traceability

Streamlined content
• Old food-safety related content has been removed

New addition
• Continuous improvement plans have been introduced
Producers are required to implement a plan to **analyze current practices.**

1. Producer analyzes current practices using real data
2. Reporting is used to identify areas that can be improved
3. Producer sets measurable goals for improvement
4. New measures are implemented in farming practices
5. Implementation is checked and progress reviewed at annual CB audit
6. The continuous improvement plan is revised based on progress

**WHAT’S NEW IN IFA V6**
Continuous improvement on producer level
Continuous improvement – an example for floriculture industry

- The producer documents the different pest control strategies they use (or could potentially use) for a specific crop.

- This includes preventive measures, the monitoring technique and the different types of strategy/intervention to combat two disease-causing microorganisms and one insect pest.

- This short document is called the IPM plan. As they revise it each year, the producer identifies that they added a new control strategy this year which could help avoid the use of a certain insecticide – they added a natural enemy to control the insect.

- The annual revision of the IPM plan therefore encourages reflection on possible ways to change, as well as providing the opportunity to register those improvements which are already happening, but which the producer has not registered before.
ELIGIBILITY
Producer conditions

- **No geographical restrictions**
  You can get certified in any country where a GLOBALG.A.P. approved certification body is willing to conduct an audit

- **Smallholders and large-scale producers**
  There are certification options for every size and type of farm

- **Growers of the following products:**
  1. Bamboo and ornamental grasses
  2. Bedding plants
  3. Cactuses/Succulents
  4. Cut flowers
  5. Flowering bulbs
  8. Ornamental gourds
  9. Garden plants in pots (mixed varieties)
  11. Trees
  12. Turf
IFA FO IN THE GLOBALG.A.P. PORTFOLIO
GLOBALG.A.P. offers solutions for environmental registration, B2B certification, consumer labeling, and traceability systems.

IFA is a building block – adapt and upgrade your assurance with other GLOBALG.A.P. farm assurance solutions.
GLOBALG.A.P. STANDARDS AND ADD-ONS
A portfolio of solutions for the floriculture industry

GRASP add-on (v2): GLOBALG.A.P. Risk Assessment on Social Practice
A farm-level social management tool for global agricultural supply chains. It covers four major topics: Workers’ voice, human and labor rights information, human and labor rights indicators, and child and young worker protection.

IDA add-on: The Impact-Driven Approach to Sustainability
A system to help flower and ornamentals farms collect, process, and store their environmental sustainability data. It is in line with Floriculture Sustainability Initiative requirements regarding digital registration for environmental metrics.

The IDA add-on is also available as a standalone module – adapted for those who do not require IFA certification. IDA module assessments can be carried out independently of other CB audits.

What are add-ons?
Add-ons are an additional way to upgrade and tailor your farm assurance requirements. Each add-on is targeted to a specific product or aspect of farming. Add-ons are audited in combination with a standard such as IFA or Crops for Processing.
GLOBALG.A.P. STANDARDS AND ADD-ONS
IDA – how it works

1. Grower registers input indicators in farm management system (FMS)
2. FMS shares data with GLOBALG.A.P.
3. GLOBALG.A.P. stores and processes data
4. GLOBALG.A.P. returns processed data to FMS
   Provides insight via personal trend reports on input consumption and comparisons with peers
5. FMS displays reports for individual growers
6. Share selected info with CBs

- Contextualize data
- Review and analyze data
- Understand producer realities better
- Improve standard & find solutions to reduce assurance requirements
- Internal review and improvement of management processes
- Identify regional trends and develop fitting solutions
The Chain of Custody (CoC) standard safeguards the GLOBALG.A.P. claim up to the point of sale for the end consumer. It ensures that any product sold as originating from a GLOBALG.A.P. certified production process is actually sourced from certified production, and specifies strict requirements for the handling and segregation of these products, thereby providing transparency in the supply chain and ensuring product integrity.
IFA for plant propagation material (v5.2)
The plant propagation material product category is for producers who grow and sell propagation material. It sets clear requirements on topics such as traceability, fertilizer use, and the management of site, soil, pests, waste, and pollution. Floriculture producers can source propagation material from propagators with certified production processes to ensure responsible practices are in place throughout the entire supply chain.
The **GGN label** is a cross-category, consumer-facing label based on a set of GLOBALG.A.P. certification standards. It stands for certified, responsible farming and transparency. The GGN label offers consistent, consumer-relevant assurance and orientation throughout the store.

**How it works**

- **Unique number for each business (GGN or CoC Number)**
- **Discover the companies behind the label at www.ggn.org.**
- **View farm/business profiles with detailed information**
GGN LABEL
GGN label requirements for flowers and plants

• IFA FO certificate at farm level
• Full compliance with the GRASP add-on at farm level
• CoC certification for supply chain members
• GGN label license for the business responsible for labeling the product
• IFA FO and IDA fulfil **FSI 2025 requirements** for the GAP and Environmental baskets.

• IFA FO is the **original reference standard** in the FSI GAP basket.

• IDA fulfils Royal FloraHolland’s **digital environmental registration requirements**.

• GLOBALG.A.P. solutions for the floriculture contribute to the **UN Sustainable Development Goals**, including:
  - Goal #8: Decent work and economic growth
  - Goal #12: Responsible consumption and production
  - Goal #15: Life on land
ADDING VALUE TO YOUR BUSINESS
BENEFITS OF IFA FO CERTIFICATION

Producers

- **Improve efficiency** of farm operations
- Fulfil international supply chain requirements and **access global markets**
- **Demonstrate your commitment** to responsible farming and sustainability
- Open the door to a **range of supply chain solutions** including IDA and GGN label
- Enjoy a standard **tried, tested, and trusted** by producers in over 45 countries
- Choose from more than **50 accredited CBs** around the world
BENEFITS OF IFA FO CERTIFICATION
Supply chain

- Support an *industry-driven* solution – by stakeholders, for stakeholders
- Benefit from a *transparent public database*
- Demonstrate your commitment to sourcing sustainable and responsibly farmed products
Certification status is visible in the **GLOBALG.A.P. IT systems**. Additional audit information may be visible depending on data access rights.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Attribute</th>
<th>Assigned by</th>
<th>Certificate expiration date</th>
<th>Countries of destination</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bamboo and ornamental grasses</td>
<td>GLOBALG.A.P.</td>
<td>27/09/2022</td>
<td>Germany, Italy</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The strength of GLOBALG.A.P. standards is matched by the system which underpins and monitors their implementation. The Integrity Program is the first of its kind in agricultural certification – promoting trust and transparency throughout the GLOBALG.A.P. system since 2008.
Harmonizing the requirements of different schemes and checklists cuts out duplication and takes the complexity out of certification.

There are two types of farm assurance equivalent to IFA FO:

**BENCHMARKED SCHEMES** – certification schemes using their own scheme management rules and G.A.P. requirements that are recognized as equivalent to the GLOBALG.A.P. general regulations and the product-specific principles and criteria respectively.

**APPROVED MODIFIED CHECKLISTS** (AMC, also known as benchmarked checklists) – certification systems or standards using the GLOBALG.A.P. general regulations as scheme management rules and their own G.A.P. requirements that are recognized as fully conforming with the GLOBALG.A.P. ones.
GLOBALG.A.P. certificates are issued by **accredited third-party CBs**. They are approved by, but independent from, GLOBALG.A.P.

- CBs conduct the farm audits to GLOBALG.A.P. standards.
- Producers have the freedom to choose which CB they use.
- CBs update our global online database.
- CBs can only be accredited by **accreditation bodies** that have signed a Memorandum of Understanding with GLOBALG.A.P.

All GLOBALG.A.P. approved CBs are **listed online**. CBs may have branch offices in your area even if they are headquartered elsewhere.
Registered Trainers are:

• Agricultural experts
• Trained by GLOBALG.A.P.
• Authorized to provide trainings on GLOBALG.A.P. standards and add-ons
• Able to support you on your journey to achieving GLOBALG.A.P. certification.

Find Registered Trainers using our “Find a Registered Trainer” tool. You can recognize them by their green seal.
Nearly **50,000 hectares** of combined floriculture production from **2,495 producers** was under IFA FO certification in **49 countries** (as of December 2021).
IFA v6 contains **three cost elements**. Note: Each farm is unique, and the final costs depend on a combination of factors (size, location, existing policies and processes, etc.)

1. **Implementation costs**: Incurred by the producer to prepare for the CB audit
2. **CB service fees**: Determined by the CB to cover audit time and travel costs
3. **System participation fee**: See the tables on the following page.
## SYSTEM PARTICIPATION FEE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Producer type</th>
<th>Production type</th>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>Base fee (€)</th>
<th>Units to which only the base fee applies</th>
<th>Units to which unit fee 1 applies</th>
<th>Unit fee 1 (€/unit)</th>
<th>Units to which unit fee 2 applies</th>
<th>Unit fee 2 (€/unit)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Individual producer</td>
<td>Noncovered</td>
<td>ha</td>
<td>60.00</td>
<td>≤ 5ha</td>
<td>&gt; 5ha - ≤ 60ha</td>
<td>12.00</td>
<td>&gt; 60ha</td>
<td>1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Option 1)</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Producer group</td>
<td>Noncovered</td>
<td>ha</td>
<td>200.00</td>
<td>≤ 5ha</td>
<td>&gt; 5ha - ≤ 60ha</td>
<td>40.00</td>
<td>&gt; 60ha</td>
<td>4.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>(Option 2)</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Individual producer</td>
<td>Covered</td>
<td>ha</td>
<td>60.00</td>
<td>≤ 0.5ha</td>
<td>&gt; 0.5 - ≤ 5ha</td>
<td>120.00</td>
<td>&gt; 5ha</td>
<td>10.00</td>
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<td>(Option 1)</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Producer group</td>
<td>Covered</td>
<td>ha</td>
<td>200.00</td>
<td>≤ 1ha</td>
<td>&gt; 1 - ≤ 5ha</td>
<td>200.00</td>
<td>&gt; 5ha</td>
<td>20.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Option 2)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
FIVE STEPS TO CERTIFICATION

1. Download the documents from the GLOBALG.A.P. website
   GLOBALG.A.P. general regulations and IFA principles and criteria for flowers and ornamentals

2. Implement the standard requirements and perform a self-assessment
   Registered Trainers can provide assistance during audit preparations

3. Contact a GLOBALG.A.P. approved CB and request an audit
   Search the full list of approved CBs by region, country, scope, and status

4. CB performs on-site audit and uploads results to Audit Online Hub
   All non-compliances must be corrected within 28 days and verified by the CB

5. Receive a GLOBALG.A.P. IFA certificate for the relevant scope
   Certification status is visible in the GLOBALG.A.P. IT systems
**GLOBALG.A.P. AT A GLANCE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Feature</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 530+ voluntary members form the GLOBALG.A.P. Community                | 50%  
|                                                                         | 50%  
| 206,000+ certified producers in 130+ countries                        | GLOBALG.A.P. governed by an elected Advisory Board                                                                                  |
| GLOBALG.A.P. Academy training for 2000+ participants on 5 continents in 15+ languages | 3 main products with 40+ standards and programs                                                                                     |
| A pioneering integrity system with independent assessments to monitor the performance of our certification bodies | An extensive worldwide network of consultants to help producers with their certification process                                       |
| A consumer label making certified, responsible farming visible        | 2,000+ inspectors and auditors working for 170+ approved certification bodies                                                            |
|                                                                         | An online consumer portal for transparent farm verification and information with 600+ farm profiles                                      |
|                                                                         | Impact Driven Approach to sustainability                                                                                               |
|                                                                         | 700+ products available for certification                                                                                              |
|                                                                         | A harmonization program to benchmark schemes and checklists around the world                                                           |
|                                                                         | A secure online certification database to check producers and validate certificates                                                       |

**1,000+ international experts** active in Technical Committees, National Technical Working Groups and Focus Groups
TIMELINE AND UPCOMING DEVELOPMENTS
WHAT IS THE TRANSITION PERIOD FROM IFA V5 TO V6? (FO)

- **Publication of IFA v6 interim version**
  - 26 April 2022
- **CB training (IFA v6)**
  - May 2022
- **Publication of IFA v6 final version**
  - September 2022
- **IFA v6 becomes obligatory**
  - 1 January 2024
- **100% of IFA certificates are for v6**
  - January 2025

- **IFA v5.2 audits possible**
- **IFA v5.2 certificates valid**
- **IFA v6 audits encouraged**
  - 31 December 2023
- **IFA v6 audits mandatory**
  - 31 December 2024

*IFA v6 final version will be published in English in September 2022. All other languages will follow by the end of 2022.*
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Milestone</th>
<th>Key information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>26 Apr 2022</td>
<td>Launch of <em>interim version of IFA v6 documents</em> in English</td>
<td><em>Interim version</em> means the first publication of the final standard. Minor edits e.g., typo/spelling corrections in the normative documents may occur between April and September. The IFA v6 documents for flowers and ornamentals will be published in Dutch and German in May 2022.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q2-3 2022</td>
<td>CB training for IFA v6</td>
<td>CB audits to IFA v6 are possible as soon as CBs have been trained.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept 2022</td>
<td>Launch of <em>final version of IFA v6 documents</em> in English</td>
<td><em>Final version</em> means the published version which will ultimately become obligatory.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q4 2022</td>
<td>Launch of <em>final version of IFA v6 documents</em> in Dutch and German</td>
<td>Expected languages: Italian, Spanish, French, and Portuguese (Brazil)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec 2023</td>
<td>Last possible month to complete an IFA v5.2 audit</td>
<td>Any v5.2 certificate obtained at this time remains valid for its entire one-year cycle.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan 2024</td>
<td>IFA v6 becomes obligatory</td>
<td>IFA v6 replaces IFA v5.2: No further audits for IFA v5.2 may take place after this point.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>