

CONTROL POINTS AND COMPLIANCE CRITERIA IN IFA VERSION 5 FRUIT AND VEGETABLES - SUMMARY OF CHANGES -

1. Background

During the 2 years of revision process, more than 2,000 comments and proposals were received from Stakeholder Committees, National Technical Working Groups (NTWGs), Certification Bodies (CBs), Farm Assurers and other stakeholders who participated during the two rounds of public consultation.

The changes introduced also respond to the feedback received in direct contact with producers and certification bodies during the activities of the Certification Integrity Program, the trainings and the 17 field trials carried out in 9 different countries (Spain, South Africa, Uruguay, Italy, France, Ghana, Kenya, Senegal, Tanzania).

Producers, retailers, food service companies, laboratories, Universities and other interested parties, contributed to the new version through their work at 7 stakeholder committees and three Technical Committees:

- Stakeholder Committee for Microbiological Risk Assessment (SHC MRA)
- Stakeholder Committee for Responsible Water Management (SHC RWM)
- Stakeholder Committee GRASP
- Stakeholder Committee for Sustainability in Crops Production 1 (SHC Sust.)
- Stakeholder Committee for Crop Protection (former CPWG)
- Stakeholder Committee for Flowers and Ornamentals (SHC FO)
- Technical Committee Crops
- Technical Committee Aquaculture
- Technical Committee Livestock

The standard has consequently been strengthened in the areas of work of these stakeholder committees while the Technical Committees have taken care not only of the content, but also of the overall structure and balance of the standard.

The final version of the standard has been approved by the GLOBALG.A.P. Board, which is composed 50% by retailer members and 50% by producer members.

2. Summary

A thorough revision of the Version 4 has led to changes in 180 control points. Some of these changes are just the use of clearer wording, some mean the deletion of control points (40) because they were covered by other requirements, or were merged, or were fully removed from the standard (3).

As part of the continuous improvement of the standard, the level of 29 control points changed and 24 new control points have been introduced.

All in all, the Version 5 of the standard has 218 control points (87 Major Musts, 113 Minor Musts and 18 recommendations), which means there are eighteen (18) control points less than in Version 4.

The number of Minor Musts in Version 5 (113) means that producers may have up to 5 non-compliances in these control points (5%) and still obtain the certification, same as in Version 4.

3. New requirements

Twenty-four (24) new requirements have been introduced in the standard.

- Five (5) new Major Musts:
 - Food Safety Policy Declaration (V5 AF 15.1)
 - Compliance with applicable legal water use restrictions (V5 CB 5.4.2)
 - Risk analysis focused on microbiological contamination (V5 FV 1.1.1)
 - Action plan to control microbiological risks (V5 FV 1.1.2)
 - Control measures to prevent produce contamination via water use (V5 FV 4.1.3)

The Food Safety Policy Declaration refers to the document that producers shall sign as part of the V4 checklist, so it is not really a new requirement.

The risk analysis focused on microbiological contamination (V5 FV 1.1.1) and the action plan to address these risks (V5 FV 1.1.2) are, in Version 4, part of the general risk assessment (V4 AF 1.2.1) and the management plan for the farm (V4 AF 1.2.2), so they are not really new either. However, these control points have been explicitly addressed again in the Fruit and Vegetables module with the objective of drawing more intensely the producers' attention on microbiological risks.

- Eleven (11) new Minor Musts:
 - Transport of Workers on public roads according to legislation (V5 AF 4.5.5)
 - Holding areas for fuel and oil tanks environmentally safe (V5 AF 6.2.3)
 - Compliance with intellectual property right laws for varieties (V5 CB 2.1.2)
 - Risk Assessment Water management plan (V5 CB 5.2.1)⁽¹⁾
 - Records of weather conditions at time of PPP applications (V5 CB 7.3.7)
 - Prevention of pesticide drift to neighboring areas (V5 CB 7.3.8)
 - Secure transport of concentrate PPP on the farm (V5 CB 7.8.3)
 - Verification and calibration of equipment non food-safety sensitive (V5 CB 8.2)
 - Safe storage of PPP application equipment (V5 CB 8.4)
 - Analysis of microbiological water quality based on risk assessment (V5 FV 4.1.2)⁽²⁾
 - Accreditation of laboratory used to carry out the water analyses (V5 FV 4.1.4)

⁽¹⁾ Requirement V5 CB 5.2.1 will be raised to Major Must on 1 July 2017

⁽²⁾ Requirement V5 FV 4.1.2 will be raised to Major Must on 1 July 2016

- Eight (8) new recommendations:
 - Safe disposal of water used for washing and cleaning of equipment (V5 AF 6.2.5)
 - Improvement of Energy Efficiency (V5 AF 7.3.2)
 - Reduce use of non-renewable energy sources (V5 AF 7.3.3)
 - Measures to collect and recycle water (V5 AF 7.4.1)
 - Food Fraud vulnerability assessment (V5 AF 16.1)
 - Food Fraud mitigation plan (V5 AF 16.2)
 - Water storage facilities well maintained to take advantage of periods of maximum water availability (V5 CB 5.5.1)
 - Measures to prevent spray drift from neighbouring plots (V5 CB 7.3.9)

Recommendations on food fraud address the risk that somebody does fraud to the producer, not the possibility that producers do fraud themselves. Other control points like those about the mass balance cover the latter.

4. Changes in level of requirements

Twenty-nine (29) control points change level with respect to V4:

- Seventeen (17) Minor Musts became Major Must
- Ten (10) recommendations became Minor Must
- One (1) recommendation became Major Must
- One (1) Major Must became Minor Must

The level change is direct in some control points (new level assigned), and indirect in others (level increases because the control point is incorporated into another requirement in V5 with higher level; e.g. V4 FV 5.2.2, Minor Must which is incorporated in V5 FV 5.1.3, Major Must).

The recommendation that changes to Major Must is V4 FV 5.2.3. This control point, that recommends workers to wear outer garments, becomes an obligation in V5 in those cases where the risk assessment determines that clothing shall be used to protect product against contamination (Major Musts V5 FV 5.1.2 and V5 FV 5.1.3).

The Major Must that changes to Minor Must is V4 FV 5.5.1. This control point requires to keep the records of temperature and humidity controls where produce is packed and/or stored. The point is related to quality and not directly to food safety, so it was decided to lower the level of the requirement.

A complete list of requirements whose level has changed is available in Annex 1 of this document.

5. Removal of control points

During the revision, an effort has been done to reduce the number of control points in the checklist:

- In some occasions duplication has been eliminated (e.g. all hygiene requirements for harvest and product handling have been put together regardless if handling takes place on the field or a packing house).
- Some other points have been deleted after being covered by other requirements
- Some points have been merged together to provide a more rational structure (e.g. recycling of empty plant protection products; and records of applications of plant protection products and post-harvest treatments).
- Three (3) points have been completely deleted after deciding they were not necessary:
 - Agreement between producers and their clients to prevent misuse of GGN (V4 AF 10.2; Minor Must). The experience has proved that this requirement has not achieved the objective for which it was introduced and has caused inconvenients to producers and their customers.
 - Fire-resistance of PPP store (V4 CB 8.7.5; Minor Must). The CPWG recommended deleting the requirement because these facilities must anyway comply with local regulations.
 - Lockable storage facilities to protect worker's personal belongings (V4 FV 5.3.4; recommendation).

A complete list of requirements "deleted" is available in Annex 2 of this document.

Annex 1: Level changes

Recomm. → Minor Must	Minor → Major Must	Recomm. → Major Must	Major → Minor Must
V4 AF 3.6.2 (V5 AF 4.5.2) V4 AF 5.2.1 (V5 AF 6.2.1) V4 AF 6.3.1 (V5 AF 7.3.1) V4 CB 2.1.1 (V5 CB 2.1.1) V4 CB 6.1.1 (V5 CB 5.1.1) V4 CB 6.2.2 (V5 CB 5.2.2) ⁽¹⁾ V4 CB 6.2.3 (V5 CB 5.2.3) V4 CB 6.3.5. →V5 CB 5.3.4 V4 CB 8.8.1. (V5 CB 7.8.1) V4 FV 2.3 (V5 FV 3.3)	V4 AF 1.1.1 (V5 AF 1.1.1) V4 AF 1.2.2 (V5 AF 1.2.2) V4 AF 2.1 (V5 AF 2.1) V4 AF 3.6.3 (V5 AF 4.5.3) V4 AF 3.6.4 (V5 AF 4.5.4) V4 AF 4.1 (V5 AF 5.1) V4 CB 8.9.7. →V5 CB 7.9.1 V4 FV 5.2.2. →V5 FV 5.1.3. V4 FV 5.2.4 (V5 FV 5.1.6) V4 FV 5.2.5 (V5 FV 5.1.5) V4 FV 5.4.1. → V5 FV 5.4.2 V4 FV 5.4.5. V4 FV 5.4.8 (V5 FV 5.4.3) V4 FV 5.4.9. → V5 FV 1.1.1 V4 FV 5.5.1 (V5 FV 5.5.1) V4 FV 5.6.1 (V5 FV 5.6.1) V4 FV 5.6.2 (V5 FV 5.6.2)	V4 FV 5.2.3. → V5 FV 5.1.2 and FV 5.1.3	V4 FV 5.5.1 (V5 FV 5.5.1)

Note: When a requirement is introduced in another with higher level, it is indicated with an arrow, e.g. V4 FV 5.2.2 → FV 5.1.3.

Annex 2: Control Points removed from Version 4

	Major Must	Minor Must	Recommendation
All Farm Module	V4 AF 12.1.4. → V5 AF 11.1.	V4 AF 4.2.2. → V5 AF 3.2 & V5 AF 4.1.3 V4 AF 10.2 (Deleted)	
Crop Base Module	V4 CB 6.2.1 → V5 CB 5.2.2 V4 CB 8.3.2. → V5 CB 7.3.1 V4 CB 8.3.3 → V5 CB 7.3.1 V4 CB 8.3.4. → V5 CB 7.3.1 V4 CB 8.3.10 → V5 CB 7.3.1 V4 CB 8.7.3 → V5 CB 7.7.1 V4 CB 8.7.11. → V5 CB 7.7.1 V4 CB 8.7.14 → V5 CB 7.7.1	V4 CB 2.1.2. → V5 CB 2.1.1 V4 CB 6.4.1 → V5 CB 5.4.1 & V5 CB 5.4.2 V4 CB 8.7.5 (Deleted) V4 CB 8.9.3 → V5 CB 7.9.4 V4 CB 8.9.5. → V5 CB 7.9.5 V4 CB 8.9.7 → V5 CB 7.9.1	V4 CB 6.3.5 → V5 CB 5.3.4
Fruit and Vegetables Module	V4 FV 4.1.5 → V5 FV 5.1.3 V4 FV 4.1.10 → V5 FV 5.2.4 V4 FV 4.2.1 → V5 FV 5.1.2 & V5 FV 5.4.1 V4 FV 4.2.4 → V5 FV 5.4.3 V4 FV 4.2.6 → V5 FV 5.5.1 V4 FV 5.1.1 → V5 FV 5.1.1 V4 FV 5.1.2 → V5 FV 5.1.2 V4 FV 5.1.3 → V5 FV 5.1.3 V4 FV 5.2.1 → V5 FV 5.1.4 V4 FV 5.3.2 → V5 FV 5.2.5 V4 FV 5.8.8 → V5 FV 5.8.7 V4 FV 5.8.9 → V5 FV 5.8.7 V4 FV 5.8.10 → V5 FV 5.8.7 V4 FV 5.8.11 → V5 FV 5.8.7 V4 FV 5.8.12 → V5 FV 5.8.7	V4 FV 4.1.11 → V5 FV 5.4.10 V4 FV 5.2.2 → V5 FV 5.1.3 V4 FV 5.4.1 → V5 FV 5.4.2 V4 FV 5.4.9 → V5 FV 1.1.1 V4 FV 5.5.2 → V5 CB 8.2	V4 FV 5.2.3 → V5 FV 5.1.2. & V5 FV 5.1.3. V4 FV 5.3.4 (Deleted)

Note: The arrow (→) indicates that the control point has been incorporated into other point(s) and does not exist as a stand alone requirement in Version 5.

Annex 3. Number of control points by module and level

	Major Must	Minor Must	Recommendation
All Farm	29	19	9
Crop Base	25	78	5
Fruit and Vegetables	33	16	4
Total	87	113	18