



AGENDA

1. 2023 in review

- Statistics
- IT
- Common NCs

2. Looking ahead

- IFA v6
- Timelines
- Other standards
- FSMA 204



WHAT IS GLOBALG.A.P.?

The GLOBALG.A.P. Difference

We are an international organization with a fundamental **objective**:

SAFE AND SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE WORLDWIDE.

We set **voluntary standards** for the certification of agricultural products around the world





WHAT IS GLOBALG.A.P.?

The GLOBALG.A.P. Difference

GLOBALG.A.P. **is a brand** of smart farm assurance solutions that helps farmers **ensure safe, socially and environmentally responsible farming practices** worldwide.

Our Vision

We envision a world in which farms are recognized for their efforts to continuously **produce enough safe food** while safeguarding our **environment and the welfare** of farming communities





2023 in review

Statistics

Worldwide statistics

Farm assurance product	Producers under certification
IFA FV	187,632
GRASP	125,440
IFA HOP	38
GG FSA	10,933
HPSS	277
SPRING	11,683
AH-DLL GROW	6,967
FSMA PSR add-on	3,748
Chain of custody	4,274

updated dec 2023



2023 in review

Statistics

GLOBALG.A.P. North America statistics

Farm assurance product	Producers under certification
IFA FV	2,196
GRASP	28
IFA HOP	34
HPSS	277
Chain of custody	14
localg.a.p.	50

updated dec 2023

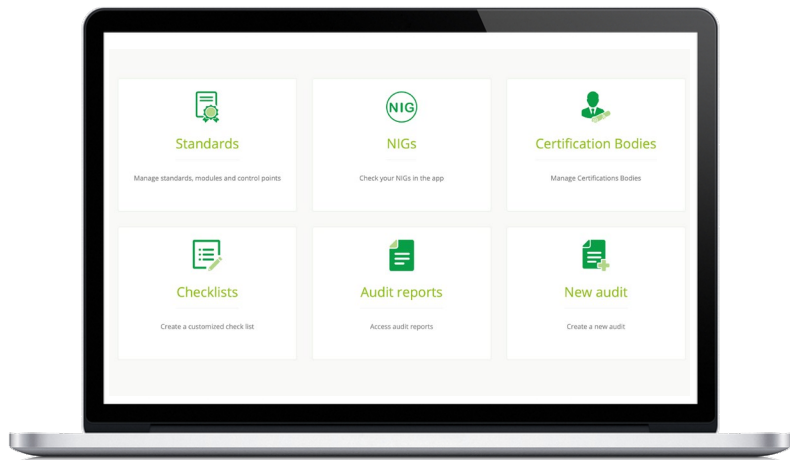


2023 in review

GLOBALG.A.P. IT systems

Moving to a smart IT process:

1. Users approved in the **Certification Body Accreditation Tool (CB-AT)**
2. Audit reports completed in **Audit Online Hub (AOH)**
3. Certificates generated in **Validation Service (VS)**

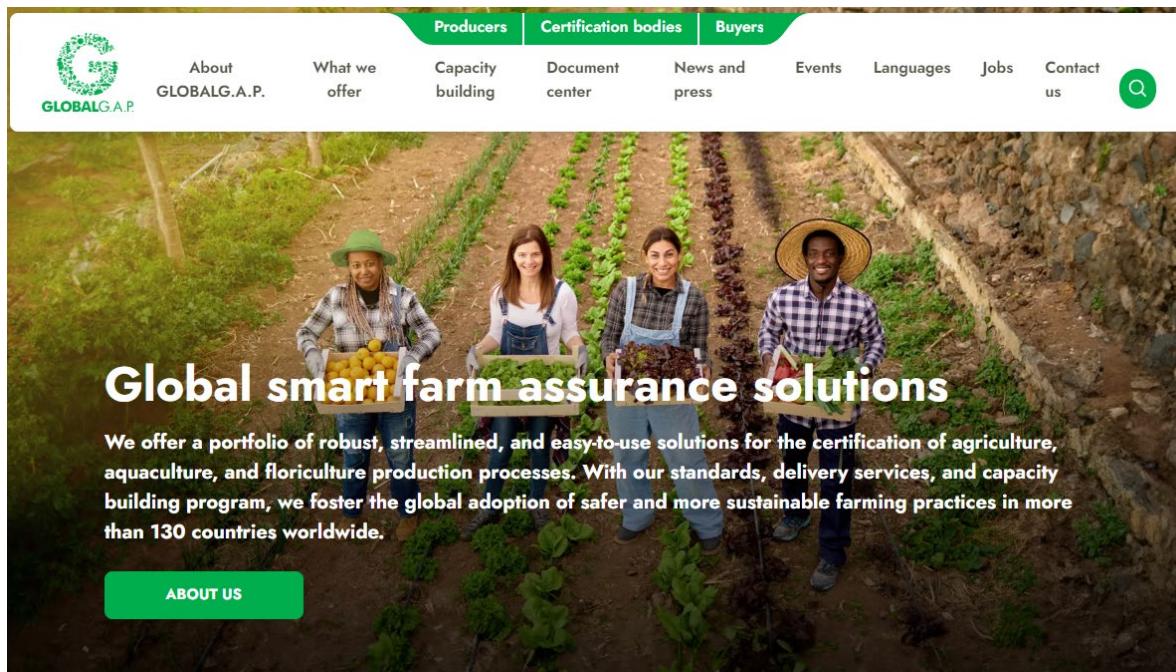




2023 in review

New GLOBALG.A.P. website

New website





2023 in review

Common NCs in 2023

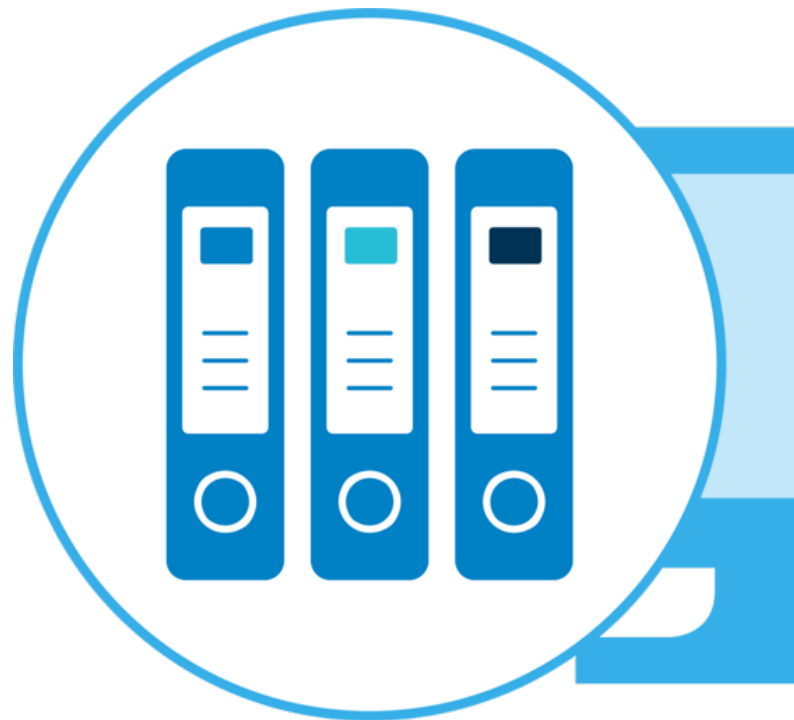


2023 in review

Common NCs

Common NCs related to general documentation

- AF 2.5 – continuous improvement plan not available
- AF 17.2 – specifications not written: seed vendors, chemical suppliers, pest control, etc.
- AF 7.3.2/7.3.3 – energy efficiency plan, renewable energy plan not available
- AF 9.1 – notification to CB in case of recall event not included in recall/withdraw procedures





2023 in review

Common NCs

Common NCs related to workers

- AF 4.3.4 – expired first aid kit items, crew training missing/location of kits unknown
- AF 3.3 – hygiene training for management not available
- AF 3.4/FV 5.1.3 – wearing jewelry while handling products
- AF 4.1.2 – health and safety risk assessments not appropriate to job and location (heat stress and smoke/fire hazard)
- CB 7.8.1 – health checks not provided



Image: screenshot of University of Washington video for demonstration

Credit: Stacey Holland, Pacific Northwest Agricultural Safety and Health Center

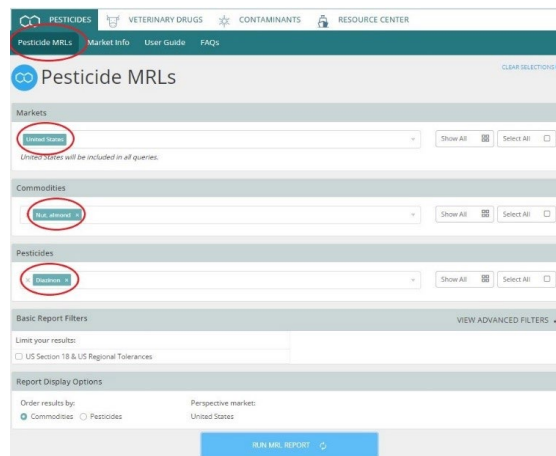


2023 in review

Common NCs

Common NCs related to plant protection products

- CB 7.7.7 – liquid pesticides stored on wooden pallets
- CB 7.6.4 – MRLs not available at the time of audit





2023 in review

Common NCs

Common NCs of the Quality Management System (QMS)

- QM 2.2b – qualifications for internal auditor not adequately assessed
- QM 2.2d – internal inspector/auditor training missing
- QM 9b – notification to CB in case of recall event missing in recall/withdraw procedures





2023 in review

Common NCs

Common CB errors

- Incorrect scoping of farm management companies
- Not visiting product handling units (PHUs)
- Not including PHUs although product is still owned by the producer





Looking forward in 2024

IFA v6



STANDARD CONTENT

Two parallel IFA FV editions for v6



Industry experts want a more flexible, risk-based IFA which is fit for purpose. Some stakeholders continue to require a GFSI recognized standard.



To reconcile these demands, **IFA FV is available in two editions: v6 Smart and v6 GFS**. Customer requirements determine the edition that a producer will implement.



Less than 15% of the principles and criteria in the GFS and Smart editions differ from each other. There are also some differences in the GLOBALG.A.P. general regulations. The biggest difference is the ways in which producers can demonstrate compliance with the principles. V6 Smart offers more flexibility for producers.



STANDARD CONTENT

Two parallel IFA FV editions for v6

IFA v6 Smart



Flagship edition: By stakeholders, for stakeholders



Outcome-oriented, customized checklists with more flexible ways to demonstrate compliance



Accepted for PHA, BRC, and IFS certified post-farm gate product handling facilities



STANDARD CONTENT

Two parallel IFA FV editions for v6

IFA v6 GFS



For producers who require GFSI recognition



Checklists and rules are determined by GFSI requirements



Accepted for PHA, BRC, and IFS certified post-farm gate product handling facilities



IFA V6 FOR FRUIT AND VEGETABLES

Key topics

IFA FV takes a holistic approach to responsible farming through **five key topics**:



FOOD
SAFETY



PRODUCTION
PROCESSES



ENVIRONMENTAL
SUSTAINABILITY



WORKERS'
WELL-BEING



LEGAL, MANAGEMENT,
TRACEABILITY



RESPONSIBLE FARMING PRACTICES



STANDARD CONTENT

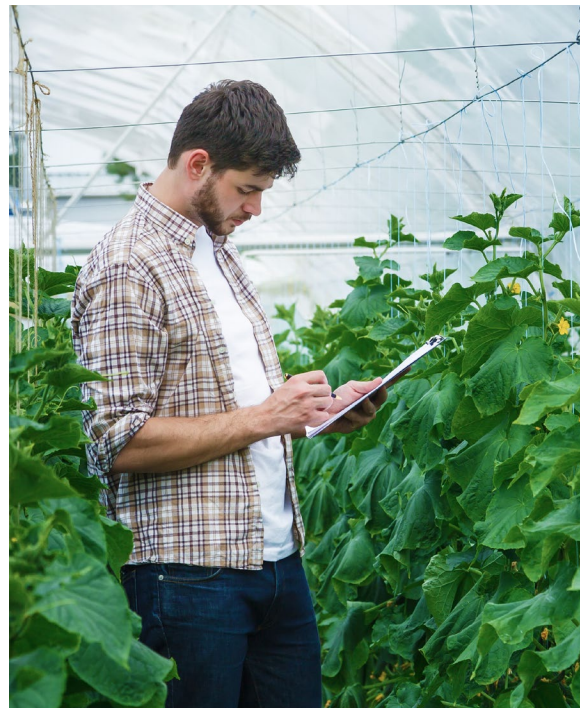
Principles and criteria

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

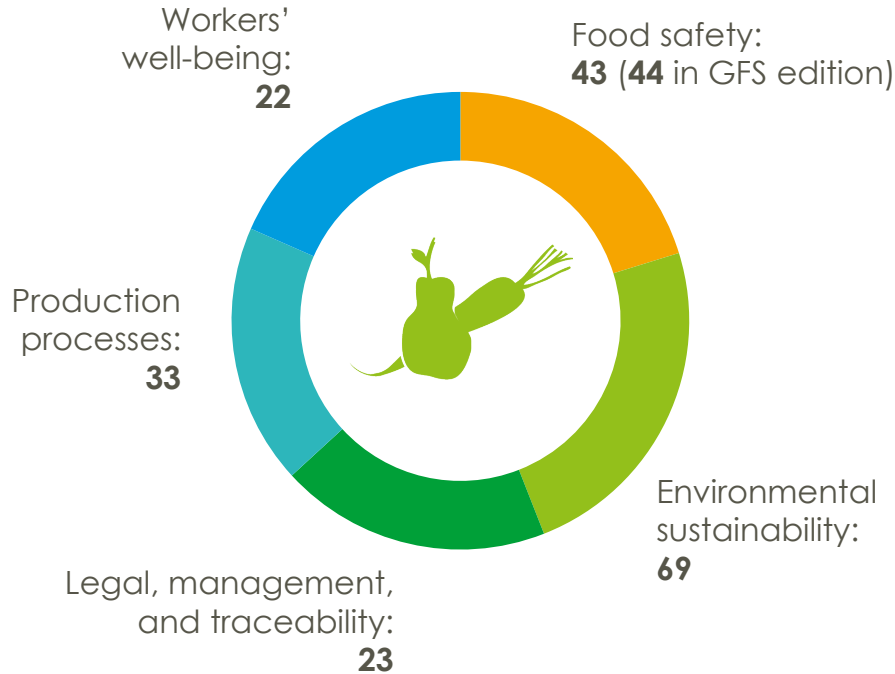
Principles and criteria – compliance requirements

- **Simplified, streamlined, and customized checklists**
- **190 principles** (191 for GFS edition) 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.



STANDARD CONTENT

Principles and criteria



Category level	Principles
Major Must	103 (Smart edition) 118 (GFS edition)
Minor Must	67 (Smart edition) 53 (GFS edition)
Recommendation	20
TOTAL	190 (Smart edition) 191 (GFS edition)



STANDARD CONTENT

Principles and criteria

IFA FV covers the **entire primary production process**.

Principles and criteria include topics such as:



FOOD
SAFETY



BIODIVERSITY
AND HABITATS



WASTE
MANAGEMENT



WATER
MANAGEMENT



MANAGEMENT
AND TRACEABILITY



ENERGY
EFFICIENCY



FERTILIZERS
AND
BIOSTIMULANTS



INTEGRATED
PEST
MANAGEMENT



PLANT
PROTECTION
PRODUCTS



WORKERS' HEALTH,
SAFETY, AND
WELFARE



HYGIENE



TRACEABILITY



STANDARD CONTENT

Principle and criteria example (v6 Smart)

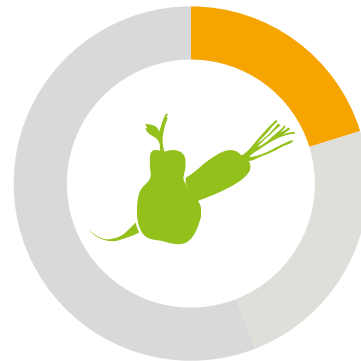
PRINCIPLE	CRITERIA	LEVEL
There is evidence that the provided personal protective equipment (PPE) is used by the workers.	There shall be evidence that the provided PPE is being used. If single-use PPE is used, the supply maintained on hand shall correspond to the needs of the workers, or records demonstrating that new PPE is promptly sourced and restocked shall be available.	Minor Must



NEW IN IFA V6

Food safety

- There is evidence that a **continuous improvement plan** is implemented.
- **Treated water** used during harvest or postharvest is monitored appropriately.





NEW IN IFA V6

Environmental sustainability

- **Biodiversity is managed** and supported with metrics to enable its protection and enhancement.
- Natural or seminatural **ecosystems and habitats** have not been converted into agricultural area as of 2014. If converted between 2008–2013 they must be restored.
- **Plastics are managed** in a responsible way.
- There is an **integrated pest management** plan describing the measures used at farm level to manage the relevant pests, diseases, or weeds that affect the registered crop(s).
- All biostimulants are stored in a manner that **reduces environmental contamination**.





IFA V6

Environmental sustainability



IFA is approved for Walmart Pollinators Requirement

“Walmart U.S. will source 100% of the fresh produce and floral we sell in our in-store Produce department from suppliers that adopt integrated pest management practices, as verified by a third-party, by 2025.”





NEW IN IFA V6

Environmental sustainability – Recommendations

- **Management of fertilizers, water, energy, and plant protection products** is supported with metrics.
- **Food waste is prevented** and managed.
- The farm enables the **formation of organic carbon** in soils and in biomass.
- The producer recognizes the farm as an **agricultural ecosystem** that interacts with neighboring landscapes.
- The farm's contribution to **reducing and removing greenhouse gas from the atmosphere** is supported with metrics.

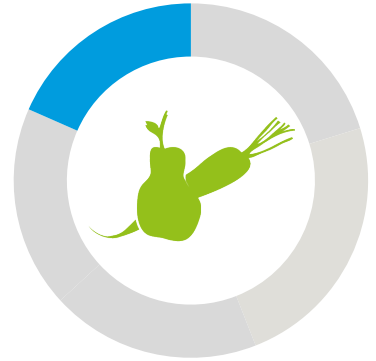




NEW IN IFA V6

Workers' well-being

- There is evidence that the provided **personal protective equipment** (PPE) is used by the workers.
- **Workers are informed of their rights** related to the standard and there is a grievance mechanism available and implemented through which workers can file concerns in a confidential way and without fear of retaliation.

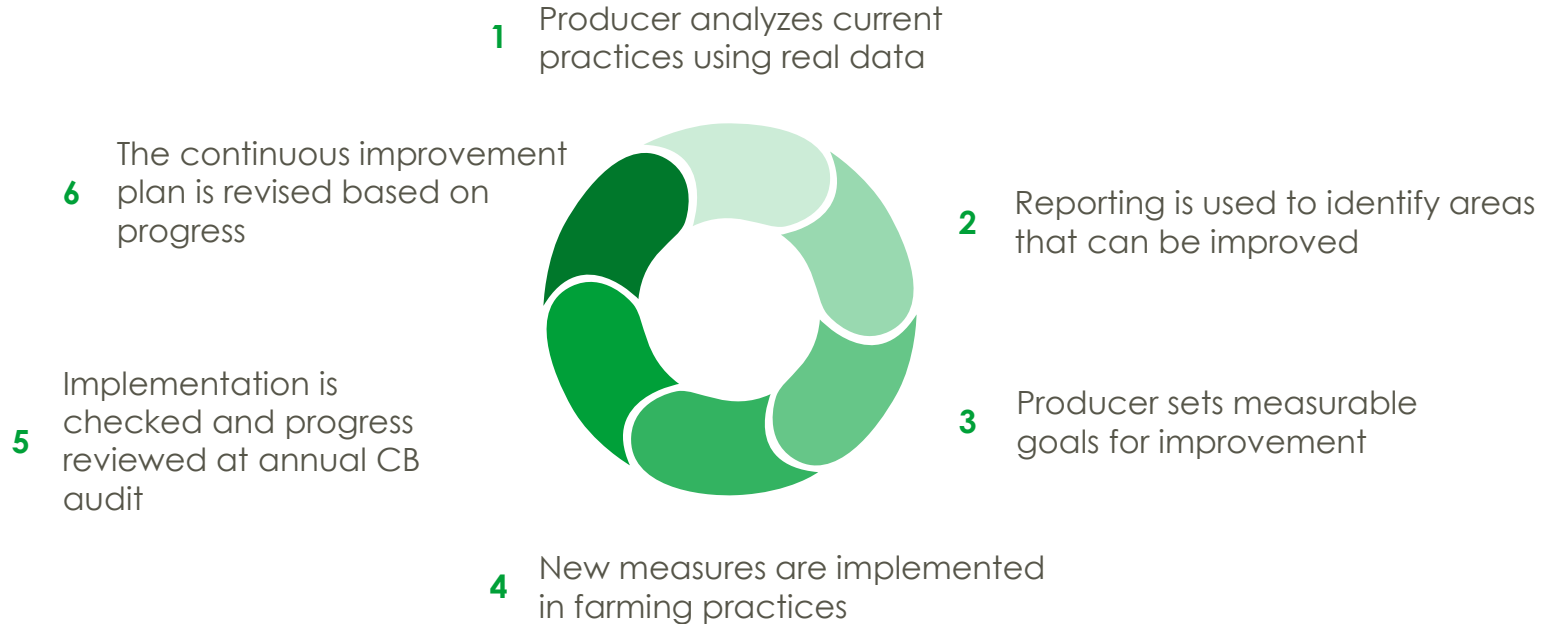




WHAT'S NEW IN IFA V6

Continuous improvement on producer level

Producers are required to implement a plan to **analyze current practices**.





WHAT'S NEW IN IFA V6

Continuous improvement on producer level

Continuous improvement – an example for fruit and vegetable production

- **PLAN:** The producer documents strategies and measures on how the farm can protect and enhance biodiversity. This document is called a biodiversity plan.
- **DO:** The producer considers their individual on-farm situation and implements appropriate measures, e.g., to enhance biotope corridors (creating buffer zones), enable soil health, reduce invasive alien species, or conserve native animal or bird species.
- **CHECK:** Ongoing monitoring of the biodiversity plan enables the producer to verify whether a strategy has been successfully implemented on the farm.
- **ACT:** The measures are adjusted based on the results of ongoing monitoring.



The producer is also able to register improvements which are *already* happening, but which have not been registered before.



IFA V6 GENERAL REGULATIONS

Audits and audit cycle

IFA v6 audits of producers/producer groups who are already certified are considered **subsequent audits**.



Legal entities already certified to IFA
v5.2/IFA V5.3-GFS, IFA V5.4-1-GFS

First IFA v6 audit



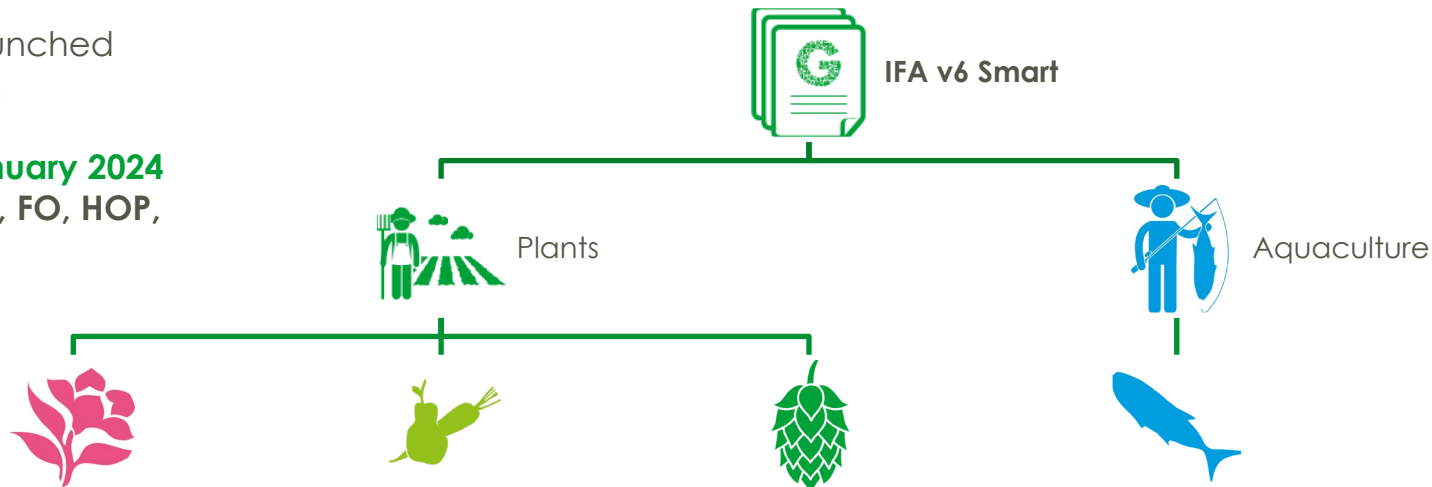
Subsequent audit



IFA V6 TIMELINE

IFA v6 Smart

- ✓ **Final IFA v6.0** launched
September 2022
- ✓ **Obligatory 1 January 2024**
(IFA v6 Smart FV, FO, HOP,
AQ)



The last possible **audit date** for the IFA v5.2 sub-scopes FV, FO, HOP (and IFA v5.3-GFS HOP) and the AQ scope is 31 December 2023.



IFA V6 TIMELINE

IFA v6 GFS



IFA v6 GFS

launched
September 2022



IFA v5.4-1-GFS

Currently use IFA
v5.4-1-GFS, IFA v6
GFS currently in
GFSI
benchmarking
process



IFA v6 GFS

when
GFSI
benchmarking is
achieved



We will
communicate
the IFA v6 GFS
obligatory
date

Currently in GFSI application process – GFSI public
consultation Jan 2024!



IFA V6 TIMELINE

IFA for hops valid version



IFA for hops

Current valid versions



IFA v5.3-GFS



IFA v6 Smart

- ✓ Launched September 2022
- ✓ **Obligatory 1 January 2024**
- ✓ Replaces all previous versions



IFA V6

Summary of changes

IFA V6 TRANSITION TOOL Available NOW for F&V



Transition tool IFA v5.4-1-GFS to IFA v6 GFS for fruit and vegetables

Company/Site name: _____

Date: _____

Section	N°	IFA v6 Smart principle and Criteria IFA v5.2 Control Point and Compliance Criteria	Level	Answer	Justification
FV 01 INTERNAL DOCUMENTATION	FV-GFS 0101	<p>P: A procedure is in place to manage and control documents and records.</p> <p>C: Documents and records affecting implementation of the requirements shall be managed and controlled.</p> <p>A documented procedure shall describe:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - How documents and records are created, reviewed, approved, and updated - How reviews are undertaken and changes or amendments are made - How version updates take place - How relevant documentation is made available to relevant staff <p>Documentation shall be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Identified with an issue number and/or date and appropriately paginated - Sufficiently detailed - Reviewed periodically to demonstrate ongoing compliance with the relevant requirements - Assigned to relevant staff - Revised to incorporate relevant modifications of the standard or normative documents within the period given by GLOBALG.A.P. - Approved by authorized staff prior to distribution - Effectively rescinded when obsolete 	Major Must		
AF 02 RECORD KEEPING AND INTERNAL SELF-ASSESSMENT/INTERNAL INSPECTION	AF 02.02	<p>P: Is a procedure established, implemented, and maintained to manage and control documented information?</p> <p>C: A procedure describing the management of documented information shall be implemented and maintained. A method of tracking document changes shall be established, to ensure employees are</p>	Major Must		
FV 01 INTERNAL DOCUMENTATION	FV-GFS 0102	<p>P: Records for auditing purposes are up-to-date. Records are kept for a minimum period of two years, unless a longer period is required.</p> <p>C: All records generated or kept by the producer for auditing purposes shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Be stored securely, readily accessible and kept up to date - Be retained for a minimum of two years, or longer if required by customers or prevailing regulations - 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) audit, or begin on the day of registration, whichever is longer - Reference full details of each area and all activities covered by the registration <p>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.</p>	Major Must		



Looking forward in 2024

Other standards: PHA, HPS, ESS, WWB
FSMA 204



Looking forward in 2024

GLOBALG.A.P. FAMILY OF PRODUCTS



CUSTOMIZED SOLUTIONS

Any Customized Standard, localg.a.p., Add-on, etc.



Looking forward in 2024

Harmonized Produce Safety Standards (HPSS)



HPSS is a streamlined, **food safety-only**, good agricultural practices standard.

HPSS is comprised of the Combined Harmonized Standard from the International Fresh Produce Association and is **benchmarked to the Global Food Safety Initiative (GFSI)** for the production of fruit and vegetables.





Looking forward in 2024

Harmonized Produce Safety Standards (HPSS)

May 2023

International Fresh Produce Association publish the Produce GAPs Harmonization Initiative Combined harmonized Standards v3.0

Q1 2024

GLOBALG.A.P. finalizes normative documents for HPS v2

May/June 2024

HPS v2 is launched

July 2024

GLOBALG.A.P. applies to GFSI for continued recognition of HPS

Quarter 2 2025

HPS achieves GFSI recognition

Quarter 3 2025

HPS v2 replaces v1.2



Looking forward in 2024

Produce Handling Assurance (PHA)



The PHA Standard covers pre-process production steps after the point of harvest for crops including **cooling, packing, re-packing, handling, and storage.**

Available as a stand-alone postharvest facility certification

OR

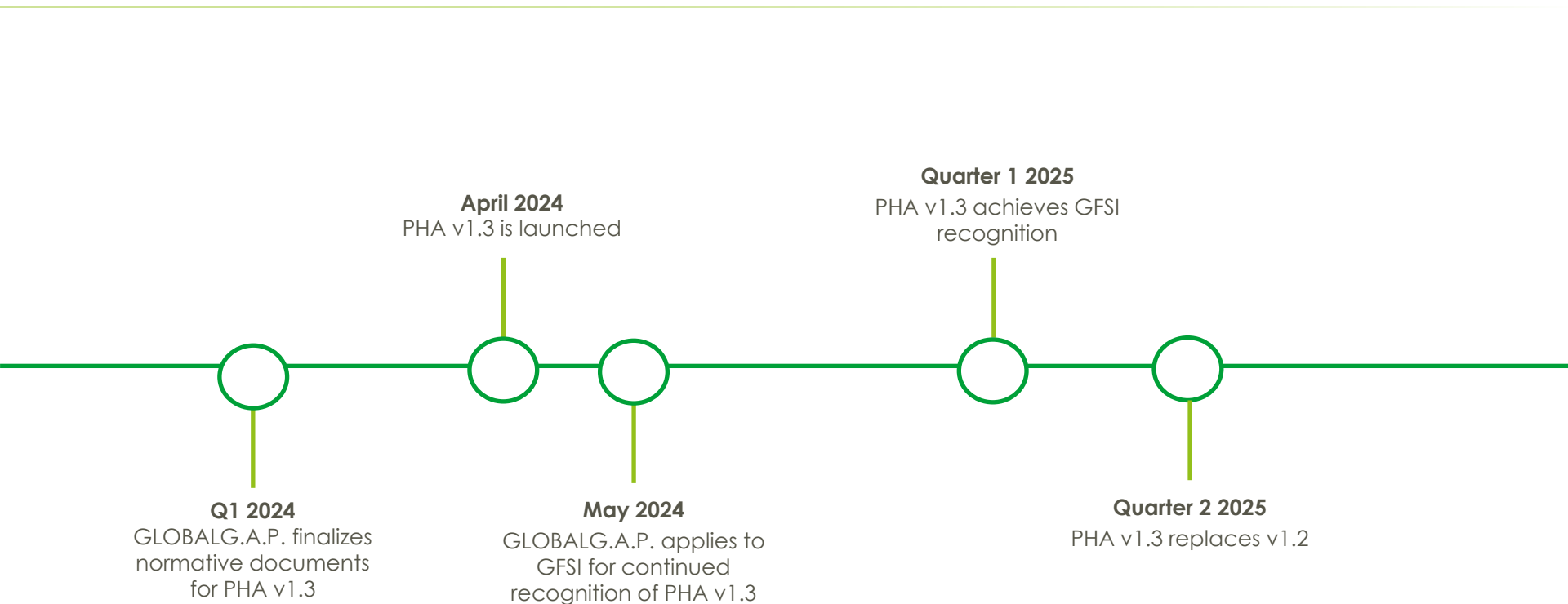
Can be combined with HPSS or IFA certifications





Looking forward in 2024

Harmonized Produce Safety Standards (HPSS)

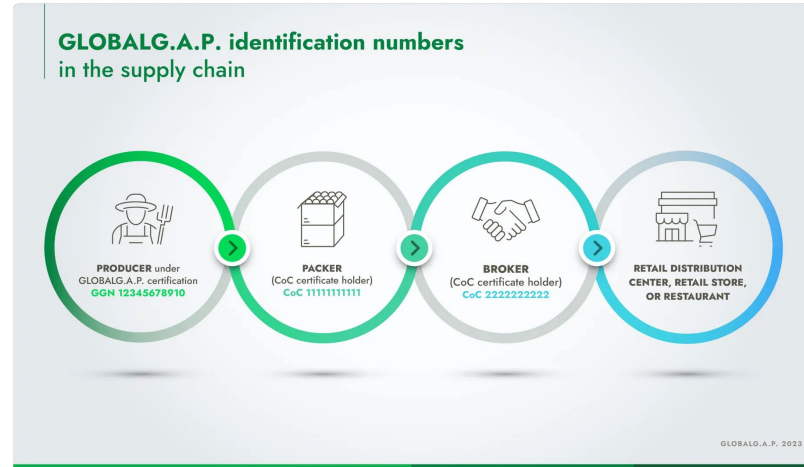




Looking forward in 2024

Chain of Custody (CoC) v6.1

The GLOBALG.A.P. Chain of Custody (CoC) is obligatory for companies that label products with a GLOBALG.A.P. identification number (e.g., GGN, CoC Number), make a GLOBALG.A.P. certification claim, or participate in the GGN label initiative.





Looking forward in 2024

GRASP add-on v2

GRASP Topics:

- Employees' representation
- Complaint procedures
- Self-declaration on Good Social Practice
- Access to National Labor Regulations
- Working contracts
- Pay slips and wages
- Time recording systems
- Working hours





Looking forward in 2024

IFA + GRASP



IFA + GRASP are Aligned with the Ethical Charter

Scored 90% for IFA + GRASP, and the cut off percentage to achieve Certification Programs is 85%

The Ethical Charter in a continuous improvement program and not an Auditing Program. Certification amplifies engagement profile -GOLD star

Ethical Charter Implementation Program





Looking forward in 2024

Workers' Well-being

Available 2025

Workers' well-being standard



Purpose: address stakeholders in the agricultural supply chain who are currently not covered by existing GLOBALG.A.P. farm assurance solutions

- Social, community, and labor
- Community relations
- Legal compliance
- Business ethics

The next public consultation period is scheduled for 2024



Looking forward in 2024

Environmental sustainability solution

Available 2025

Environmental sustainability solution add-on/standard

Purpose: embrace environmental sustainability while avoiding duplication, harmonization with existing sustainability programs, and encouraging the cost-efficient adoption of responsible farming practices

- Water
- Biodiversity
- Greenhouse gases
- Regenerative agriculture
- Food waste
- Metrics
- Footprinting



The next public consultation period March – April 2024



Looking forward in 2024

FSMA 204 and GGN

- Produce Traceability Initiative FSMA 204 Traceability Lot Code Source and Reference Guidance
- Currently part of the IFPA workgroup for FSMA 204
- GGN is listed as a possible TLC source reference, with disclaimer
 - GGN cannot be used for producers that have more than 1 farm location (more than 1 field, orchard, block, etc.), site, or PHU.



Produce Traceability Initiative FSMA 204 Traceability Lot Code Source and Reference Guidance

(Revision: Original)

ABOUT THIS IMPLEMENTATION GUIDANCE

Implementation guidance is generally accepted, informally standardized techniques, methods or processes that have proven themselves over time to accomplish given tasks. The idea is that with proper processes, checks and testing, a desired outcome can be delivered more effectively with fewer problems and unforeseen complications. In addition, implementation guidance can evolve to become better as improvements are discovered. The Produce Traceability Initiative (PTI) is a voluntary U.S. produce initiative. The Implementation Guidance documents are the recommendations created and agreed to by all facets of the produce industry supply chain and PTI Leadership Council.



THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

Questions – Discussion – Contact Us

customer_support@globalgap.org
www.globalgap.org



ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS? CONTACT PJRF SI
WWW.PJRF SI.COM
PJRF SI@PJRF SI.COM
(248) 519-2523



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