

## **GlobalG.A.P. Information Sheet**

GlobalG.A.P. began in 1997 as EUREPGAP as it has grown to become an international standard it is called GlobalG.A.P.

G.A.P stands for Good Agricultural Practices and can apply to all types of farm production. At this time PJRFSI can only offer certification for fruit and vegetables (see product list for product types).

- Widely accepted and largest private sector farm assurance standards organization
- 135,000 [producers](#) under certification and assessment in 120 countries
- 400+ certified [products](#); 23 [standards](#), add-on modules and programs
- 1,350 trained inspectors and auditors working for 140 [certification bodies](#) (approved by 33 accreditation bodies)
- 375 [member](#) organizations across the industry with the shared vision of harmonizing G.A.P. globally
- 1,000 people [trained](#) in 2011: 90 courses, on 5 continents, in 5 languages
- International network of [Farm Assurers](#) to assist producers onsite with the certification process
- Secure, global [certification database](#) ([Brochure](#)) with free public basic search, and advanced search/bookmarking [services](#) for [producers](#) and [retailers](#)
- GLOBALG.A.P. is a business-to-business brand and is not directly visible to consumers.

### **PJRFSI can offer the following GlobalG.A.P. Standards:**

#### **1. Integrated Farm Assurance Standard (IFA) – Crops – Fruit & Vegetables.**

IFA is internationally recognized GFSI benchmarked standard for farm production. It covers food safety and traceability, environment, workers' health, safety and welfare, and animal welfare. It also covers integrated pest management and integrated crop management. Depending on the Option it will also cover Quality Management System (QMS).

Clients can get certified to either:

- Option 1 (Single Producer with or without an optional Quality Management System)
- Option 2 (Multiple Producers with a mandatory Quality Management System)

#### **2. Product Safety Standard (PSS)**

PSS is the perfect option for fruit and vegetables producers seeking food safety certification in the USA and Canadian markets. It is accepted by major national retailers, GFSI Recognized and is an accredited certification. This was created strictly for North America and does not address

the environmental and workers' health, safety, and welfare aspects that are in IFA. It focuses on food safety and traceability/segregation and is only available for Fruit and Vegetables.

Clients can get certified to either:

- Option 1 (Single Producer with or without an optional Quality Management System)
- Option 2 (Multiple Producers with a mandatory Quality Management System)

### **3. Localg.a.p. North America (lgNA) –**

Localg.a.p. was formally Primary Farm Assurance [pfa]) – two tiered stepping stone toward the Integrated Farm Assurance Standard (IFA). It was designed for produce farmers new to the food safety process. It is non-accredited and has 2 tiers. Tier one is called the Foundation Level for producers with few food safety risks who sell primarily on a local level. Tier two is called Intermediate Level and it incorporates stronger food safety criteria, accepted by select national retailers. Once the client moves up a tier they cannot go backward. Also once a client is certified to IFA they cannot have a Localg.a.p. audit.

Clients can get certified to either:

- Option 1 (Single Producer with or without an optional Quality Management System)
- Option 2 (Multiple Producers with a mandatory Quality Management System)

### **What are the different Options?**

#### **Option 1 (Single Producer with or without an optional Quality Management System):**

Option 1 is for a single producer (farm, field, greenhouse etc.) with a single owner or it is for multiple production (farms, fields, greenhouses etc.) that are not separate legal entities and are all centrally managed by the applicant. They have announced inspection of entire scope (all registered sites) every year. This option for multisite either has QMS implemented or it has not.

#### **Option 2 (Multiple Producers with a mandatory Quality Management System):**

Option 2 is for a producer group that is applying for group certification. This means that each producer is separate legal entity. The group, as a legal entity, will be the certificate holder once certified. A group must have a QMS implemented.

## **FAQ's**

### **What is a GlobalG.A.P. Audit Scope?**

Each crop (apples, pears, spinach, carrots etc.) must be listed as part of the scope and audited in order to be GlobalG.A.P. Certified. In order to certify each product the audit must take place during harvest for each individual crop. When multiple crops are being audited they may be

grouped based on similarities in production systems. The CB shall verify all control points of these groupings, before the product(s) can be added to the certificate. For example, a visit during pear harvest is not required when adding pears to the scope when apples are already included in the scope; however, pears can only be added to the certificate once all control points have been verified. On the other hand, adding spinach to the scope would require an assessment during spinach harvest. Please refer to the FRUIT and VEGETABLE Product list for applicable products.

### **Can farms produce both certified and uncertified product?**

Yes, it is called parallel production. This means that a farm can produce both GlobalG.A.P. Certified carrots and uncertified carrots but they must be separated in production. Farms can also produce certified carrots and uncertified potatoes and the potatoes will not be listed on the certificate.

### **Can farms also certify their packing house?**

Yes, the packing house will also be included in the audit if it is owned by the legal entity that owns the farm or if it is part of the producer group. A packing house without a farm cannot be certified for GlobalG.A.P. and should pursue another GFSI standard like BRC, IFS, or SQF.

### **Can producers buy uncertified products?**

Yes, it is called parallel ownership. This is where producers will buy non-certified products of the same products they grow under production. Example: a producer or producer group member grows certified apples and buys non-certified apples. This is usually to meet an order when there are crop shortfalls and their customer does not require GlobalG.A.P. certified product.

### **Can packing house process both GlobalG.A.P. certified and uncertified products?**

Yes, during processing, storage and distribution certified and uncertified product must be segregated at all times (input, process, output) and segregation and provision have been put in place through procedures and records.

## Helpful Links

FAQ - [http://www1.globalgap.org/north-america/front\\_content.php?idart=2261](http://www1.globalgap.org/north-america/front_content.php?idart=2261)

GlobalG.A.P. North America - [http://www1.globalgap.org/north-america/front\\_content.php](http://www1.globalgap.org/north-america/front_content.php)

GlobalG.A.P. International - [http://www.globalgap.org/uk\\_en/](http://www.globalgap.org/uk_en/)