



# PRESS RELEASE

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## New Rules Published For 150,000 GLOBALG.A.P. Producers

### **GLOBALG.A.P. has updated its farm and feed standards and regulations to Version 5**

The GLOBALG.A.P. Board has announced the introduction of the update to Version 5 of its Integrated Farm Assurance Standard for Crops and Aquaculture. The update follows a four year routine cycle of continuous improvement, and with respect to stakeholder involvement and impact, the current revision has been the most comprehensive amendment to date. It will have a direct and significant effect on all 150,000 producers around the world certified in accordance with GLOBALG.A.P.

The new version is applicable immediately as early update choice in parallel to the current Version 4 and will be mandatory for all new and recertification audits by 1st July 2016. The biggest revision in the history of GLOBALG.A.P. now incorporates the latest research as well as government requirements including compliance with proposed rules by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration as well as EU Food Safety Law. This once again underlines the fact that, although GLOBALG.A.P. is a private standard, it strives to incorporate applicable public and/or governmental guidelines and responds to new trends and threats in the Fruit & Vegetables, Feedstock and Aquaculture industries. In particular the update also addresses the issue of microbial risks.

GLOBALG.A.P. Board Member Hugh Mowat from Wm Morrison Supermarkets Plc points out: "Food safety has always been a key platform of the GLOBALG.A.P. Standard and GLOBALG.A.P. has undoubtedly made a major contribution toward maintaining consumer safety since its inception in 1996. In the light of ongoing food safety scares resulting from microbial contamination, GLOBALG.A.P. has now been taking a proactive approach to strengthen existing controls. These changes are science-based and will support growers by providing a safe framework within which to grow food, as well as protecting them in the event of an incident."

The update is also based on the roughly 2,000 comments from all continents received during the two public consultation periods. These were then reviewed by technical committees in extensive, time-consuming consultation to assess applicability and implementability. Ignacio Antequera, Technical Key Accounts, GLOBALG.A.P. explains: "All of this major effort of Revision V5 would not have been possible without tremendous time commitment of all our committee members. For the last 4 years they invested a total of more than 2,600 expert hours. More than 110 organizations were represented in more than 70 days of meetings and webinars. I sincerely wish to thank all the stakeholders for their time and effort they have put in to make this revision a success."

Guy Callebaut, Vice-Chairman of the Board VBT/BelOrta, Grower, and Chairman of GLOBALG.A.P., goes on: "The new Version 5 addresses major risks and trends in addition to food safety, e.g. the sustainable use of water. With this comprehensive revision and our global spread we have strengthened our position as a global reference standard for good agricultural practices. We are also continuing to work against the trend of double standards and to contribute to the harmonization of standards in order to create incentives for farmers around the world to undertake safe and sustainable production."



Read more about Version 5 and download the IFA Standard Documents for V5 [here](#).

### **About GLOBALG.A.P.**

GLOBALG.A.P. is a leading global certification program whose mission is to bring farmers and retailers together to produce and market safe food to protect scarce resources and build a sustainable future.

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