GLOBALG.A.P. General Regulations

Rules for Parallel Ownership

ENGLISH VERSION 6.0_APR25

PUBLISHED ON: 1 APRIL 2025

VALID FROM: 1 APRIL 2025

REPLACES VERSION 5.2 AS OF: 1 JANUARY 2024

REPLACES VERSION 5.4-1-GFS AS OF: 1 JANUARY 2025

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1   INTRODUCTION

This document, part of the GLOBALG.A.P. general regulations (GR), applies to the Integrated Farm Assurance version 6 Smart (IFA Smart) edition, the Integrated Farm Assurance version 6 GFS (IFA GFS) edition, and the Harmonized Produce Safety Standard (HPSS).

The term "shall" is used throughout the GLOBALG.A.P. normative documents to indicate mandatory provisions.

For the sake of simplicity, in this document the terms "certified product" and "certified individual producer/producer group" will be used. However, products and individual producers/producer groups are not certified. "Certified product" refers instead to a product originating from a certified production process. "Certified individual producer/producer group" refers to an individual producer/producer group whose production process has been certified.

Note: In previous versions parallel ownership was referred to as parallel production (PP) and parallel ownership (PO). In this version it is now collectively called parallel ownership (PO).

In cases of PO, individual producers, producer groups, or producer group members own the same product partly as GLOBALG.A.P. certified and partly as noncertified. This can occur if they produce or buy noncertified products of the same product they produce and have registered for certification.

If not all members of a producer group producing a product that is registered for certification are included in the scope of the certificate, PO also applies.

The following are not considered cases of PO:

- An individual producer produces one product as certified and another product as noncertified (e.g., apples certified and pears noncertified).

- An individual producer/producer group buys additional certified products from another GLOBALG.A.P. certified producer(s).

- A certified producer handles products for noncertified producers as a subcontractor (i.e., the certified producer does not buy the noncertified products).

2   REGISTRATION

Any applicant owning certified and noncertified products (of the same product) at any time shall register for PO. In addition to the requirements in "GLOBALG.A.P. registration data requirements," PO shall be declared for each product to which it applies.

If an applicant wants to register for PO at the beginning of the season because they are not sure whether they will buy or produce noncertified products as well (and they didn't have PO in the previous season), CBs shall assess whether the traceability and segregation procedures are in place and ready for implementation. Once the purchase or harvest of noncertified products begins, the individual producer/producer group shall immediately inform their CBs, and CBs shall require evidence of implementation of traceability and segregation procedures (by documentation or by on-site CB audit).

3   PRODUCT IDENTIFICATION AND LABELING

The GLOBALG.A.P. identification number (e.g., GGN_1234567890123) is used to validate the certificate. The GLOBALG.A.P. identification number consists of a prefix identifying the specific standard followed by a 13-digit number automatically generated by the GLOBALG.A.P. IT platform.

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The individual producer/producer group registered for PO shall identify all final ready-to-be-sold products (either from farm level or after product handling) with the individual producer's/producer group's GLOBALG.A.P. identification number if the product is certified. The GLOBALG.A.P. identification number shall not be used to label noncertified products.

In the cases of multisite producers with a QMS and producer groups, the QMS shall ensure correct use of the GLOBALG.A.P. identification number.

In the case of IFA v6 Smart and IFA v6 GFS producer groups, the GLOBALG.A.P. identification number used to identify all final ready-to-be-sold products can be the one of the producer group, the one of the producer group member who produced the product, or both identification numbers. If producer group members pack and label the product, the producer group may require those members to include the producer group's GLOBALG.A.P. identification number, with or without the identification number of the particular producer group member. In the case of individual producers (multisite or not), the GLOBALG.A.P. identification number shall be the one of the individual producer. The GLOBALG.A.P. identification number shall be used on the smallest individually packed unit, regardless of whether this unit is final consumer packaging or not.

PO shall be specified on the individual producer's/producer group's certificate and shall be visible in the online validation of the GLOBALG.A.P. IT platform.

4   ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

All products shall be traceable to the respective production site/product handling unit (PHU), and certified and noncertified products shall be fully segregated at all times. The individual producer/producer group shall be able to demonstrate that their traceability and recording system guarantees full traceability and segregation.

The CB audit report shall contain information on PO and its implementation.

Certified and noncertified products can be handled within the same PHU.

Production of certified and noncertified products in one production site is not allowed.

In the aquaculture scope, although the production of certified and noncertified products on the same production site is not allowed, the GLOBALG.A.P. Secretariat may grant exceptions on a case-by-case basis.

In the plants scope, production of certified and noncertified products in the same production site is not allowed unless there are distinctive visible differences detectable by the average consumer between the certified and noncertified products (e.g., cherry tomatoes vs. Roma tomatoes).

For the flowers and ornamentals category, PO definitions are as follows:

PO is applicable if an individual producer, producer group, or producer group member produces the same species partly as certified and partly as noncertified. It is also applicable if not all the members of a producer group producing a species that is registered for certification are included in the scope of the certificate.

> Example: A producer grows roses, and only a part of the rose production is certified.

If an individual producer, producer group, or producer group member produces one species as certified and another species as noncertified, this is not considered a case of PO.

> Example: A producer grows roses as certified and carnations as noncertified.

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If an individual producer, producer group, or producer group member buys noncertified products of the same species they grow under certified production, this is considered a case of PO.

> Example: A producer grows certified roses and buys noncertified roses from one or more other producers.

5 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON PO IN THE GLOBALG.A.P. CERTIFICATE

PO is an attribute to be included for each product in the GLOBALG.A.P. certificate, where applicable. In this case, all producer group members or production sites and PHUs with certified products shall be listed in the certificate annex.

Certified products shall always be listed according to the GLOBALG.A.P. product list. In the case of PO, more detailed information shall be included: Variety (e.g., banana – Cavendish) or species (e.g., indoor grown flowers – roses).

In the certificate annex, PO shall be declared per producer group member, production site, and/or PHU, and per product.

6 ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR IFA V6 GFS

Having IFA v6 Smart and IFA v6 GFS certification at the same time is not considered PO. However, whenever a need arises to identify and segregate the certified product according to the IFA v6 Smart and IFA v6 GFS editions, the individual producer/producer group shall use the GLOBALG.A.P. identification number for IFA v6 Smart (e.g., GGN_1234567890123) and the GLOBALG.A.P. identification number with GFS extension for IFA v6 GFS (e.g., GGN_1234567890123_GFS).

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VERSION/EDITION UPDATE REGISTER

New document	Replaced document	Date of publication	Description of modifications
250401_GG_GR_Rules _for_PO_v6_0_Apr25_en	240902_GG_GR_Rules _for_PO_v6_0_Aug24_ en	1 April 2025	Term "GLOBALG.A.P. IT systems" replaced with "GLOBALG.A.P. IT platform"

If you want to receive more information on the modifications in this document, please contact the GLOBALG.A.P. Secretariat at standard_support@globalgap.org.

If the changes do not introduce new requirements to the standard, the version will remain "5.0" and an edition update shall be indicated with "5.0-x". If the changes do affect compliance with the standard, the version name will change to "5.x". A new version, e.g., v6.0, v7.0, etc., will always affect the accreditation of the standard.

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