



**GLOBALG.A.P. INTEGRATED FARM ASSURANCE (IFA)
FRUIT and VEGETABLES CERTIFICATION
or
PRODUCE SAFETY STANDARD (PSS) – for U.S.A. and Canada**

HARMONIZED PRODUCE SAFETY STANDARD (HPSS) – for the American continent

OVERVIEW OF THE STEPS TO OBTAIN CERTIFICATION

Procedure following GLOBALG.A.P. General Regulations:

1. Producer gathers information and sends Application form to QCS.

2. QCS makes offer and contract is signed.

3. Audit of the facility(ies) is conducted on agreed date(s).*

- 3a. If non-compliances are found leading to non-conformance with the standard; then, the producer takes corrective actions and QCS must verify them.

4. Compliance found and Certification decision is positive; then, Certificate is granted.

5. One yearly visit to renew certificate (additional unannounced visits as required).

* Control points in this standard are classified as: Major Must, Minor Must and Recommendations. The facility(ies) should meet compliance with 100% of the Major Must and 95% of the applicable Minor Must control points.

This document is not intended as a substitute for a complete reading and understanding of the GLOBALG.A.P. general regulations and standards that may be downloaded free of charge at <http://www.globalgap.org>

QCS is an ISO Guide 17065 accredited certifying agent. QCS cannot provide consultation services.

For additional information contact:

Quality Certification Services
PO Box 12311
Gainesville, Florida 32604-0311
352-377-0133

qcs@qcsinfo.org / www.qcsinfo.org



QCS Crops Fee Schedule for GLOBALG.A.P. Certification

The following information is intended to provide guidance of certification cost for producers. All fees are due annually for recertification before certificate expiration date. Additional fees for additional services may apply.

GLOBALG.A.P. Registration Fees according to applicable and current general GLOBALG.A.P. fee table.

Area under production: Covered Crops*

Area under production: Non-covered Crops

Note: The Producer Registration Fee is calculated based on the area registered under "First Harvest". Any surface that is used more than once in an annual certification cycle shall be registered as "Further Harvest" and will not be subject to additional producer registration fee.

*Covered crop is primarily intended to mean, "Produced in a greenhouse". A crop is considered "covered" when it is grown beneath or within a structure – with or without building foundations – where the cropping environment has some kind of overhead protection (not including individual plant/tree covers, nets, low tunnels, hail protection, mulches or anything that is not a greenhouse) during the production of that crop. The cover can be made of plastic, glass or other similar materials, and must be accessible by persons (walk-in possible). Any farm can have part of its crop covered and another part not covered, but this must be declared separately at registration, detailing the sum of the respective areas (covered or not covered) according to the definition above. Any other production is considered as "non-covered crop".

QCS DESCRIPTION OF FEES AND REFUND POLICY

Certification Fee: Certification Fee is the base annual fee due each year for certification. The amount to be paid depends on the selected certification Option chosen in the application form and the complexity of the operation. This fee may range from \$500 to \$650. This fee is in addition to the inspection fees charged. Certification fee is due at the time of contract signing (1st year) and before certificate expiration date in subsequent years for timely renewal. Certification fee is nonrefundable.

Inspection Fees: Inspection fees vary based upon the size and complexity of the operation inspected, the distance that must be traveled and the individual inspector/auditor assigned. All travel expenses are paid by the party to be inspected as well. Generally, inspection/audit fees can be expected to range between \$700 and \$960 per day of inspection. For a more detailed estimate please send us a completed application form.

A 50% deposit (75% for international clients) is due at the time of contract signing (1st year) and before certificate expiration date in subsequent years for timely renewal. The balance not covered by the deposit will be invoiced at the conclusion of the inspection/audit. Upon withdrawal of application and written request, the deposit minus incurred administrative costs is refundable before inspection takes place. All invoiced inspection fees are to be paid and are nonrefundable after inspection/audit has taken place.