

APEDA/ORG/ADV./205/2012-13/08

Ref. No: APEDA/ORG/Advisory note

Date: 19.7.2012

Dear Certification Bodies,

You are aware for bringing in uniformity in all the certification programmes operated by CBs under NPOP and NOP, we are further strengthening the traceability in the product flow through the Tracenet operations. We appreciate your cooperation in our endeavors in establishing trace ability in organic products

Kindly recall our recent interactions with you on important issues related to Trace net operations on first June 2012 at APEDA.

The following issues were deliberated, discussed and agreed related to Tracenet:

1. Mandatory requirement to enter the name of the ICS, exact location and address of ICS operations in Tracenet.

Presently, details of different ICS under the same mandator (operator) are being entered as ICS 1, ICS 2, ICS 3 etc. without providing the full name of the ICS, (exact located details (village,taluk tehsil) etc). The address of ICS is been given as the mandator's address. This is resulting in inconsistent data creation and wrong MIS reports.

CBs agreed to instruct the ICS to enter their specific name, address with exact location (village, taluk, and tehsil in tracenet.

This requirement is to be implemented with immediate effective by operators

2. Mandatory to provide PAN No of each operator in the chain of custody for generating unique code

For maintaining the traceability of the product flow every individual farmer/processor, exporter/trader and ICS is required to have a unique code No and to establish this requirement the operator is required to provide the PAN No./IE Code No./registration no. etc during registration on tracenet

ICS operating under the mandators are required to register themselves as a group to meet this requirement. CB to instruct the mandators and ICS accordingly.

Please note one month time is given to all existing ICS ie till 1 st week of August 2012 to fulfill this the requirement. For verifying the authenticity of ICS registration a copy should be submitted to the CBs by the operators. For the existing individual operators (farmer, processor, trader and exporter) this requirement will be effective from in August 2012.

3. Addition of products by Traders

Presently, the traders do not have the option to add the products in the Tracenet, .At the request of CBs, a provision has been made in the tracenet now for the traders to add products themselves .CBs are required to approve the products after verification

This activity for creation of this facility is in process and will be informed to you after completion.

4. Facility for MIS reports to CBs

At the request of the CBs, APEDA has decided to make the provision for the CBs to get the MIS report of the operators under their respective certification.

For making this provision you are advised to provide us the formats (*what information you would like to have in the MIS report of your operators*) to enable our software team to design the specific format in the software.

5. Facility to de-activate operator registered

Presently the provision to cancel/ deactivate of the operator is available only after the scope certificate is issued. At the request of the CBS we are extending this provision to cancel for the defaulted operators who have discontinued due to various reasons.

This provision will be made effective by August 2012.

6. New provision in ICS module

- Provision in tracenet to separate the list of farmers having more than 4 Ha after the list of farmers of ICS is updated
- Provision of square root formula for selection of farmers for sample inspection to the CB
- Provision in the tracenet that the sample selection will not cover the farmers of holding 4 ha.
- The selection of the farmers for sample would indicate the farmers code no. and NCs reported in the ICS internal inspection.
- Provisions of separate inspection report by the CB for farmers having 4 ha area and above.

This provision will be made effective by August 2012.

7. Internal inspection report

It has been observed that all the ICS are not entering the internal inspection reports of their farmers (farmer wise) on the tracenet. CB have to check the entries on tracenet of internal inspection report to enable them to select the sample farmers (Square root of ICS farmers) based on the risk assessment for inspection before they plan physical inspections.

This provision will be made effective by August 2012.

8. Batch creation for subcontracted processing unit

Presently, one scope is generated for the operator for processing with the details of the subcontracted unit in the annex. The facility to create the batch of the subcontracted units is presently not available. Therefore, a provision has been created in Tracenet for creating batches of the subcontracted processing unit

This provision has been made effective since 1 st July 2012.

Looking forward to your full cooperation. Together we can make a difference in maintaining credibility and uniqueness and in our country's organic certification.

With best regards,

Yours faithfully



(P V S M Gouri)
Advisor NAB