

Dear Certification Bodies,

This has reference to the **issues discussed and agreed during the meeting** with the certification bodies (CB's) held on 4th July 2014 (minutes circulated on 24th July, 2014).

1. Ratio of Internal Inspectors Vs farmers in the ICS

One internal inspector for 50 to 60 farmers for building up the capacity of the farmers and strengthening the internal control system.

2. Authentic document for verification of certification for wild collection produce

For authenticity of the area of wild collection, wherever community rights are recognized under FRA, 2006, for collection by the community, Gram Sabha letter will be accepted.

3. Third Party Sampling and Testing

- 5% of the operator handled by the CB shall be subjected to sampling and testing every year.
- 5% sampling for the requirement of EU and all NOP certified product should also be tested separately (5%)

4. Conversion Period

The conversion period will be considered to have started from the date of first inspection by the CB.

5. Verification for NOP requirements

While verification of operators for NOP requirements the CBs will mention the NOP clauses in the inspection and certification documents.

6. Mandatory testing of high risk products such as soyabean, sugarcane, fennel, cumin and sesame.

- The Certification Body shall verify the above standing crops and draw samples for testing.
- Mandatory sampling and testing of 10% of their certified organic operators (producers and traders) covering the above said products at post harvest stage and during export, which will be addition to the annual sampling policy of the CB.
- The Evaluation Committee shall verify the grower groups producing these crops, processors and traders during unannounced audit and draw samples for testing.

7. Provisional TCs for export

- CBs will issue the provisional TCs before the consignment is shipped. Provision is being made on tracenet for issuance of provisional TC before export of the consignment.
- The provisional TC will accompany the consignment for verification at the Indian customs.
- After getting the shipping details, the original TC will also be issued to the exporter within 30 days from issuance of the provisional TC which could be sent to the importer directly.
- After the provisional TC is issued on the Tracenet, the quantity of export will be deducted from the stock.
- The format for Provisional TC will be the same except for the shipping details.
- The issuance of provisional TC will be in built in the Tracenet and stock will automatically be reduced as in case of final TC.

The CBs are requested to take necessary action.

Regards

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