

APEDA / ORU / ADV. / 205 / 2013-14 / 20

Advisory note on NOP compliance verification by CBs for NOP certification
i

PVSM Gouri

Sent: Thursday, June 13, 2013 4:49 PM

To: sandeep@onecertasia.com; scsinfo@in.bureauveritas.com; anil.jadhav@ecocert.com; imoind@vsnl.com; info@indocert.org; info@laconindia.com; nocaindia@gmail.com; cuc@controlunion.in; info@usoca.org; rocajpr.cb@gmail.com; voca_org@yahoo.com; foodcert@foodcert.in; aditiorganic@gmail.com; cgcert@gmail.com; tnocdcbe@gmail.com; ashish.gaur@intertek.com; mumbai@tuv-nord.com; md.mpsoca@gmail.com; info@biocertindia.com; eia-delhi@eicindia.gov.in; directorossca@rediffmail.com; aocacert@gmail.com; amresh.pandey@sgs.com; profdrkkk@yahoo.com; ota@otaindia.in

Cc: Director; Saswati Bose; Reeba Abraham

Dear Certification Bodies,

APEDA has been receiving requests from the CBs as well as Operators to allow issuance of NOP Certificates since the farm has converted 3 years of Organic Status as per NPOP. We have verified the inspection details entered on tracenet by the Certification Bodies which clearly indicate that they have not verified the NOP requirements such as manure preparation, time of application of Manures, pest repellants, preparation of Biomanures used on the farm etc for NOP Certification.

Kindly refer to our letters of 4th April and 18th April 2011 after the USDA NOP review visit to India in January 2011, where in we had informed all the CBs regarding the US NOP observation on use of manures, cow urine and organic herbal pest repellents as well on the labels and panels for NOP compliance verification. This was followed by an advisory note that separate documents for NOP Certification is required to be maintained by the CBs.

From the tracenet, it clearly appears that these instructions have not being followed with an understanding that NOP becomes automatic if NPOP is in compliance without verifying NOP compliance of the project. In view of the above, the CBs and Operators should understand the requirements of NOP and follow strictly without interpretation of the Standards. You are required to explain the same to all the NOP operators registered under you.

If the above is not followed in future, NAB may take a strict view on extending NOP accreditation.

Dr. PVSM Gouri
Advisor
National Accreditation Body
NPOP