

**Release No. 76**

**Addressed to:** Organization certified on GLOBALG.A.P. IFA v5.2 and Stakeholders

**Date:** July 23rd, 2025

**GLOBALG.A.P. transition  
from IFA v5.2 to IFA v6 SMART  
(Scopes: Plant Propagation Material and Combinable Crops)**

**GLOBALG.A.P. IFA** for the scopes **Plant Propagation Material** and **Combinable Crops**, is currently undergoing an update and transition period. This transition corresponds from IFA v5.2 to its new IFA v6 SMART, which was published on July 08<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

**1.- Transition timeline**

Global Standards will be managing the following transition period to ensure compliance with the dates set by scheme owner GLOBALG.A.P.:

- Audits under the requirements of the new IFA v6 SMART may begin being performed as of December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025.
- Audits under the requirements of IFA v5.2 may be carried out until April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2026.
- ALL audits as of May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2026 shall be performed under the new IFA v6 SMART requirements.

**2.- Certificates validity**

- Certificates issued for IFA v5.2 shall be valid for the full one cycle year described on the certificate.
- No certificate issued for IFA v5.2 shall be valid after April 30<sup>th</sup> 2027.

**3.- Main reasons for the update to IFA v6 SMART**

The main reason for updating the IFA v5.2 standards in the Plant Propagating Material and Combinable Crops scopes to IFA v6 SMART is the alignment with the rest of the IFA v6 standards in terms of environmental responsibility, worker health and safety criteria.

**4.- Main changes to IFA v6 SMART**

- **Plant Propagation Material**
  - The plant propagation material product category is delinked from the topic of food safety, therefore products certified as plant propagation material cannot claim food safety.
  - In addition to good agricultural practices, a specific focus is added to the traceability of propagation material and the plant health of the propagation material obtained.
  - A new Principle and Criteria is added that requires the producer to be aware of the risks and critical steps in production to control the traceability, origin and plant health of the propagation material.
- **Combinable crops.**
  - Alignment with IFA v6 standards and more specifically with IFA v6 SMART for fruit and vegetable scopes.
  - Topics like environmental responsibility, workers' health, safety and welfare as well as elements on food safety, production processes and traceability.
  - Principles and criteria (P&Cs) specific to the postharvest handling and long-term storage of combinable crops have been addressed in v6 SMART.

## 5.- Informative Resources

- **GLOBALG.A.P. Document Center**  
GLOBALG.A.P.'s portal with the entire documentation for free consult referring to IFA v5.2 and IFA v6 SMART.  
<https://www.globalgap.org/search/?area=documents&offset=0&q=>
- **IFA v6 standards for combinable crops and plant propagation material set for launch**  
Informative communication by GLOBALG.A.P. mentioning transition timelines.  
<https://www.globalgap.org/news-and-press/ifa-v6-cc-ppm-launch/>

## 6.- Communication with clients

In accordance with the transition process, Global Standards considers the following forms of communication with customers:

- Notices (sent by email to all certified customers).
- Website (transition rules, releases and FAQs).

In order to validate the effectiveness of communication, Global Standards will monitor users' frequently asked questions on the website. All transition process requirements described in this release are based on Scheme Owner GLOBALG.A.P.; however, there may be additional requirements set by the Accreditation Bodies.

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**Best regards**

Certification Committee | **Global Standards S.C.**

END OF RELEASE NO.76