

# AGROCERT

**Trust | Quality | Value**

*Safe Food and Sustainable Agriculture Initiative*



*Certification division of*



भारतीय कृषि एवं खाद्य परिषद्  
**INDIAN COUNCIL OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE**

[www.agrocert.in](http://www.agrocert.in) | [www.icfa.org.in](http://www.icfa.org.in)

## ABOUT US

Indian council of food and agriculture is the apex organisation in India, working on policy research and agenda, agribusiness and trade facilitation, crop stewardships projects and as global platform for partnerships towards empowering farmers. ICFA aims to foster convergence and greater cooperation among different stakeholders and work towards bringing India aggressively into the loop of global trade and commerce.

AGROCERT is an inspection and certification division of ICFA towards promoting sustainable agriculture and safe food production through crop stewardship and certification. AGROCERT is approved by Quality council of India (QCI) for its INDIA Good Agriculture Practices (INDGAP) Certification Scheme in conformity with ISO/IEC 17065:2012. The fundamental objective of laying down the criteria is to strengthen Good Agriculture Practices (GAP) in the country. ICFA provides third party certification to farmers, farm entrepreneurs and producer groups in the horticulture sector, who will be maintaining their field operations and activities in accordance with the Good Agriculture Practices certification scheme.

With a team of experienced professionals from the field of agriculture and QA sectors and global brand of ICFA, AGROCERT leads in providing of certification service to producers and producer organizations. In addition, the organization also aims to improving the yield and quality of the farm produce, reduce the load of chemicals in crops and guarantee safe & quality products to the consumers through certification and minimizing threat to human health and environment as well as more remunerative returns to the farmers.



## VISION

“To be the pioneer certification body in India with international standards and promote good practices in sustainable manner for maintaining quality and food safety of agricultural produce.”



## MISSION

Cultivating the habit of Good Agriculture Practices among farmers to promote environment friendly and sustainable agriculture in India and making certification process so simple and affordable that every farmer participates and benefits from this process.

## OUR OBJECTIVES

- To provide consistent quality in certification services to clients.
- To provide transparency in certification service without any discrimination on the farm size, geography, farmers type etc.
- Ensuring effective corrective actions on Customer Complaints.
- To enhance the competence of personnel engaged in the certification process.
- Ensure timely delivery of certification service.
- To ensure and maintain the confidentiality of our client's information.
- To make continuous efforts for the improvement of certification schemes to enriching experience of all stakeholders.
- To gradually bring all horticultural crops and commercial field crops under GAP certification
- To improve incomes and profitability of farmers through better customer connect and adoption of sustainable farming methods



## OUR QUALITY POLICY

- AGROCERT is committed to providing high quality, affordable, reliable, efficient and timely inspection and certification services to its clients.
- AGROCERT complies with the standard certification norms and also fulfills the requirement as per ISO/IEC 17065:2012 standards.
- AGROCERT is committed to enhancing the customer satisfaction with quality services.
- AGROCERT guarantees to maintain the confidentiality of the services and the information provided by the clients.
- AGROCERT is conscious about its responsibility towards safety, health, and environment.
- AGROCERT ensures that audit and inspection is done strictly as per the certification norms.
- AGROCERT is committed to complying with all legal, regulatory and other requirements in respect of certification activities.
- AGROCERT shall endeavor to build a heritage of commitment and excellence to be the most trustworthy choice of customer.

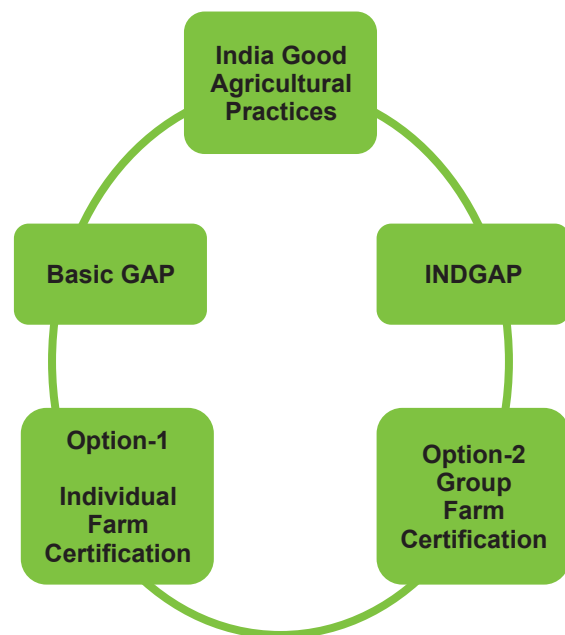


# OUR CERTIFICATION SCHEME

## India Good Agriculture Practices (INDGAP)

India Good Agricultural Practices (INDGAP) certification scheme has been developed by Quality Council of India to strengthen Good Agriculture Practices in India. The scheme is aligned as per ISO17065, the international standard for product / process certification requirements, complete with Certification and Accreditation framework. The scheme is developed in consideration to the domestic as well as the international market. The scheme is not only meant for large farm holder but small and marginal farmers, who can also reap the benefits from this scheme.

The focus of INDGAP is to address the quality and quantity of the produce obtained from a unit area but also to focus on various aspects of food safety, pre-and post-harvest practices including workers health and safety ensure sustained supply of produce of the desirable quality. While the scope of INDGAP covers all agriculture farm produce, it is structured in a manner to address the small and marginal farmers by developing certification criteria suiting their needs as Basic GAP to allow them a phased approach to international GAP while for the bigger farmers and large farms INDGAP certification criteria has been designed, which they can go for straight away adoption.



## Why INDGAP

- INDGAP helps production of safe food at primary production level by eliminating chances of entrance of contaminants like pesticide residues, veterinary (antibiotic) drug residues, metallic residues, aflatoxin residues, microbiological contaminants.
- It increases the awareness amongst the farmers on the importance of Soil Analysis, Water Testing, Planning of Crops, Judicious Use of Agri Inputs, Crop Management and Harvesting.
- It has measurable improvements in terms of increased productivity, quality of the produce and Income levels.
- Many processors, exporters, retailers and food service buyers increasingly demanding GAP certified material

## Benefits of Certification

- Enable farm produce to be internationally competitive, incorporating the concept of globally accepted GAP is imperative to innovative farmer practices.
- Better price realization of the produce, which provides a competitive edge in domestic and overseas marketing.
- Secures and strengthens the livelihood of small and marginal farmers.
- Ensuring safety and quality of produce in the food chain.
- Capturing new market advantages by modifying supply chain governance.
- Improving natural resources use, workers health and working conditions, and/or
- Creating new market opportunities for farmers and exporters.
- Greater trust among producers, marketers and consumers

## Main components of GAP

- Soil amendments and manuring
- Planting Material
- Water management
- Pesticides and their use
- Worker health safety and training
- Harvesting practices and field sanitation
- Traceability and record keeping

# OUR CERTIFICATION PROCESS

## Scope of Certification

The scope covers the production, harvesting and post-harvest handling of farm produce on farm and postharvest handling in locations off farm, where produce is packed for sale. It provides for an option to the farmers, depending upon their current practices and resources, to adopt INDGAP. The produce can be used to cater to domestic requirements or harmonized with similar international standards for meeting export commitments. ICFA provided INDGAP certification as per QCI Certification and in conformity with ISO/IEC 17065:2012.

## Certification System

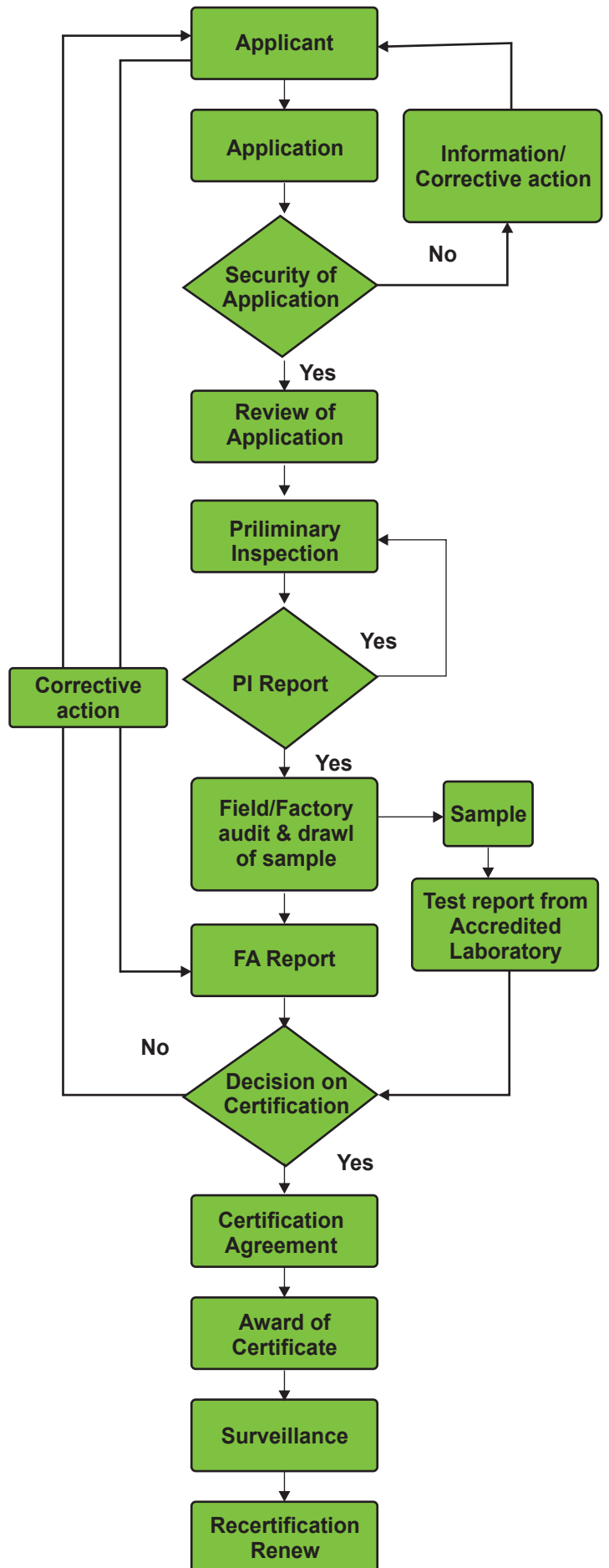
It works on Critical Points and Compliance Criteria which is required to be followed by the individual producer or a producer group for certification purposes. The compliance criteria given are for the farm produce that is cultivated and harvested for direct human consumption or for further processing for human consumption by food industry.



## Compliance to control points

To achieve certification the producer must demonstrate compliance level of the Control Points and Compliance Criteria to the levels mentioned in the Quality Manual. These criteria are divided into main sections and have a definite effect on the quality of the produce and should, therefore, be complied with.

## Operation of Certification System





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