

IFA LIVESTOCK V5.2 STATUS

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

The following Q&A responds to issues which have been raised at the moment of writing this document. We are aware that there will also be questions, specifically about the rules and continuity of the standard, which can only be answered as we progress through the separation of the livestock standard from the IFA family of standards and GLOBALG.A.P. ownership.

General

Q1: Why has FoodPLUS GmbH made the decision to not release an IFA livestock standard for version 6?

A1: While the IFA v5.2 livestock standard is robust and complete, it requires an update to continue being the best global response to the new challenges the industry is facing in terms of offering guarantees of safe and sustainable animal production.

Having analyzed the prospects of our IFA livestock standard and accepted that the projected outcome did not suggest an opportunity to become the global mainstream and reference standard in this sector, we have decided *not* to invest in an upgrade of our current IFA livestock standard from version 5 to version 6.

The standard development procedure is very resource-intensive, and we at GLOBALG.A.P. are in a phase of introducing big changes in our product and services portfolio as part of the launch of our smart farm assurance solutions approach.

We believe that by detaching the livestock standard from the IFA family and from GLOBALG.A.P. ownership, we provide the industry the opportunity to make a timely adaptation of the standard to the current needs, free from ties to the minimum requirements that all IFA standards shall include.

Q2: Does this decision imply that FoodPLUS GmbH withdraws from its activities related to livestock production?

A2: We are not withdrawing completely, but limiting the offering. We remain dedicated to offering solutions that contribute to safe and sustainable agriculture and supply chains. This includes maintaining the certification of compound feed manufacturers who produce feed for the livestock sector, the possibility of acting as an Assurance Service Provider for third-party livestock standards, and more.

Q3: How does this decision affect the GGN label pilot exclusive for livestock products?

A3: Producers who may be using the GGN label pilot exclusive for livestock may continue using it until the end of validity of their certificates, at the latest 30 December 2024.

Any use of the GGN label for livestock shall be discontinued after that date because its use is directly connected to the certification of the IFA standard.

Q4: How does this decision affect GLOBALG.A.P. community membership?

A4: There is no change in this regard. Livestock companies who want to show their support to the work of GLOBALG.A.P. may remain or become GLOBALG.A.P. community members also beyond the end of the transition period.

Certification and accreditation

Q5: When is the last date that a livestock producer will be able to become certified to IFA v5.2?

A5: The deadline has been set to 31 December 2023.

Q6: When is the last possible date of validity of an IFA v5.2 livestock certificate?

A6: All certificates issued until 31 December 2023 will be valid for 12 months with a maximum validity date of 30 December 2024. No extensions of IFA v5.2 certificates will be possible beyond this date.

Q7: Shall certification bodies (CBs) maintain their accreditation for IFA v5.2 for livestock?

A7: Certification bodies with valid IFA v5.2 certificates shall maintain their accreditation until all the issued IFA livestock v5.2 certificates expire (i.e., latest possible date of 30 December 2024).

Q8: Shall the certification bodies (CBs) continue to conduct unannounced audits as per the general regulations while their certificates remain valid?

A8: Yes, they shall.

Q9: Will the GLOBALG.A.P. Certification Integrity Program (CIPRO) continue monitoring livestock certifications during the transition period?

A9: Yes, CIPRO will continue their activities on livestock as long as there are valid certificates.

Q10: Can a certification body still apply for IFA v5.2 livestock scope approval?

A10: Yes, this is possible during the transition period, i.e., until 30 June 2023. CBs should note that at this moment, GLOBALG.A.P. does not plan to conduct any new In-House Trainer training during the transition period.

This decision may change if future ownership of the standard indicates a need to provide continuity to the certification.

Q11: What will happen to the certified producers?

A11: Producers who are currently certified can renew their certificates until 31 December 2023. These certificates will have a validity of 12 months, with the latest valid to date being 30 December 2024.

We are committed to enabling a smooth exit from IFA livestock certification and, should the opportunity arise, facilitating the transition to new ownership.

Q12: Will the GLOBALG.A.P. database maintain information on the certified producers for livestock?

A12: Yes. For livestock producers certified to IFA v5, they will be maintained by the database. The IFA v5 livestock certifications will be visible to the public and market participants as long as they are valid.

Q13: What happens to producer information in the database after the certificate expires?

A13: Similar to any other active scheme, we will keep the information as long as possible, respecting GDPR for compliance reasons, in order to avoid double registrations from CBs.

Add-ons and other livestock related standards

Q14: How does this decision affect the Livestock Transport standard?

A14: The Livestock Transport standard will be phased out following the same timeline as the one used for IFA v5.2 Livestock, i.e., it will not be possible to certify this standard beyond 31 December 2023.

Q15: How does this decision affect the livestock add-ons (CBL, NON-GM, Animal Welfare, and Raised without Antibiotics)?

A15: GLOBALG.A.P. add-ons for livestock will be phased out with latest date of certification on 31 December 2023.

The owners of livestock third-party add-ons will be consulted and shall decide how they wish to continue with the add-ons after the transition period.

Q16: How does this decision affect Compound Feed Manufacturer (CFM) certificates?

A16: This decision does not affect the CFM standard or its certificates. Companies producing feed for livestock (and/or aquaculture) who are interested in using the GLOBALG.A.P. CFM standard to certify their operations may use it as they have been doing until now.

Benchmarking

Q17: How does this decision affect the livestock benchmarked schemes?

A17: The current benchmarked schemes may remain benchmarked as long as v5.2 for livestock is operational. The decision about maintaining the benchmarking with IFA v5.2 during the transition period lies with the respective scheme owners.

The scheme owners may also decide to continue with the recognition under the future structure if this is made possible by a potential new owner.

Q18: Will GLOBALG.A.P. continue to recognize certificates issued under benchmarked schemes?

A18: The certificates issued against benchmarked schemes will be recognized as long as they are valid and the benchmarking remains current.

The last date that this recognition is guaranteed is 30 April 2025.

Standard handover

Q19: What are the prerequisites should a company wish to continue the operation of the livestock standard?

A19: Any company that is interested in taking ownership and responsibility for updating and maintaining the standard shall be connected to the livestock industry at international level and shall have experience with sustainability or G.A.P. standards in areas such as development, implementation, or monitoring.

Q20: How will the standard be connected to GLOBALG.A.P. if the industry takes it over?

A20: GLOBALG.A.P. is committed to offering our role as Assurance Service Provider after the transition period. These services may include producer registration in the GLOBALG.A.P. Validation Service, capacity building, CB administration, customer support, the Integrity Program, benchmarking, and others.