

PrimusGFS General Regulations
Version 1.6 – February 2010

CONTENTS

1. Introduction
2. Standard Scope
3. Legislation
4. Guidance for the Management of Certification Bodies
5. Audit Duration and Frequency
6. Food Certification Categories
7. Auditor Requirements
 - 7.1 Qualification/Education
 - 7.2 Total Work Experience
 - 7.3 Formal Auditor Training
 - 7.4 Initial Training
 - 7.5 Extension of Scope
 - 7.6 Audit Experience
 - 7.7 Continued training
 - 7.8 Attributes and Competencies
8. Conflicts of Interest
9. Certification Process
 - 9.1. Application
 - 9.2. Audit execution
10. Evaluation
 - 10.1. Compliance by individual questions
 - 10.2. Scoring system
 - 10.3. Automatic failure
 - 10.4. Score calculation per module
11. Requirements for Audit Reports
12. Certification Decision
 - 12.1. Average score of the audit (ASA)
 - 12.2. Issuing certification
 - 12.3. Certification Levels
13. Non conformances and Corrective Actions
14. Distribution of Audit Reports
15. Use of logo and registered Trademark
16. Glossary

ANNEX 1 - Flow chart for the Certification Bodies Approval Process v1

1. Introduction

PrimusGFS is a private scheme that establishes requirements for the certification of products of the Agricultural sector in a voluntary manner at a world-wide level.

The present document explains the PrimusGFS Certification System and the processes to obtain this certification. It also intends to establish communication mechanisms, duties and obligations of Azzule as scheme owner, Certification Bodies and applicants who want to grant certification of their products.

2. Standard Scope

The Scope of PrimusGFS is focused on Food Safety of those products of the Agricultural sector designated to human consumption in their fresh or minimum processed way. With that intention is how PrimusGFS establishes series of requirements for managing of the production, handling, processing and storing operations, which should be considered to ensure consumers' safety.

The main objective is to accomplish a Third Party verification by the Certification Bodies, about the relevant topics associated with Food Safety in each of their different productive stages. Besides it establishes a minimum acceptable condition for the performance of the applicants in this matter. For this, the Standard has defined 3 fundamental areas that a company of the Agricultural sector must consider at the moment of producing or manufacturing their products:

- I. Food Safety Management System
- II. Good Agricultural and/or Manufacturing Practices (one or both)
- III. HACCP System.

The explanation of the requirements for each one of those areas is provided in the set 3 normative documents that form the PrimusGFS Scheme: "PrimusGFS - General Regulations", "PrimusGFS – Standard" and "PrimusGFS - Questions and Expectations".

The normative documents will be reviewed at least every five years or more frequently if decided by the Scheme Owner due to factors like significant food safety issues raising or regulatory requirements established.

English is the original language of these normative documents. The most current version of these documents and their translations can be found in the official PrimusGFS website (www.primusgfs.com).

3. Legislation

Legislation in Food Safety matters differs in some aspects from one country to another. Despite PrimusGFS establishes minimum acceptable criteria for food safety certification, it has also been developed in such way to make sure that where laws, specific guidelines for a product and/or good practices recommendations exist, these practices and parameters are used as a reference for applicant's compliance. The users of the certification scheme should permit certain degree of risk association if there are not documented laws or good practices guidelines.

4. Guidance for the Management of Certification Bodies

The certification for PrimusGFS can only be performed by approved Certification Bodies.

The Certification Body, from now called CB, as a minimum must have been accredited according to the ISO 65/EN45011 guide (or its equal depending on the submission country) for the scope of PrimusGFS. The Accreditation Body must be affiliated to the International Accreditation Forum.

In certain occasions, where the Certification Body has an ISO 65/EN45011 accreditation or its equal, and a scope modification or extension is requested to the Accreditation Body to include PrimusGFS, the Certification Body must provide written evidence to Azzule of such circumstances in order to notify of the pending process. See Annex 1 for a flow chart of the CB approval process.

5. Audit Duration and Frequency

An independent entity (approved Certification Body) will be responsible to evaluate if a company accomplishes the requirements of PrimusGFS and therefore grant the Certification. Therefore it will also be responsible defining the audit duration and frequency.

The audit duration will be based on each organization's operations. Certification Bodies should estimate the audit duration and report writing times considering at least the following information:

- Standard option (s) to be certified (GAP and/or GMP)
- Number of operations (ranches and/or facilities) to be certified
- Size of the operation(s)
- Number of products and types
- Complexity of the production and/or handling processes
- Company preparation level

The estimated audit duration should be observed by the Certification Body but it could be adjusted in case of issues arising during the audit that require reduction or increase of the estimated time.

There shall be evidence in the audit report of the time used for the audit.

The minimum audit frequency required to maintain the certification will be of 12 months. This frequency could be modified by several factors such as:

- Modification of the scope and/or operation's location during the certificate validity.
- Seasonality of the products.
- Insufficient evidence to determine the acceptance of corrective actions that require an additional visit.

- Quantity and type of non conformities detected at the moment of the audit, which question the integrity of the Food Safety Quality Management System.

These or other situations must be evaluated by the Certification Bodies to define the specific audit frequency required for each applicant, keeping the decision taken documented as well as justification for modification, if done.

6. Food Certification Categories

PrimusGFS is applicable for the following food certification categories:

Manufacturing:

- 5) Produce
- 10) Ready to eat or heat Foods*
- 13) Dried Goods*

Agriculture:

- 3) Growing and production of fresh produce
- 4) Fresh produce pack house operations

*Specifically limited to produce related items, for example: ready to eat chopped and washed lettuce, dried fruits and nuts, etc.

7. Auditor Requirements

Certification Bodies are responsible to ensure that auditors performing the inspections are complying with the following minimum requirements and have evidence to demonstrate their compliance.

7.1 Qualification/Education

Auditors must have a degree in a food, agricultural and/or bioscience related discipline, like Agriculture, Agribusiness, Biology, Biochemistry, Food Technician or similar, or as a minimum, have successfully completed a higher education course or equivalent in one of those disciplines. Auditors currently conducting audits against GFSI Approved Standards are not required to meet these qualifications provided they can demonstrate competence in the role.

7.2 Total Work experience

Auditors must have a minimum of 5 years working experience in the agricultural and/or food industry that includes at least 2 years in areas such as quality assurance or food safety functions.

This 5 year period may be reduced to a 2 years of experience if the competence of the auditor is assessed by an examination designed by Azzule that includes knowledge and understanding of the following topics:

- PrimusGFS normative documents

- Relevant food/agriculture related legislation
- Produce production processes
- Quality management systems, good agricultural and/or manufacturing practices and HACCP systems.

This examination should be taken by all approved auditors every year for re-approval.

7.3 Formal Auditor Training

The auditors must have successfully completed the following courses:

- Recognized training in audit techniques based on QMS or FSMS, with duration of one week or 40 hours or equivalent.
- HACCP training based on the principles of Codex Alimentarius and demonstrate competence in understanding and application of HACCP principles; minimum duration of 2 days or 16 hours.
- Approved PrimusGFS Auditor Training as defined by Azzule.
- PrimusGFS auditor examination as defined by Azzule.

7.4 Initial training

This initial training program will be carried out by a Technical Competent Supervisor (TCS) of the Certification Body and should incorporate the following activities:

- A supervised audit by a TCS to cover the assessment of :
 - Knowledge of the PrimusGFS normative documents.
 - Knowledge of the Food Safety principles, HACCP, Pre-requisite programs and have access to relevant laws and regulations and be able to apply them when appropriate.
 - Knowledge in Quality Systems, specific audit techniques and specific category.
- A documented sign off of the satisfactory completion of the training and the audit assessment.

For the approval of a Technical Competent Supervisor (TCS), the CB must be able to demonstrate compliance of the following requirements:

- Meeting the requirements of an approved auditor mentioned above in Qualification/Education, Total Work experience and Formal Auditor Training.
- A documented sign off of the satisfactory completion of the training program detailed above for "Initial training" performed by an Azzule representative.

7.5 Extension of Scope

The assignment of scope each auditor should be defined by the analysis of the qualifications, education and experience, having the requirement of performing one assessment for each option of the Scheme in order to be approved for it. This means that the auditor can be approved to do audits for the Scheme in the GAP option only, in the GMP option only or in both options.

In situations where the auditor wants to extend his/her scope, the auditor must undergo and successfully complete the requirements of "Initial training" for the new option,

performing the supervised audit and be assessed and approved as competent by the Certification Body.

7.6 Audit Experience

In order to become approved, the auditor must have a supervised training period (named shadow audits) of at least 10 audits or 15 working days of auditing against PrimusGFS or any other ISO 065 food related accredited standard.

To maintain the approved auditor status, there should be evidence of at least 5 audits or 7.5 working days of auditing on site against PrimusGFS to maintain scheme's and industry knowledge. There should be documented evidence of the auditor re-approval every year.

7.7 Continued training

The auditor has the responsibility to be up to date with the current good practices for each option he is approved for and to be able to apply relevant laws and regulations. The Certification Bodies shall maintain records of all relevant training taken by the auditors.

7.8 Attributes and Competencies

The Certification Bodies must have a system in place that ensures auditors are conducting and behaving in a professional manner. The sign off of the auditors should cover the evaluation of the auditor's personal attributes.

Certification Bodies must be in charge of demonstrating that the auditors have the needed procedures to supervise and maintain their competence for PrimusGFS requirements. In the same way Certification Bodies must keep complete records of auditors qualifications, experience, training, supervised audits, assessments, sign-off, re-approval and others, while they have a work relationship and by a minimum period of 2 years.

8. Conflicts of Interest

Certification Bodies and auditors they employ must avoid any conflict of interest in the certification activities with regards to audits, training and consultancy to applicants. Certification Bodies must sign Confidentiality Agreements with their auditors to show documented commitment to this regard.

9. Certification Process

9.1. Application

Applicants have to provide to the CB the information required to define the scope of the certification they want to achieve for their operations. This information should include as a minimum the following:

- The type of operation(s) they want to certify. It can be a Field operation, a Facility operation or both of them.
- The number of production areas or sites they want to certify. In case of Field operations, each site is called either "Ranch" or "Greenhouse" and the application

should detail the different sites to be certified. In case of Facility operations, each site is called either a "Storage & Distribution Center", "Cooling/Cold Storage", "Packinghouse" or "Processing".

- The commodities they want to certify for.
- The applicability of harvesting related activities being performed at the Field level. In case of harvesting as part of certification, it will be required to audit this activity while working in the operation.
- The applicability of the HACCP system for the operation(s) to be certified.

9.2. Audit execution

The audit should be performed using the most updated version of the PrimusGFS normative documents.

The PrimusGFS Standard is divided in 3 Modules:

- Module 1 - Food Safety Management System
- Module 2 - GAP and GMP options
- Module 3 – HACCP

Each Module is divided into sections, related to the specific Module and each section includes questions that detail the requirements for the specific section. The following table (Table 1) describes the structure of the Standard, showing the division in Modules and Sections:

Module 1	Module 2		Module 3
Food Safety Management System	GAP Option	GMP Option	HACCP
1.01 Management System 1.02 Records Requirements 1.03 Procedures and Corrective Actions 1.04 Internal and external inspections 1.05 Rejection and release of product 1.06 Supplier Monitoring 1.07 Traceability and Recall 1.08 Product testing	2.01 General GAP 2.02 Site Identification 2.03 Ground History 2.04 Adjacent Land Use 2.05 Pest and Foreign Material Controls - Applicable for greenhouses only 2.06 Growing Media (Substrate) Use - Applicable for greenhouses only 2.07 Fertilizer/Crop Nutrition 2.08 Irrigation / Water Use 2.09 Crop Protection 2.10 Field Employee Hygiene (Applies to on-the-farm or greenhouse workers not the harvesting workers) 2.11 Harvesting Inspections, Policies and Training 2.12 Harvesting Employee Activities & Sanitary Facilities (Applies to harvesting workers) 2.13 Harvest Practices 2.14 Transportation and Tracking 2.15 On site storage	2.16 General GMP 2.17 Pest Control 2.18 Storage Areas & Packaging Materials 2.19 Operational Practices 2.20 Employee Practices 2.21 Equipment 2.22 Equipment Cleaning 2.23 General Cleaning 2.24 Buildings and Grounds 2.25 Chemicals Files 2.26 Pest Control Documentation 2.27 Operation Monitoring Records 2.28 Maintenance & Sanitation Files 2.29 Employee Documentation 2.30 Testing/ Analyses Records 2.31 Temperature Controlled Storage & Distribution Logs	3.01 Applicability of HACCP 3.02 Management Support of HACCP 3.03 Development of the Written HACCP Plan 3.04 Execution of the HACCP plan on the Plant Floor 3.05 Verification of the HACCP Plan

Table 1. PrimusGFS Standard Structure

Audits will cover the 3 Modules for certification.

- Module 1 will always be applicable to all certifications.
- Module 2 is divided in two options, GAP and GMP and at least one of them will also be always applicable, depending on the type of operation. The GAP Option is applicable for Field operations and the GMP Option is applicable to Facility operations.
 - Within the GAP option, the applicability of each section depends on the operation to certify, having that for a Field operation of the type "Ranch" or "Greenhouse", sections 2.01 to 2.10 will be applicable, except for section 2.05 and 2.06 that apply only to "Greenhouse" operations. In the case of a Field operation that includes the type "Harvesting", sections 2.11 to 2.15 will be applicable as well. It is important to mention that a Field operation can be either a "Ranch" or "Greenhouse" and include or not a "Harvesting" type.
 - For the GMP option, all sections from 2.16 to 2.31 should be evaluated, but there will be some individual questions that may be not applicable in some types of operations. That should be determined when doing the inspection and based on each facility.
- Module 3
 - This module will not be applicable to field operations, for activities carried out only in the growing area at farm level.

- This module will always be applicable to all facility operations.
- For facility operations where there is preparation, manufacturing or processing of food, a HACCP system must be in place and the entire section shall be evaluated. In food businesses where there is no preparation, manufacturing or processing of food HACCP may not be required, but this should be determined with a documented hazard analysis of all steps of each process. If the hazard analysis shows that all hazards can be controlled through the implementation of prerequisite requirements, there will be no need to develop and implement a complete HACCP system.
- In ALL cases the HACCP process and system must be in compliance with all legal requirements.

The scope of certification should be defined clearly to decide how the audit will be structured for each applicant. Ownership of the different areas, locations, activities or crops of the company applying for certification, are elements to consider when deciding what types of operation(s) will be included in the scope. That decision should be made by the applicant.

10. Evaluation

10.1. Compliance by individual questions

Each Module of the "PrimusGFS Standard" is composed of several sections and each section includes several requirements. While performing the applicant's operation evaluation, the auditor shall verify compliance to PrimusGFS with the use of the "PrimusGFS Questions and Expectations". Each question of the "PrimusGFS Questions and Expectations" has a possible score assigned to it. The auditor has to evaluate each one of the questions to give an answer to it. The possible answers to the questions in each Module are listed in the following table (Table 2):

Module 1	Module 2		Module 3
Food Safety Management System	GAP Option	GMP Option	HACCP
Possible answers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Total Compliance • Minor Deficiency • Major Deficiency • Non Compliance • Non Applicable 	Possible answers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes • No • Non Applicable 	Possible answers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Total Compliance • Minor Deficiency • Major Deficiency • Non Compliance • Non Applicable 	Possible answers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Total Compliance • Minor Deficiency • Major Deficiency • Non Compliance • Non Applicable

Table 2. "PrimusGFS Questions and Expectations" - possible answers to each Module

Each question in the "PrimusGFS – Questions and Expectations" has to be looked at individually and answered according to the observations during the audit.

In case of finding deficiencies to one question and/or its expectations, the following considerations shall be made for noting the issues in the audit report:

- For questions in Module 1, Module 2 – GMP option and Module 3, the amount of deficiencies and the associated risks have to be considered to assign the severity of

the finding, which can be Minor Deficiency, Major Deficiency and Non Compliance. When no deficiencies are found, a Total Compliance is given. Some general statements for the scoring decision are described in the table below (Table 3). These statements are superseded by the criteria described in the question's expectations and users should be aware that some questions do not follow these general statements e.g. automatic failure questions.

Compliance for questions in Module 1, Module 2 – GMP option and Module 3	
Answer	Criteria used
Total compliance	To meet the question and/or compliance criteria in full.
Minor deficiency	To have minor deficiencies against the question and/or compliance criteria. To have single or isolated non-severe deficiencies (usually up to three) against the question and/or compliance criteria. To have covered most of the question compliance criteria, but not all.
Major deficiency	To have major deficiencies against the question and/or compliance criteria. To have numerous non-severe deficiencies (usually more than three) against the question and/or compliance criteria. To have single or isolated severe deficiencies against the question and/or compliance criteria. To have covered some of the question compliance criteria, but not most of it.
Non-compliance	To have not met the question and/or compliance criteria requirements at all. Having systematic deficiencies against the question and/or compliance criteria (severe or non-severe issues).
Non-applicable	The requirement described in the question is not applicable for the operation being audited. Justification should be provided in the auditor's comments. Be aware that there are some questions that do not allow to answer Non-applicable.

Table 3. PrimusGFS – Statements of compliance for questions in Module 1, Module 2 – GMP option and Module 3

- For questions in Module 2 – GAP option, in case of finding deficiencies for the question and/or the applicable expectations for that question, it shall be considered to assign the answer to each question, as described below in the general statement of the table (Table 4). These statements are superseded by the criteria described in the question's expectations and applicants and users should be aware that some questions do not follow these general statements e.g. automatic failure questions

Compliance for questions in Module 2 – GAP option	
Answer	Criteria used
Total compliance <i>(can be Yes or No, depending on the question)</i>	To meet the question and/or compliance criteria in full. This is when the answer Yes or No is the same as the "earning points answer".
Non-compliance <i>(can be Yes or No, depending on the question)</i>	The question or compliance criteria has not been fully met. This is when the answer Yes or No is NOT the same as the "earning points answer".
Non-applicable	The requirement described in the question is not applicable for the operation being audited. Justification should be provided in the auditor's comments. Be aware that there are some questions that do not allow to answer Non-applicable.

Table 4. PrimusGFS – Statements of compliance for questions in Module 2 – GAP option

10.2. Scoring system

Each question in the "PrimusGFS – Questions and Expectations" has a possible score assigned to it. Depending on the answer given, the score obtained will be defined.

For questions in Module 1, Module 2 – GMP option and Module 3, each question has certain possible points that can be obtained depending on the compliance assigned to it. The score system for each question is described in the table below (Table 5):

Scoring system for questions in Module 1, Module 2 – GMP option and Module 3				
<i>Possible answer</i>	<i>Possible Points for the question</i>			
	15 points	10 points	5 points	3 points
Total compliance	15 points	10 points	5 points	3 points
Minor deficiency	10 points	7 points	3 points	2 points
Major deficiency	5 points	3 points	1 points	1 points
Non-compliance	0 points	0 points	0 points	0 points
Non-applicable	0 points	0 points	0 points	0 points

Table 5. Scoring System for questions in Module 1, Module 2 – GMP option and Module 3

For questions in Module 2 – GAP option, each question has certain possible points that can be obtained depending on the compliance assigned to it. The score system for each question is described in the table below (Table 6):

Scoring system for questions in Module 2 – GAP option								
<i>Possible answer</i>	<i>Possible Points for the question</i>							
	20 points	15 points	10 points	7 points	5 points	3 points	2 points	0 points
Total compliance (may be Yes or No)	20 points	15 points	10 points	7 points	5 points	3 points	2 points	0 points
Non-compliance (may be Yes or No)	0 points	0 points	0 points	0 points	0 points	0 points	0 points	0 points
Non-applicable	0 points	0 points	0 points	0 points	0 points	0 points	0 points	0 points

Table 6. Scoring System for questions in Module 2 – GAP option

It is important to mention that for all questions answered Non-applicable, the points assigned to that question will be taken out of the possible total score, so calculations are not affected for those answers.

10.3. Automatic failure

There are some questions in the “PrimusGFS – Questions and Expectations”, that if down scored will lead to an automatic failure and an overall score of 0% for the corresponding Module.

These questions have been defined as automatic failure because they represent High Risk situations where the product’s integrity is questionable and any deficiency on them represents a signal of immediate concern in Food Safety matters. Those questions are identified with a phrase similar to: “ANY DOWN SCORE IN THIS QUESTION RESULTS IN AN AUTOMATIC FAILURE”.

Applicant should be immediately informed of the automatic failure by the auditor during the audit.

10.4. Score calculation per module and per operation

The score will be calculated for each one of the Modules and in Module 2 for each one of the options. The calculation should be made considering the total score obtained in each

Module and/or option divided by the total possible score of the corresponding Module and/or option. See Table 7 below for a diagram of the scoring calculation structure.

Module 1	Module 2		Module 3
Food Safety Management System	GAP Option	GMP Option	HACCP
Total sum of score obtained for each one of the questions applicable in this module ÷ Total sum of possible points for each applicable question in this module =	Total sum of score obtained for each one of the questions applicable in this option ÷ Total sum of possible points for each applicable question in this option =	Total sum of score obtained for each one of the questions applicable in this option ÷ Total sum of possible points for each applicable question in this option =	Total sum of score obtained for each one of the questions applicable in this module ÷ Total sum of possible points for each applicable question in this module =
Total score for this module (represented in percentage)	Total score for this option (represented in percentage)	Total score for this option (represented in percentage)	Total score for this module (represented in percentage)

Table 7. Scoring calculation structure by Module

This calculation should be repeated for each operation included in the audit for certification.

11. Requirements for Audit Reports

After each audit a report will be elaborated in the language that the applicant considers necessary as long as it is available by the CB. Any language used by the CB to generate the audit reports is acceptable by Azzule, but the information sent to the Azzule database shall be provided in English.

Every audit report shall include as a minimum the following information:

- Name of the Certification Body
 - Details as address, telephone and email
- Name of the applicant entity
 - Details as address, telephone and email and contact person
- Type(s) and name(s) of the operation(s) under certification, both field and facility
 - Details as address, telephone and email and contact person, if different for each one of them.
- Date and time of the audit (start and finish for each day of audit)
- Date of previous audit and name of CB conducting such audit
- Name and version of the PrimusGFS normative documents used for certification
- Audit scope – details of the process under certification
- Product(s)
- Product Category
- Names of personnel involved in the audit execution from both, applicant and CB
- Name and signature of an applicant’s representative
- Name and signature of auditor

12. Certification Decision

12.1. Average score of the audit (ASA)

Based on the evaluation of the applicant, the scores of the audit should be analyzed to determine if they comply with the minimum score for certification. The score shall be calculated using percentages with two decimals (xx.xx%).

The certification decision shall be calculated individually for each operation and it will be determined by the average score of the audit (ASA). The ASA should be at least 85% to achieve certification, having a minimum percentage score acceptable per Module and/or option of 80%. When more than one Field or Facility operations are being considered for certification, the average score of the audit (ASA) should be calculated separate for each operation.

See the following table below (Table 8) for details of minimum scores for certification on different scenarios:

Scenario 1 : One Field operation as Ranch or Greenhouse and/or Harvesting			
Module 1	Module 2	Module 3	ASA
Food Safety Management System	GAP Option	HACCP <i>(not applicable)</i>	
Total score for this module (represented in percentage)	Total score for the Field operation in this option (represented in percentage)	This module is not considered for the calculation of ASA	Average score of the audit (represented in percentage)
≥ 80%	≥ 80%	N/A	≥ 85%
Scenario 2 : One Facility operation, any type			
Module 1	Module 2	Module 3	ASA
Food Safety Management System	GMP Option	HACCP	
Total score for this module (represented in percentage)	Total score for the Facility operation in this option (represented in percentage)	Total score for this module (represented in percentage)	Average score of the audit (represented in percentage)
≥ 80%	≥ 80%	≥ 80%	≥ 85%
Scenario 3 : One Field and one Facility operation, any type			
Module 1	Module 2	Module 3	ASA
Food Safety Management System	GAP Option	HACCP <i>(not applicable)</i>	
Total score for this module (represented in percentage)	Total score for the Field operation in this option (represented in percentage)	This module is not considered for the calculation of ASA	Average score of the audit (represented in percentage)
≥ 80%	≥ 80%	N/A	≥ 85%
	GMP Option	HACCP	ASA
	Total score for the Facility operation in this option (represented in percentage)	Total score for this module (represented in percentage)	Average score of the audit (represented in percentage)
	≥ 80%	≥ 80%	≥ 85%
Scenario 4 : Two Field and one Facility operations, any type			
Module 1	Module 2	Module 3	ASA
Food Safety Management System	GAP Option	HACCP <i>(not applicable)</i>	
Total score for this module (represented in percentage)	Total score for the Field operation # 1 in this option (represented in percentage)	This module is not considered for the calculation of ASA	Average score of the audit (represented in percentage)
≥ 80%	≥ 80%	N/A	≥ 85%
	GAP Option	HACCP <i>(not applicable)</i>	ASA
	Total score for the Field operation # 2 in this option (represented in percentage)	This module is not considered for the calculation of ASA	Average score of the audit (represented in percentage)
	≥ 80%	N/A	≥ 85%
	GMP Option	HACCP	ASA
	Total score for the Facility operation in this option (represented in percentage)	Total score for this module (represented in percentage)	Average score of the audit (represented in percentage)
	≥ 80%	≥ 80%	≥ 85%

Table 8. Minimum score for certification on different scenarios

12.2. Issuing certification

Certification will be issued individually to each operation that complies with the minimum scoring criteria. In case of having more than one Field and/or more than one Facility operations of any type from the same applicant, the calculations should be made separate for each operation and one certificate should be issued to each operation that complies with the scoring requirements.

The PrimusGFS certification is valid only for the certified operations for a maximum period of one year from the day the Food Safety Management System was audited and complied with the minimum acceptable score.

12.3. Certification Levels

PrimusGFS Standard contemplates 4 certification levels according with the ASA obtained, as shown in the table below (Table 9). The purpose is to show to the user of the audit report, the commitment that the company has in relation to the continuous compliance of the PrimusGFS requirements.

ASA obtained per operation	Certification Level
≥ 95% and ≤ 100%	Superior
≥ 90% and < 95%	Excellent
≥ 85% and < 90%	Good
< 85%	Not Certified

Table 9. Certification Level according to the ASA obtained

13. Non conformances and Corrective Actions

When the applicant has not reached the minimum scoring required for certification for any of the operations audited, they should address the deficiencies found and notify the certification body about it. The evidence of corrective actions must be verified and accepted by the Certification Body in order to be considered for certification decision. The CB has the right to determine if a re-visit to the audited organization is necessary to close certain non conformance found.

Corrective action evidence for each non conformance must be submitted by the organization to the CB in a maximum period of time of one calendar month from the original audit date. The CB will have 15 calendar days to review the corrective action evidence and notify the organization if it was accepted or not to close the non conformance.

14. Distribution of Audit Reports

A documented audit report should be created for each audit conducted in one operation and they should be provided to the applicant. The information of each certification process, the audit details and outcome and the certification status must be made available to Azzule by the CB, using the means established by the Scheme Owner. Ownership of information shall remain with the organization under certification. Information release agreements should be

documented between the Certification Body and the applicant in order to make the certification information available to Azzule and any other interested parties.

15. Use of Logo and Trademark

The PrimusGFS trademark and logo may only be used with the permission of Azzule. The Certification Body is responsible for the control of the use of the PrimusGFS trademark and logo on certified operations. The rules for the use of the logo and trademark will be defined in the License Agreement signed between Azzule and the CB and in the Sub-license Agreement signed between the CB and each organization. Infringement of the rules by either CB's or organizations could lead to sanctions.

The PrimusGFS logo must always be obtained from the scheme owner. This will ensure that it contains the exact corporate color and format. Suppliers can only use the trademark and/ or logo when there is a valid PrimusGFS certificate linked to that supplier and making clear reference to the certified operations. Accredited PrimusGFS approved Certification Bodies, can use the trademark and/or logo for promotion of their accredited PrimusGFS certification activities in business-to-business communication and on their accredited PrimusGFS certificates.

16. Glossary

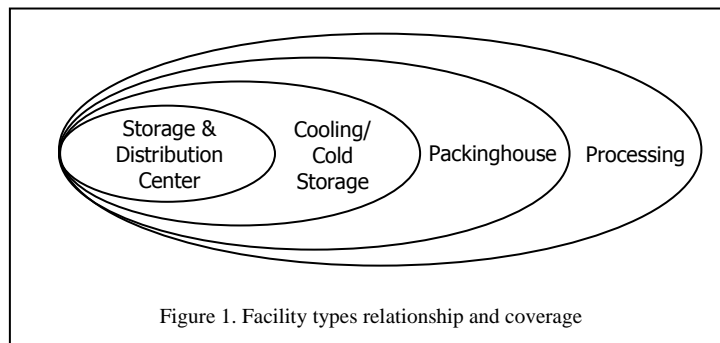
16.1. Cooling/Cold Storage

This type of facility is where they are not only receiving and storing finished goods but performing some kind of pre-cooling and/or cooling activities. In this type of facility, no packing or processing activities are being performed, if so, a different type of facility operation shall be used. A Cooling/Cold Storage facility covers the activities involved in the Storage & Distribution Center type.

16.2. Facility operation

A handling operation carried out in one or several buildings where product is being handled. The type of Facility operation can be classified as: "Storage & Distribution Center", "Cooling/Cold Storage", "Packinghouse" or "Processing".

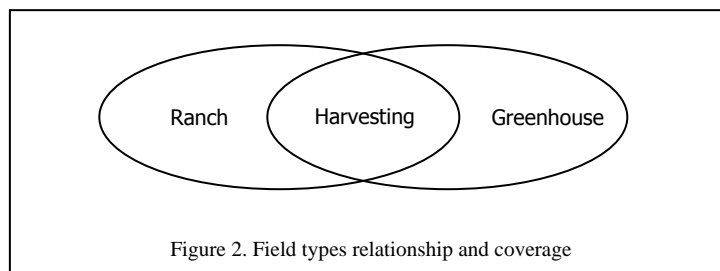
The following image describes the scope of each one of the facility types described in this certification scheme:



16.3. Field operation

A growing operation carried out in an open or in a covered area for the production of fresh produce for human consumption. The type of Field operation can be classified as: "Ranch" or "Greenhouse", they can both include or not include another type of operation named "Harvesting".

The following image describes the scope of each one of the field types described in this certification scheme:



16.4. Greenhouse

A greenhouse is defined as a building constructed of glass or plastic, for the cultivation of plants under controlled environmental conditions. Product grown under this type of operation is marketed as "Greenhouse grown".

16.5. Harvest Crew

A "harvest crew" is defined as a crew of harvest personnel under common management.

16.6. Packinghouse

This type of facility is where whole commodities are sorted and/or sized, may be minimally trimmed (not altered in form), washed or not washed, possible post-harvest fungicide treatments applied (e.g. wax treatments) and packed for commercial distribution and use by consumer or retail establishment. In this type of facility, no processing activities are being performed, if so, a different type of facility operation shall be used. A Packinghouse facility covers the activities involved in the Storage & Distribution Center and Cooling/Cold Storage facilities.

16.7. Processing

This type of facility is where whole commodities are minimally processed and altered in form by peeling, slicing, chopping, shredding, coring, or trimming, with or without washing, prior to being packaged for use by the consumer or a retail establishment (e.g., pre-cut, packaged, ready-to-eat salad mixes). In this type of facility, processing activities are being performed, if not, a different type of facility operation shall be used. A Processing facility covers the activities involved in the Storage & Distribution Center, Cooling/Cold Storage and Packinghouse facilities.

16.8. Ranch

A "ranch" is defined as a parcel of ground (not necessarily a "lot" for production purposes) with the following characteristics: common management, common water supply and contiguous grounds. For the purpose of farm or ranch audits, manual development or self-audits, a ranch or farm is defined as contiguous ground that is under common management.

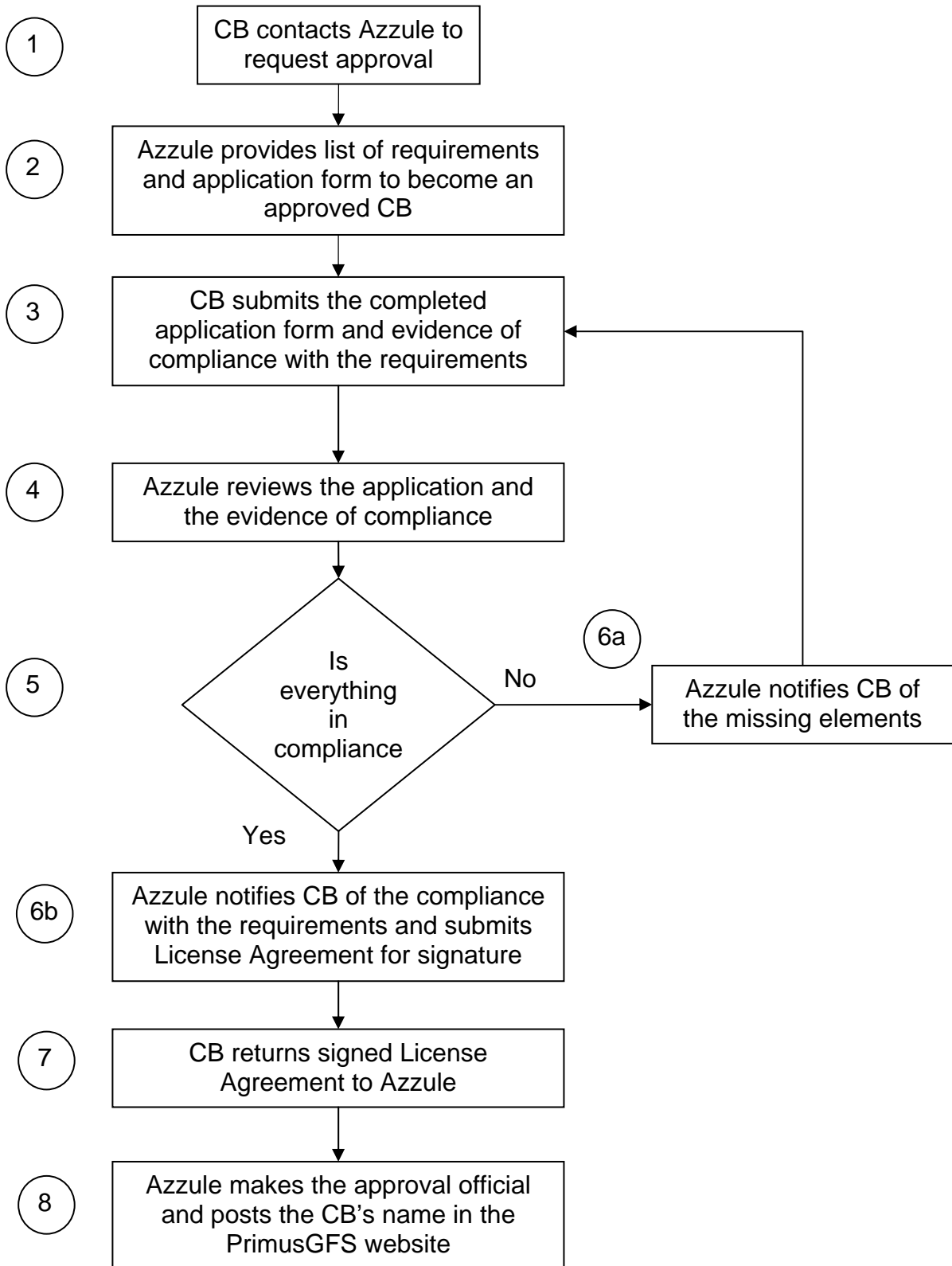
16.9. Storage & Distribution Center

This type of facility is where they are only receiving and storing finished goods for further shipment e.g. regional distribution warehouses.

In this type of facility, no cooling, packing or processing activities are being performed, if so, a different type of facility operation shall be used.

ANNEX 1 - Flow chart for the Certification Bodies Approval Process v1

How to become an approved CB?



Description of activities in the flow chart.

#	Activity		Performed by	Related documents
1	CB contacts Azzule to request approval		CB representative	N/A – it can be done by phone or email
2	Azzule provides list of requirements and application form to become an approved CB		Azzule Representative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> List of requirements to become an approved CB CB application form
3	CB submits the completed application form and evidence of compliance with the requirements *		CB representative	N/A – it can be done by email or fax. Original of the signed application form must be obtained at some point.
4	Azzule reviews the application and the evidence of compliance with the requirements *		Azzule Representative	N/A
5	Is everything in compliance with the requirements *?		N/A	N/A
6a	NO	Azzule notifies CB of the missing elements	Azzule Representative	N/A – it can be done by email or fax
6b	YES	Azzule notifies CB of the compliance with the requirements * and submits License Agreement for signature	Azzule Representative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> License Agreement with CB's details
7	CB returns signed License Agreement to Azzule		CB representative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Original of the signed License Agreement from CB
8	Azzule makes the approval official and posts the CB's name in the PrimusGFS website		Azzule Representative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CB Approval letter with CB's details Posting of CB's name in PrimusGFS website

* The requirements for a CB to become approved for the PrimusGFS Scheme are based on the PrimusGFS General Regulations, Section 4 - Guidance for the Management of Certification Bodies which on v1.6 describes:

- The Certification Body, as a minimum must have been accredited according to the ISO 65/EN45011 guide (or its equal depending on the submission country) for the scope of PrimusGFS. The Accreditation Body must be affiliated to the International Accreditation Forum.
- In certain occasions, where the Certification Body has an ISO 65/EN45011 accreditation or its equal, and a scope modification or extension is requested to the Accreditation Body to include PrimusGFS, the Certification Body must provide written evidence to Azzule of such circumstances in order to notify of the pending process.