



Primary Farm Assurance

Primary Farm Assurance (PFA) is a capacity-building program designed to **assess good agricultural practices (G.A.P.) in developing economies and emerging markets**. Offering a stepping stone to the flagship GLOBALG.A.P. **Integrated Farm Assurance (IFA) standard**, the PFA program contains three PFA levels (Entry Level, Intermediate Level, and Advanced Level) that aim to support the gradual adoption of safer and more responsible farming practices. It has a shorter list of requirements than IFA, making the program more accessible to smallholders.

Benefits of implementation

- **Farm management:** Improve the efficiency of farm operations in the areas of food safety, environment, traceability, and workers' health, safety, and welfare.
- **Risk mitigation:** Cut exposure to food safety risks and fulfill local legislation requirements on food safety topics.
- **Practical approach:** Work towards full certification by moving step by step through three consecutive PFA levels at an achievable pace.
- **Market entry:** Gain access to local, regional, and national markets through proof of G.A.P. compliance.
- **Available globally:** Apply a capacity-building program designed specifically for small-scale producers and producer groups.
- **Certification and verification bodies:** Receive an assessment from either GLOBALG.A.P. approved certification bodies (CBs) or verification bodies (VBs).

Core topics



Food safety

Hygiene
Food fraud
Food defense



Environment

Biodiversity
Energy
Water
Fertilizers and biostimulants
Soil management



Workers' health, safety, and welfare

Resource management
Training
Subcontractors



Production processes

Equipment and devices
Site management
Laboratory testing
Postharvest handling

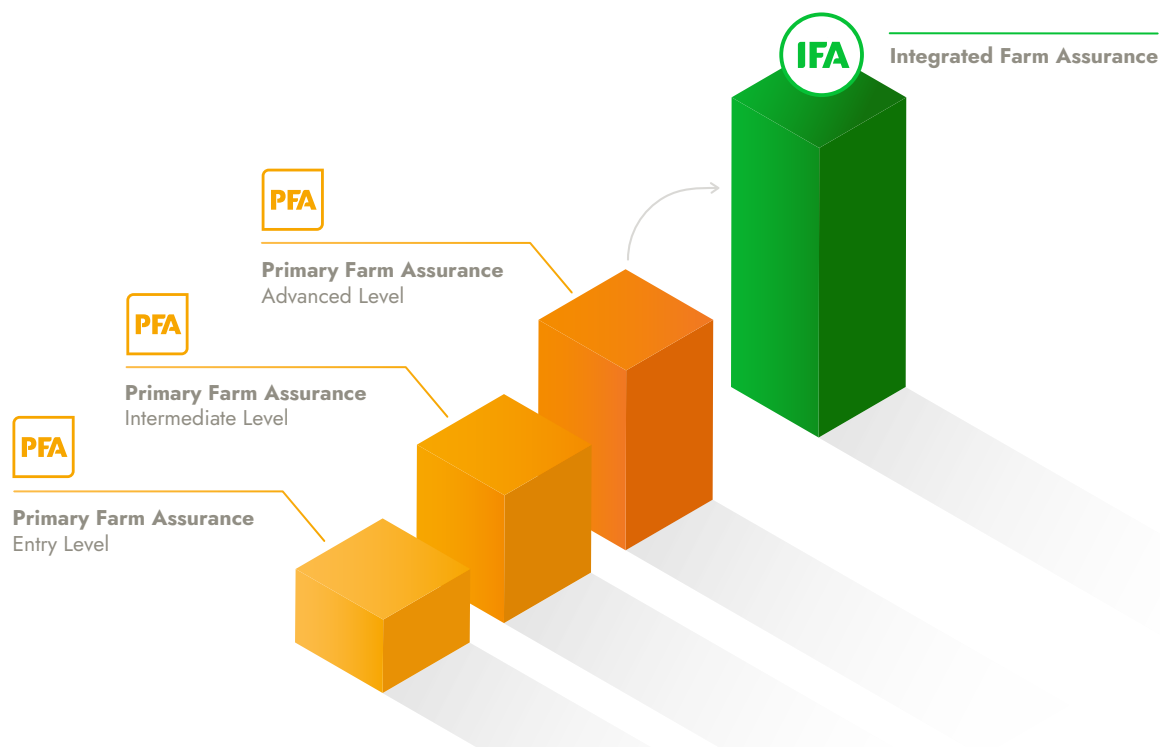


Legal, management, and traceability

Internal documentation
Recall and withdrawal
Non-conforming products

For more information on GLOBALG.A.P. claims, please visit [impact areas and claims web page](#).

The stepwise approach to GLOBALG.A.P. certification



Five steps to conformance

1 Download the PFA level documents

You will need the PFA general rules, the PFA principles, and the checklist. You can find the documents for free and in multiple languages in the [GLOBALG.A.P. document center](#).

2 Implement the requirements

Use the PFA principles to implement the requirements, and then conduct a self-assessment using the checklist.

3 Request a CB/VB assessment

Contact the CB or VB of your choice and request an assessment.

4 Complete the CB/VB assessment

The CB/VB assessor will conduct the assessment. Any non-compliances which are detected must be corrected within the specified period and verified by the CB/VB before a letter of conformance can be issued.

5 Receive your letter of conformance

The PFA letter of conformance is valid for one year, and you must undergo an on-site CB/VB assessment annually to retain conformance status. Your status will be publicly visible in the GLOBALG.A.P. IT systems for transparency in the market.

Find a CB/VB



Visit the [GLOBALG.A.P. "Producers" page](#) to view the full list of approved CBs/VBs. To find a CB/VB near you, select "PFA" under the "Solutions" filter and select your country.

View the fee table



Visit the [GLOBALG.A.P. document center](#) to view the fee table. Assessment costs generally include implementation costs, auditor fees, and GLOBALG.A.P. fees.