

To: CanadaGAP Stakeholders

From: Heather Gale, Executive Director

Date: June 27, 2016

Subject: <u>Advance Notice</u>: Program Change for 2017

Effective April 1, 2017, the passing score on the CanadaGAP Audit Checklist will be 85%. The current passing score is 80%.

The decision to increase the passing score on the CanadaGAP audit was made by the CanAgPlus Board of Directors at its most recent meeting. CanAgPlus is the not-for-profit corporation that owns and operates the CanadaGAP program.

"To maintain program integrity and credibility, we felt it was time to move in the direction of a higher passing score," indicated CanAgPlus Chair, Jack Bates. "CanadaGAP has always been responsive to market signals. Increasingly, buyers are signaling the need for continuous improvement in audit outcomes."

Heather Gale, Executive Director for CanadaGAP, noted that "the average score on a CanadaGAP audit is 92%. Currently, about 5% of CanadaGAP audits result in a score between 80% and 85%. This indicates that the vast majority of program participants already exceed the 85% threshold."

Chair Jack Bates added that "the Board is confident all operations can bring themselves up to the new passing grade for the 2017 season."

Questions?

Contact us at 613-829-4711 or email: info@canadagap.ca

About CanadaGAP®

CanadaGAP® is a food safety program for companies that produce, handle and broker fruits and vegetables. It is designed to help implement and maintain effective food safety procedures within fresh produce operations. Two manuals, one specific to greenhouse operations, the second for other fruit and vegetable operations, have been developed by the horticultural

CanadaGAP® is a program developed in Canada to promote Good Agricultural Practices (GAPs) for fruit and vegetable suppliers.



industry and reviewed for technical soundness by Canadian government officials. The manuals are designed for companies implementing Good Agricultural Practices (GAPs) in their production, packing and storage operations, and for repackers and wholesalers implementing Good Manufacturing Practices (GMPs) and HACCP programs. The program is also designed for fresh produce brokers implementing best practices in supplier management and product traceability.

CanadaGAP certification options B, C and D are officially benchmarked to, and recognized by the Global Food Safety Initiative (GFSI).

For more information:

Visit www.canadagap.ca for further information about CanadaGAP and its governance.