

To: CanadaGAP Program Participants and Stakeholders
Date: October 10, 2018
Subject: Advanced Notice of Changes to **2020** CanadaGAP Program Management Manual: New requirements for Group Certification (Internal Auditor qualifications)

A CanadaGAP requirement regarding qualifications for internal auditors **for program participants enrolled in group certification** (Option A3 and Option B) will be changing effective April 1, 2020.

Notice is being given well in advance to provide those affected by the change sufficient time to fulfill the requirement successfully.

Upcoming Changes in Appendices III.1 and III.2 – Section 4.2: Qualification Requirements

The upcoming changes will be made to the group certification requirements for internal auditors. These requirements are found in Appendices III.1 and III.2 of the CanadaGAP Program Management Manual.

Effective April 1, 2020, the requirements will state:

4.2 Qualification Requirements (ref: Annex II.1, 2)

4.2.1 Formal Qualifications, Training and Technical Skills

4.2.1.1 For On-Site Audits of Group Members – Internal Auditors:

- (vii) ~~It is strongly recommended that~~ Internal auditors ~~must:~~
- a. have successfully completed the CanadaGAP Auditor Training course including passing the exam, and
 - b. ~~are maintaining~~ maintain competency by participating in auditor refresher ~~training and~~ testing ~~offered by available through~~ CanadaGAP.

The current version of Component 3 of the CanadaGAP Program Management Manual is available on the website under the ‘Becoming Certified’ tab. Select the last item entitled “Management System Manual”. An updated version will be published before the above changes take effect in 2020.

Note: All CanadaGAP-certified operations, regardless of certification option, must complete an annual internal audit. The changes above are not related to fulfilling this requirement in Section 24.2 of the CanadaGAP Food Safety manuals.

Please direct any questions to the CanadaGAP office, either through the info@canadagap.ca email account, or by calling the office at 613-829-4711.

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