

**To:** CanadaGAP Stakeholders  
**Date:** February 6, 2020  
**Subject:** Key Changes to CanadaGAP Program Certification Rules for 2020

CanadaGAP will be publishing an update to the Program Management Manual, Version 8.0 on April 1, 2020. The **Management Manual** is the document that explains the certification rules for CanadaGAP and **is not the same document as the Food Safety Manuals** that are used by program participants within their operations. The Food Safety Manuals were published last week.

With regard to the certification rules in the *CanadaGAP Program Management Manual*, the two most significant changes to note in advance of the 2020 season include:

#### 1. Requirements for Option B Group Certification and Multi-site Operations

There will be a number of changes to the certification rules, especially those impacting **Option B Group Certification**, and **multi-site operations**.

- A “tracked changes” and clean copies of Component 3 of *the CanadaGAP Program Management Manual* will be available on request for program participants who would like to see the revisions in advance of final publication of Version 8.0 on April 1, 2020.
- Please contact the CanadaGAP office to request the documents.
- The audit checklist for Option B Group Certification will be revised and reissued for April 1, 2020, as will the Management System Audit Checklist for Multi-site Operations. Program participants will be informed when these documents are released.

#### 2. Unannounced Audits

Version 8.0 also introduces changes to the **Unannounced Audit** programme.

- Effective April 1, 2020 CanadaGAP certification bodies must perform unannounced audits on 10% of their clients each year.
- This is an increase from the previous requirement of 5% annually.
- The change was made as a result of new GFSI requirements for a minimum of 10% of unannounced audits each year in the primary production sector.
- There will be no other revisions to Unannounced Audit procedures; only the percentage is changing.

Please contact the CanadaGAP office with any questions.

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