

A COMPARISON OF AGRICULTURAL GFSI BENCHMARKED CERTIFICATIONS







Each GFSI scheme has unique benefits, requirements, criteria and scopes. Use the tables below to get a better understanding of the schemes and determine which certification is most appropriate for your business.

All GFSI recognized schemes provide:

- > Increased protection of your brand and minimized risks
- > Proof that food safety systems are independently verified and meet international standards of food safety
- > Greater confidence to your customers that your products have been processed, prepared and handled according to the highest standards in food safety
- > Help in fostering a culture of safety in your organization and aligning your company with the most up-to-date regulations for food safety

CRITERIA	GLOBALG.A.P.	CanadaGAP	PrimusGFS	SQF
Geography	Global	Primarily Canada, but available in North and Latin America	Primarily United States and Mexico	Primarily United States and Mexico
Typical audit duration	1 day	Half day to a full day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ranch: Half day • Harvest crew: Half day • Facility: 1-1.5 days 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stage 1 (desk): 1 day • Stage 2 (facility): 2-2.5 days
Recertification	Every year	Every year	Every year	Every year

*GLOBALG.A.P. is currently not applicable to standalone packing and storage operations.

				
CRITERIA	GLOBALG.A.P.	CanadaGAP	PrimusGFS	SQF
Key benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accepted globally • Group and multi-site certification options • IFA includes some environmental and worker safety control points 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides a lot of resources for new growers • Group and multi-site certification 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FSMA compliant so a separate FSMA audit is not needed • Larger scope to include farming of grains and pulses and processing of products of agricultural origin (including plant products with ingredients from animal origin) 	Different levels of certification: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Level 2 addresses food safety only • Level 3 addresses food safety & quality
Sectors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Production • Packing* • Storage* 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Production • Packing • Storage 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Production • Packing • Storage 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Production • Packing • Storage

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Why NSF?

NSF International is the leading global certifier of Global Food Safety Initiative (GFSI) benchmarked certifications. Our **innovative** food safety audit and certification services are built upon a **world-class integrity** program, **customer focused approach**, and **technical and operational excellence** to deliver confidence and brand protection with **local understanding and global reach**.

If you have additional questions or have specialized needs, please contact us at agservices@nsf.org. We will help you understand the best options for the needs of your organization.

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