
ASSESSMENT STRUCTURE

1. Crop Production

The Red Tractor Fresh Produce Standards are designed for assurance and assessment of the primary production of fruit and vegetable crops. Unless a specific exception has been agreed with Red Tractor, the following assessment sections covering crop production apply to all members (except where standards are not applicable to the specific crop production system used):

Risk Assessment (RA)

Documents and Procedures (DP)

Personnel (PL)

Traceability and Assurance Status (TI)

Vermin Control (VC)

Energy Efficiency/Environmental Impact (EE)

Integrated Pest Management (IM)

Soil Management (SM)

Environment (EC)

Irrigation (IG)

Genetically Modified Organisms (GM)

2. Operational Area Modules

The following sections form part of the core Fresh Produce Standards text and concern specific operational areas. These sections are applicable where they are relevant to the Red Tractor Fresh Produce member ('the member') being assessed.

Operational area: Harvesting (HS)

Relevant where crop is harvested under the direct management of the member or where harvesting is sub-contracted

Operational area: Produce Packing and Site Operations (PP)

Relevant where post-harvest product handling or packing operations are present – either within a packhouse environment or in a rig environment. This section is also applicable to site operations that include chilling, storage or distribution facilities which are not purely managed as stand-alone, medium to long-term, produce storage facilities. Examples of this may include rapid cooling facilities, humidified cold-storage, dock and loading bay areas.

Operational area: Storage (ST)

Relevant where the member uses storage facilities – under their direct management or where managed by a

third-party. Where storage facilities are one element of a broader site operation or where additional processes are present (e.g. humidified coldstores, cross docking, etc.), the Produce Packing and Site Operations (PP) section is also relevant.

Operational area: Post-Harvest Washing (PW)

Relevant where water is in direct contact with product in a post-harvest wash process or similar. Examples of relevant processes include desoiling and stone separation, transportation (e.g. flume) and as a final rinse. This does not include assessment of the efficacy of wash process designed as a validated decontamination step. Note that standards PP.9 and PP.10 are included within the Produce Packing and Site Operations (PP) section to encompass processes involving direct product contact that do not resemble a wash process – e.g. humidification of coldstores.

Operational area: Protected Cropping (PC)

Section relevant where crops are grown within an environment meeting the definition of permanent protection with full enclosure; 'protected crop situations which provide full enclosure (including continuous top and side barriers down to below ground level) and which are present and maintained over a number of years', as defined within the Health and Safety Executive's Crop Definitions List.

3. Supplementary Modules

The following additional modules are separate from the core text of the Red Tractor Fresh Produce Standard and are applicable in specific circumstances – as defined below.

Crop module: Hops (HO)

This module has been added to support a benchmark against the GLOBAL.G.A.P. IFA Certification for Hops. Hops growers who wish to make use of this benchmarking arrangement may opt for assessment against this module. This is optional – hops growers who do not wish to make use of the benchmark may choose not to be assessed against this module.

Crop module: Watercress (WC)

Relevant where watercress is within the scope of certification. These standards cover only traditional outdoor production of watercress in gravel beds – they are not relevant to other production systems. This section has been added to incorporate content contained within the Industry Guide to Good Hygiene for Watercress.