



Guidance

FINAL 11.25.2013

Discontinuation of Required use of AJP List of Minor and Major Non-Compliances

1. Purpose

The purpose of this guidance is to discontinue the required use of the AJP List of Minor and Major Non-Compliances.

2. Scope

This guidance is relevant for all grower groups that use the AJP Standards for certification purposes or verification purposes, and all certifying bodies, inspectors, worker organizations and staff that participate in inspections and verification of compliance to the AJP Standards.

3. Background

The AJP Standards for grower groups reference that grower group internal control systems should use the AJP list of major and minor non-compliances. AJP had developed this list for use by grower groups and certifiers in determining seriousness of non-compliances on farms and businesses covered under grower groups and applying for certification with certifiers. AJP now gives certifiers and grower groups (when assessing compliance on member farms as part of the Internal Control System) the responsibility in determining which non-compliances are major and which are minor.

4. Specifics

AJP will no longer publish a list of Major and Minor Non-Compliances. AJP expects certifiers in the case of certification decisions and grower group internal control systems in the case of internal verification of compliance of member growers to classify non-compliances as major or minor based on whether they violate the foundational principles of the intent of the standards.

For certifiers: Referenced on page 59 of the AJP Policy Manual in Step 8: Final Review.

For grower groups: Referenced in AJP Standard 5.1.5.g.