

# New GLOBALGAP and Global Food Safety Initiative (GFSI) Partnership

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## Further Effort on Food Safety Standard Harmonisation

The Global Food Safety Initiative (GFSI), managed by CIES -- The Food Business Forum, and GlobalGAP have announced that together they are developing a joint approach to benchmarking for farm assurance scheme owners.

To provide a transparent and coherent approach, GFSI and GLOBALGAP have begun a review of the GFSI Guidance Document and the GLOBALGAP Good Agricultural Practice Reference Standard. The aim is to align the two benchmarking processes and benchmarking criteria, to provide equivalent end results.



This partnership will provide a harmonised and streamlined framework for benchmarking services to farm assurance food safety scheme owners specifically within the scope of food safety. The end result will create greater recognition and confidence along the entire supply chain for all stakeholders from farm to fork.

J P Suarez, Chairman of the GFSI and Senior Vice President and General Counsel, International Division, Wal-Mart Stores Inc. said "We are delighted to form this partnership with GLOBALGAP which will make recognition of food safety elements on farm much easier for retailers, manufacturers and food service operators" Nigel Garbutt, Chairman of GLOBALGAP added "Producers will also benefit from a harmonised set of Good Agricultural Practice food safety criteria, applicable to agricultural production around the globe."



### **About Global Food Safety Initiative (GFSI)**

The GFSI, managed by CIES - The Food Business Forum, was set up in 2000 to pursue continuous improvement in food safety management systems, cost efficiency in the supply chain and, above all, safe food for consumers worldwide.

### **About GLOBALGAP**

GLOBALGAP is a private sector body that sets voluntary standards for the certification of agricultural products around the globe. The GLOBALGAP standard is primarily designed to reassure consumers about how food is produced on the farm by minimising detrimental environmental impacts of farming operations, reducing the use of chemical inputs and ensuring a responsible approach to worker health and safety as well as animal welfare.

GlobalGap - February 2009