



PROGRAM Standards Amendment Proposals July 2024

Proposed changes to 2024 standards are listed below. Please send any comments you have on the proposed revisions to julie@agreenerworld.org no later than August 15, 2024. Any allowed transition periods will be noted below where applicable.

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Certified Animal Welfare Approved by AGW Standards

1. Introduction (All Species) – Proposed inclusion of the Five Freedoms and Five Domains of animal welfare.

Current:

The premise of the AWA standards is that animals must be allowed to behave naturally. The following standards allow animals the opportunity to perform natural and instinctive behaviors essential to their health and well-being. Provisions are made to ensure social interaction, comfort, and physical and psychological well-being.

Proposed:

The premise of the AWA standards is that animals must be allowed to behave naturally **and are managed to meet the Five Freedoms and the Five Domains of animal welfare**. The following standards allow animals the opportunity to perform natural and instinctive behaviors essential to their health and well-being. Provisions are made to ensure social interaction, comfort, and physical and psychological well-being.

2. Manures and Fertilizers (All Species) – Proposal to make this standard required rather than recommended.

Current:

7.0.18 *Recommended* Manures and fertilizers that can have a negative effect on soil microbial life and/or which contain heavy metals should be avoided.

Proposed:

7.0.18 Manures and fertilizers that can have a negative effect on soil microbial life and/or which contain heavy metals **must** be avoided.

3. Castration (Beef Cattle and Meat Sheep only) – **Proposed note addition to potentially permit anesthetic-infused bands, a newly available technology which has the potential to improve pain relief at castration.**

Current:

4.7.3 Castration using rubber bands or rings is prohibited for calves over seven days of age.

Proposed:

4.7.3 Castration using rubber bands or rings is prohibited for calves over seven days of age.

Note: Anesthetic-infused bands may be considered on a case by cases basis for banding up to 28 days. Contact AGW for more information.

Certified Grassfed by AGW Standards

1. Consumption of non-compliant feedstuffs-- (Grassfed Dairy Species) **New proposed standards to address intentional and inadvertent feeding of non-compliant feedstuffs to dairy animals within the Certified Grassfed standards**

Current:

None

Proposed:

- 1.0.12 Dairy products from animals fed non-approved or non-forage feedstuffs intentionally or not meeting the requirements of 1.0.13 cannot use the logo on product for the remainder of that lactation.
- 1.0.13 Dairy products from animals fed non-approved or non-forage feedstuffs inadvertently or at the recommendation of a veterinarian or nutritionist may not be sold under the label for one month. Records must be kept.

Note: Feeding is only considered inadvertent if it was accidental.

2. Fiber products – **Proposed new standard to address fiber products from Grassfed animals that have been fed non-approved feeds**

Current (meat animals only):

1.0.11 Meat from animals fed non-approved or non-forage feedstuffs may not be sold under the AWA Grassfed label.

Proposed (new standard):

1.0.14 Fiber products from Grassfed animals cannot be sold under the AGW Grassfed label for one production cycle.

Certified Non-GMO by AGW Standards

1. Labeling – **Proposal to remove redundant standard**

Current:

1.8.2 If products are labeled as Non-GMO* or Non-GE*, the following statement must be clearly legible somewhere on the packaging:

* Certified by AGW.

1.9.1 Producers must use the applicable logo on certified products unless otherwise agreed with AGW.

Proposed:

Remove 1.8.2 as it is a duplicate of 1.9.1

2. Appendix One High-Risk Products – Proposal to add additional high-risk products

Current:

https://agreenerworld.org/certifications/certified-nongmo-agw/standards/#Appendix_1_%E2%80%93_High_Moderate_and_Low_Risk_Products

Proposed additions:

- Purple (Galaxy) Tomato
- Banana (QCAV-4 banana)
- Firefly Petunia
- Brown Mustard (move to high risk)
- Hemp (Badger G)
- *K. rhaeticus* (bacteria for dyeing vegan leather)

3. Animal Welfare Approved prerequisite – Proposal to include requirement in the body of the standards for improved auditability and consistency with logo use policies.

Current (in Introduction):

For Category 1 certification, when a product contains or is derived from any animal products, the livestock they originate from must also be approved under the Certified Animal Welfare Approved by AGW (AWA) species-specific standards.

Proposed new standard :

1.0.5 CNGMO products containing or derived from animal ingredients must come from livestock certified to the Certified Animal Welfare Approved by AGW (AWA) species-specific standards.

Note: Derogation may be granted in cases where AWA animal ingredients are not available. See [Logo Use Guidance for Certified Operators](#) for more information.

Certified Regenerative by AGW Standards

Scope-based certification – **Edit standard to permit scope-based certification**

Current:

1.0.3 *Certified Regenerative* is a ‘whole farm’ program, meaning the *Certified Regenerative* Standards must be met for all the species which the holding produces for sale or trade. Stewards

must not use “Split” or “Dual” Systems; for example, in which some crops are simultaneously farmed in systems that meet *Certified Regenerative Standards* as well as systems that do not, or systems that include conventional cropping using inputs not allowed by *Certified Regenerative Standards*, alongside a field of crops that are farmed using regenerative techniques.

Proposed:

1.0.3 Operators may apply for regenerative certification for a specific scope in their operation. Scope-based certification must adhere to the following requirements:

1.0.3.1 Separation must be shown and must be financially, physically and operationally distinct.

1.0.3.2 Certification must be linked to a defined area of land and the entire production of a defined product. For annual rotations, all land within the rotation must be included.

1.0.3.3 Certified products and animals must be under continuous management to Certified Regenerative standards.

Further Processor and Distributor Standards

Edit of full standard to include “Brands” and to improve consistency with logo use policies.

Link: <https://agreenerworld.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/07/Standards-for-Distributors-and-Processors-v4-draft-1-PUBLIC.pdf>