

**CB Forum/ACB Workshop Agenda**  
**Grower Group Certification**  
**31 May, 2007**

Desired Outcomes:

- *Awareness of Resources and training materials for GG certification, inspection, and internal control (including guidelines and requirements, other written materials, websites, organizations, consultants)*
- *Understanding of gaps between existing resources and current challenges*
- *Building consensus among CB's about attitudes, policies, and practices for ensuring competent, credible GG certification*
- *Identifying next steps*

I. Introduction – 60 minutes

- A. Objectives / outcomes stated; identification of existing resources
- B. Intended roles of workshop individual participants
  - 1. CBs
  - 2. IFOAM
  - 3. Other guests (government officials, accreditation bodies, etc.)
- C. Self-presentation of participants - role / experience the person has relative to GG's
- D. Basic, relevant GG statistics as provided by workshop attendees, and sharing profiles of selected grower groups

II. Overview of recent developments – 30 minutes

- A. Concerns raised by USDA and other parties
- B. Discussion of the need for GG certification in light of current market needs, projections for growth, fulfillment of IFOAM and related missions
  - Assessing consensus about the principle/validity of GG certification – i.e., validity in its own right as a certification scenario, not only as a derogation.

<break> 15-30 minutes (includes table top display where attendees can view resource materials)

III. Situation Analysis / Roles and Reality – plenary session breakout into small groups that then report back to plenary – 105 minutes

- A. Plenary - Relation of the different roles in a GG certification to the CB's verification that requirements are met:
  - 1. Identification of the different roles/categories and interactions involved
    - a. operator / internal control with inspector & certifier;
    - b. inspector with operator and certifier;
    - c. certifier with operator, inspector, and accreditor
  - 2. Relating roles with requirements
    - a. What qualifies as a GG? (Requirements for Groups/ICS)
    - b. How can it be effectively inspected? (Requirements/guidelines for inspectors/inspections)
    - c. How should certification be done? (Requirements/guidelines for CB operation)
- B. Small groups - Identification of guidelines/requirements that are easy, difficult (complicated, impractical, or poorly implemented), gaps (not addressed, unclear); Prioritization of improvements for each role/level in GG certification

IV. Closing – Next Steps Forward – 15 minutes

- A. Comprehensive survey to be undertaken by IFOAM
- B. Distribution of summary of this workshop
- C. Identification of support systems and related stakeholders
- D. Suggestions from the floor for moving head (e.g., additional workshop topics, trainings etc.)