

Results of the evaluation of the CBF meeting and workshop on the 18th of February 2007

Remark: This document is a transcript of the responses returned by the participants of the CBF meeting and workshop. The responses were not revised (summarized, edited or amended) in any way.

1. How useful was this workshop to and your CB? (0= not at all useful, 10 = exceptionally useful)

	0	2	4	6	8	10
Number of responses	0	0	4	10	7	1

2. What were the positive and useful aspects of the workshop? Answers:

- See what other CB's are doing in theory.
- Collective approach
- Sharing ideas with other CB's
- How best to reduce conversion periods considering regions e.g. EU and USA and DC's
- Update the information and progress
- Interaction
- Hearing and voicing different perspectives
- Exchange of experience
- To hear different aspects, experiences
- Exchange of information
- Getting to know each other
- Common understanding of discussed topics
- Exchange of approach
- Better insight in the complexity and importance of the conversion as a starting point in organic production
- Discourse of ideas/perspective among CB's
- Sharing practices
- Sharing information
- Hear different approaches
- Generate discussion to find common solutions
- Contacts, hearing

3. What aspects of the workshop could have been improved? Answers:

- Go deeper into practice (what CBs really do)
- Timing
- CB's should send documents, proposals in advance
- More time needed for better harmonization of standards
- More written document distribution
- Introduction too long/ Reduce time for presentation of each CB

- Finding a way to develop the agenda pre-meeting in a way that allows more CB input but does not take too much time or become too involved.
- More time in working groups
- Individual presentations/Introduction were too long
- Organize participation a little bit more towards the desired outcome of the WS
- More time for discussion
- Efficiency
- More time for workshop
- More time

4. Should the CB Forum have another workshop on conversion/transition?

	Yes	No	Not sure
Number of responses	7	10	5

If yes, what sub-topics should the CB Forum take up soon?

- DC context
- Not granting certification until the farmer has adequately demonstrated he/she knows how to produce organically (Please do not repeat topics of today WS, we do not have enough time)
- To compare and identify crucial aspects of non-harmony between regulatory standards
- More practical case studies
- Separate developed and developing country issues.
- Organize information sharing towards the wanted outcome (criteria, documents)
- Separate towards groups (geography, type of land)
- Come to the final guideline
- Agreement on common requirements
- Wrap up the developed material
- Criteria in Detail
- Parallel production driving(?) conversion

5. What other workshop topics should the CB Forum take up soon?

- Inspector Training/Education
- Unannounced Inspections
- Sampling/Sample Testing/(Pesticide) Residue Testing and analyzing results/Multiple Certification/
- CB of DC promotion
- Difference between official standards and private standards at least for certain market
- How best can certification costs be made friendly. Especially for grower groups in DC's in an effort to promote organic.
- Multiple certification/accreditation

- Agreement on what is a major non-compliance (ICS would possibly be open to leading a WS on this)
- How to easy communicate between CB's (for general but also specific issues)
- Internal Control Systems
- Grower Group Policies
- Seed policy
- The 3 on list plus group certification
- Sample testing should include into on what is possible to detect and what is not
- Standards
- Parallel, split production

6. What is your recommendation for the CB Forum workshop schedule?

	One workshop per year, at Biofach:	Two workshops per year at Biofach:	Two or more workshops per year, split between Biofach and one other venue:
Number of responses	10	3	5

Other suggestions:

Biofach and ACB meeting

7. What other feedback and suggestions do you have?

- Share information, better communication
- Thanks for the organization. We need more such WS's
- These meetings are useful. Scheduling them to coincide with other events such as Biofach makes it easier to attend them. Miles did a great job.
- To spread a list of members to all of us
- A good initiate this forum
- Single meeting on last day of Biofach