

Greenhouse Certification Program Update

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GCP & the Systems Approach

United States-Canada Greenhouse-Grown Plant Certification Program

- A critical program that facilitates trade between USA & Canada
- Replacing the current USGCP/CGCP (1996), significant revision of program requirements
- Based on the “systems approach” = use of multiple/combination of phytosanitary measures to mitigate risk of pest spread and introduction
- Includes pest management, inventory control, knowledge and application of both countries’ import requirements



The Need

- Program requirements changes from the existing USGCP/CGCP – facilities are taking on more responsibility
- Both industry and NPPOs need the GCP to succeed
- Desire to have consistency in:
 - Interpretation
 - Application

SOLUTION = FCG took the initiative to develop a robust training program for industry that is recognized by regulators

Training Content Development

- 2017-2018
- Flowers Canada Growers (FCG) successfully received federal funding from Agriculture & Agri-Food Canada (Assurance Stream under Growing Forward 2)
- Financial support also provided by FCG and Fédération Interdisciplinaire de L'Horticulture Ornementale du Québec (FIHOQ)



A Team Effort!



Who should be on the GCP?

1. Producers
2. Exporters
3. Suppliers to exporters

GCP Transition Timeline

Phase 1:

December 2019 – Submission of application forms to CFIA
(include List of Plants in Production!)

Phase 2:

Response from CFIA & Development/Submission of Pest
Management Plan and Modules

Phase 3:

Response from CFIA & Authorization Audit
Signing of Compliance Agreement

100% transition to the GCP by December 2020



Current Support Options for Industry

- Single point contact for all requests, using Google Groups – English & French (GCP@fco.ca)
- FCG website page with contact link
- Online GCP Industry Training Course
- Private training/support upon request (\$)
- CFIA local & regional support

Current Industry Uptake

- 230 users for online training
 - 105 facilities (BC to NB)
 - CFIA Policy and Operations staff
 - Industry Associations: IQDHO, FIHOQ, CNLA, FCG, UFG
- List is growing daily!

Successes

- FCG stepped in to fill a gap:
 - Dynamic, non-linear learning tool
 - Facility's can work at their own pace
 - Can search/learn specific topics
- This training is available and applicable to facilities in the USA as well as Canada
- A significant step forward in our relationship with CFIA Programs & Policy, as well as opening the door for a CFIA operations partnership
- Long term, a PARTNERSHIP between industry and NPPO will result in more effective phytosanitary success

Challenges

- Limited opportunity to interact with Operations Branch of CFIA
- Still inconsistencies across Canada with implementation
- Could have improvements in the training (List of Plants in Production, Broker)

2019-2020 Next Steps

- Flowers Canada Growers (FCG) applied for federal funding from Agriculture & Agri-Food Canada (Agri-Assurance Stream)
 - Sustainability Plan
 - Training materials & Train-the-trainer
 - Outreach to all potential facilities
- Financial support from FCG, FIHOQ, and revenues from direct support
- CFIA OPS-Industry partnership

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