



IIT KHARAGPUR



NPTEL ONLINE
CERTIFICATION COURSES

Organic Farming for Sustainable Agricultural Production

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Lecture 39: Operational Structure of Organic Certification

Operational Structure of National Programme for Organic Production (NPOP)



Operational Structure of National programme for Organic Production (NPOP)

National Steering Committee

- The programme will be developed and implemented by the Government of India through its **Ministry of Commerce and Industry (MoC)** as the **apex body**.
- The Ministry will **constitute a National Steering Committee for National Programme for Organic Production (SCNPOP)**, whose **members** will be **drawn from MoC, Ministry of Agriculture (MoA), Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA), Coffee Board, Spices Board and Tea Board** and other government and private organisations associated with the organic movement.
- **The SCNPOP will formulate a National Accreditation Policy and Programme (NAPP)** and draw up **National Standards for Organic Products (NSOP)**, which will include standards for **organic production and processes** as well as **the regulations** for use of the **National Organic Certification Mark**.

Operational Structure of National programme for Organic Production (NPOP)

National Accreditation Policy and Programme (NAPP)

- **National Accreditation Policy and Programme (NAPP)** will be administered by the National Accreditation Body, which will define the overall policy objectives for the Accreditation programmes and operations
- The NAPP and NSOP are subject to periodic internal review, which will be conducted by the **Technical Committee**, which will advise the National Steering Committee **about the need and content** of such amendments in the National Programme for Organic Production (**NPOP**)

Operational Structure of National programme for Organic Production (NPOP)

National Accreditation Body (NAB)

- The National Steering Committee would also function as the National Accreditation Body (NAB)
- **The members of the NAB** shall comprise of representatives from Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, APEDA, Coffee Board, Spices Board and Tea Board

Work:

- Drawing up procedures for evaluation and accreditation of certification programme
- Formulating procedures for evaluation of the agencies implementing the programmes.
- Accreditation of inspection and certification agencies

Operational Structure of National programme for Organic Production (NPOP)

Evaluation Committee (EC)

- Eligible Inspection and Certification Agencies implementing certification programmes will be evaluated by an Evaluation Committee.
- The Evaluation Committee will be appointed by the **National Accreditation Body (NAB)**.
- The members of the Evaluation Committee will comprise of members drawn from the APEDA, Coffee Board, Spices Board, Tea Board, Ministry of Agriculture and Export Inspection Council of India (EIC) / Export Inspection Agencies (EIAs).
- APEDA, on behalf of the NAB, will receive and screen applications from the certification agencies, will coordinate and arrange evaluation visits to ascertain the credentials of certification programmes of the applicants.
- EC will submit its recommendations to the NAB for considering **accreditation**.

Operational Structure of National programme for Organic Production (NPOP)

Accredited Inspection and Certification Agencies

- Based on the recommendations of the Evaluation Committee, eligible Inspection and Certification Agencies will be accredited by the National Accreditation Body.
- These agencies should be well versed with the operating procedures, the NSOP and the international standards.

Operational Structure of National programme for Organic Production (NPOP)

Inspectors

- **The inspectors**, appointed by the accredited **Inspection and Certification Agencies** will carry out inspection of the operations through records maintained by the operators as per specified formats and also by periodic site inspection.
- Based on compliance with the standards and certification programmes, accredited **Inspection and Certification Agencies** will **certify the organic status of products and operations**, specifying their conditions and recommendations

Inspection and Certification by Accredited agency

- Receipt of applications
- Providing standards and operational documents
- Agreement
- Demand for Fee
- Document audit
- Physical field inspection
- Risk assessment
- Compliance verification
- Reporting by inspector
- Review by reviewer
- Certification decision

Inspection methods

- ❖ Visits of facilities, fields, etc.
- ❖ Review of records and accounts.
- ❖ Calculation of input/output norms, production estimates etc. Assessment of production system
- ❖ Interview with responsible persons
- ❖ Risk assessment
- ❖ Part Conversion and Parallel Production
- ❖ Inspection for Use of Genetically Engineered Products
- ❖ Use of off-farm inputs
- ❖ Analysis for residue testing (if required)

Grower Group Certification

- Based on Internal Quality System
- Applicable to producer groups, farmer's cooperatives, contract production and small scale processing units
- The producers in the group must apply similar production systems and the farms should be in geographical proximity.



What is Internal Quality System (IQS)

- A group of producers create internal team for some tasks
- External certification agency delegates some inspection tasks to this group (known as IQS)
- IQS undertakes inspection on behalf of CB
- Certification agency evaluates the working of IQS and do random field inspection for verification
- Certification is granted to group as a whole as one unit

Minimum requirements for IQS

- **Development of Internal Control System (ICS) Identification of producer groups**
- **Creation of awareness about group certification among members**
- **Identification of qualified personnel for maintaining the internal control system**
- **Necessary training in production and IQS development**
- **Preparation of IQS manual containing policies and procedure**
- **Implementation of the policies and procedures**
- **Review and improvement of the IQS document for maintaining a harmonized IQS**