

HARD CONDITION OF AVOCADOS

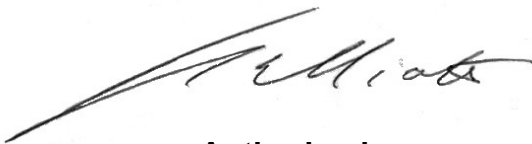
(ICA-30)

Operational Procedure

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The locations of current fruit fly outbreaks in South Australia are specified on the PIRSA website at <http://pir.sa.gov.au/fruitfly>.

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Table 1: Revision Register

Revision No.	Date of Issue	Amendment Detail
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1.0	17/05/2021	First Release

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1. PURPOSE

The purpose of this procedure is to describe:

- (a) the principles of operation, design features and standards required for hard condition of avocados; and
- (b) the responsibilities and actions of personnel;

that applies to the inspection of hard condition of avocados for Mediterranean Fruit Fly (MFF) and Queensland Fruit Fly (QFF) under an Interstate Certification Assurance (ICA) arrangement.

2. SCOPE

This procedure covers all certification of hard condition of avocados by a business operating under an ICA arrangement in South Australia.

This Procedure is applicable where the requirements specified in section 6 are a specified condition of entry of an interstate quarantine authority for QFF.

Pest: Mediterranean Fruit Fly (MFF) *Ceratitis capitata* and Queensland fruit Fly (QFF) *Bactrocera tryoni*

Produce: Avocado (specific varieties)
For **Mediterranean Fruit Fly:**

- (i) Hass
- (ii) Fuetre
- (iii) Sharwil
- (iv) Reed
- (v) Lamb Hass

For **Queensland Fruit Fly:**

- (i) Hass
- (ii) Lamb Hass

Location: Fruit Fly Outbreak Zone, Outbreak Area and Suspension Area within South Australia

This Procedure is separated into two (2) sections:

- Part A covering grower activities; and
- Part B covering packer activities.

Certification of avocados under this Procedure may not be an accepted quarantine entry condition for all produce to all intrastate and interstate markets.

Some intrastate or interstate markets may require additional plant health certification for pests and diseases other than fruit fly as a condition of entry.

It is the responsibility of the Business consigning the avocados to ensure compliance with all applicable quarantine requirements.

Information on intrastate and interstate quarantine requirements can be obtained by phoning 08 8207 7814



3. REFERENCES

Table 2: References

Item	Source
Plant Health Act 2009	https://www.legislation.sa.gov.au/LZ/C/A/Plant%20Health%20Act%202009.aspx
WI-01	<i>Guidelines for Completion of Plant Health Assurance Certificates</i>

4. DEFINITIONS

Table 3: Definition of terms and phrases

Item	Definition
Act	The <i>Plant Health Act 2009</i> .
Authorised Dispatcher	The person responsible for ensuring all packages covered by a Plant Health Assurance Certificate (PHAC) are identified and for keeping copies of PHAC's issued by the business.
Authorised Person	An inspector authorised under the Act or person authorised under a law of another State or Territory relating to plant biosecurity.
Authorised Signatory	An officer of an ICA accredited business whose name and specimen signature are provided as an authorised signatory with the business's completed Application for Accreditation form.
Avocado	Fruit of the Fuete, Hass, Lamb Hass, Reed or Sharwil cultivars of the species <i>Persea americana</i> .
Block	An identifiable area of land on which produce is grown and that is detailed on the Property Plan.
Broken skin	Any pre-harvest crack, puncture or other break of the skin that penetrates through to the flesh and has not healed with callus tissue.
Business	The legal entity responsible for the operation of the facility and an Interstate Certification Assurance (ICA) arrangement detailed on the businesses Application for Accreditation.
Certification	A Plant Health Certificate or a Plant Health Assurance Certificate, which verifies that a consignment meets the requirements of an Interstate Certification Assurance Procedure or an interstate quarantine entry requirement.



Certification Assurance Arrangement	A Certification Assurance Arrangement that enables a business or a person authorised under a corresponding law of a State or Territory, to issue a Plant Health Assurance Certificate that meets certain plant health quarantine conditions for trade within the State or between the State and other States and Territories.
Certification Controller	The person with overall responsibility for making sure all day to day activities and processes are consistent with Requirements and Procedures set out in this ICA.
Consignment	A discrete quantity of avocados transported to a single consignee at one (1) time, covered by a single Grower Declaration (Part A) or Plant Health Assurance Certificate (Part B).
Department	Department of Primary Industries and Regions (PIRSA)
Facility	A location where produce is assembled, inspected, securely stored, certified and dispatched, and where certification operations covered by the ICA arrangement are conducted.
Grader/Packer	The person/s responsible for ensuring all avocados to be certified meet the physical requirements, and are free of fruit fly infestation, as well as making sure that conforming and non-conforming products are not mixed.
Hard condition	Fruit that is deliberately detached from healthy branches of living trees and showing no signs of softening or spotted areas, or of having any areas of breakdown or broken skin on any part of the fruit.
Harvest Supervisor	The person responsible for overseeing the harvest process to make sure that everything is conducted as prescribed under this Procedure for certification.
ICA Scheme	A scheme developed by the States and Territories to meet their respective plant quarantine requirements under the Memorandum of Understanding on Interstate Certification Assurance dated 6 August 1999.
Grower Declaration	A declaration issued by an Authorised Signatory declaring it was harvested in the condition specified in the scope.
Lot	A quantity of homogenous product assembled for inspection at one (1) place and at one (1) time. A lot could consist of product from one or more growers/blocks/properties.
Mediterranean fruit fly (MFF)	The pest <i>Ceratitidis capitata</i> .
Non-conformance	A failure to fulfil a specified requirement.
Package	The complete outer covering or container used to transport and market the product.



Packed product	Avocados in packages following grading and packing and ready for marketing.
PHAC	A Plant Health Assurance Certificate that is issued in accordance with the requirements of a Certification Assurance Arrangement.
Picker/s	The person/s responsible for harvesting of hard avocados as prescribed in the Procedure.
Produce Receival Officer	The person/s responsible for ensuring that all avocados received for certification are sourced from businesses accredited under this Procedure (Part A).
Property	One (1) or more contiguous parcels of land (lots on plan), owned or leased by a Business, that are managed as a unit and isolated from any other parcel of land owned or leased by the same Business.
Queensland fruit fly (QFF)	The pest <i>Bactrocera tryoni</i> .

5. RESPONSIBILITY

Position titles have been created to reflect the responsibilities which must be met by the Business under the ICA arrangement. These positions must be assigned to trained staff. One person may carry out the responsibilities of more than one position.

The **Certification Controller** is responsible for:

- representing the Business during audits and other matters relevant to the ICA Procedure;
- training staff in their duties and responsibilities under this ICA Procedure;
- ensuring the Business and staff comply with their responsibilities and duties;
- ensuring all declaration/certification of avocados is carried out in accordance with this Procedure;



Under Part A

- Ensuring the Business has current accreditation for an ICA arrangement under PART A of this Procedure;
- maintaining a Property Plan for each property on which the avocados are to be grown for certification under this Procedure;
- maintaining a current training register for pickers;
- instigating action following detection of suspected live QFF/MFF infestation at harvest;
- ensuring avocados are stored under secure conditions within 24 hours of harvest; and
- ensuring a Grower Declaration is completed.

The **Picker** is responsible for:

- harvesting only hard avocados, which are deliberately detached from healthy branches of living trees, for certification under this procedure;
- placing conforming avocados in harvest containers that have been labelled with a unique package identification number.

The **Harvest Supervisor** is responsible for:

- overseeing the harvest process to ensure only conforming avocados varieties are harvested for certification under this procedure; and
- ensuring non conforming avocados are clearly identified and segregated to avoid mixing with conforming avocados; and
- performing harvest inspection to verify hard condition; and
- notifying the Certification Controller of any non-conforming avocados detected at harvest; and
- maintaining records of inspection and storage on the Harvest and Storage Record.
- ensuring a Grower Declaration accompanies the produce to the PART B packer if this is a separate Business.

The **Authorised Signatory** is responsible for:

- signing and issuing the Grower Declaration; and
- ensuring that the avocados declared under the Grower Declaration has been completed in accordance with this ICA Procedure and that the details on the declaration are true and correct in every particular.



The **Authorised Dispatcher** is responsible for:

- ensuring all packages covered by a Grower Declaration issued by the Business are identified; and
- maintaining copies of all declarations issued by the Business under the Procedure.

Under Part B

- Ensuring the Business has current accreditation for an ICA arrangement under PART B of this Procedure;
- ensuring all avocados received for post-harvest packing and inspection and certification under PART B of this Procedure are sourced from a Business accredited under PART A of this Procedure and are accompanied by a valid Grower Declaration;
- maintaining a current training register for graders and packers;
- overseeing the grading and packing of avocados for certification under this procedure;
- taking corrective action following detection of a QFF/MFF infestation during grading and packing or packed product inspection; and
- maintaining packing records for all certified avocados.

The **Produce Reveal Officer** is responsible for:

- ensuring all avocados received for grading, packing and certification under PART B of this Procedure are sourced from a Business accredited under PART A of this Procedure; and
- ensuring all avocados grown and harvested by another Business is accompanied by a completed Grower Declaration.

The **Grader/Packer** is responsible for:

- inspecting avocados for signs of softening or broken skin, and identifying and isolating any non-conforming produce during grading and packing; and
- ensuring all non-conforming avocados are identified and controlled to prevent mixing with conforming avocados; and
- ensuring all avocados packed for certification under PART B of this Procedure are free from visible symptoms of QFF/MFF infestation.

The **Authorised Signatory** is responsible for:

- signing and issuing the PHAC; and



- ensuring that the avocados certified under the PHAC, has been completed in accordance with this ICA Procedure and that the details on the PHAC are true and correct in every particular.

The **Authorised Dispatcher** is responsible for:

- ensuring all packages covered by a PHAC issued by the Business are identified; and
- maintaining duplicate copies of all PHACs issued by the Business under the Procedure.

6. REQUIREMENT

Avocados certified under the Procedure must comply with the following:

- (a) Harvested and packed in hard condition.

Hard condition means the avocado is deliberately detached from healthy branches of living trees and showing no signs of softening or spotted areas, or of having any areas of breakdown or broken skin on any part of the avocado.

7. PROCEDURE

7.1 Audit process

7.1.1 Initial audit

Prior to accrediting a Business, an initial audit is carried out to verify the Business has adequately trained staff so as to be capable of operating in accordance with the requirements of the Operational Procedure. The system and training must be effective in ensuring compliance with the specified requirements of the ICA arrangement.

On completion of a successful initial audit, applicants will be granted accreditation and provided a Certificate of Accreditation for the current season, up to a maximum of twelve months from the date of the initial audit (refer 7.1.4 Certificate of Accreditation).

7.1.2 Compliance audits

Compliance Audits are conducted to verify that the ICA system continues to operate in accordance with the requirements of the Operational Procedure.

Compliance audits are, wherever practical, conducted when the ICA system is operating.

A compliance audit is conducted within four weeks of the successful initial audit or the first re-consignment undertaken under this arrangement to ensure compliance with the requirements.

A compliance audit is conducted within 12 weeks of renewal and again between six and nine months after the date of accreditation for an ICA arrangement if operating for more than six months of the year.

7.1.3 Re-accreditation

Accredited Businesses are required to re-apply for accreditation each year the business seeks to operate under the ICA arrangement. Businesses seeking re-accreditation must lodge a renewal application prior to accreditation lapsing, or if accreditation has lapsed, prior to being accredited to certify produce under the ICA arrangement.



A compliance audit is conducted within four weeks of the Business applying for re-accreditation each year.

7.1.4 Certificate of accreditation

An accredited Business will receive a Certificate of Accreditation for an Interstate Certification Assurance Arrangement detailing the facility location, Operational Procedure, scope (type of produce) and period of accreditation.

The Business must maintain a current Certificate of Accreditation and make this available on request by an Inspector.

A Business must not commence or continue certification of produce under the ICA arrangement unless it is in possession of a valid and current Certificate of Accreditation for the procedure, produce type and chemical covered by the Interstate Assurance Certificate.

7.2 Property plan

Part A - Covers grower activities

A Property Plan must be provided with the application for accreditation of a Business for each block/land holding on which avocados are grown (see Attachment 2) for certification under this procedure.

The Property Plan must include the following:

- (a) location of all the blocks on which the produce is grown;
- (b) Block Reference Code or Number used to identify each block;
- (c) variety and number of avocado trees planted in the block;
- (d) road access including street name/s;
- (e) internal roadways within the property;
- (f) location and identification of buildings (e.g. house, packing shed, equipment sheds); and
- (g) whether it is intended to certify produce harvested from the block under the ICA arrangement.

If any changes occur to the Property Plan information, a new Property Plan must be submitted to the PIRSA ICA Contact Officer.

7.3 Harvesting

All avocados harvested for certification under this procedure must be deliberately detached from healthy branches of living trees. Avocados must be free of soft or spotted areas, and must be free of areas of breakdown and broken skin.

7.3.1 Training for pickers

Pickers must be trained in the requirements of hard conditions of avocados. The Certification Controller must ensure Pickers have completed on-site training and demonstrated an ability to harvest avocados in accordance with the requirement of hard condition.

A Training Register must be maintained by the Certification Controller. Only persons listed in the register must harvest avocados for certification under this Procedure (Attachment 3.) The Training Register must include the following:

- (a) the name and Interstate Produce (IP) number of the accredited Business that harvested and inspected the avocados;



- (b) the name of the employee completing the training;
- (c) the date of the training;
- (d) the type of training;
- (e) the signature of the employee completing the training; and
- (f) the name and signature of the Certification Controller.

7.3.2 Harvest requirements

The Harvest Supervisor must oversee the harvest process to ensure only conforming cultivars of avocados are harvested for certification/declaration under this Procedure.

Only hard avocados must be harvested for certification/declaration under this Procedure.

Avocados in hard condition must be placed in identified harvest containers (e.g. field bin or crate) and labelled with a unique harvest container identification number. Harvest containers must contain only one (1) cultivar harvested from an identical block of trees in one day.

Harvest containers allocated for harvesting an identified source block must be recorded on the Harvest and Storage Record (Attachment 4). Prior to commencing harvest the Harvest Supervisor must record all details on the Harvest and Storage Record.

Avocados that do not comply with the requirement of hard condition must be either:

- (a) collected in windrows for disposal (e.g. to be mulched or buried); or
- (b) collected in clearly marked or distinctly coloured bins or crates so that they can be easily identified as non-conforming avocados.

7.3.3 Identification and control of non-conforming product at harvest

The Harvest Supervisor must ensure that any avocado which does not conform to the harvest requirements is clearly identified and segregated to prevent mixing with conforming avocados.

Methods for identifying and segregating conforming and non-conforming avocados during harvest may include:

- (a) placing non-conforming avocados in a defined and separate area to conforming avocados and maintaining separation until conforming avocados are packed or dispatched under a Grower Declaration; or
- (b) placing non-conforming avocados in reject or waste bins, or in other containers which are clearly marked or significantly different in appearance.

Other methods may be used provided they clearly identify conforming and non-conforming avocados.

7.4 Harvest Inspection

The Harvest Supervisor must carry out an inspection for hard condition each day during the period avocados are harvested for certification under this Procedure.

The Harvest Supervisor must select 10 avocados from every 500 kg harvested or part thereof. The avocados selected for inspection from an inspection lot must be sampled randomly across the whole surface of the harvesting containers that are accessible.

The Harvest Supervisor must examine the entire surface of each avocado. Any avocado showing signs of softening, spotted areas or skin areas displaying areas of breakdown, or any broken skin on any part, must be considered non-conforming.



Harvest inspection must be completed:

- (a) **in the case of a Business that is a different Business to the packer** – prior to completion of the Grower Declaration and delivery to the packer; or
- (b) **in the case of a Business which both grows and packs the avocados** – in conjunction with the post-harvest inspection, each day prior to dispatch of avocados under this Procedure.

7.4.1 Action following identification of non-conforming produce at harvest

- (a) The Harvest Supervisor must notify the Certification Controller when avocados inspected show signs of softening, spotted areas, areas of breakdown or broken skin. The Certification Controller must take the following actions: all avocados from the inspection lot (i.e. bin or pallet) must be inspected for hard condition, with any non-conforming avocados graded out and rejected; or
- (b) the entire inspection lot must be rejected.

All rejections must be recorded on the Harvest and Storage Record (Attachment 4).

7.4.2 Rejected produce at harvest

All harvested avocados that are rejected for hard condition must be isolated and clearly identified to prevent mixing with conforming avocados. Rejected avocados must not be certified/declared under this Procedure.

7.5 Post-harvest storage

Avocados identified for certification/declaration in accordance with this procedure must enter secure storage conditions within 24 hours of harvest. The avocados must remain in secure conditions at all times except during grading and packing operations.

The time and date of secure storage for each inspection lot must be recorded on the Harvest and Storage Record (Attachment 4).

Secure storage conditions include:

- (a) unvented packages; or
- (b) vented packages with the vents secured with gauze/mesh with a maximum aperture of 1.6 mm; or
- (c) fully enclosed under tarpaulins, hessian, shade cloth, mesh or other covering which provide a maximum aperture of 1.6 mm; or
- (d) shrink wrapped and sealed as a pelletised unit; or
- (e) fully enclosed or screened buildings, cold rooms, vehicles or other facilities free from gaps or other entry points greater than 1.6 mm.

It is recommended that the inspection and packing of avocados occurs within 24 hours of harvest unless stored below 10^o C to maintain hard condition.

7.5.1 Harvest records

The Harvest Supervisor must maintain records of the harvesting process. The harvest records must include details of the block and varieties harvested, harvest inspection results, details of action taken on identification of non-conformance and post-harvest storage.

Harvest records must be in the form of a Harvest Storage Record (Attachment 4) or a record which captures similar information.



Harvest records should include:

- (a) the IP Number of the Business that harvested the avocados; and
- (b) the date and time harvest commenced; and
- (c) the date of inspection; and
- (d) the block/s from which the produce was harvested; and
- (e) the cultivar of avocado; and
- (f) the harvest container identification number; and
- (g) the number and type of harvest container; and
- (h) the approximate weight of harvest container; and
- (i) the number of avocados inspected; and
- (j) the number rejected; and
- (k) action taken on rejection; and
- (l) the date and time of entering secure storage; and
- (m) the name and signature of the Harvest Supervisor.

7.6 Grower delaration

A Business which harvests avocados for packing and certification by another business must be accredited under Part A of this procedure.

The business must provide a Grower Declaration (Attachment 5) with each delivery of avocados supplied to the packing business for certification. The Grower Delaration describes the harvest and storage details for each delivery of avocados.

A declaration is not required where the business that harvests the avocados is the same business that packs and certifies the avocados.

The Grower Delaration must identify:

- (a) the name and IP Number of the accredited business that harvested the avocados; and
- (b) the Block Reference Code or Number Identification of the source block/s; and
- (c) the cultivar of avocado; and
- (d) the date of harvest; and
- (e) the harvest container identification number; and
- (f) the number and type of harvest containers; and
- (g) that the avocados have been inspected at harvest, verified to be in a hard condition and stored in secure conditions within 24 hours; and
- (h) a description of the secure storage conditions; and
- (i) the name and signature of the Authorised Signatory



8. PROCEDURE – PART B

Part B – Covers the packer activities of produce receipt, grading and packing, post-harvest inspection and certification

8.1 Receipt of produce

The Produce Receipt Officer must ensure that all avocados received for certification under this procedure are supplied by a business accredited under Part A.

All avocados received at the packing facility for certification must be identified by a unique harvest container identification number. Any harvest container (e.g. bin or pallet of crates) that is not clearly identified with a unique harvest container number must be regarded as non-conforming for the purpose of this procedure.

8.1.1 Receipt of avocados harvested by another business

A business which packs avocados harvested by another business must ensure:

- (a) each delivery of avocados supplied by another business for certification must comply with the conditions set out within Part A of this procedure and be accompanied by a Grower Declaration (Attachment 5); and
- (b) avocados supplied for certification has been stored in secure conditions within 24 hours of harvest; and
- (c) grower and harvest identification is maintained on all avocados received and certified under this procedure from receipt through to certification and dispatch.

The business must maintain copies of all declarations received from businesses accredited under Part A whose avocados they pack and certify under this procedure.

8.2 Grading and packing

Conforming avocados must remain under secure conditions at all times except during actual handling operations, such as grading and packing, up until the time of dispatch.

All practicable measures must be taken to ensure security of the avocados are maintained during activities that may expose it to the risk of infestation (e.g. bulk bins of unpacked avocados and part pallets must be secured against infestation as soon as practicable).

8.2.1 Training for graders and packers

Graders and Packers must be trained in the requirements of hard condition avocados. The Certification Controller must ensure Graders and Packers have completed on-site training and can demonstrate an ability to identify conforming avocados, and reject avocados showing signs of breakdown including softening, spotted areas, or areas of broken down and broken skin.

A Training Register must be maintained by the Certification Controller. Only persons currently listed in the register must grade and pack avocados for certification under this procedure. (See Attachment 3)

The Training Register must identify:

- (a) the name and Interstate Produce (IP) number of the business; and
- (b) the name of the employee successfully completing the training; and



- (c) the date of the training; and
- (d) the type of training; and
- (e) the signature of the employee successfully completing the training; and
- (f) the name and signature of the Certification Controller.

8.2.2 Identification and control of non-conforming produce during grading and packing

The business must ensure that no mixing of conforming and non-conforming avocados can occur during the grading and packing operation.

All avocados that are found to be non-conforming must be segregated to prevent mixing with conforming avocados.

Examples of segregation of nonconforming avocados must include:

- (a) packing conforming avocados at different times to non-conforming fruit and clearing the lines before changing over; or
- (b) packing conforming and non-conforming avocados in different packing lines.

Other methods may be used provided they clearly identify and segregate conforming and non-conforming avocados.

8.2.3 Post-harvest inspection

The Certification Controller must oversee the grading and packing process to ensure only conforming avocados are packed for certification.

All avocados graded and packed for certification must be examined for conformance with hard condition during grading and packing (see attachment 7). Graders and packers must examine the entire surface of each avocado. Any avocado showing signs of softening, spotted areas or skin areas displaying areas of breakdown, or any broken skin on any part of the avocado, must be considered non-conforming (see attachment 6).

8.2.4 Action following identification of non-conforming produce during grading and packing

Graders and Packers must notify the Certification Controller on detection of non-conforming avocados. The Certification Controller must take the following actions:

- (a) all avocados from the inspection lot (i.e. bin or pallet) must be inspected for hard condition, with any non-conforming avocados graded out and rejected; or
- (b) the entire inspection lot (i.e. bin or pallet) must be rejected; and
- (c) a trace back to the source of non-conformity to identify and rectify any problem to prevent a recurrence.

Actions taken in response to a detection of non-conforming produce must be recorded:

- (a) in the 'Action taken' column of the Harvest and Storage Record if the packing business harvested the avocados; or
- (b) on the Grower Declaration if the packing business did not harvest the avocados as the business accredited under Part A of the Operational Procedure.



8.2.5 Rejected produce at grading and packing

All avocados that are rejected for hard condition must be isolated and clearly identified to prevent mixing with conforming avocados.

Rejected avocados must be either:

- (a) treated and certified in accordance with an alternative quarantine entry condition; or
- (b) consigned to markets that do not require certification for fruit fly; or
- (c) disposed of on-site; or
- (d) transported off-site to waste.

8.2.6 Identification of conforming and non-conforming avocados after packing

A business which grades and packs conforming and non-conforming avocados must implement systems to identify the condition status of the avocados after packing to prevent mixing conforming and non-conforming avocados.

Examples of acceptable methods of identifying conforming and non-conforming avocados after packing include:

- (a) using packaging which differs significantly in appearance; or
- (b) marking each package of conforming avocados in a manner that clearly identifies the avocados as meeting the conditions of this procedure.

Other methods may be used provided they clearly identify conforming and non-conforming avocados.

8.2.7 Packing records

Packing records must be maintained by the Certification Controller that provides trace back of certified avocados to the source block.

Packing records must be in the form of Hard Condition Packing Record (Attachment 8) or a record which captures the same or similar information.

Packing records must include:

- (a) the IP Number of the business that packed the avocados; and
- (b) the date of packing; and
- (c) the IP Number of the business that harvested the avocados; and
- (d) the harvest container identification number; and
 - (e) the number of harvest container numbers; and
 - (f) the PHAC numbers certifying the packed produce; and
 - (g) identification of the Certification Controller.

8.3 Post-inspection security (Tasmania and South Australia only)

Packing must commence as soon as practicable after grading and post-harvest inspection.

Conforming packed avocados must be held for the minimum practical period after grading before securing against infestation.



Certified produce must be stored and transported under secure conditions which prevent infestation by fruit fly.

Secure conditions include:

- (a) unvented packages;
- (b) vented packages with the vents secured with gauze/mesh with a maximum aperture of 1.6mm;
- (c) fully enclosed under tarpaulins, hessian, shade cloth, mesh or other covering which provides a maximum aperture of 1.6mm;
- (d) shrink-wrapped and sealed as a palletised unit;
- (e) fully enclosed or screened buildings, cool rooms, vehicles or other facilities free from gaps or other entry points greater than 1.6mm.

Avocados consigned to Tasmania or South Australia must be transported in full container lots sealed prior to transport, or as lesser container lots in accordance with the requirements of 8.3 (a), (b) or (d) above.

Where consignments are transported to Tasmania as full container lots, the seal number must be included in the brand Name and Identifying Marks section of the Assurance Certificate covering the consignment.

Where consignments are transported in vented packages that are sealed as a palletised unit in accordance with 8.3 (d) above, the business must secure the top layer of the pallet by applying a continuous band of tape over the shrink-wrap and have applied to the tape in waterproof ink the signature of an Authorised Signatory, the number of the PHAC covering the consignment and the date.

8.4 Dispatch

8.4.1 Package identification

The Authorised Dispatcher must ensure that, prior to issuing a PHAC, each package intended for certification under this procedure is marked in indelible and legible characters of at least 5mm with:

- (a) the IP number of the business that operates the approved facility in which the avocados were packed; and
- (b) the words “Meets ICA-30”; and
- (c) the date (or date code) on which the avocados were packed; and
- (d) the IP number or other identifier of the grower of the avocados, where the grower is a different business to the packer; and
- (e) the description of the contents indicating variety.

Where the packer uses a different identifier to the IP number of the grower, the packer must maintain a Grower Identifier Record that matches the grower identifier with the grower’s names or IP number so that the grower can be easily identified if required.

Any packages containing produce that has not been prepared in accordance with the requirements of this procedure must not be marked as stated above.



8.4.2 Plant Health Assurance Certificates

The Authorised Dispatcher must ensure a PHAC (Attachment 9) is completed and signed by an Authorised Signatory prior to the consignment being dispatched.

PHACs must be completed, issued and distributed in accordance with the work instruction WI-01 'Guidelines for the completion of Plant Health Assurance Certificates' Assurance Certificates'.

PHACs must include:

- (a) in the '*Accredited Business that Prepared the Produce*' section, the name and address of the Accredited Business of that produce; and
- (b) in the '*Grower*' section, the name and address of the property on which the avocados were sourced. Where the consignment contains avocados from a number of growers the word "VARIOUS" must be used; and
- (c) in the 'Consignment Details' section,
 - (i) the number and type of packages in the consignment; and
 - (ii) in the '*Produce Type*' column, a description of the avocados.

The business must not issue a PHAC for avocados owned by another business. An individual PHAC must be issued to cover each consignment to avoid splitting of consignments.

8.4.3 PHAC distribution

The **original** (yellow copy) must accompany the consignment.

The **duplicate** (white copy) must be retained by the accredited business.

9. RECORDS AND DOCUMENT CONTROL

9.1 ICA System Records

The Business must maintain the following records, or similar which record the same information:

Under **PART A**

- (a) current 'Property Plan' for each block/source property (Attachment 2); and
- (b) Training Register (Attachment 3); and
- (c) Harvest and Storage Record (Attachment 4); and
- (d) Grower Declarations (Attachment 5)

Under **PART B**

- (a) Grower Declarations (Attachment 5); and
- (b) Training Register (Attachment 3); and
- (c) Hard Condition Packing Record (Attachment 8); and
- (d) duplicate copy of each PHAC issued under this Procedure.

Records must be retained for 12 months from completion.

Records must be made available on request to an Authorised Person.



9.2 ICA system documents

The Business must maintain the following documentation:

- (a) a current copy of the Procedure; and
- (b) a copy of the business' current Application for Accreditation; and
- (c) a current Certificate of Accreditation.

Documentation must be made available on request to an Authorised Person.

10. ATTACHMENTS

Table 4: List of attachments

Attachment #	Title
1	Application for Accreditation
2	Property Plan
3	Training Register
4	Harvest and Storage Record
5	Growers Declaration
6	Example of Non Conforming Avocados
7	Example of Conforming Avocados
8	Hard Condition Packing Record
9	Plant Health Assurance Certificate

ANNUAL RETURN
FOR AN INTERSTATE CERTIFICATION ASSURANCE ACCREDITATION

Review / complete clearly and return to Biosecurity SA - Plant Health Operations, 33 Flemington Street Glenside SA, 5065.

Or email scanned completed copy to pirs.planthealthmarketaccess@sa.gov.au

(Please print. See Conditions and Application Instructions on pages 2 and 3 of this Application.)

Type of application being made (Tick or mark one): Annual Return New Amendment

NOTE: This application can only cover one Procedure (Arrangement) at one Facility

Has Business previously been registered for movement of produce? Yes No

If yes, provide the Interstate Produce (IP) Number (& Facility number).

S

Operational Procedure / Arrangement (# Arrangement details must be included - see note on page 3)

ICA/CA/IR Number

Title of Arrangement, Operational Procedure or Registration *

ICA30

Hard Condition of Avocado

Applicant Details.

Type of Ownership of Business.

Part A Part B Part A and B

Individual Partnership Incorporated Company Cooperative Association Trust Government

Individual Name:

Business Name:

Postal Address Line 1:

Suburb:

Partners Names:

(Provide additional partners on a separate sheet)

Other Trading Names:

ABN / ACN Number:

Last Name	First Name		
Line 2:			
State:		Postcode:	
Last Name		First Name	
Last Name		First Name	

Have you, any Partner or Director of the Business or anyone in a Management role been convicted of an indictable offence or other offence involving dishonesty in the past five years? (answer by circling / marking appropriate box).

Yes No

A Company must attach a copy of *Certification of Incorporation* with new applications.

Certification is attached

A Co-operative Association must attach a copy of *Certificate or Registration* to new applications

Facility / Accreditation Details

Facility Address Line 1:

Suburb:

Accreditation Contact:

Position:

Property Valuation No.:

Contact Details:

Postal Address

Postal Suburb

Line 2:			
State:		Postcode:	
Last Name		First Name	
Section:		Hundred:	
Phone:		Mobile:	
Fax:		Email:	
Line 2:			
State:		Postcode:	

Persons Permitted to Sign or Verify Plant Health Certification

Role	Last Name, First Name	Specimen Signature
Certification Controller / Responsible Person		
Backup Cert Controller / Responsible Person		
Authorised Signatory / Responsible Person		
Authorised Signatory / Responsible Person		

Products Certified / Imported:

(List all fruit and vegetable types, machinery, grapevines or nursery stock)

Seasonal Operator: (tick or Y = Yes)

NO	YES	Months Operating:

Importing Details

Consignments per year:

States of Origin: (tick or Y = Yes)

Nursery Membership (tick or Y = Yes)					NGISA	NIASA	AGCAS
QLD	VIC	WA	NSW	NT	TAS	Y	Overseas

ENSURE YOU ALSO COMPLETE AND SIGN SECOND PAGE

ANNUAL RETURN
FOR AN INTERSTATE CERTIFICATION ASSURANCE ACCREDITATION

Product / Certification Assurance Records and Methodology

The business must carry out the necessary responsibilities and duties, and maintain records strictly in accordance with the applicable Operational Procedure unless permission to use different records/methods is requested below and is granted and endorsed by Biosecurity SA - Plant and Food Standards on this form.

I hereby request to use the following alternative or additional records/methods detailed below.

	Granted by PIRSA <input type="checkbox"/>	PIRSA STAMP	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Inspector Initials / Stamp		

I / We the undersigned applicant(s) do hereby declare that the information provided herein is accurate to the best of my/our knowledge and belief and make this application on my behalf, or on behalf of the above-mentioned business as a representative appointed to do so.

*Partner, Director / Approved Representative	Designation	Signature	Date
			/ /
			/ /
			/ /

For corporations/associations a Director, Company Secretary or Manager with legal authority to sign for the company must sign.
Use the following checklist to ensure you have provided key information to enable the application to be processed.

- Parties have signed above.
 All Responsible Persons have signed page 1.
 ABN is provided.
 Type of ownership indicated.
 Copy of Company Certification attached (new applicants).

Applicants must provide an Annual Return on the prescribed form each year they are accredited.

Incomplete applications will delay processing as they will need to be returned

Please direct any queries regarding this application or the Accreditation/Registration to the Market Access Officer on 8207 7814.

Office Use Only

DESK AUDIT <input type="checkbox"/> Passed <input type="checkbox"/> Not Passed because			
Alternate record-keeping granted Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>			
Name of Desk Auditor (please print)	Signature of Officer	Date / /	PIRSA STAMP

Conditions of Accreditation S16 / Registration S26

For the purposes of this accreditation / registration the following conditions shall apply:

- The applicant must operate in full accordance with the Act and for ICA/CA Arrangements with the applicable Operational Procedure, which includes maintenance and provision of prescribed records for regular audit.
- The applicant is responsible to ensure that staff undertaking responsibilities required of this accreditation are adequately trained to do so.
- The frequency and number of audits will be determined by the Minister and carried out by persons authorised by the Minister.
- All fees for audits and inspections will be set by the Minister and the costs borne by the accredited person or business.
- The applicant will receive a Certificate of Accreditation / Registration which must be prominently displayed at the Business Facility.
- Restrictions may be imposed on the type of product an importer may bring into South Australia.

A copy of the relevant Operation Procedure or Act can be viewed or downloaded from - www.pir.sa.gov.au/ica

Issue of Assurance Certificates / Registration of Importers / Verification of Product

The Plant Health Act 2009 requires any person issuing a Plant Health Assurance Certificate (PHAC) to be accredited to do so. Penalties apply. (see section 25).

The Plant Health Act 2009 requires any person bringing or introducing plant or plant related products into SA to be registered (section 26) and imported products require verification. It is an offence to import without being registered or to fail to have imported product verified. Penalties apply (see sections 7, 25 and 33).

Only an accredited person may issue an assurance certificate (PHAC) or verify imported products (ie verify that an assurance certificate or other document relating to a plant or plant related product under a corresponding law complies with the requirements of the corresponding law). It is an offence to issue a Plant Health Assurance Certificate or verify imported product without being accredited. Penalties apply (see sections 7, 25 and 33).

ENSURE YOU ALSO READ PAGE 3

ANNUAL RETURN
FOR AN INTERSTATE CERTIFICATION ASSURANCE ACCREDITATION

Application Notes

The form must be fully completed by an Applicant on their behalf or on behalf of a legal entity/business that they have authority to represent.

Attach a separate page if there is insufficient space available for all required details. (Late fees apply for Annual Returns)

Operational Procedure / Arrangement

The ICA / CA / IR number and name you are seeking Accreditation/Registration for must be entered here.

E.g. ICA23, CA01 etc. Applications without these details will be delayed or not processed.

Applicant Details

- **Type of Ownership** shall be either - Individual, Partnership, Trust, Incorporated Company, Co-operative Association, Trust or other legal entity. (It may not be a Family Trust).
- **Name of the Legal Entity** either Individual, Business, Corporation, Association or Trust (if a Family Trust a trustee representing the Trust). Use attachment if insufficient room.
- **Address**; postal address of business is required.
- **Partners Names**; at least one partner representing the partnership must be provided.
- **Other Trading Name(s)**; List any other trading names used. Use attachment if insufficient room.
- **ABN / ACN Number**; ABN is the Australian Business Number.
- **Convictions**; Need to answer whether you, or any Director of the business or anyone in a Management role has been convicted of an indictable offence or offence involving dishonesty in the past five years ? This question must be answered. If it is not, the application will not be processed.

Facility / Accreditation Details

- **Facility Address / Location**; Clearly indicate the location or physical address details where product will be prepared/verified that will enable a PIRSA officer to easily locate the premises. (Usually the registered address of the business).
- **Contact**; Name and role of the principal contact to be used in regard to the accreditation/Registration.
- **Property Valuation Number and Section and Hundred**; Must clearly indicate the Property Valuation Number, Section and Hundred of the property. These are available from the Council rate notice.
- **Postal Address**; A mailing address may be provided for posting of all correspondence.

Persons Permitted To Sign or Verify Plant Health Certification

- **Role**; The role of the person able to verify product on behalf of the accredited business.
- **Names**; The full name and specimen signature of each of these persons.

Product Details

- **Products Certified / Imported**; Indicate the imported product / equipment / machinery you expect to certify/verify using this procedure.
- **Seasonal Operator**; Indicate whether seasonal operation will apply and if so what months.
- **Consignments per year**; Importers to provide estimate number of consignments per year
- **Nursery Membership**; Nurseries to provide membership details
- **States of Origin**; Provide a yes for States that product is expected to come from.

Product / Certification Assurance Records and Methodology

- Complete only if you wish to maintain records in alternate method to that specified in Procedure.

Authorisation / Signing

The Applicant (individual, all partners, trustee or company director) must sign acknowledging they represent the business seeking accreditation and the information is accurate. It is an offence under section 51 of the Plant Health Act 2009 to make a false or misleading statement (whether by reason of the inclusion or omission of a particular) in an application made or information provided. Penalties apply.

Separate applications are required for each accreditation / registration. (i.e. ICA, CA, IVCA, Importer etc)

see www.pir.sa.gov.au/ica

[Please direct queries regarding this Application, Accreditation or Registration to the Market Access Officer on 8207 7814.](#)

Gary Cox,

Manager, Market Access & Systems, Biosecurity SA - Plant Health.



Property Plan Details

Attachment 2

The property plan (overleaf) is to include the following-

1. the location of blocks in which avocados are grown;
2. the Block Reference Code or Number used to identify each block identified on the plan;
3. variety and number of host trees planted in the block;
4. road access including street name/s;
5. internal roadways within the property;
6. the location and identification of buildings on the property (house, packing shed, equipment sheds etc);
7. are the avocados from the block to be certified under the ICA arrangement.

COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING DETAILS FOR EACH BLOCK SHOWN ON THE PROPERTY PLAN

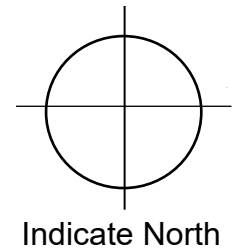
Note: A Property Plan (overleaf) must be included for each property covered by the Business' Interstate Certification Assurance arrangement.

Block Reference Code or No.	Name Used on Farm for the Block	Avocado Variety	Area (Ha)	Produce to be Certified?
				YES/NO
				YES/NO
				YES/NO
				YES/NO
				YES/NO
				YES/NO
				YES/NO
				YES/NO
				YES/NO
				YES/NO
				YES/NO
				YES/NO
				YES/NO
				YES/NO
				YES/NO
				YES/NO



Attachment 2

**Property Plan
ICA-30**





TRAINING REGISTER

Attachment 3

Accredited Business Name			IP Number	S			
Date of Training	Harvest ¹	Inspection ²	Employee		Authorisation by Certification Controller		
			Printed Name	Signature	Printed Name	Signature	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>					
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>					
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>					
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>					
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>					
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	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>					
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>					
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>					

¹ **DECLARATION** – I have undergone instruction as to the ICA-30 requirement for harvesting Avocados in a hard condition deliberately detached from healthy branches of living trees of avocado varieties permitted in scope.



Attachment 5

Grower Declaration

A Grower Declaration must be provided to the packer to cover the avocados delivered for certification under ICA-30 from each source block each day.

I _____ (print full name)

an Authorised Signatory of

_____ (Business name)

Interstate Produce (IP) No. S

hereby declare that the avocados listed below and delivered to

_____ (Business name)

Interstate Produce (IP) No. S

on / / (date)

for grading, packing, post-harvest inspection and certification under ICA Operational Procedure ICA- 30 (*Hard Condition of Avocados*) were:

1. harvested by a business holding current accreditation under Part A of Operational Procedure ICA-30; and
2. inspected at harvest, verified to be in a hard condition and stored in secure conditions within 24 hours.

The identity of the avocados to be certified:

Date of Harvest	Cultivar	Block Reference Code or Number	Harvest Container Identification Number/s	Number and Type of Harvest Containers	Description of Storage Conditions

Additional Comments (note any non-conformance detected at grading and packing):

I am authorised to sign on behalf of the business and the information given above is to the best of my knowledge true and correct in every particular.

Signature

____/____/____
Date



Example of Non-Conforming Avocados

Attachment 6

Source: Tableland Avocado Guide Qld



Above: Pest damage through to the flesh
Above: Fruit fly stings



Above: Cuts and punctures not acceptable
Above: Soft rots





Example of Conforming Avocados

Attachment 7

Source: Tableland Avocado Guide Qld



Above: Nil blemishes



Above: Solid blemish, with no sunken or raised black blemishes



Above: Scattered blemish



Above: Deformed fruit with no cracks or rots or stings



Attachment 9

<p>Government of South Australia BiosecuritySA</p>	<p>PLANT HEALTH ASSURANCE CERTIFICATE</p> <p>Original (yellow) - Consignment Copy / Duplicate (white) - Business Copy</p>
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Accreditation Details (all accreditation details must be completed)

IP Number	Facility No.	Arrangement Code
S 1 1 1 1	- 0 1	I C A 3 0

Certificate Number

Consignment Details (Please print clearly and initial any alterations)

<p>Consignor</p> <p>Name Andy's Avocados</p> <p>Address 33 Johns Rd</p> <p style="text-align: center;">KNOWHERE SA 5999</p>	<p>Consignee</p> <p>Name Tassie Fresh</p> <p>Address 45 Salamanca Road</p> <p style="text-align: center;">HOBART TAS 3999</p>
--	--

<p>Reconsigned To <i>(For reconsigning the produce using ICA-17 or Government Inspector)</i></p> <p>Name</p> <p>Address</p>	<p>Method of Transport <i>(Provide details where known)</i></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Road Vehicle Details Reg. No. SES 202</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Rail Consignment no.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Air Airline/Flight no.</p>
--	--

Certification Details

<p>Accredited Business that Prepared Produce (as IP# above)</p> <p>Name Andy's Avocados</p> <p>Address 33 Johns Rd</p> <p style="text-align: center;">KNOWHERE SA 5999</p>	<p>Grower(s)</p> <p>Name Andy's Avocados</p> <p>Address 33 Johns Rd</p> <p style="text-align: center;">KNOWHERE SA 5999</p>
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(for ICA23 each source property must have current Property Approval)

<p>Brand Name or Identifying Marks (as marked on packages)</p> <p>Andy's Avocados</p>	<p>Date Code(s) (as marked on packages)</p> <p>29/10/2018</p>
--	--

No. of Packages	Type of Packages (eg. trays, cartons)	Type of Produce	Authorisation for Re-consignment
172	Cartons	Avocados	
			(Apply ICA-17 or DPI Stamp here)

Treatment Details

Date	Treatment	Chemical (Act/Ingredient)	Concentration	Duration and Temperature

Additional Certification

Declaration

I, an Authorised Signatory of the accredited business that prepared the plants or plant product described above, hereby declare that the plants or plant produce were prepared in the business's approved facility in accordance with the business's Certification Assurance arrangement and that the details shown above are true and correct in every particular.

<p>Authorised Signatory's Name (Please Print)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Samuel Stone</p>	<p>Signature</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>S Stone</i></p>	<p>Date</p> <p style="text-align: center;">29/10/2018</p>
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