



ΕΥΡΩΠΑΪΚΗ ΕΤΑΙΡΕΙΑ ΕΛΕΓΧΩΝ ΚΑΙ ΠΙΣΤΟΠΟΙΗΣΕΩΝ Α.Ε
EUROPEAN INSPECTION AND CERTIFICATION COMPANY S.A.

89 Chlois & Likovriseos Str.
144 52 Metamorfofi, Athens/
Greece
TEL: ++30 210 6252495
210 6252495
FAX: ++30 210 6203018
e-mail: eurocert@otenet.gr
Web address: www.eurocert.gr



Certification of M.S.
Cert. No. 3-2

Environmental
Verification
Cert. No. 20-2

Product Certification
Cert. No. 21-3

Inspections
Cert. No. 53-2

FLEXIBLE DISTRIBUTION RULE

- a) Any producer group may apply for this with EUROCERT and shall do so *prior* to the annual audit during the registration or re-registration process.
- b) Permission to use the Option 2 Flexible Distribution Rule is determined on a case-by-case basis by the GLOBALG.A.P. Secretariat based on the documentation submitted by the CB
- c) A producer group can be denied the participation in the Option 2 Flexible Distribution program if they have incurred recent food safety outbreaks, have prior record of lapses in integrity, or have unresolved corrective actions, the submitted information is incomplete, the latter CB audit shows that the additional rules were not implemented, etc.
- d) The documentation EUROCERT submits to GLOBALG.A.P. for the Option 2 Flexible Distribution Rule shall include: the ANNEX 1

ANNEX 1 ; FLEXIBLE DISTRIBUTION RULE

NAME OF THE GROUP	
GGN	
Description of the group	
Group structure	
Who is responsible for the sales	
The number of producer group members	
Number of producers that distribute outside of the group,	
Products distributed outside of the group,	
The location of those producers.	



ΕΥΡΩΠΑΪΚΗ ΕΤΑΙΡΕΙΑ ΕΛΕΓΧΩΝ ΚΑΙ ΠΙΣΤΟΠΟΙΗΣΕΩΝ Α.Ε

EUROPEAN INSPECTION AND CERTIFICATION COMPANY S.A.

89 Chlois & Likovriseos Str.
144 52 Metamorfofi, Athens/
Greece
TEL: ++30 210 6252495
210 6252495
FAX: ++30 210 6203018
e-mail: eurocert@otenet.gr
Web address: www.eurocert.gr



Certification of M.S.
Cert. No. 3-2

Environmental
Verification
Cert. No. 20-2

Product Certification
Cert. No. 21-3

Inspections
Cert. No. 53-2

How the group will fulfill the “Rules and Conditions for Option 2 Flexible Distribution”.	
What the justification, purpose, or nature of the outside distribution is; e.g. a producer may distribute outside of a group because they grow club or specialty varieties, require market flexibility, or export to different markets	
Producers must update CBs whenever changes are made to the producer registry, including when producer group members choose to distribute outside of the group.	

Information will be emailed to GLOBALG.A.P. at standard_support@globalgap.org .



ΕΥΡΩΠΑΪΚΗ ΕΤΑΙΡΕΙΑ ΕΛΕΓΧΩΝ ΚΑΙ ΠΙΣΤΟΠΟΙΗΣΕΩΝ Α.Ε

EUROPEAN INSPECTION AND CERTIFICATION COMPANY S.A.

RULES AND CONDITIONS FOR OPTION 2 FLEXIBLE DISTRIBUTION RULE

1. Producer groups willing to allow outside distribution must apply to the CB and the CB must apply to the GLOBALG.A.P. Secretariat. Exceptions are granted on a case-by-case basis by the GLOBALG.A.P. Secretariat. The application for exception shall include how the group will fulfill the additional rules and conditions listed below and the justification for selling outside of the group.
2. GLOBALG.A.P. reserves the right to publicly identify those producer groups (in the GLOBALG.A.P. Database) that allow their members to distribute outside of the group.
3. Any producer group member that distributes at least part of its production outside of the producer group shall be authorized for such activity in writing by the producer group as part of the contract between the producer group and the specific producer group member. The certified group or the group member shall have an agreement with the outside packhouse or packing/selling organization where the member is distributing directly.
4. All quantities of registered products distributed outside of the producer group by any producer group member shall be recorded in the producer group's mass-balance calculation system. The members need to maintain full traceability (batch level) of the delivered produce and to whom it was delivered.
These quantities may be registered on the QMS or on farm level. The producer group is responsible for the development and effectiveness of a written procedure for mass-balance of producer group members that distribute outside of the group. Where mass-balance of outside distribution is maintained at the farm level, this must be verified by the external auditor (CB auditor) whenever these producer group members are selected for external inspections.
5. Any distribution of registered products outside of the producer group shall contain a reference to the applicable producer group certificate and shall indicate that such products originate from a certified production process, which is under the control and responsibility of the producer group's internal QMS.
6. The written contract between the producer group and its members shall include language addressing cases of distribution outside of the group. The contract shall indicate that the liability for product certificated under a producer group, which is not distributed through the group, shall remain with the individual producer, where stipulated by local law. Examples of incidents that concern liability may include, but are not limited to recalls, residue exceedances, and food safety issues. Where GLOBALG.A.P. certification status of the individual group member is concerned, the certified producer group is still responsible for the producer's certification status.
7. Only in cases where it is required (i.e. parallel production or parallel ownership occurs), products shipped in consumer-level packaging (either at the farm level or after product handling/packing) shall be identified with the GGN (GLOBALG.A.P. Number) of the producer group, with the GGN of the individual producer group member, or both GGNs.
8. All transaction and shipping documentation (e.g. invoices, bills of lading, etc.) related to the distribution of products from a certified process by individual producer group members outside of producer groups shall indicate: The GGN of the producer group, the GGN of the individual producer group member, and the GLOBALG.A.P. certification status of the product(s).
9. Producer group members who distribute (sell) products outside of the producer group shall be identified as engaging in such activity in the producer group's membership registry/records. This shall be considered as a risk factor to be taken into consideration by CBs regarding the selection of the producer group members for sampling in external inspections/audits.
10. The producer member is required to know the destination market and MRL restrictions if their product is sold outside of the producer group. Records of communication from the outside seller must demonstrate this.
At minimum, at the time of audit, the producer must show an attempt to learn the country of destination (COD) before the growing season starts. If unknown, then the product sold outside of the group can be sold only with recognized compliance in the country of production as described in the producer group's application for certification and as prescribed in the QMS program of the producer group.

89 Chlois & Likovriseos Str.
144 52 Metamorfofi, Athens/
Greece
TEL: ++30 210 6252495
210 6252495
FAX: ++30 210 6203018
e-mail: eurocert@otenet.gr
Web address: www.eurocert.gr



Certification of M.S.
Cert. No. 3-2

Environmental
Verification
Cert. No. 20-2

Product Certification
Cert. No. 21-3

Inspections
Cert. No. 53-2



ΕΥΡΩΠΑΪΚΗ ΕΤΑΙΡΕΙΑ ΕΛΕΓΧΩΝ ΚΑΙ ΠΙΣΤΟΠΟΙΗΣΕΩΝ Α.Ε

EUROPEAN INSPECTION AND CERTIFICATION COMPANY S.A.

89 Chlois & Likovriseos Str.
144 52 Metamorfofi, Athens/
Greece
TEL: ++30 210 6252495
210 6252495
FAX: ++30 210 6203018
e-mail: eurocert@otenet.gr
Web address: www.eurocert.gr



Certification of M.S.
Cert. No. 3-2

Environmental
Verification
Cert. No. 20-2

Product Certification
Cert. No. 21-3

Inspections
Cert. No. 53-2

12. The certificate holder must be the entity responsible for placing the fruit onto the market (e.g. in the USA, the certificate holder is typically a marketing organization or a packer) and/or be able to legally contract with and represent the group members/production sites.

13. The Flexible Distribution Rule may be applicable only to crops harvested annually (one harvest season per year) and only to crops with short harvest season (less than 4 months).

14. The applicant group has a limited range and similar crops, whereas the crops have similar production, harvesting, and produce handling activities.

15. The group is able to control full mass-balance of the products (sold/distributed through the group and/or directly by the member as certified or as non-certified) of all their members. The mass-balance related information shall be maintained on grower level or on group level.

16. The group applying for exception shall provide substantial justification for allowing direct distribution of members' products. Example: using club varieties or when the actual quantities of products sold outside the group certificate are extremely limited.