

FAIR LABOR PRACTICES AND COMMUNITY BENEFITS

A New Social Responsibility Certification to Complement Organic

Fair Labor Practices and Community Benefits certification – developed by Scientific Certification Systems (SCS) in conjunction with key stakeholders – validates socially responsible practices in agricultural production and processing. Complementing organic and other environmental certifications, Fair Labor Practices offers a strategy to differentiate your business by meeting the growing consumer demand for products produced in accordance with fair and equitable labor practices.

Fundamentals of Fair Labor Practices and Community Benefits

Fair Labor Practices includes comprehensive criteria that directly benefit workers, their families and communities.



The program helps ensure:

- Equitable hiring and employment practices
- Safe working conditions
- Access to health, education and transportation services
- Support of local and regional communities
- Appreciation of cultural and environmental impacts



Benefits of Certification

- Meets consumers' growing demand for ethically produced products
- Demonstrates a commitment to socially responsible sourcing
- Complements the value of organic and other environmental labeling by addressing social issues
- Enhances worker productivity and job satisfaction
- Improves relationships with local communities and cultural institutions



www.SCScertified.com/fairlabor

For information about becoming certified or locating certified products, please contact:

Terry Betts, Manager
510.452.8059
tbetts@scscertified.com



How is Fair Labor Practices Different From Fair Trade Programs?

All Crops, All Cultivators, All Countries – Any and all food, floral and fiber crops are eligible, as well as all growers, handlers, distributors and wholesalers. Furthermore, Fair Labor Practices certification is open to all agricultural entities, both domestic and international.

Fair Everywhere – Wages and labor conditions are measured and monitored at every point of the supply chain, not merely on the farm. In this way, social responsibility is promoted throughout the supply chain, providing a clear path for continuous improvement.

Competitive, Market-Based Pricing – Fair Labor Practices' certification fees are straightforward, based solely on time and materials. No additional licensing or marketing fees are required. Also, Fair Labor Practices does not mandate fixed prices for agricultural commodities. As a result, Fair Labor Practices certified products can be more competitively priced in the marketplace as compared to products whose labeling programs are more likely to necessitate premium pricing.

Beyond Small – With the majority of the world's most pressing labor issues evident in large-scale, intensive agricultural and manufacturing operations, Fair Labor Practices has been designed to apply to a wide-variety of agricultural operators – from small family farmers to larger commercial growers.

Program Eligibility

Growers, producer organizations, and handlers who are certified under a nationally recognized organic program (e.g. USDA NOP) are eligible for certification in the Fair Labor Practices program. A Fair Labor Practices audit may be conducted prior to obtaining an organic certificate, but certification will be withheld until organic certification is achieved. While holding a current organic certificate is a requirement for certification in the program, audits against the program requirements for non-organic growers, producer organizations, and handlers may be carried out independent of certification, with the evaluations instead serving as gap analyses and risk assessments.

Leadership in Standards

SCS is an internationally recognized leader in the development of environmental, product quality and social responsibility standards and certification programs in the food, agriculture, natural resource, and manufacturing sectors.

Global Auditor Network

SCS auditors possess fluency in English, Spanish, and French. We draw on an extensive global network of locally-based auditors familiar with local production conditions and customs. This reduces the environmental impact and cost associated with travel to assess conformance, while assuring that local practices are understood and respected.

