

**EDITION 9 CODE AMENDMENT – APPLICATION OF AGRICULTURAL CHEMICALS**

Effective Date: August 16 2021  
 Page: 1 of 1

Amendment #: 004  
 Approved by: LeAnn Chuboff

**1. References**

- 1.1 GFSI Benchmarking Requirements, version 2020.1, part III (industry sectors AI, BI):  
 Agricultural workers who apply agricultural chemicals shall be trained and qualified in the proper application procedures of such chemicals.

**2. General Principles**

- 2.1 In the SQF Food Safety Codes, edition 9, element 2.9.2.1 requires that certified sites “outline the necessary competencies for specific duties and the training methods to be applied to relevant personnel”. This includes:  
 2.9.2.1 iv: “Good Agricultural/Operating Practices for all personnel engaged in food handling operations”.
- 2.2 *Module 7: Good Agricultural Practices for Outdoor Farming of Plant Products* specifies the competency requirements for the person making decisions on chemical application within the site but does not explicitly reference the person applying chemicals. This also applies to module 5 (animal production), module 8 (farming of grains), and module 18 (indoor farming of plants).
- 2.3 This code amendment is to advise all SQF certified sites in the primary sectors, certification bodies and SQF Professionals that SQFI requires the element (see below) on chemical application to apply to the person applying chemicals as well as the person making the decision on chemicals and chemical applications.

The SQF Food Safety Code for Primary Plant Production	7.7.3.2
	8.7.3.2
	18.8.4.2
The SQF Food Safety Code for Primary Animal Production	5.7.3.2

**3. Amendment**

- 3.1 All sites implementing any of the above-mentioned codes (see 2.2) or upgrading to edition 9, shall ensure that the requirements of 7.7.3.2, 5.7.3.2, 8.7.3.2, 18.8.3.2 apply to the person(s) applying chemicals as well as the person making decisions on chemical application.
- 3.4 Auditors shall include the requirements of this amendment in their assessment of 7.7.3.2 (et al, see 2.2).